

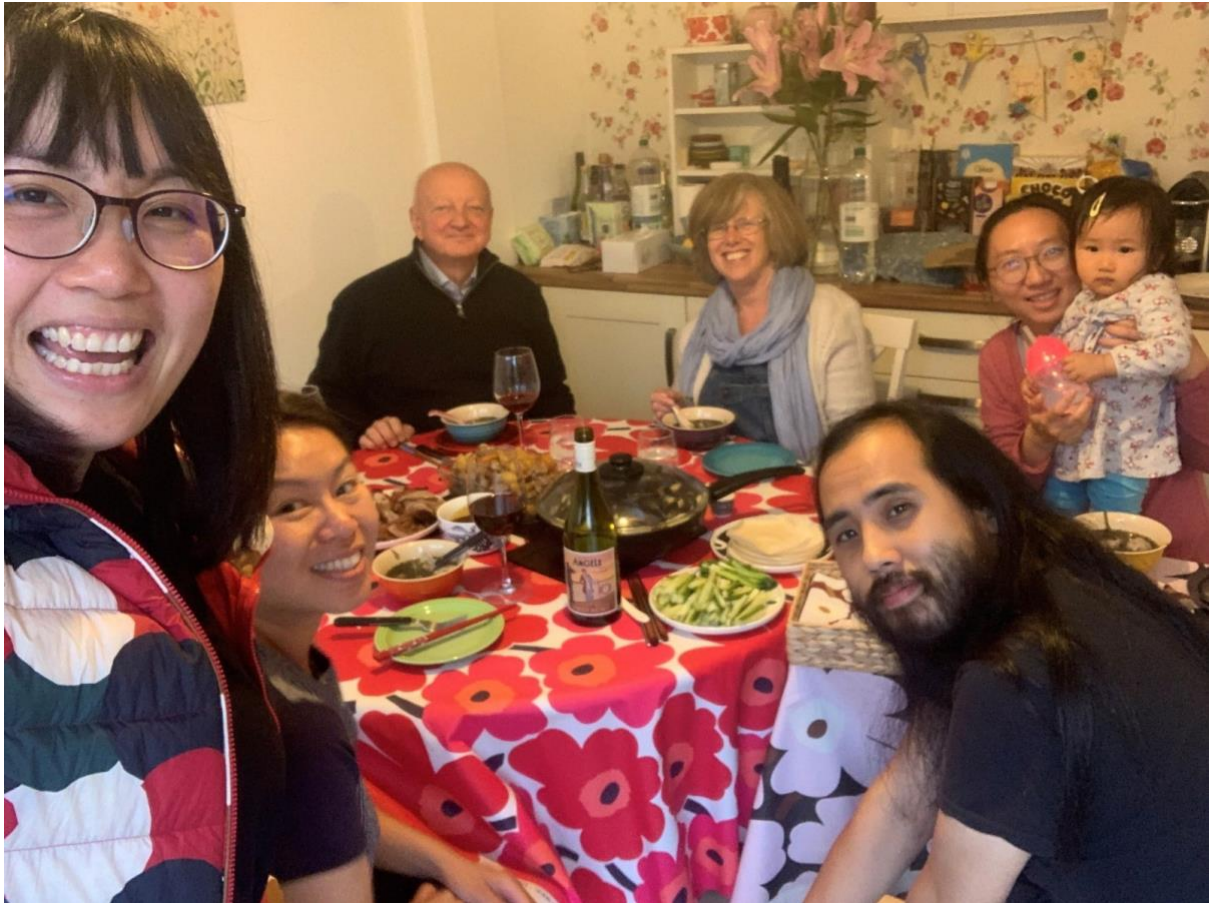
Baptist Union of Great Britain Hong Kong Response Project Newsletter 11 – July 2023



Sharon Shek writes **how small churches show their welcome:**



Resourcing is one of the main considerations when churches decide what ministries to start and how to run them. My experience in a mega church in Hong Kong with a congregation of 4000 and sufficient resources and manpower, as well as the complete system, made starting a ministry easier compared with the small churches, where it's more challenging to response to the needs. But there are still many chances to serve. I have visited five churches in EMBA (East Midland Baptist Association) and they have done a really good job at welcoming and responding to the needs of Hong Kongers. For example, they have been offering places for Hong Kongers to host activities asking for just a small amount to cover heating; holding a welcoming course; inviting Hong Kongers to hold a Hong Kong night for introducing their life in Hong Kong and sharing Hong Kong food; and inviting Hong Kongers to sing in the Sunday service. These are ways of working out the hospitality with limited resources.



Recently, I have connected some Hong Kong Christians who are from different local Baptist churches in different areas. They all expressed thanks for the practical help from their pastors in the Baptist churches, some of which are small churches. They experienced the listening, visiting, helping in daily life, walking along with, praying etc. We feel love and appreciate the help!

When I think about what ministry is, I realise that it is spending time with a person sharing God's love. For many of our experiences, we don't need a very well-planned event - we need the true love from somebody and God.

Reflections shared by Candy Choy (Network minister in WebNet)

Jehovah Jireh—God is our provider!



Greetings! Since February 2022, I have been the Hong Kong network minister in the West of England Baptist Network, and I am excited by what God is doing and the opportunities for me to serve.

New migrants face huge changes either from Hong Kong or other countries. They often experience many difficulties, struggles and anxieties. My role helps me connect HKers with our local Baptist churches, as well as networking across different church groups and denominations. I help provide appropriate support for both daily life and spiritual life.

Hallelujah! Some HKers that I have been working with have responded to the word of God and recently we had a baptism. These people have become increasingly engaged with their local churches. There are now more than 130 HKers in Baptist Churches in the West of England. As HKers we enjoy serving our one Lord alongside people from all nations!

After more than one year, some HK fellowships have been established across the West of England, mainly in Bristol and Bath. Moreover, Ladies Talk, a bible study and disciple group for women, is held regularly on weekdays. We treasure gathering every time to share, eat, pray, study, and support each other. We have already started a new theme, the 7 “I Am” statements in the Gospel of John. We are excited to study and find out more about God every time we meet. Furthermore, we hold ‘Christianese’ Class for HKers. This is a group to help HKers understand more about the terminology (and jargon) of Christianity. Thanks to Fishponds Baptist Church and Broadmead Baptist Church who both generously support and offer hospitality for this.



Jehovah Jireh! God is our provider indeed. Everything started from zero, but God is making things happen and it’s so incredible. My motto is “*Put our plans in God’s hands and HE provides in his time.*” I trust that God will lead us, equip us, and continue to bless us as we seek to serve him according to his will and his way.

My email address is candy.choy@webnetwork.org.uk Please let me know if you meet HKers who live in the West of England, who might want to connect with me or connect with God!

Please pray!

1. Pray for the wellbeing of Hong Kongers when they face daily pressures, home sickness and trauma.
2. Pray for wisdom and grace for churches to help the congregation from different countries.