



# Prayer letter

## February 2011

Dear friends,

*“Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God”. Phil 4 : 4-6*

Greetings from all of us here at Inner City Ministries (ICM), we take this opportunity to wish you a joyous and blessed Lunar New Year of the Rabbit.

Giving thanks for God's provision in 2010

Despite beginning the year in Jan 2010 knowing that we were very low on financial resources and we no longer had an Executive Director, well for a while at least, it was clear that we needed to seek God's provision in all things. We praise God that the whole year has been a wonderful testimony to His providence, grace and favour. At each point when we faced a crisis either of the need for resources, a new centre, and provision for our mission God provided us with exactly what we needed and more besides, so please join with us in giving praise and thank to our Lord and Saviour Jesus for his mighty acts and his love poured out upon us.

Our Catering Project - TASTE of GRACE

As we reported in our last news and prayer letter we have leased a shop front in Yau ma Tei for the purposes of developing our catering project. Although we faced a serious problem in leaking sewerage this was fixed up and we are now ready to refit the place and move forward with our plans. We are looking to raise approximately \$300,000 to set up this project; we have the money to begin renovation of the premises but there is a long way to go yet so we are seeking God's guidance as to how we should resource this project. Our aims are held within three words TARGET, TRAIN, TRANSFORM. Put simply we want to target those who want to be trained for 3 months in catering, we want to train and in doing so bring the presence of Jesus into their lives. As a result we will be able to prepare food for those who might like to order it and be blessed in the process. Also we want to use our training kitchen to bring much needed health and nutritional training to mothers, young adults and even children. We will send much more details in the coming months as plans come to realization.

- *Please pray for Kaushic and the directors as they prepare plans for the training programme, consider applicants for the course and fit out the training kitchen as we need. Please also pray for us as we seek funds to develop this wonderful way of offering training and future employment to those who so desperately need hope for the future in every respect.*
- *Please also pray for Kaushic and Dhan and the new batch of trainee for our ERB training course that continue to flourish in conjunction with yang Memorial.*

Revival Conference – Chinese New Year

Following many plans and discussion initiated by our ministers Ebson and Tryfina Simick, the united Nepalese Churches held a revival conference at the Methodist International Church over the three days of Chinese New Year with the theme **Call to Faithfulness**. This is a first in Hong Kong and was a wonderful blessing. With ICM coordinating worship and the programme bringing together pastors from the Nepalese Churches and speakers from India – God's presence was clearly manifest and there was a blessed sense of unity and revival. Approximately 200 delegates from the South Asian community in HK attended.

- *We give thanks to God for the initiative behind this conference and for His hand of blessing upon all the hard work preparing for and bringing the conference to fruition. We praise God for the sense of unity this is bringing in the Nepalese Churches. Please pray that the Spirit of revival and unity will continue to grow and shine in the community and the desire to proclaim the Gospel will thrive.*

## A new Director and Executive Director

We are pleased to announce that Mr Lincoln Lau, who has served ICM as a volunteer for sometime has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors with effect from November 2010. Lincoln comes from Island Evangelical Community Church who have long been one of our supporting communities and we look forward to having him share care and oversight of ICM.

Please pray for Lincoln as he takes up this role with the same enthusiasm as he does in working with our children and assisting in so many ways. Please pray for his studies (He is studying for a PhD in public health at HKU).

The board of Directors (minus Martin Radford who resigned as a director in December) sent out an advertisement for the post of Executive Director in October/November last year and received a number of worthy applicants. After much thought and prayer they decided to appoint Martin as Executive Director from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011. Both staff and the Board feel assured that this move will bring a new season and vision for ICM.

Please pray for Martin as he takes up this new post which is both a joy and a great challenge for him. Please pray for wisdom, guidance but above all obedience to walk in the paths that God has laid out for him and to fulfill his role with integrity, love and compassion.

## Our specific needs

**Finances :** God has provided for us in every respect and He continues to provide but we are aware of our need not to make assumptions or to expect God's provision without being prayerfully obedient to His vision and direction in every detail. We look forward to seeing new wonders in this coming year but we also have to meet higher expenditure in addition to our new catering venture and so we ask for your prayers in our mission and outreach. We append a brief outline of our budget for this coming year which is for our present ministry but does not include expenditure for the project Taste of Grace

- Please pray for us that we will remain faithful to the vision that we are to work as a mission ministry, dependent upon God for our every need. Please pray that we will continue to be vigilant and rigorous in our accounting, eager to deepen our relationships with all our present supporters and open to new directions as led by the Spirit.

## Personal :

- Ebson, Tryfina and Caroline will be returning to India for their annual leave from Feb 12 to March 13. This will bring much needed rest and family time for the three of them. They also have a couple of weddings to attend which will be lovely. Please pray for protection as they journey and for the refreshment that God alone can bring during this Sabbath month.
- Please pray for all our programmes for children, youth, vocational training, bible study and teaching, family ministry and kids club during this time as we cope with 50% less staff in the coming month.

On a personal note, I look forward to being able to come and share with you information about our present ministry, our mission and our Taste of Grace Project. I am very happy to join you for Sunday worship or any other time for a coffee and have an opportunity to connect with you especially at this new stage in my own ministry.

Yours in Christ



Martin Radford  
Executive Director  
Inner City Ministries Ltd