



台福總會快訊

挑旺恩賜，彼此服事
Bring Out the Gifts, Serve One Another

Jan. 2009

總幹事的勉勵

挑旺恩賜，彼此服事

—陳敏欽牧師

台福總會及台福各地方教會 2009 年的總主題為「挑旺恩賜，彼此服事」。保羅在羅馬書 12：3~8 節勉勵我們每一位屬神的兒女在每日生活中實踐救恩生活時，應當用恩賜來服事上帝。

「3 我憑著所賜我的恩、對你們各人說、不要看自己過於所當看的、要照著 神所分給各人信心的大小、看得合乎中道。4 正如我們一個身上有好些肢體、肢體也不都是一樣的用處。5 我們這許多人、在基督裡成為一身、互相聯絡作肢體、也是如此。6 按我們所得的恩賜、各有不同、或說預言、就當照著信心的程度說預言、7 或作執事、就當專一執事、或作教導的、就當專一教導、8 或作勸化的、就當專一勸化、施捨的、就當誠實、治理的、就當殷勤、憐憫人的、就當甘心。」 羅馬書 12 章 3~8 節

當看我們的恩賜合乎中道（3 節）

當一個人信主之後，都從神那裡領受了不同的恩賜。保羅說：「我憑著所賜我的恩…」，保羅想到基督拯救的恩典，想到上帝呼召他做外邦使徒的恩典，他想到這恩典也是給每一位使徒的，所以他說：「不要看自己過於所當看的，要照著神分給各人信心的大小，看得合乎中道。」這句話的意思是說，每一個人從神領受了不同的恩賜，一個人不要因他的恩賜而驕傲，也不要因領受的恩賜而自卑，每一個人都從神那裡領受了他自己的一份，重要的是要如何把所領受的這一份發掘出來。發揮的時候，儘量求其不要越界，越界是一種驕傲的按示；也不要不及，不及是一種懶惰和不忠的暗示。

有一位擔任五年教會主席的同工，來到牧師面前，這五年之間他在教會興起了一些特別的事工，做得非常成功。但他向牧師表明他想從主席的位置退下來，原因是他覺得這是他所能貢獻的極限了，同時他發現有另一位同工可以更往前踏一步，而他可參與其他服事或輔助工作。他的朋友、同工，也因愛他、愛教會、愛主的事工而印證他的決定是合適的。他們所共同思考的是上帝的榮耀，他們所衡量的是恩賜用在最合適的地方。這樣的作法就是「看自己的恩賜合乎中道」。

當用我們的恩賜彼此配搭（4~5 節）

世人自私的本能和個人主義的傾向，對基督身體彼此配搭的觀念造成不利的影響。這裡的經節告訴我

們，信徒在教會裡有一個非常獨特的地位，每一個信徒都是基督身體的一部份，每一部份具有不同的功能，雖有不同的功能，但他們仍是彼此互相關聯著。然而，這一個基本的教會觀念和我們現代基督徒的想法有一些差距。因為我們生活在一個相當專業化的世界，我們對教會的服事工作也趨向專才的觀念。於是教會的事工就只圍繞在幾位我們覺得有能力、有才幹的弟兄姐妹身上，我們在心態上是在鼓勵弟兄姐妹們儘量作一個旁觀者，於是在教會中產生了許多只願意用口批評，不願用心用手去真正參與的人。

有一位牧師和家庭外出旅行回來，才進門不久，教會一位年長弟兄就打電話來，分享週三剛過的長青團契和婦女查經班聯合聚會情形。他興奮地說：「那天，佩佩最早到，她來開教會的門，在廚房預備中餐；美美雖病初癒，還在休養中，但她用電話遙控，關心聚會的安排情形；滿滿去接年長的李婆婆；芬芬第一次聚會做主席，做得還不錯；陳長老告訴我們要操練，所以就請我做會前禱告；遙遙帶領結束禱告；平常在話語上有操練的信道為我們分享信息。」這是一幅何等美好的圖畫，也正是保羅所說的：「在基督裡成為一身，互相聯絡作肢體。」每一個肢體都有他的功能，缺少了任何一環，工作就會有缺陷。

當照我們的恩賜盡心竭力（6~8 節）

每個人所領受的恩賜各有不同，第〔6~8 節〕保羅列舉了七項恩賜。他並沒有花時間去描述各個不同恩賜的功能和責任，卻集中注意力在行使恩賜的態度上，他所關心的是信徒們是否有把恩賜的發揮到極至。

無論是先知、執事、教導、勸化、施捨、治理或憐憫，保羅提到使用這些恩賜所用的形容詞時，他似乎是在說：「不論你的使命是什麼，去做，努力去做吧！」讓我們再讀一次這幾句形容詞：「當專一」、「當誠實」、「當殷勤」、「當甘心」，他要求我們全力以赴，把神給我們的恩賜完完全全發揮出來。您的施捨怎樣？您的服事怎樣？您的教導怎樣？您的治理怎樣？是否盡心竭力了呢？

回應上帝在基督裡拯救我們的大愛，我們當一生學習以事奉主為榮。當我們用神所賜給我們的恩賜服事恩主時，讓我們看待我們的恩賜合乎中道，用我們的恩賜彼此配搭，照我們的恩賜盡心竭力。

2009年總會事工展望

感謝上帝的愛與恩典，引導我們平安的度過 2008 年。同時也感謝各地方教會對總會的支持與配搭。今年總會的幾項事工展望如下：

A. 著重事工：

1. 繼續去年的「雙向溝通」：透過「每週電子週報」-請定期上總會網站查看。「每月影帶播放」-請各教會至總會網站下載，並請務必按月安排時間於教會內播放。「每季各區的電話聯誼會議」-請上總會網站查看每一次的重點會議紀錄。
2. 加強區會的陣容與運作：除了區牧和區長，另外增選三到五位區委員共同策劃區會的發展，也共同承擔區域聯合性的宣道與植堂事工。
3. 今年新開發的「資源共享」：透過總會網站提供主日信息精華、事奉經歷交流、主日學教材推介、敬拜詩歌投影片、教會事工手冊、節期活動材料、小組團契錦囊....等資源。

B. 新發展事工：

1. 2月19日至21日要在洛杉磯舉辦第一屆的「北美華人數代連結大會」。這次大會將邀集台福眾教會領袖及英語事工同工一起來探討英文事工的現況與未來的發展。
2. 7月1日至14日由總會統籌徵召台福人回台灣以召開營會的方式進行短宣的事工。

C. 其他事工：

1. 2月20日至21日舉行擴大總委會。除了總會董事、機構首長外，並邀請台福十區的區牧及區長與會。並趁此機會於2月22日至23日舉行區牧退修會，與區牧們共同思考區會的發展與事工。
2. 為加強區會的組織，使各區會更有效的運作，總會將鼓勵各區會舉辦各項教會彼此間的活動。
3. 總會婦女會於每個月的第一個星期一，邀請了各牧長擔任講員，固定在傳播中心舉行專題講座。
4. 總會青松會於每單月的第2個星期四在台福傳播中心舉行禱告會。並將於2月7日舉行新春親睦會。
5. 總會教育事工每年將召開2次研討會議。今年第一次會議定於6月13日(週六)，舉行，敬請南加州各教會教育部門負責同工務必撥冗參加。

新春賀詞

敬愛的眾台福會友平安！

新的一年恭祝大家 Happy 牛 Year，主恩滿溢，歲歲平安，新年快樂！願在一年之始，我們同來經歷神的同在。從歲首到年終，都能深深領受神各樣美好的應許。

一帆風順
三羊開泰
五福臨門
七星高照
九九同心
百事亨通
萬事如意

二人同行
四季平安
六六大順
八方來財
十全十美
千事吉祥
億載神國

行政幹事 鄭恩仁傳道賀

「北美華人數代連結大會」

展望著台福在北美、澳洲及紐西蘭地區所需要開展的事工中，尤以「英文事工」特屬重要。在過去三、四十年來，「英文事工」於台福教會的發展有一段漫長與艱難的路程。如今，眼見台福教會的英文事工在北美及紐澳地區有其發展空間，所以總會希望邀請眾台福教會的牧師、傳道、長老、執事及同工們，藉由「北美華人數代連結大會」齊聚一堂，共同研討如何面對英文事工的發展以及數代連結的溝通與討論。

當第一代及第二代領袖們齊聚一堂，共同思考各種數代連結發展的方式，這將是台福基督教會歷史性的創舉。您們每一位的參與都是促成此次大會成功的重要因素。您們每一位到場分享各自英文事工發展的前景與意見，都將成為此次大會的貢獻。

所以台福總會誠摯地請求眾教會盡可能地邀請貴教會同工參加此大會，總會也將提供南加州以外的教會一些經費補助。本活動將在洛杉磯台福基督教會舉行，敬請自即日起進行貴教會的參加人員選派及購買機票等各項事務的籌備，也請預備您的心來參加此盛會。若有任何關於活動的問題或意見歡迎與台福總會英文事工負責人 Isaac Liao 連絡 e-mail: Isaac.liao@efcga.org Tel: 626-572-6630#133。或可上總會網站的「總會消息」處，下載報名及費用等各項詳情。

大會時間表

Time	2/19 Thursday	2/20 Friday	2/21 Saturday
7:00 AM			
8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast at Hotel		
9:00 AM		Plenary Session II	Plenary Session V
10:00 AM			
11:00 AM		Workshop A	Workshop C
12:00 PM	Lunch Time		
1:00 PM		Workshop B	Workshop D
2:00 PM			
3:00 PM		Panel Discussion	Q & A
4:00 PM	Registration & Check-In	Plenary Session III	Plenary Session VI
5:00 PM	Opening Ceremony and Ice Breaker	Break Time	
6:00 PM	Dinner Time		Bridging Banquet (Optional)
7:00 PM	Plenary Session I	Plenary Session IV	
8:00 PM			
9:00 PM	Bridging Reception	Praise Night and Ice Cream Social	
10:00 PM	Time to Rest		



Evangelical Formosan Church Newsletter

Bring Out the Gifts, Serve One Another

(1 Peter 4:10)

Jan. 2009

Encourage of Secretary General

Bring Out the Gifts, Serve One Another

- Pr. Peter Chen

This year's main theme for EFCGA and all EFC local churches is: "Bring Out the Gifts, Serve One Another". In the book of Romans, chapter 12, verses 3 to 8, the bible encourages every one of us, the children of God, when living out the daily life of salvation, we should be serving God with our gifts from Him.

Think of yourself with sober judgment [V.3]

One receives different gift from God when he believes. When Apostle Paul says: "by the grace given me," he was referring to the grace of Christ's salvation, and the grace of God to call him out to be the disciple for the Gentiles. Then it occur to him that this grace can also be given to every disciple, so he said: "Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.". By saying that he meant, everyone has received different gifts from God. One should not take pride in the gift he received, nor should he feel inferior about it. All has received his share from God. What's important is how we can bring out this share we've received. But we must bear in mind not to get carried away, for it is an implication of arrogance; nor should we fall behind, for it indicates laziness and disloyalty.

There is a co-worker who had been the chairman of his church for five years, in which he had successfully launched a few special ministries. He went to the pastor to express his desire to retire from the position, because he felt that he had reached the boundary of what he could offer to the church. He also found another co-worker who has the potential to go further while he can be involved in other ministries or auxiliary work. His friends and co-workers validate his decision for the love for him, the church, and the Lord's ministry. What they have in mind is the glory of God, and their concern is to put God's gift to the best use. This is the actual practice of "Think of your own gift with sober judgment".

Complement each other with our gifts from God. [V. 4-5]

The selfish nature of human and the prevailing individualism in this world have made a negative influence on the principle of complement among members of Christ. Here the verses tell us, disciples each have a unique place in the church. Every disciple is a part of the body of Christ, and each part carries a different function. Although their function varies, they are connected to each other. However, there is a discrepancy between this church principle and our thoughts as modern time Christians. We live in a world of professionalism and so it became the way we serve at church. As a result many ministries are

delegated to the few that are considered capable and talented. In a way we are encouraging our brothers and sisters to be a spectator, and thus produced many church members that criticize with their mouth, but never participate with their mind and their hands.

A pastor has just returned home from a family vacation. Not long after he entered the door, an elderly brother at church called and shared with him about the combined meeting of their Senior Fellowship and Women's Bible Study on the previous Wednesday. Full of excitement he said: "Pei-Pei was the first to arrive that day. She came and opened the door at church, prepared lunch in the kitchen. Mei-Mei was still recuperating from her illness, yet she was concerned of the meeting and was making arrangement by phone calls. Mann-Mann gave the elderly Li Po-Po a ride. Fen-Fen fared very well as a first-time chairperson. Elder Chen told us to train ourselves, so I was asked to do the opening prayer. Yao-Yao lead the closing prayer. Shin-Dao shared a message for he has been training himself in the words." What a wonderful picture! As the Apostle Paul says: "So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." Every member has his function, when a link is missing, the work will be flawed.

Strive according to our gifts. [V.6-8]

We have received different gifts. In verse 6 to 8 the Apostle Paul has listed 7 gifts. He did not elaborate on the various functions and responsibilities of the gifts, but rather focused on the attitude while exercising them. What he concerns is whether the disciples have put their gifts to the best use.

May it be prophesying, serving, teaching, encouraging, contributing, leadership or showing mercy, when Paul describes the ways to use these gifts, he seems to be saying: "Whatever your mission is, just do it, do it with all your might!" Let us go through those descriptions: "Let a man give himself to it", "Let him do it with simplicity", "Let him govern diligently", "Let him do it cheerfully". He asks us to strive to fully exert the gifts we receive from God. How is your giving? Your serving? Your teaching? And your leadership? Have you exerted yourself?

In reply to the great love of God's salvation in Christ, we should learn to take pride in serving God in our lives. When we serve God with the gifts He has given us, let us -Think of our gifts with sober judgment, complement each other with our gifts, and strive according to our gifts.

Outlook of EFCGA Ministries

We give thanks to our Lord for His love and grace that guided us through the year 2008 in peace. Meanwhile we are grateful for all the support to EFCGA and cooperation from all local churches.

A. There are 3 ministries to focus:

1. In 2009 EFCGA will press on the endeavor to further the interaction between local churches and coordination with EFCGA through "Weekly bulletin" (on EFCGA.net), "Monthly video clip" (for local churches to play during Sunday Services) and "Quarterly telephone conference".
2. is to enhance the Regions and their functions: Besides the Regional Pastor-in-Charge and Regional Chairperson, an addition of 3 to 5 regional council members are elected to engineer the development of the region, as well as to take on evangelism and church planting ministry in the region.
3. is this year's new development " the resource sharing": Through the EFCGA website we provide resources such as featured Sunday messages, serving experience exchange, Sunday School curriculum , Praise and Worship PowerPoint, church ministry handbooks, festivity materials, and groups and fellowship tools.

B. there are two new ministries to develop:

1. One is the very first English Ministry's North American Bridging Conference scheduled on February 19 to 21 at EFCLA . All EFC church leaders and English Ministry co-workers are invited to join the conversation of the condition of the English ministry and its future.
2. The other is the short-term mission to Taiwan between July 1 and 14, coordinated by the GA to call EFC members to mission in summer camps.

C. Other ministries:

1. The expanded EFCGA board meeting will take place from 2/20 to 2/21 besides the GA Board of Director, Chairperson of 5 EFC organizations, 10 Regional pastors and 10 Regional Chairperson are also invited for the meeting. After the meeting, a retreat for Regional pastors from 2/22 to 2/23 is also planned.
2. We encourage all regional offices to organize activities such as regional sports meet, seminar, and training sessions, etc., to enhance the Regions and their functions.
3. The EFC Women Association will be sponsoring seminars on the first Monday of every month. Pastors and Elders are invited.
4. EFC Young Seniors Association will hold a prayer meeting on the second Thursday of every month.
5. EFC Education Ministry will have 2 meetings every year. Next meeting will be held on the second Saturday in June 13th. All Education Ministry co-workers are encouraged to attend

New Year's Greeting

Minister En Jen Cheng, *administrator*

Peace to all EFC family members! I would like to wish all of you a " Happy Niu (ox) Year" that is filled with God's grace and peace, and all the years after. May we experience our Lord's presence together at this beginning of the year, and receive wonderful promises from God throughout.

Publisher : EFCGA / Published Date:2009/1/23

2009 North American Bridging Conference

Looking at the ministries of EFC in North America, Australia, and New Zealand, the English ministry is of particular importance for the future, and its development in the past 30 years has been a long and difficult journey. Seeing the need for growth and development of EFC Churches in this area, the General Assembly would like to invite the pastors, elders, and co-workers of these churches to come together in discussing the future of English ministries and the need for bridging the generations. This will truly be a historic event for EFC, when 1st and 2nd generation leaders come together to bridge the generational ministries for the future of EFC. Everyone who participates will be integral to the success of this conference and simply coming and sharing ones experiences is the greatest contribution one can make to this conference. Thus, the EFC General Assembly would like to encourage all EFC Churches to do all they can to invite their co-workers to participate in this event.

The event will be held at the facilities of EFC Los Angeles. Please start making arrangements, choosing representatives, buying tickets, and preparing your hearts for this great event. If there are any questions or comments, please contact Isaac Liao at Isaac.Liao@efcga.org or call (626)-572-6630#133. Isaac Liao , and you also can download the Conference Guidelines from www.efcga.net /總會消息

Conference Schedule

Time	2/19 Thursday	2/20 Friday	2/21 Saturday
7:00 AM			
8:00 AM		Continental Breakfast at Hotel	
9:00 AM		Plenary Ses- sion II	Plenary Ses- sion V
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