

Challenges we face in 2022

John 4:34-38

John 4:32 But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you know nothing about.”

John 4:33 Then his disciples said to each other, “Could someone have brought him food?”

John 4:34 “My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. **35** Do you not say, ‘Four months more and then the harvest?’ I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. **36** Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. **37** Thus the saying ‘One sows and another reaps’ is true. **38** I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor.”

INTRODUCTION:

Making Disciple has always been hard work. It is even harder today.

MAKING DISCIPLES have always been difficult because

A. It involves really hard work (v. 34, 38)

34 “My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. . . . **38** I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the **hard work**, and you have reaped the benefits of their **labor**.

B. It involves very dangerous work

C. It is often misunderstood work (v.35)

35 Do you not say, ‘Four months more and then the harvest?’ I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.

BUT, MAKING DISCIPLES IS POSSIBLE because

Jesus commanded it:

D. It is the best kind of work (v. 34-38)

1. It is our **FOOD** (v. 34)
2. It is God’s **WILL** (v. 34)
3. It is **Harvest Time** (v. 35)
4. It is **Cooperation Time** (v. 36-38)

CONCLUSION:

Announcements

1. We welcome everyone to our Church Gathering, and especially welcome those who are new. We pray that you will experience the faith, hope, and love of Jesus Christ. Please use our online welcome form to fill in your information and prayer requests, OR just speak with one of our church leaders. We are happy to get you connected and supported. Here is the link: <https://www.raleighccc.org/main/contact-us/>
2. **Church Reopening** – The Church Council has started stage 3 church reopening. Face mask is still mandatory for all in-door activities. Food is now allowed in pre-approved events in the old church building. Only during eating/drinking, face masks are not required. No food is allowed in the church new building. Please contact acting facility deacon, Kurt Leung for event use and cleaning procedure. For Kitchen use, please contact General Affairs deacon Yih-Shin Tan.
3. **In a special CC meeting on December 21, 2021, the Church Council approved the calling of Pastor Paul Chang to be RCCC’s part-time interim lead pastor with a one-year term from February 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023. On behalf of the Church, the Board of Trustees offered a contract to Pastor Chang on December 30, 2021 who accepted it. Praise the Lord! Please pray for Pastor Chang’s relocation and his ministry in RCCC.**
4. **Operation Christmas Child** - Praise the Lord! We reached our goal of making 100 online gift-filled shoeboxes and 152 gift-filled shoeboxes this year. Thanks so much for your wonderful help and support.
5. **FPO (Faith Pledge Offering)** is dedicated to use on our supported Global Missionaries ministry. Praise the Lord, FPO budget this year is \$51,292 and offering received up to date (12/30/21) is \$52,443.80 .
6. **We are approaching the new year 2022 and another tax filing season. Please check and update your home address in the REALM program database, also your home address on your personal checks.**
7. **Expense Reimbursements: Any reimbursement request for expenses incurred in December 2021 must be turned in by January 31, 2022. Any 2021 reimbursement request for expenses submitted after 1/31/2022 will not be honored as the 2021 accounting year will be closed. Please be proactive and meet this deadline. We appreciate your cooperation.**

Children’s Info. (Kindergarten – 5th Grade)

Children’s Ministry offers both in person and online programs. **Sunday program adopts Lifeway’s trusted “Gospel Projects for Kids”, while Friday program resumes beloved AWANA.**

Children’s ministry plans to open a new in-person preschool class (including Sunday school and Worship) for 3- & 4-year-olds on Sundays starting Jan 2nd, 2022. We will use “Gospel Project for Preschool” as teaching material. We look forward to seeing your children participate in this new class.

Programs are all in the old building:

In person children’s Sunday School 9:30-10:45am

In person children’s Sunday worship 11:15am-12:30pm

Online children’s Sunday worship 11:00am-11:45 am

In person Friday night AWANA 7:30-9:30pm

The Children’s Ministry Committee members are: Sunday Worship/School - Kaili Sawyer; Friday Program; Mike Liu; Special Programs: Mo-Yuen Chow. If you have any questions or want to volunteer, please email to children.rccc@gmail.com or contact them individually.

Registration: Please follow the link below and complete an online form soon. <https://www.raleighccc.org/main/children-programregistration2021-22/> Teachers will send lesson summary and reminders to registered parents, so parents can communicate with teachers and help their children by reinforcing the lesson.

Church Gathered: Order of Service

Worship By Singing	Music Team
Spiritual Focus: Spiritual Disciplines	
Worship By Praying Together	
Pastoral and Congregational Prayer	Pastor Po-Wing
Worship By Trusting & Hearing Christ	
Sermon	Pastor Po-Wing
Holy Communion	Pastor Po-Wing
Worship By Responding to Christ	
Offering	
Welcome and Announcements	
Benediction	Pastor Po-Wing

*After a moment of silent meditation, please welcome one another. Drop off Connection Card in drop box.

Youth Announcements

1. **Celebrate Jesus Throughout the New Year**—Join us as we Worship Jesus Fully, Spend Less on Ourselves, Give More to Causes that Count, and Love Others Like Jesus Loves Us! Check out the Advent Conspiracy at adventconspiracy.org
2. **This Friday Youth Group** - Join us on this Friday, January 7, at 7:30 p.m. as we start an exciting new year with Jesus for 2022.
3. **Wednesday Youth Prayer Online**— Join us on this Wednesday, January 5, from 7:00-7:40 p.m. through Zoom as we start our new year standing united in prayer.
4. **Youth Sunday School — In– Person and Online**—Join us every Sunday from 9:30-10:45 a.m. for in-person Youth Sunday School classes on the 2nd floor of our new building. We also have an online class from 9:00-9:45 a.m. every Sunday.
5. **Pray for More Youth Co-Workers**—Pray for the Lord to bless us with the additional Friday Youth Counselors, Youth Sunday School Teachers, and Disciplemakers needed in our Youth Ministry. If interested in serving in our Youth Ministry, contact Pastor Jerry at jmillerrc3@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Sermon

1/9/2022

Pastor Rob