

Newsletter

23rd December

2018

epsom
baptist church

Leading: **Margaret Whittaker and Jason Huang**
Preaching: **Jeff Whittaker, translation: Daniel Choi**
Theme: **Advent 4 Rejoicing in the good news of a promised Saviour...**

The Next Deacons' Meeting will be held on Tuesday
15th January 2019 at Epsom Baptist Church.



Today is the fourth Sunday in Advent, thus we have four candles lit during our service. Today we are also going to witness two baptisms. In fact, all of us are simultaneously experiencing another baptism. To be baptised means to be immersed in something. Mike and Michelle will be immersed in water. All of us, however, are being immersed into the story of God becoming a human being (incarnation) in the person of the baby Jesus. Like water baptism, this other 'baptism' can also be life changing.

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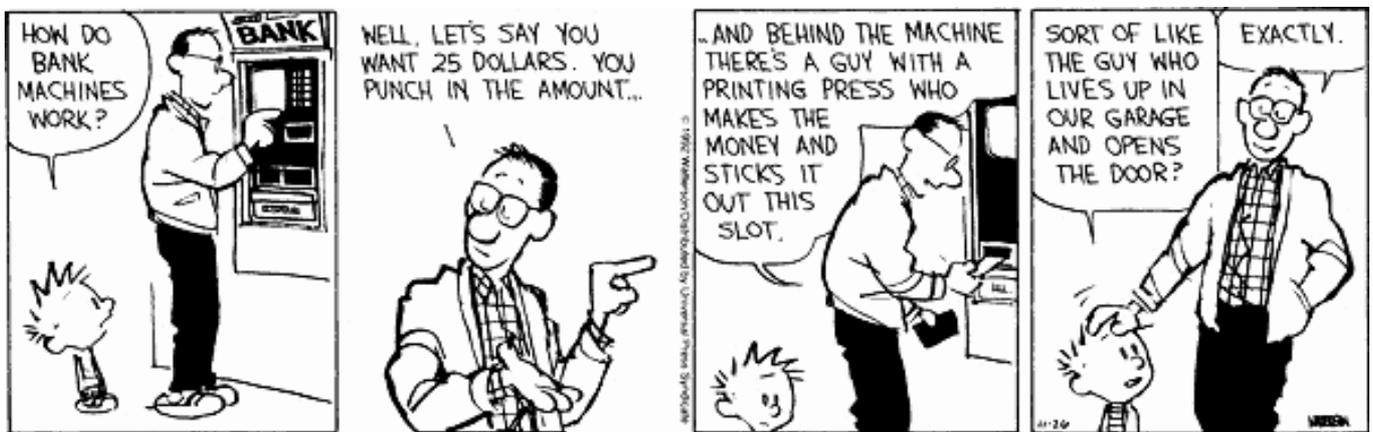
Saturday Evening and Sunday Morning Chinese Congregations:
Pastor Daniel Choi

Sunday Morning English Congregation: Pastor Jeff Whittaker

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From Pastor Jeff

As agreed at our October Members' Meeting, the Property Team of Daniel, Ian de Stigter, Stanley Tang and myself have confirmed with Kowhai Roof Restoration Services that they have been successful in their bid to replace our roof. In talking with Kowhai more closely about sequencing the work, they observed that it's always better to do the highest parts first. They had noted, of course, that we were going to leave the main worship space for last. And they mentioned that doing the project this way could potentially result in damage to the new roof over the side rooms, maybe affecting warranties for work and materials. In discussing this with the deacons, we have concluded that it really would be better to do the whole roof in one hit. Our fundraising has achieved around \$50,000 so far, and we estimate that we will need another \$40,000 or so. We will keep fundraising. However, one of the church members has offered a loan of \$40,000 to enable the work to be completed. Doing the roof replacement in one go will also mean that the scaffolding has only to be erected once. Kowhai have advised us that they can begin the work in late January/early February. Moreover, they have asked us to reassure those attending Epsom Baptist Church when the work is being done that their scaffolding will not prevent access to the church and hall, and that they will be observing statutory regulations to ensure that all relevant health and safety measures are observed. We are at an exciting point in the history of the church. Although roof replacement may seem a mundane matter, yet this act of wise stewardship will fit the church for another 50 or so years of worship and ministry. Shalom, Jeff



December 2018 Sunday morning rosters...

Flowers: 2, 9 Margaret Whittaker, 16, 23 Helen Evans, 30 Ann Guan

Morning tea: Ian & Dawn de Stigter

Communion preparation: Ian & Dawn de Stigter

Door and Offering: Olwyn Halder

Scripture reading & Communion: Linda McBurney

Offering counting: Helen Evans and Ann Guan

Lawns: Jeff Whittaker

Christmas / New Year services 2018

2018年圣诞节/新年崇拜安排



- Sunday December 23rd: All three congregations combined service 10am
12月23日主日：所有三堂会众在上午**10**点作联合崇拜
- Monday Christmas Eve: English service 11pm.
星期一平安夜：晚上**11**点英语崇拜
- Tuesday Christmas Day: English only service 9:30am
星期二圣诞日：上午**9:30**英语崇拜
- Saturday December 29th and Sunday December 30th:
Normal service times.
12月29日周六和12月30日主日：各堂崇拜将如常举行