



OasisFLEC News 2019 (10th Anniversary Issue)

We thank God for leading OasisFLEC through the 10 good years of growth we have had since we left the well protected environment of the Methodist Church in 2010 for a new beginning. Even as we went through some trying and challenging encounters, we were always assured that God is the owner of the Oasis Family Life Enrichment Centre. He has been progressively nurturing it like a seed so that it may be fruitful and multiply.

In reviewing our present stock, we see that we have almost developed the full series of Family Wellness Courses, a 3-year series of Family Altar, good facilities and a good team of workers. Our main concern now is to make sure that our Interns are able to grow continually and be prepared for their final stage of training in Family Therapy in 2021.

During our China mission trips this year, we saw that quite a number of our Interns had been promoting the family wellness courses beyond our expectations. We were greatly encouraged and thanked God for them. We hope that they will ultimately be fully equipped for the ministry so that they may be dispersed like new seeds to various locations. They may then grow individually into a new generation of OasisFLEC wherever they may be.

Our Interns will normally grow with the process as follows:

1. Facilitating his team or a group to study the Basic Beliefs of Oasis Family Life Ministry and, the Self Awareness Course as a means of deepening his knowledge and sharpening his skills in training group leaders.
2. Mobilising his study group members to recruit at least 3 couples to join the Marriage Enrichment Camp which they organise after they have completed the study.
3. Empowering each of the group members to follow up on the campers whom they brought to the camp through facilitating the group study of the Marriage Enrichment Course with the Facilitating Guide.
4. Making sure that he and his team members facilitate the group study of the course well and obtain endorsement from their group members on the course study pledge cards. The card is one of the documents needed for admission into the final stage of training.

However, I would like to mention some interns who have done more than what we expected to inspire other interns and encourage those who have been partnering with us.

Special Performance of our Interns

1. **Mr Nee Gen Zhong**, who is from Fujian province, and his wife attended our training course at the beginning of our ministry in China. They were impressed and convicted to



get involved with the ministry even though they were busy with their own business. Last year they gave up their business in China in order to join a Chinese church in Auckland as Family Life Ministry staff. They began their ministry by forming a fellowship for married couples to undergo our series of family wellness courses. They were amazed to find how a hard-headed husband and a soft-spoken wife were transformed and became loving and serving in the Fellowship. They are now planning to organise a Marriage Enrichment Camp for three sister Chinese churches there next year.

2. Pastor Zhu Xaomu, from Ping Yang, Wenzhou, attended the FLE Course with the team at our centre in 2016; soon after, he integrated the family life ministry into his pastoral ministry and developed a working team in his church to help him in organising Marriage Enrichment Camps for churches in Zhejiang. He and his team members have become popular speakers and also an organizer for Marriage Enrichment Camps in Wenzhou since 2018. This year, he organised the 3rd special conference to commemorate the “Double 11” on 11.11.2019. 270 couples participated and 128 volunteers from his church were mobilized to serve in that event.

One of his staff in the “Book Reading Club” in Wenzhou, **Ms Lin Xiuli**, who is also our Intern, is now serving as our part time staff, taking charge of keeping and distributing our course materials in China.



Wenzhou's 3rd “Double 11” Couples Day Gathering

3. Pastor Yang Hai Yan, from Pingtan, has been a very keen student of OasisFLEC. She is now a well-known marriage enrichment camp speaker in Fujian. She experienced abundant blessings in her family life as well as her church ministry after she had committed herself to the Family Life Ministry. She and her husband have established a centre in Pingtan to train her work- team as well as leaders and pastors of many churches in the island. Her self-awareness course has been fascinating to the university students and she has impacted many youthful lives through the course. Her husband, Gao Dong, is the administrator of our company in China.



Ps Yang & her husband



Self-Awareness Camp for U students

4. Pastor Yu Dan, organised a Family Life Fellowship in her church in Fuzhou to study the family wellness series. She wrote, “The courses helped members to integrate their faith into their lives. The parents learnt how to let go of their sons, so that they could leave their parents and be united with their wives to form their own nuclear families. Members of the fellowship were open and truthful in their sharing. The fellowship has become a resourceful community which renders support and help to one another.”



Pastor Yu's FLE Fellowship at Fuzhou

5. Ms Lin Ying, a member of Yu Dan's Fellowship group, has been requested by a church to follow up the participants of the Marriage Enrichment Camp. She has been facing the challenges of the traditional church practices, which make her feel like 'a new wine filling an old wine skin'. Thus, she will focus her ministry on preparing the youths to cope with boy-girl relationships as well as helping the young couples to get adjusted to their married life and encouraging courting couples to attend the Marriage Preparation Course.

6. Elder Huang Li, who is working closely with her pastor in charge of a new church in Changsha, Hunan, attended our 1st FLE training in Sitiawan in



Changsha Jinsha Church FLE Team

2015. She made full use of what she had learnt to train small group leaders for the church and found that it was useful and effective for developing the spirit of team work and the spiritual life for her church leaders. In 2018, she brought a team of 14 members to our training centre. She hopes that they will help her to train 100 workers within a decade for the church. She has even thought of establishing an Oasis Family Life Enrichment Centre in her church.

7. Pastor Peter Ang, from Handan, Hebei, attended our FLE Course in 2014. He has launched a community project to enhance the healthy development of youths with their families. His project has gained favourable comments from the

public. He has been promoting family wellness through speaking in Marriage Enrichment Camps and churches in Hebei and other provinces.



Pastor Peter and his FLE course Students

8. Rev Chen Mei Lin, from Pingtan, has established a Family Life Education Department in the Sunday School Teacher Training Institute (which runs a 2-year-course) in Wenzhou. She taught the Self-Awareness Course, the



At Sitiawan

Family Life ministry, Family Altar and Covenant Family Group Ministry in the institute, with students from all over China. She has been conducting marriage enrichment camps for many churches through the network of Sunday School teachers in China. She has also motivated the Sunday School Teachers Fellowship in China to partner with us in the ministry.

9. Elder Fang Guo Lan, from Shaoxing, Zhejiang experienced a successful Marriage Enrichment Camp in 2015. Subsequently, she attended the FLE training in Malaysia in 2016 and brought her work team to our centre again for training in 2018.



The 4th Couples Camp of Hutoufang Church

She was motivated by seeing several marriages that were on the verge of breaking up being salvaged and renewed. Many couples had rekindled their flame of love after the camp. She followed up on the excitement in the camp by forming covenant Groups with trained group leaders, meeting once a month. The group meeting not only sustains their enthusiasm but also transforms the couples' lives. Since then, she has organised Marriage Enrichment Camps yearly for her church. She now has 16 covenant family groups with 90 couples. She is glad to see unbelieving spouses getting baptized, and inactive members becoming active. Formerly, there were only few men in church but now she has formed several teams of men for the ministry. She testifies that this ministry can impact three generations in a family and bring revival to the church, as well as be a living witness of Christ to the world. The more she develops the family life ministry, the more she feels blessed and joyful.

10. Ms Tian Zie, a retired teacher from Dalian Youhao church, dedicated the rest of her life to promoting family wellness courses. She attended the FLE Course in 2015 and was attached to our centre for some time to gather some practical experience in family therapy. She was amazed that she could help several dysfunctional marriages, especially a church worker's marriage



Tian Zie & her students in Northeast Region

almost breaking up but was salvaged by her therapeutic sessions soon after she returned from her training. She helped her own church to train a team of workshop leaders for a marriage

enrichment camp. She also conducted the Family Wellness Courses for some leaders and pastors of the "home churches" in North Eastern provinces in China, including Liaoning, Jilin, and Heilongjiang. She believes that the seed of family life ministry has been sown there as she found that the churches there have been using the course materials since then.

11. Rev Yao Jicheng, from Shaoxing, Zhejiang, has been organising Marriage Enrichment Camps



Training for Rev Yao's FLE team

yearly with the church elder after he attended the FLE Course in Malaysia in 2015. He developed a working team to promote the family wellness courses in his church and brought them for further training in 2017. He also recommended the ministry to other pastors who were serving in other churches. He found that the ministry not only helped the growth of his personal life and the well-being of his family life but also gave him direction in the ministry and strengthened his relationship with colleagues and members of his church.

Some New Developments:

1. Wechat Subscription: A work-team with 4 young talented interns was formed to help us in launching and managing an Oasisflec Wechat subscription (绿洲丰盛家庭公众号) since the last Advent, as a means of



publicising our ministry to the community at large in China, especially those who were born after the 1980s. We hope that it may stir up interested parties to get involved with our ministry.

2. Companion for China Mission: God has led



At Wenzhou

us to find a companion for China mission trip from Malaysia, **Mr Ling Renxing**. He had been involved in China Market Place Mission for about 10 years. He attended our first FLE Course in 2015. Since then, he has been assisting us in our training programmes, especially the workshop

sessions, helping in the arrangement and students coming to Malaysia for the course and planning our China Mission Trips.

This year, we made three fruitful mission trips to China, in March, May and October. With his companionship, we visited Fuqing, Pingtan, Fuzhou, Pingyang, Yuhuan, Xiaoshan, Keqiao, Huzhou, Changsha, Yongzhou, and Changxing, to understand the wellbeing of our interns and update them on our new developments, share with them the Basic Beliefs of Oasis Family Life Ministry, and speak at the Marriage Enrichment Camps. We found that most of our Interns were committed to promoting the Family Life Ministry.

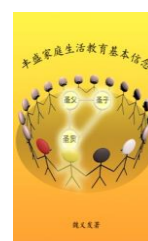
We were blessed with an invitation from some leaders of Watchman Nee's church in the Beisha region in Xiaoshan for a dinner fellowship. They gladly expressed their endorsement of our series of Family Wellness Courses. They also showed us their plan of implementation of the courses. They hoped that the courses would be a blessing to the church especially their younger generation. We felt honored and thankful to the Lord. (We have had 122 trainees from Watchman Nee's Church since 2016, most of whom have been actively promoting the courses.)

3. The New Publication: In order to affirm our foundation and direction of our ministry in the last 10 years, and to commemorate our 10th Anniversary, "Basic Beliefs of Oasis Family Life Ministry" was written, marking a new milestone of our ministry. It has been published as a book in English and in Chinese. It also aims to help our Interns deepen their understanding of the goals and direction of the ministry.

We also hope that pastors and church leaders will know that we are not advocating a new doctrine but that we are helping disciples of Christ to integrate their faith into their family life so that they are able to testify and in turn make disciples through their family systems. If you should hear of them seeing that we have blind spots, please let us know so that we may be enlightened and can then develop a more pragmatic strategy for our ministry and missions, in order to fulfill what our Lord had taught us, praying, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."



New books



Course Pledge card

Testimony of a Marriage Enrichment Camper

The following is the testimony of an attendee of our Marriage Enrichment Camp of Keqiao Church in Shaoxing in 2018.

My simple comment on the Marriage Enrichment camp that I attended: "I have not come in vain."

The three days and two nights' experience was more than just inspiration, amazement, laughter and tears. What I gathered was the sense of empowerment, the depth of thought, a warm heartedness, full of conviction, and being overwhelmed with the thought of mission.

Just as the speaker had mentioned, Christianity is most qualified to propagate the truth of marriage, as marriage is a profound creation of God, and God is the foundation of love.

a. Contents of the lectures:

The five lectures were sumptuous feasts for every couple in the camp. Though the blueprint of marriage, how to be a husband, how to be a wife, how to complement one another as a family, and how to serve God together. I gathered that to empower each other is the foundation of marital love, and that the ultimate concern of marriage is to raise up godly offspring to glorify God and to serve humankind. What touched me most was the need to have self-control of my weaknesses, and that being sensitive to meeting the needs of my husband is the greatest act of love, for this will enable me to be more objective and considerate towards him, and be less self-centered; conflicts and dead lock with him can then be easily resolved.

b. Workshops:

The four workshop sessions engaged every participant of the camp. At the beginning, the participants felt restrained, but they opened their reserved selves gradually, until they opened up fully and trusted one another in the group. They enjoyed sharing freely from the bottom of their hearts. We testified our stories openly and enjoyed the true stories of the group members as well. There was one senior couple who had been married for 44 years. They shared about their first sight of each other, how they went through various challenges and hardship till they became a big family with many grandchildren. They told their love stories of the experience of the abounding grace of God. When the husband tapped the shoulder of his wife to show his empathy and appreciation of his wife's suffering of childbirth and the hardship his wife had gone through for the wellbeing of their family, all the juniors in the group were deeply touched and

encouraged by the example of the romance and love of their marriage.

I inferred that “You are concerned with my needs and I appreciate your sacrifice. Such romance of parents may be the greatest example for their children.”

The workshops not only enriched our spousal relationships, but also ironed out the gaps and hurts among our family members. My mother-in-law brought my 3-year old daughter to the last workshop session, and my husband shared how he had hurt his mother when he was under stress. It was the first time he could say sorry to his mother, and he did so tearfully. He had actually attempted to say it many times but he could not do so. His mother was touched and moved to tears. This brought the relationship of the mother and son one big step closer.

c. Acts of Gutsy Interactions:

The two gutsy interactions of love, the reaffirmation of Marriage Vows and the expression of positive feelings towards each other; revived the first love of the participants. The reenactment of the wedding ceremony, the original of which had not even been so emotional; showed that ritualistic acts could be a useful means of enhancing spousal relationships and romantic love. In the moment of reaffirming the marriage vow, we were convicted more deeply of our dedication and commitment to each other.

No couple could go through the gutsy confession of love without tears. The three phrases, 'I thank you', 'I am sorry' and 'I love you', had rarely been uttered in our daily life of marriage. When I heard the phrase 'thank you' from my husband, I felt that he had cherished and appreciated all that I had contributed to the family. The word 'sorry' made me feel that he still accommodated and cared for me even though he might have hurt me. While thousands of words may have been said, yet 'I love you', melts down all barriers and makes all the sacrifices and hard work worthwhile.

My mother-in-law told me later, when the couples were having their gutsy interactions on stage, that my 3-year old child was moved to tears as well. I was amazed to note that even though the little child might not even know what was being said, she could perceive the emotions being expressed. I can see that love is the basic emotion of a person since birth. It is the most beautiful creation that God has endowed in our hearts.

d. My Response:

Even though the camp is over, there is a deep sense of calling for me to do something beautiful for the families of my contemporaries in order to fulfill God's purpose for our existence. My husband and I will seek an opportunity to go to Malaysia for the equipping process to learn more about ourselves and marriage. We hope that we can do our part in confronting the crises and challenges of today's marriages.

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What is the Marriage Enrichment Camp?

After Satan had destroyed the perfect marriage that God had created, two different models of marriage emerged – first, the husband rules over the wife and the wife desires for her husband which is the traditional marriage; second, the partnership model, after the success of the women's liberation movement. Marriage has been perceived as a partnership in making children and owning a house.

The Marriage Enrichment Camp aims at enabling the campers to rebuild their marriages in the light of the blueprint of marriage by restoring the positions and functions of man and woman so that they may function as a microcosm of the Body of Christ. Husband and wife are designated to empower each other with sacrificial love and to function as members of the Body of Christ. Therefore, the camp also helps them to discover the traits of the husband and wife so that they

may work together complementarily for the development of their capacities of love as they go through the various stages of their family life cycle. The camp also equips the participating couples with the skills of nurturing godly offspring together. The seemingly stable and functional relationships of couples have been restructured, and dysfunctional marriages healed and enriched through the camp.

The 3-day and 2-night camp is packed with inspiring messages, act of affirmation of marriage vows, romantic games, workshops, and gutsy confession of love, that inspire couples to look at their marriage positively and enrich their spousal relationship in a most relaxed, romantic, and open minded environment. The marriages and family lives of the participants are restructured, enriched, and prepared for God's blessings.

To achieve the above objectives, the camp organiser may have to engage well equipped speakers or family therapists and a well-trained working team to serve the campers.

After the camp, Covenant Family groups, each with 3 to 5 couples are formed and facilitated by trained group leaders to integrate what they had learned into their daily living and enable them to continue with the workshop materials. This will help ensure the continual growth of the couples. Ultimately, a strong defence mechanism is established to protect the participating couples.

2019 Event Highlights:

Feb	Sitiawan Training – Self-awareness
	Oasis Singapore - Educator Training
Mar (China)	Advanced Training Seminar for Educators in Fuzhou & Hangzhou
Apr	Chin Hock MC – Educator Training
May (China)	Hu Tou Fang Church - Marriage Camp
	Ke Qiao Church – Parenting Seminar
Jun	Kg Jiren MC - Church Camp
	Singapore Faith MC – Family Life Seminar

Jul	23 rd Sitiawan Educator Training
Aug	24th Sitiawan Educator Training
	Equine MC - Church Camp
Sep	25th Sitiawan Educator Training
	Buloh Kasap MC – Family Seminar
Oct (China)	Setapat MC - Church Camp
	Yu Yiao - Marriage Camp
	Chang Xing - Marriage Camp

Words of Thanks

One year may end as in the twinkling of an eye, but God's grace is enormous. In particular, He has moved so many beloved brothers and sisters to partner with us in the ministry, so that we do not fall short of hands or finance. This assures us that God has begun and will accomplish His good work in the end. We sincerely thank God and those who have been partnering with us. We pray that God may reward the partnership with His abounding grace and blessings.



**Educator Training in
Singapore**



**Educator Training for Malaysia
Chin Hock Methodist Church**



MERRY CHRISTMAS

&

A HAPPY 2020!

From Francis & Karen Ngoi



Income/ Expenditure (Dec'18- Nov'19):

Income:

1. Balance B/F	S\$	979.12
2. Support from family/friends		59,925.00
3. Income from China Training		15,200.00
4. Income from Sitiawan Training		21,350.00
5. Honorary & pledges		<u>10,319.00</u>
6.		
Total:		<u>107,773.12</u>

Expenditure:

1. Operation cost	S\$	74,621.00
2. China office rent & travelling costs		14,984.00
3. Food & lodging for Sitiawan trg		<u>16,900.00</u>
4. Total		<u>106,505.00</u>
C/F to 2020		<u>1,268.12</u>