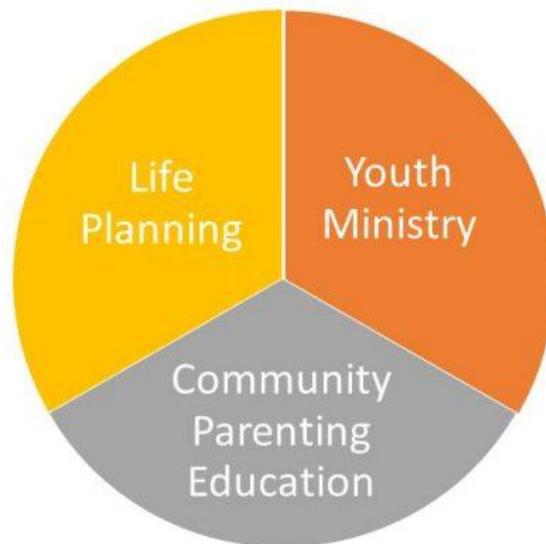


Words From President – November 2019

Dear Presence Supporters,

Greetings to you in this thanksgiving season! We thank and praise God for all the blessings He has bestowed upon you and your family in 2019. We also thank God for your loving support and partnership with Presence as we continue to serve multi-generations within families in this multicultural world.

Highlights of Presence's Multi-generational Family Ministry



“Down to Earth” – Practical Community Parenting Education

Presence has always emphasized multi-generational family ministry, providing parenting education to families with children of different age groups. This year, we had many opportunities to serve young families, and we hosted different parenting workshops and marriage-enrichment retreats for churches and fellowships. While many couples and parents who attended gave positive feedback, some parents realized the need to build a stronger parenting foundation. As a result, we plan to partner with churches to provide training in the community to families with children of different age groups. Such training will consist of case studies and on-the-scene skill practice to more effectively help parents understand the psychological needs of different children and the cultural differences between two generations.

“An Encouraging Boost” — Passing on the Faith to Youth

Youth ministries within Chinese churches are currently shrinking. This past summer, Presence conducted a youth ministry survey to understand the thoughts of youth, parents, and youth workers on the effectiveness of youth ministry. The survey report is now available on our website, and we hope it can be used as a reference for youth ministry development in different churches. Presence also held two prayer meetings for youth ministry in April and November. Several youth ministers sincerely shared their pastoral strategies and ministering tips, and the participants were touched. Pinpointing the needs of North American Chinese churches, Presence has developed an online course, “Healthy Dialogue among Parents, Youth, and Youth Workers.” This course provides many practical case studies, effective communication skills, and pastoring tips to help minimize cultural barriers between two generations within churches and/or families.

On February 28 next year, RE:NEW a Presence movement will once again partner with Chinese Evangelical Free Church to host the Faith Seminar. The theme will be “Balancing Act: How to Avoid Unbiblical Extremes.” The purpose of this Faith Seminar is to help the younger generation distinguish between genuine and extreme Christian faiths, so that they will not fall into unbiblical extremes, which may in turn hinder their growth and affect their interpersonal relationships.

“Personal Value-Adding” – Presence Life Planning Curriculum (to be taught at Logos Evangelical Seminary in 2020 Spring)

Believers in every generation have challenges that are unique to their times. The Presence Life Planning Curriculum is an education course for personal growth and the soul (spirit and mind) to provide believers with wisdom and skills to live in today’s multicultural society. The adult course will be offered at Logos Evangelical Seminary from 1/7 to 3/17 in 2020. Besides the adult course, we hope to develop a youth course in English and a course for training trainers in the near future. To help churches equip trainers for the Life Planning Curriculum, we have filmed the first part of the course (A1-A4) to be used as training materials for trainers. Currently, we are in urgent need of coworkers who understand Mandarin and Cantonese to help with film editing and post-production. Please continue to pray for the development of this ministry.

“The Power of Teamwork” – Resources Needed for Ministry Development

We thank God that in September, sister Joan Hsiung joined the Presence team as a ministry coordinator. With her many years of pastoral experience, we are confident that she will be able to help more churches better utilize the many resources of Presence.

Responding to God’s call, Presence has committed to the cultural mission for the past 16 years, serving families and youth along the way. We are currently in a financial draught (the deficit was \$75,300 as of the end of October), but the faithful Lord will surely provide and call brothers and sisters who share our vision to help us. If the Lord is moving you right now, please keep us in your prayers and consider supporting us financially. No matter if you give a one-time offering or pledge to support us monthly, your financial gift will mean a lot to us as we continue our ministries. If you give by check, please make your check payable to PRESENCE (do not add ministry), or you may donate through our website (<https://presencequotient.org/support-us/donate/>). In addition, you may donate your stocks or lend to us interest-free. May we work together for God’s Kingdom, and may the Lord use Presence to bless more families and youth!

May the Lord bless you abundantly!

In Christ,

Agnes Ip, PhD, LMFT
Founder and CEO of Presence
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology