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| <p>1 Today is National Day. Please pray for harmony and inner peace in the midst of the epidemic crisis and international disputes. <i>'Blessed is the one who will show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight.'</i> Matthew 5:9</p> <p>3 Urgent! A fire broke out on 29th August morning and destroyed our Centre for Refugees, which was once a welcoming space for our clients. Please support us to rebuild a "home away from home" for our refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>5 A press conference on "Survey of Ethnic Minorities (EM) and Asylum Seekers (AS) in Private Accommodation Rental Experiences" will be held today to signify "World Habitat Day". The Justice of the Social Concern Committee (JSCC) under the HK Christian Council is one of the event organizers, in which Mrs. Cheung-Ang Siew Mei JP, our Executive Director, currently chairs. Pray that she continues to arouse public awareness towards the plight of the ethnic minorities and asylum seekers in the city.</p> <p>7 Hooray! A new project, "Flying over Self-Reliance and Mutual Help- House Captain for On Tai Project" focused on promoting mutual community aid at On Tai Estate has just begun. Pray that we thrive to be the salt and light of the community as we try to follow Jesus Christ as our example.</p> <p>9 Our HK staff of China programme has recently returned to Xining. Pray for their safety and health and HIS protection during and beyond the quarantine because of Covid-19. May our ministry thrive to send warmth and hope to the disadvantaged and disabled children on the Tibetan Plateau.</p> <p>11 In light of the pandemic situation and social distancing measures, our after-school care service has adopted both on-line and physical tutorial classes with varying adjustments. Pray that we keep on filling up the service gap for the grassroots families, who tend to work long hours to subsist and find it difficult to spare time to look after their children as most of the local schools still run half-day classes.</p> <p>13 This October, our Child Development Fund Programme (CDF) Long Ping Service Centre will conduct several activities for the mentees' parents and mentors via zoom cloud meeting that aims at improving the mental health and the gentle spirit in inter-personal communication. May God give wisdom and direction for the team in designing the events to walk out His word.</p> | <p>2 Yesterday was Mid-Autumn Festival. Pray that people from all walks of life including the marginalized sectors will embrace each other's culture and develop an understanding and cohesive community; and our staff will be empowered to serve the deprived with a cheerful heart.</p> <p>4 Praise God! Classroom training resumed in our Employees Retraining Board's training courses since 14th September. Pray for His continuous protection and guidance for all our clients, partners and staff with or without social distancing; and that our Training Services Division strives to address the huge need from the public for training and re-training.</p> <p>6 Give thanks! A private clubhouse generously donated 230 sets of mooncakes to our beneficiary families of the Mong Kok Service Centre last month. Pray that more private enterprises will join us to show love and care to the low-income sector.</p> <p>8 The hearings of our clients in the shelter under the Migrant Domestic Workers Programme have been scheduled for the Labour Tribunal and Small Claims Tribunal Court today and next Monday. Pray for His inner peace, mercy and justice for these stranded women in their challenging times.</p> <p>10 Thank you! Mrs. Cheung will attend a cheque presentation ceremony today that supports our "Emergency Food!" Campaign. Pray the food station will provide nutritious meal boxes from a vending machine to feed the needy. Please help us to feed 1,000 persons in need.</p> <p>12 Hopefully, the renovation of our Centre for Refugees will start soon. Pray that the reconstruction, cabling, installation of office machinery, IT and security system will progress on schedule; and thereby our ministry for the stranded sojourners in this city will resume very soon.</p> <p>14 This afternoon sees about 25 non-Chinese parents from Tuen Mun SHINE Centre attend a talk on HK's kindergarten education. Pray that they will be well prepared and understand the essence of the bible verse <i>"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."</i> Proverbs 22:6</p> |
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- 15 Starting from October, our Sheung Shui Service Centre will launch a campaign to support the family caregivers in Tai Po and North District, financed by the Social Welfare Department. Pray that the initiative helps relieve the burden of the beneficiaries through the formation of a mutual support team.
- 16 Today is the AGM of the HK Christian Council, in which Mrs. Cheung serves on the Executive Committee. May God guide her words and steps; and continue to use her as His good channel of peace as strife escalates.
- 17 About 30 ethnic minority youth from our Woosung Service Centre, from primary schools to senior forms of secondary schools, have been regularly attending tutorial classes every Saturday morning since September. The initiative this month is known as "Sunnykids" and is co-organized with the undergrads of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Pray that the partnership will bring about a win-win scenario to both the volunteers and the beneficiary students.
- 18 In October, about 10 youth from our Employment Support Services On Tai Service Centre will participate in an indoor games event that aims to enhance teamwork and interpersonal communication. Pray that we strive to empower the unemployed youth in their holistic personal development showered with Godly values.
- 19 Our China Programme team plans to move its Qinghai office and Xining Children's Home in October. Please continue to pray for His provision, protection and seamless communication with different stakeholders to facilitate a smooth move and adaptation.
- 20 Due to Covid-19, the physical induction class for our Project Teal III was split into several smaller on-line induction classes since September for 85 women from our Mong Kok Service Centre. Pray that we will partner with more organizations to deliver love and care for the disadvantaged.
- 21 Our fundraising income has dwindled sharply due to the social unrest and Covid-19, further straining our service capacity for the deprived sector. Pray for His wisdom and providential guidance when we are designing our fundraising events like Season of Love charity drive, "Emergency Food!" Campaign and 3-Legged Charity Walk.
- 22 Praise God!
2 students studying Masters of Social Work at the Chinese University of Hong Kong have been interning at our Sheung Shui Service Centre since mid-September. Pray that more youth will be deeply inspired to participate in our ministry helping the deprived in our city.
- 23 Our Social Enterprise Division will launch several "Green Collection Charity Drives" in different private housing estates in Kowloon East this month. Pray that our goodwill will spread further throughout the city and more people will support our green collection programme.
- 24 Let's celebrate United Nations Day today themed *Shaping Our Future Together* through dialogue and global cooperation around the world and across borders, sectors and generations. May His word penetrate to the hearts of the public; and instill hope and faith, especially during the epidemic, so that more people learn to shed their fears and unload their worries on Him; and build a better future in unison, as He cares for every one of us. Amen!
- 25 Today is the Chung Yeung Festival. Following Chinese tradition, people usually go hiking this day to avoid bad luck. Pray that our staff will enjoy their nature walks filled with God's amazing creations and are recharged and refreshed to serve the community.
- 26 The first placement-tied job training course for social work will be launched soon in Qinghai by our China Programme team. Pray that we will connect with appropriate parties to better equip the trainees with vigour and skill.
- 27 Our Centre for Refugees is appealing for refugee children's education funding for the new academic year. Pray for His provision of accessible educational opportunities and material needs for this marginalised sector.
- 28 **Answered prayer**
Praise God for the increase of 1,000 viewers on Christian Action Asia's Facebook since the re-launch of its publicity campaign last month. Pray that more friends will get connected and stay tuned for more updates on our Friends of Qinghai Children through this virtual platform; and they will achieve the target of 7,500 soon.
- 29 Congratulations! Our Sheung Shui Service Centre was awarded public funding to implement the initiative named 「強化家庭功能」社區教育撥款計劃 勵行情·聚. This is a 24-session project that will kick off in November. It aims to enhance family relationships and community inclusion. Pray that the clients will be coached to reinforce family ties and closer connection with our Lord through our services.
- 30 Let's pray together for Christian Action UK. May God connect more committed and like-minded supporters to embrace and respond proactively to His call to serve the disabled and abandoned children on the Tibetan Plateau! Amen!
- 31 In the midst of the epidemic, our Tuen Mun SHINE Centre continues to launch the on-line programme themed "*Relax. Take it Easy*" to strengthen the mental health of Ethnic Minorities. The beneficiaries meet regularly every weekend and topics like relationship, anxiety & depression, change, virtues and religion are being covered this month. Pray that they would be enlightened to live a carefree, blissful and colorful life.