

Come and Be Refreshed at Oasis in Sitiawan

From the beginning of 2015, we will be conducting intensive courses for Family Life Educators training and the Family Wellness programmes at Sitiawan Oasis Enrichment Centre. Course fees will include food and lodging.

The following gives you an overall view of the programmes:

1. Family Life Educators Training

Objectives:

- Equip those who wish to promote family wellness as an independent Family Life Educator in his community in collaboration with Oasisflec.
- Enhance the knowledge and skills of pastors and church ministry staff for the development of family life ministry in the church.

Synopsis of the course:

There are 4 levels to the course.

Level 1: Self-awareness

Participants will be sensitised through the process of group interactions and lectures to understand his/her own uniqueness in the light of biblical truths and psychodynamic and systemic theories. By equipping them with the basic skills for listening and group work, their EQ will be enhanced and they will be confident of themselves.

Level 2: Theories of Marriage and Family systems

Biblical understanding of family systems in the light of systemic theories will be taught and participants will be equipped with the essential skills and knowledge for counselling and conducting courses for Marriage Enrichment, Parenting and Marriage Preparation.

Level 3: Teaching and counselling skills

Focus on the development of skills in organising and teaching courses in family wellness series and providing marriage and family counselling.

Level 4: Assignment for graduation

Students who have completed the above 3 levels will have to conduct a Marriage Enrichment Camp as the graduation assignment. This allows students to have personal involvement in organizing and exposure to the dynamics of a Marriage Enrichment Camp.

Upon completion, students will be awarded with Certificate for "Family Life Educator".

Course schedule: There will be a class of maximum 12 students at the beginning of every quarter in 2015. The first class will commence on 15 January 2015.

Fees: S\$700 per student for the first three levels of 3 weeks stay-in course including food, lodging, and course materials.

Registration: Interested parties must be Christians and have a tertiary level of education with at least one year of Bible school training. They may register online through www.oasisflec.org.sg.

2. Family Wellness Series

a) Self-awareness Course:

This is a 3-day course designed for any individual Christian or non-Christian youths or adults who would like to enhance his/her EQ and to stir up self-love so that he/she can cope more competently with the challenges of marriage and working life in today's world.

b) Courting Couple Course:

This is a 3-day weekend programme which will help courting couples to differentiate themselves from their families of origin and equip them with biblical truths and insights from the systemic theories and behavioural science for the management of their marriage. It also helps couples to visualise a path leading towards perfect love progressively throughout their family life cycle. This course is applicable to Christians and non-Christians.

c) Marriage Enrichment Programme:

This is a 3-day weekend programme which will enable couples to re-orientate their marriages in the light of biblical truths and practical insights from systemic theories and behavioural science. Many participants testified that their marriages and attitudes towards parenting had benefitted greatly through their understanding of the profound mystery of marriage. This programme is not only suitable for those who have been married for more than three years to enrich their marriages but also good for retirees to empower their companionship as a couple.

Interested parties can register online through www.oasisflec.org.sg. You will be informed of the schedules upon registration. For further enquiries, please call 62747480.



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Oasis Family Life Enrichment Centre
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Hangzhou LingAn Couple's Camp & the Eden Garden's Educators Team

Thank God for His gracious guidance. By His grace, I am about to enter the sixth year of ministry at the Oasis Family Life Enrichment Centre. We have experienced several encouraging encounters this year. It is my prayer that they may encourage you to continue praying and supporting our ministry. Once again, we would like to thank those who have been supporting us faithfully.

God's Wonderful Leading

We were led to register "Hangzhou Eden Garden Wellness Consultancy Co Ltd" at the beginning of this year so that we can legally continue our ministry in conducting the Family Life Educators (FLE) training programme, organising camps and publishing course materials in China. In the midst of our busyness in trying to register the Company at the Registry of Trade and Commerce office, God led us to meet some helpful officers to expedite the registration process. Finally we launched the Company in Hangzhou on 6th May 2014..

Though we had never encountered any problems with the authority in the past many years we were in China, within the 95 days there this year we were queried twice by the authorities. However we were safe from trouble after we verified that we worked under our registered company. This showed that God led us to register our company at the right time. It had greatly strengthened our faith to continue our China mission.

Build Our Own Family First

There were two middle-aged sisters who were encouraged by

their pastors to attend our Marriage Enrichment (ME) camps. Both sisters shared a similar problem. They were devoted local preachers who preached frequently, led prayer meetings and bible studies, but they left their husbands due to their husbands' poor management in finance. When I came to know of this, I requested that they invited their husbands to our programmes. Thank God, at the end of our programmes both husbands accepted the Lord and requested their wives to help them grow spiritually.

I exhorted the two sisters that "If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?" (1 Tim. 3:5) Their pastors also reiterated that they should first build their husbands up before they resumed their church ministry. Even Jesus had cautioned His disciples that He would reject many who would come to Him and claimed that they had preached the word, cast out demons and performed miracles in His name. But He would dismiss them and classify them as evil doers who did not do the will of the Father. The Apostle Paul also said, "Even if I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have no love, I gain nothing." (1 Cor. 13:3) How can one who leave her husband, does the will of the Father and love her neighbour as herself?

Involving in Local Church Mission

Barker Road Methodist Church has been involved in the China Mission for



Barker Rd Mt Guilin Mission Team

more than 10 years. We were invited to introduce our ministry to Rev Zhu of Guilin Christian Church and train the mission team members to facilitate the workshop sessions in the two-day ME programme. Rev Zhu commented that the participants were moved by our ministry and they were motivated to integrate what they had learnt into their daily living. He hopes to come to Singapore for our three-week FLE course if he can get a sponsorship. We've come to realise that this is a good approach to working with local churches for our China mission.

Pastor's Wife Led Her Husband

When the pastor of Wuchang Christian Church in Hangzhou learnt that we were conducting an FLE training at Yuhang, he requested his wife to attend the training. Consequently, she invited me to speak at the ME programme which she organised in her church. At the closing session, the participants commented that our programme was a treasure for China. The pastor felt that the ministry would be more effective in the church if he also received training in the Family Life ministry. He therefore plans to come to Singapore for the three-week FLE training next year.



Class of Educator training at Yuhang

Giving is better than Selling

Our three textbooks on *Self-awareness*, *Marriage Enrichment* and *Parenting* were published by the Hangzhou Company for 'internal circulation'. At the end of our ME camp in Pintang (40 husband-wife pastor teams came from Wenzhou) we gave each couple a set of books. It ended with a very good feedback and offerings were given spontaneously as support of our ministry. I began to understand why books and DVDs should never be sold after conducting a seminar or camp in China. Otherwise we would be perceived as doing business in the Christian community instead of doing God's mission.

Upon returning from the camp, a pastor was so fired-up that within a month he conducted an ME Camp for his own church members by sharing messages from our book. He received a very positive feedback from the participants. As such, he believed that it would be more effective if he were to receive some training. He therefore invited me to conduct a basic FLE course for the pastors in his district at the beginning of next year.



Books Published in China

Village Church also Needs Family Life Education

A village pastor from Shandong came to Singapore to receive our FLE training in April. Though he is senior in age, he has the

spirit of Caleb and was humble and creative. He invited us to conduct an ME programme and a parenting course at his village church. This led us to personally experience village life in China: we ate simply but lived healthily. The only difficulty for us was getting used to toilets with no flushing system. The church members were very eager to learn from us. They spent a whole day listening to the teaching on family issues and still



Eden Garden co-worker led prayer at village church Enrichment Program

remained attentive at a revival meeting in the evening. Though divorce was not an issue in the village community, there was a tremendous need in inculcating Christian lifestyle and values at home. We were

encouraged by the pastor who had committed to propagate our Christian Family Life Education series among his neighbouring churches.

Enriching Pastor's Family Life

There was a dynamic lady pastor who has been trained as one of the best FLE in Fujian. Unfortunately, her husband has a smoking habit. He had tried but failed to get rid of his smoking habit for 15 years. This had caused their teenage son to feel that there was no God and thus stopped going to church. She came sadly to seek counsel for her family wellbeing. Though her husband had been supportive of her ministry, she felt that unless her husband could get rid of his addiction and their son re-orientated to his faith she was not fit for the ministry.

Thank God that after some explorations, counselling and prayers, her husband kicked off his addiction and their son began to open himself for sharing with his parents.



30 Husbands came to the Lord in 3 Marriage Enrichment camps

This incident caused me to consider the needs of pastors' families in Singapore and Malaysia. Their hectic lives may affect their spousal relationship and the attention given to their children, which in turn may cause some concerns for the spiritual wellbeing of their children. If it is the Lord's will, we may conduct ME programmes as a means of strengthening the pastors' families.

Pastors' Difficulties in China

Christians in China seemed to be very generous in giving towards the building of their churches. In the cities we have visited so far, we often saw church buildings which cost about 10 to 20 million RMB, but sadly, the church could hardly give financial support to their own pastors who wanted to receive advance theological training or attend enrichment courses to enhance their skills for their ministry. Going overseas for training is only a dream for most of the pastors.

We were blessed by Chin Lian Bible Seminary who rendered its hostel free of charge. This provided much financial relief to our first batch of students who came to Singapore in April this year for their training.



First Educator class from China with Chin Lian Principal in JB

The main activities in 2014

No	Activities	Locations	Events
1	Marriage Enrichment Camp	China	12
2	Self-awareness Camp	China	2
3	Family Life Educator Course	China, Malaysia	5
4	Parenting Course	China, Singapore	2
5	Family Life Education	S'pore, Malaysia	5
6	Pulpit Ministry	Singapore, China, Malaysia	28
7	Solemnization	Singapore	16

Our Hope

God is gracious to our ministry. He has enabled us to rebuild our village house in Sitiawan (Malaysia) to be a centre to conduct ME programmes and FLE training for students from China. This will relieve much stress for me in travelling to China. Also, we will be able to improve the effectiveness of our training as those who come for training will have to devote three full weeks to the course work and pay for their own air fares to and from China and Singapore. This will hopefully help eliminate those who only wish to learn for their own benefits and not get involved in the ministry.


In order to help those genuine learners reduce their financial burden and as an encouragement for them to come to our centre for training, we sincerely appeal to our beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, to sponsor S\$700 per student for food and lodging for the three weeks, airport/land transfers and course materials.

We greatly appreciate if you can share generously your means as a blessing to our students. You may specify your gift towards our ministry on the envelope. And we pray that "you will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." (II Cor. 9:11)

Introduction of New Worker

In order to promote our family wellness series and to make good use of our FLE facilities in Sitiawan, we are blessed with Preacher Grace Wong as Programme Coordinator and Counsellor with effect from 1 December 2014. She graduated from NUS in Business Administration in addition to holding her M. Div. degree from the Singapore Bible College. She has years of experience in pastoring youths and parenting besides working as an effective Family Life Educator/Counsellor after she received her FLE training in our centre.

Prayer Items



Wisdom to manage the ministry in our Family Life Enrichment Centre in Sitiawan and God's provisions to pay our additional staff.

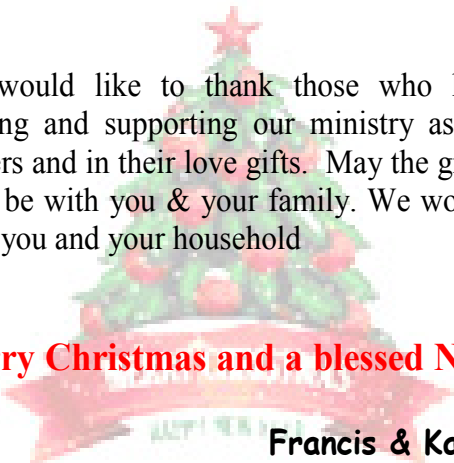
God's guidance for our Family Life Educators in China and that they may collaborate well with the Hangzhou Eden Garden Centre and strengthen their team spirit.

Financial Report

b/f from 2013	\$67.76	
Donations	\$57,394.00	
China Mission Support	\$20,200.00	
Courselling and course fees	<u>\$30,871.46</u>	
	<u>\$108,533.22</u>	
Staff Allowances	\$53,237.00	
Operation cost	\$32,509.45	
China mission	<u>\$22,650.11</u>	
	<u>\$108,396.56</u>	
c/f to 2015	<u>\$136.66</u>	Hallelujah !

We would like to thank those who have been praying and supporting our ministry as voluntary helpers and in their love gifts. May the grace of our Lord be with you & your family. We would like to wish you and your household

Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!



Francis & Karen Ngoi