

A Report from Rev'd Kan Yu

On a visit to MCHK's Conference and Hong Kong in 2015

I felt privileged and honoured to represent the Methodist Church in Britain (MCB) to attend the Methodist Church, Hong Kong's Conference as I was the first Chinese originated representative to fulfil the role. I was warmly welcomed and their hospitality was overwhelmingly generous as always.

During the Conference, I was impressed that its full-on agenda and motions were all remarkably organised, presented and timed. The most significant event was the inauguration service of the new president of the Conference for 2015-2018, the Rev'd Dr Sung-Che Lam. It was a great privilege to be there to witness passing on the leadership baton to a younger generation. I was moved and encouraged by the Rev'd Dr Lam's speech in which his passion to give special methodist emphasis to interconnectedness and social justice across all Methodists churches, its schools and its social services was ardently delivered.

Hong Kong was no stranger to me as I was born and grew up there. So being able to speak and understand Cantonese which is the main language in Hong Kong and in the Conference, has enabled me to engage the whole Conference to a great extent, especially for the Methodist structure in Hong Kong such as the coordination of ministries among local churches, circuits and the Connexional Team. In respect, I wanted to demonstrate the language skills which had enhanced the making of solid connections by delivering my speech in both English and Cantonese. It was well received and had shown the sincere attitude of the MCB towards the Chinese ministry in the UK and also the ongoing development of the partnership with the Methodist Church, Hong Kong (MCHK). Surely, I was delighted to see the Rev'd Canon Howard Mellor, our mission partner in Hong Kong who was engaging well into the MCHK and who presented a wonderful report of the past year. He shared with great passion to oversee the redevelopment project of the Methodist International Church, HK (MICHK) in the Conference.

The next day right after the Conference, I was thrilled to share with the English speaking congregation at the MICHK about the Chinese ministry in the UK. Currently, MICHK is undergoing a major redevelopment project. They have just finished laying all foundations and will start the next phase of above ground works soon. I was informed that people could follow the progress on their website: <http://www.hk-mic.org/spiritual-life/sundays/> and on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/michkrp>

Due to the redevelopment, all congregations at the MICHK including the English congregations, the Tagalog congregations and the Mandarin fellowship have been meeting at a nearby senior school each Sunday until the new high-rise is completed in

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2017. The conversation with Howard after the service was valuable and constructive. It seemed to me that the ministries and the life of the church in Hong Kong were fascinating and fast-paced, but yet very challenging indeed.

The following day, Ms Katherine Ng, the General Secretary of MCHK, had kindly arranged a meeting for me to meet with four experienced Methodist ministers and the Assistant Executive Secretary, Missions and Pastoral Care Division, to talk about the youth ministry in Hong Kong across all Methodist churches. The core and successful annual youth conferences in Hong Kong which aimed to inspire the youth's commitment and self-awareness in Christ were shared in great details. We discussed the initial possibility of bringing this expertise to the UK and offering training to enhance the youth ministry among all Chinese congregations if it was appropriate.

In the evening, meeting with the new President of Conference, the Rev'd Dr Sung-Che Lam and the General Secretary, Ms Katherine Ng, added a fruitful experience to the visit. We shared with honesty and have gained mutual understandings in relation to the life and the ministry of the Methodist Chinese congregations in the UK. They have longed to enhance the mutual learning and supporting relationships by deepening the two-ways communication, in which I totally agreed to follow up to my best endeavours. They have made some suggestions which I will be keen to share with the World Church office of MCB and the Chinese Methodist Mission respectively.

As I stayed in Hong Kong to carry out my leavers' attachment in a public hospital as a hospital chaplain, I attended different Methodist churches on various Sundays. Therefore I was able to send greetings from MCB and the news of the Chinese ministry in the UK to various Chinese Methodist Churches in Hong Kong such as Shatin Methodist Church, Kwun Tong Methodist Church and the Mandarin fellowship at the MICHK.

Meeting with the Rev'd Professor Lung-Kwong Lo at the Divinity Department, the Chinese University of Hong Kong was a precious opportunity to deepen the understanding about the ministerial training for the Methodist candidates in Hong Kong and also the development of the ministry in the mainland China.

On another occasion, I was meeting with the Rev'd Ralph Lee and his wife Liv. I was warmly welcomed and they shared with me graciously about their experiences in ministry both in the UK and in Hong Kong.

The last weekend in Hong Kong, I attended a 3 days 2 nights residential training conference of the 'Disciple'. A Red level training was completed through robust teaching and practice sessions. In addition, I was impressed and glad to become acquainted with other ministers across various denominations in Hong Kong as we learnt together in an ecumenical way.

Reflecting on my first visit as a representative from the MCB, it was a fruitful and rewarding experience in which a good rapport was enhanced to strengthen a better

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communication and working partnership with one another in years to come. I look forward to representing the MCB again next year and bringing the working partnership to the next level.



Disciple residential training



All ordained Methodist ministers of Methodist Church in Hong Kong



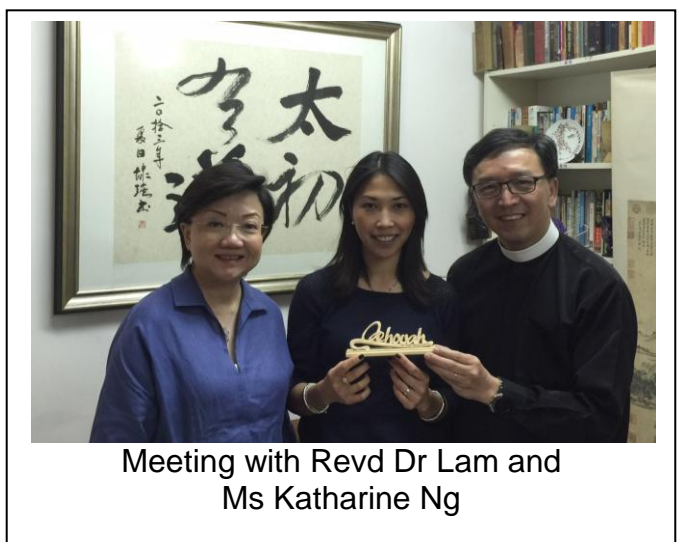
Inauguration of the new president of the Conference



Inauguration of the new president of the Conference



Howard reporting the ministries at Methodist Church in Hong Kong



Meeting with Revd Dr Lam and Ms Katharine Ng



Meeting with the Methodist ministers about the youth ministry



Photo with the new President Revd Dr Lam



Presenting a souvenir to Methodist Church in Hong Kong



Sending greetings to Methodist Church in Hong Kong in English



Revd Howard Mellor delivering children's address



Receiving a souvenir from the Methodist Church in Hong Kong



The Conference 2015



The representatives at the Conference



The Methodist Senior Ministers



With Revd Howard Mellor



With Revd May Poon



With the Methodist Ministers

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With the Mandarin fellowship



With Revd Poon, Revd Yuen (the former President), Revd Lam (the new President) and Revd Wong