



THE GOODNESS of GIVENNESS



HOUSTON
CHINESE CHURCH
鐵士頓中國教會

Numbered Days

Preacher: Jason Tarn

Sunday, May 1, 2022 | 9:15am - 10:30am

 [FACEBOOK.COM/HOUSTONCHINESECHURCH](https://www.facebook.com/HOUSTONCHINESECHURCH)

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HOUSTON
CHINESE CHURCH
曉士頓中國教會

ENGLISH WORSHIP SERVICE

9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

Welcome & Call to Worship

Recitation of the Beatitudes

Worship in Song

Offertory

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading, *Psalms 39:4-6; 90:9-12*

Worship in the Word, Pastor Jason

"Numbered Days" - [Sermon Outline](#)

Worship in Song

Confession of Sin

Lord's Supper

Benediction & Doxology

Expository Preaching

Expository preaching communicates a biblical idea derived from a passage of Scripture and applies it to the listener.

UPCOMING SERMON SCHEDULE

Alloted Periods and Boundary Places

May 8 | *Acts 17:26-27* | Jason Tarn

Predetermined Days

May 15 | *Psalms 139:15-16* | Fred Tow

Confidence to Finish the Race

May 22 | *Philippians 1:1-11* | Stanley Chang

Adversity Means Gospel Opportunities

May 29 | *Philippians 1:12-18a* | Jason Tarn



ONLINE

Sermon notes and video recordings can be found here:

hcc.lv/SermonMeUp



ENGLISH ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us for Sunday School classes at 11:00am -12:15pm. Jesus calls us to be disciples, workers, and leaders. Our teaching ministry aims to produce believers who are committed to the call of Jesus.

Verse by Verse Bible: Mark | Rm 411

Temptations Men Face | Rm 412/414 *men only

Old Testament Survey (Part 2 of 6) | Rm 113

Systematic Theology Survey (Part 2 of 3) | Rm 115

Lies Women Believe | Rm 201 *women only



LUNCH SURVEY

LUNCH PREPARATION

Aihua Fellowship (this week)

Cambridge Fellowship (next week)



UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Bake Sale + Handcrafted Goods Fundraiser for Ukraine | Sun, May 1 & 8 | Lobby

Please support fundraising for Ukraine by purchasing baked goods/handmade items. Pre-order at hcc.lv/crossroadbakery and hcc.lv/crossroadcrafts or stop by the booth in the lobby on 5/1 and 5/8! All proceeds will be donated to the World Vision **Ukraine Crisis Fund**.

Churchwide Prayer Meeting | Wed, May 4 | 7:30 - 8:30 pm | Zoom: hcc.lv/jointprayer

Join us Wednesday evening for our monthly churchwide prayer meeting on Zoom.

Mothers of Little Ones | Wed, May 4 | 8:30 - 9:30 pm | Zoom

Mothers of Little Ones (MOLO) is having an evening meeting through Zoom this week. To get connected with MOLO, contact **Stacy Huang** at stacyhuang@alumni.rice.edu

Baptism & Membership Class | Sundays in May | 11:00 am - 12:15 pm | Trailer 416

Ready to proclaim your faith through baptism or just want to know more? Join our class! Classes on May 8 & 15 will walk through becoming a member of HCC, and classes on May 22 & 29 are focused on baptism. If you are already baptized and want to become a member, you will only need to attend the first two classes. Contact englishadmin@hcchome.org to sign up.

SAVE THE DATE! English Membership Meeting | Fri, May 13 | 7:00 - 8:45 pm | Sanctuary

Join us for our English Membership Meeting on Friday, May 13th at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Childcare will be available for ages 3 and under.

Thrive Retreat: Living Out Your Faith in the 9-5 | May 27 - May 30

The Thrive Retreat is a retreat for young professionals of all walks of life to learn Biblical knowledge and apply it to their careers. Registration ends 5/15: thrive.paactexas.org

SAVE THE DATE! Women's Summer Bible Study | Thursdays, Jun 9 - Jul 21 | Hybrid Format

Ladies are invited to a 7-session video lecture series and study to put on the armor of God identified in Ephesians. Attend either in-person or online on Thursdays, June 9 - July 21, 7:15-9:00 PM. Registration opens soon. Questions? Contact womensministry@hcchome.org

CHURCH NOTICES

Elder and Deacon Nominations

HCC members are encouraged to pray over and provide names of qualified members to be considered for the offices of elder and deacon. Open deacon positions for the 2023-2024 term include: (1) Cantonese Fellowship, (2) Mandarin Fellowship, (3) Chinese Children's Ministry, (4) Chinese Family Life, (5) Chinese Local Outreach, (6) Chinese Welcoming and Receiving, (7) English Adult Education, (8) English Children's Ministry, (9) English Local Outreach, (10) English Worship, and (11) Treasurer for Finances. You may submit names **no later than May 22, 2022** via the bulletin insert or online: *Deacon Suggestion Form*: tinyurl.com/hccDeaconForm2022En; *Elder Suggestion Form*: tinyurl.com/hccElderFormEn. All submissions are held strictly confidential. If you have any questions, please contact hccoffice@hcchome.org

D-Camp and Camp Impact Registration | Register Now!

2022 D-Camp and Camp Impact registration is now open! For all camp information and to register online, please go to: dcampandimpact.org

Carol Huang Memorial Scholarship | hcc.lv/CHM22

Interested high school seniors, undergraduate, and graduate students are invited to apply for the 2022 Carol Huang Memorial Scholarship. For details see the [application form](#) or email tinaz@hcchome.org. The application deadline is July 17th.

Change in Giving Code for PayPal Giving Fund (PPGF)

If you wish to give online to the HCC Building Fund via PPGF, please use the cents "code" of 22 now (instead of 25 as before) in your donation amount; for example, "\$250.**22**."

HCC KIDS

2022 HCC Science VBS & Kids' Camp @PCC: Elements of Trust | hcc.lv/2022VBS

Registration for VBS + Kids' Camp is now open! This year will be held at Pearland Chinese Church 9am - 4pm on August 1-5, open to kids Pre-K - 5th grade in Fall 2022. Register your child at hcc.lv/2022VBS. Want to help with VBS? Sign up to volunteer at hcc.lv/2022VBSTeam.

Prospective Deacon Suggestion Form

Each year our church goes through the process of identifying members to serve as church deacons. These individuals serve on the Church Council, along with the elders, to provide leadership for the church and its various ministries. We ask you to pray over the next few months as we seek out those whom God has raised up to serve in the office of deacon.

For 2023, we are looking for deacons to lead in the following departments:

Cantonese Fellowship Ministry	English Children's Ministry
Mandarin Fellowship Ministry	English Local Outreach
Chinese Children's Ministry	English Adult Education
Chinese Family Life	English Worship
Chinese Local Outreach	Treasurer for Finance
Chinese Welcoming and Receiving	

The biblical qualifications for deacons are spelled out in 1 Tim. 3:8-13; Acts 6:3. All prospective names are carefully considered and evaluated by the aforementioned Scripture passages in addition to a document that indicates the spiritual qualifications for all HCC elders and deacons. It was approved by the Church Council on May 9, 2015 and states the following:

Leaders of HCC are to be baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, church members in good standing for at least 2 years at the time of nomination, and have demonstrated evidence of Christian growth with a life characterized by the following:

1. Godliness and humility (Mt 11:29; 2 Tim 2:21-22).
2. A life of integrity (Ps 78:72; Ti 2:7).
3. A God-pleasing family life (1 Tim 3:4).
4. Growing Christian discipline:
 - a. Regular attendance of corporate worship and Sunday School / or active service during the Sunday School hour (Heb 10:24-25; Jn 4:23-24).
 - b. Regular participation in fellowship and/or small group life (Heb 10:24).
 - c. Consistent reading of Scripture and prayer (2 Tim 2:21-22; Ps 119).
 - d. Active service in HCC in different capacities (1 Cor 12, Rom 12:3-13).
 - e. Faithful tithing to HCC for the purpose of setting an example of love and commitment to God and our church. We define a tithe as ten percent of one's gross income (Gen 14:20b; Lev 14:22; Mal 3:8-12; Mt 22:16-21).
5. Serving as a team with the pastoral staff and other elders and deacons. This includes:
 - a. An ability to work well with others.
 - b. A cooperative spirit that seeks unity.
 - c. A willingness to work through conflict when it arises.

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We invite active church members to prayerfully give to the Nomination Committee suggestions of qualified men or women who are church members to be considered for the office of deacon.

Below are a few reminders as you participate in this process. Please indicate that you have understood them by checking the boxes, and then complete the rest of the form.

- I am an active church member of HCC.
- I have prayed about my decision to suggest this person.
- I will *not* inform the person of this suggestion. I understand the person will be contacted by the Nomination Committee if or when it is appropriate.
- To the best of my knowledge, the person I am suggesting meets the qualifications listed on the other side of the page.

****PLEASE SUBMIT ONE FORM FOR EACH PERSON YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST****

Your Name: _____

Your Email: _____

I suggest _____

for consideration as Deacon of _____

Please provide a brief reason for your suggestion:

Deadline for submissions: May 22, 2022

Submit a completed form to the office. An online version of this form can also be found and submitted using the following link: tinyurl.com/hccdeaconform2022en

Please direct questions to hccoffice@hcchome.org.

Prospective Elder Suggestion Form

Each year our church goes through the process of identifying members to serve as church elders. These individuals serve on the Church Council, along with the deacons, to provide leadership for the church and its various ministries. We ask you to pray over the next few months as we seek out those whom God has raised up to serve in the office of elder.

The biblical qualifications for elders are spelled out in 1 Tim. 3:1-7; Tit. 1:5-9; 1 Pet. 5:1-3. All prospective names are carefully considered and evaluated by the aforementioned Scripture passages in addition to a document that indicates the spiritual qualifications for all HCC elders and deacons. It was approved by the Church Council on May 9, 2015 and states the following:

Leaders of HCC are to be baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, church members in good standing for at least 2 years at the time of nomination, and have demonstrated evidence of Christian growth with a life characterized by the following:

1. Godliness and humility (Mt 11:29; 2 Tim 2:21-22).
2. A life of integrity (Ps 78:72; Ti 2:7).
3. A God-pleasing family life (1 Tim 3:4).
4. Growing Christian discipline:
 - a. Regular attendance of corporate worship and Sunday School / or active service during the Sunday School hour (Heb 10:24-25; Jn 4:23-24).
 - b. Regular participation in fellowship and/or small group life (Heb 10:24).
 - c. Consistent reading of Scripture and prayer (2 Tim 2:21-22; Ps 119).
 - d. Active service in HCC in different capacities (1 Cor 12, Rom 12:3-13).
 - e. Faithful tithing to HCC for the purpose of setting an example of love and commitment to God and our church. We define a tithe as ten percent of one's gross income (Gen 14:20b; Lev 14:22; Mal 3:8-12; Mt 22:16-21).
5. Serving as a team with the pastoral staff and other elders and deacons. This includes:
 - a. An ability to work well with others.
 - b. A cooperative spirit that seeks unity.
 - c. A willingness to work through conflict when it arises.

continued on back...

We invite active church members to prayerfully give to the current elders and pastors suggestions of qualified men who are church members to be considered for the office of elder.

Below are a few reminders as you participate in this process. Please indicate that you have understood them by checking the boxes, and then complete the rest of the form.

- I am an active church member of HCC.
- I have prayed about my decision to suggest this person.
- I will *not* inform the person of this suggestion. I understand the person will be contacted by the Nomination Committee if or when it is appropriate.
- To the best of my knowledge, the person I am suggesting meets the qualifications listed on the other side of the page.

****PLEASE SUBMIT ONE FORM FOR EACH PERSON YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST***

Your Name: _____

Your Email: _____

I suggest _____

to the current elders and pastors for consideration as an elder.

Please provide a brief reason for your suggestion:

Deadline for submissions: May 22, 2022

Submit a completed form to the office. An online version of this form can also be found and submitted using the following link: tinyurl.com/hccelderformen

Please direct questions to hccoffice@hcchome.org.

Job Descriptions for Open Deacon Positions Beginning 2023

- 1. Cantonese Fellowship Ministry:** To provide administrative and logistical support to the Cantonese Fellowship Ministry, and to help fellowship group leaders understand and implement the direction of the church.
- 2. Mandarin Fellowship Ministry:** To provide administrative and logistical support to the Mandarin Fellowship Ministry, and to help fellowship group leaders understand and implement the direction of the church.
- 3. Chinese Children's Ministry:** To develop new and maintain present programs to assist Chinese congregation parents to bring children to Christ.
- 4. Chinese Family Life:** To strengthen marriages and equip parents with biblical principles, counseling, and Christ-centered community. To help families in the Chinese congregation grow in their love for and service to Christ.
- 5. Chinese Local Outreach:** To provide administrative and logistical support to the Chinese local outreach ministry, which aims to equip and mobilize Chinese congregation members towards active evangelism personally and corporately.
- 6. Chinese Welcoming and Receiving:** To work with pastoral staff, fellowship leaders, and other coworkers to create a welcoming environment and provide opportunities for newcomers to connect to God and experience spiritual growth at HCC.
- 7. English Adult Education:** To develop and coordinate HCC's English teaching ministry in the context of Adult Sunday School and other teaching opportunities.
- 8. English Children's Ministry:** To develop new and maintain present programs to assist English congregation parents to bring children to Christ.

Job Descriptions for Open Deacon Positions Beginning 2023

- 9. English Local Outreach:** To provide administrative and logistical support to the English local outreach ministry, which aims to equip and mobilize English congregation members towards active evangelism personally and corporately.
- 10. English Worship:** To oversee the teams within the English worship ministry, which aims to foster a God-centered, biblically-sound, passionate worship culture within the English congregation.
- 11. Treasurer for Finance:** To provide careful oversight of the church's financial situation through activities such as oversight of offering-counting operations, HCC's part-time bookkeeper, and accurate financial recording and reporting.

Note: Full job descriptions for these deacon positions can be accessed via this link: tinyurl.com/hccdeacons2023

Brief Background on Deacons

Deacons literally mean "Table Waiters." When waiters enjoy their task as table servers, are eager to serve, and are available but not intrusive, then the experience is gratifying and rewarding. Deacons are an indispensable part of serving the body of Christ and of multiplying HCC's ministry.

The position of deacon was established to promote harmony across cultural and language lines. Deacons are HCC's "shock absorbers." They absorb complaints and concerns, resolve them in godliness, and so preserve the unity and witness of the saints. An effective deacon ministry frees the pastors and elders to focus on prayer and the ministry of the Word (Acts 6).

The Goodness of Givenness

Numbered Days

Psalm 39:4-6; 90:9-12

This series is aimed at challenging the modern idea of the Sovereign Self. The idea that we have within ourselves the authority to create our own reality. In other words, I can fashion my identity as I will, even if it means rejecting the givenness of my nature. But many aspects of human nature are stubborn and unbending. Consider our mortality – how our bodies age, decline, and eventually die. We can try to deny this reality or delay it, but we can't change it. Biblical wisdom directs us instead to number our days, face our mortality, and learn from it.

1. Our mortality is undeniable

2. Our mortality is unnatural

3. Our mortality is a teacher

a. Our lives are _____

b. Our time is _____

c. Our hoarding is _____

Recommended Books:

What God Has to Say About Our Bodies: How the Gospel is Good News for our Physical Selves by Sam Allberry

Remember Death: The Surprising Path to Living Hope by Matthew McCullough
On Death by Timothy Keller

HOUSTON CHINESE CHURCH FACTS & FIGURES

LAST SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE AND FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR APRIL 24, 2022

HCC WORSHIP

PEARLAND WORSHIP

308

ENGLISH

73

CANTONESE

182

MANDARIN

67

YOUTH

65

CHILDREN

22+69

ENG + MAND

13

CHILDREN

799

TOTAL



HCC SUNDAY SCHOOL

92

ENGLISH

44

CANTONESE

86

MANDARIN

PEARLAND SS

32

ADULT



APR 24, 2022

OFFERING

YTD RECEIVED

THIS YEAR'S YTD (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS

LAST YEAR'S YTD (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS

GENERAL FUND

\$114,355.45

\$725,591.51

\$97,204.81

(\$10,535.08)

HCC BUILDING

\$5,136.50

\$21,931.50

PEARLAND BUILDING

\$1,250.19

\$23,952.90



Job Opportunities: *Staff Needed*

We are looking for a *full-time Youth Minister (Pearland Campus)*, as well as part-time: *Bookkeeper/Accountant, IT Coordinator, Nursery Coordinator, and Nursery Caregiver.*

Email pastorsearch@hcchome.org to apply or find out more at hcc.lv/HCCJobs

Staff Itinerary

Linh Phan: vacation, 5/1 - 5/4

William Soo: vacation, 5/1



Photo Submissions for 2022 Photo Prayer Guide

If you have an updated family and/or personal photo you would like to include in our 2022 Prayer Guide, please email englishadmin@hcchome.org by today, *Sunday, May 1st*. The prayer guide includes English congregation members and their families.

Church Council Mailboxes Moved to Office Entrance

Mailboxes for deacons and elders are now located next to the main office.



PRAYER

Join us as we pray for our long term workers in this month's Global Outreach Spotlight:

hcc.lv/GoPrayApril

SCAN HERE FOR HCC PAYPAL GIVING FUND



COVID PROTOCOL

****Yellow Zone****

Masks are now optional for all individuals, but still highly recommended for those who are unvaccinated or immunocompromised.

ABOUT US

COVID Church Facilities Update

HCC welcomes everyone to our indoor worship and activities. Check: hcc.lv/COVIDnews for the most updated protocols. For more info contact us at: hccoffice@hcchome.org

New or Visiting HCC?

If you are a newcomer or visitor we would love to connect you with our church community! Take a moment to fill out our Visitor's Welcome form: hcc.lv/welcome OR stop by our welcome desk in the lobby for a gift. We will contact you with on ways to connect with our community!

Sign Up for Our Newsletter | hcc.lv/news

Subscribe to our weekly newsletters with announcements, opportunities, and updates.



Please submit English bulletin announcements and inserts to Elise Tan at englishadmin@hcchome.org by Wednesday noon for approval. Any announcements received after Wednesday at noon will be put in next week's bulletin.