Baptist Union of Great Britain Hong Kong Response Project Newsletter 17 – Nov 2024



Londy Chan writes:

Commencing the Second Phase of the Hong Kong Response Project with Prayer and Unity

We are excited to announce the commencement of the second phase of the Hong Kong Response Project. As we begin this new chapter, it is only fitting that we come together in prayer, seeking the wisdom, guidance and love of God. We are praying for the grace to embrace the diversity that goes beyond language and cultural differences, bringing together both British and Hong Kong believers in unity and love.

The first online prayer meeting of this phase was held on September 11, 2024, with over 20 participants. Among them were pastors and church leaders from various Baptist churches across England. It was a truly beautiful and uplifting sight to see British and Hong Kong believers praying side by side, united in Christ. The diversity was a testament to the power of God's love, transcending national boundaries and cultural differences.

The Revd Simon Goddard, Chair of the Working Group for the Hong Kong Response Project, graciously reflected the work accomplished by the Project over the past three years. He highlighted the efforts led by Sharon, the Hong Kong Project Coordinator, which included various webinars aimed at helping Hong Kongers adjust to life in the UK. These initiatives have provided crucial support to many as they settle into a new country, navigating the complexities of a different culture, language and environment.

Looking ahead, Simon also introduced the exciting vision for the next two years, which includes the creation of Hong Kongers' Hubs in 10 regions across England and Wales. These Hubs aim to provide spaces for fellowship, support and community-building, enabling Hong Kongers to develop a sense of belonging and purpose within the local church. He also warmly welcomed Londy, one of the coordinators for this second phase, who will participate in driving this vision forward.

During our time of worship, led by Andrew Chu, a minister from Hong Kong, we felt the presence of God moving among us. Through hymns and heartfelt prayers, we were stirred to see how crucial it is for Hong Kongers to feel fully integrated into local church communities. As we sang together and lifted our prayers as one, God reminded us of the beauty of unity in diversity. We believe that fostering this deeper integration will not only create a stronger sense of belonging for Hong Kong believers but will also enrich the local church, as they share in God's mission alongside British Christians.

Through regular prayer meetings and webinars, we will continue to gather believers from different regions, fostering connections and building a supportive network. By standing together, we hope to discover more ways to help each other grow in faith, integrate into local churches, and develop a vibrant, inclusive community that reflects the heart of God's kingdom.

We ask for your continued prayers as we embark on this journey. May the Lord guide us in every step of the Hong Kong Response Project, filling us with his love, wisdom, and compassion. Together, may we build bridges of understanding and fellowship, creating a church that welcomes all, no matter where they are from.

May God be our Master and Guide, as we faithfully serve him and one another in this important work.



We invite you to join our prayer journey experiencing God's works, listening to his words and encouraging each other.

Jeremiah 33:3 says, 'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.'

Yes! For some times, many things are unknown and unsearchable. The road of integration is new and full of challenges, we need to have space to let God speak and listen together to discern what God is saying.

Let's come, pray and listen if you are interested or passionate to serve and help Hong Kongers' integration.

Please complete the registration on: https://forms.gle/iZizhCqpFiNhdKVn7

## Prayer

- Pray for the mission life of Hong Kongers. Many Hong Kongers served in Churches in Hong Kong. Pray for the desire within them to serve in the UK.
- We are very excited that our project will be extended by two years and extend to Wales. We will start up some hubs with Hong Kong congregations and local pastors. Please pray for wisdom and love, hope we can walk along in the future.

If someone wants to know more about the project or needs support, you are welcome to get in touch at <u>SShek@baptist.org.uk</u> or <u>LChan@baptist.org.uk</u>