

# Celebrating 46 Years of God 's Faithfulness

*June 3, 2007*

*Jude 20-23*

<sup>20</sup>But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.

<sup>22</sup>Be merciful to those who doubt; <sup>23</sup>snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear—hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.

- I. Build Yourself Up in the Truth
- II. Pray in the Holy Spirit
- III. Keep Yourself in the Love of God
- IV. Look Upon God for His Mercy
- V. Helping Those Who are Weak and Lowly

## A Brief History of BCEC

The Boston Chinese Evangelical Church (BCEC) was started in June 1961 by a group of 18 founders led by Pastor James Tan. This group shared a common vision for reaching the Cantonese-speaking Chinese in Boston with the Gospel. The first worship service was held in a home and later moved to rented spaces around Chinatown. Finally, the church, with about 150 adult members, was able to build its own facility at 249 Harrison Avenue in 1979 at the cost of about \$350,000. That year, Pastor Jacob Fung became the senior pastor, replacing the retiring Pastor James Tan.

The Lord continued to bless the church with growth. Because the bilingual worship service was full at 250 people, an English worship service was also started in 1983. As the church continued to grow, a branch church was planted in Allston. In 1989, a third service in Mandarin and Cantonese. In 1993, the Annex (237 Harrison Avenue) was obtained and renovated. In 1999, a separate Mandarin service was started. Pastor Steven Chin became the senior pastor of the church after Pastor Jacob Fung retired. That same year, the English XO service began. In 2003, we bought the Newton campus and started the English and Cantonese congregations there.

Currently, over 1200 adults and children attend BCEC every week. They come from Chinatown, local colleges, the surrounding suburbs of Boston, and even out of state. The congregation consists of all ages: infants, preschool, elementary, junior high, senior high, college, young adults, married couples, and elderly. We thank the Lord that He has used BCEC to impact the lives of many people over the years through its many ministries.

## BCEC's Vision Statement

Because God has blessed us, we strive to be a blessing to the Chinatown community, the Chinese-Asian community, and our neighbors, by sharing the Love of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are compelled by a passion for God and a compassion for people, all for the glory of God.