

CHARA YEAR 3

SEPT 2022 ~ SEPT 2023



To our beloved brothers and sisters of Chara,

As I think about what I am grateful for as we approach our 4th year of ministry, and as we celebrate 3 years of ministry done and dusted, I can't but think about the people of Chara Community. Especially the ones who are serving and sacrificing for the greater good of God's church, but as I reflect on them, I cannot stop but think about the example of Christ's sacrifice for us all.

Aren't we all just following in his footsteps?

To highlight this year. The other Sunday I was deeply moved by the Spirit of God during worship. Overwhelmed with thankfulness and gratefulness - God was revealing in my heart how grateful I should be for the blessings He has given me, to the extent that I couldn't sing anymore. As tears were rolling down my face I sat down. Then a brother put out his hand on my shoulder and began to pray for me - I was deeply touched. He didn't say a word but encouraged me through the act of prayer. I wanted to tell him that these weren't tears of sadness but tears of joy.

This episode highlights the very message that I want to share. We are stronger as one in Christ, serving one another as brothers and sisters, sacrificing for each other and living out a cross-centered life with one another. Without community we are nothing.

So in reflection I believe we should be ever grateful once again to God for establishing us through and through for the service of God's kingdom throughout this year. This is what I am most surprised about, the amount of work that is being done by our community. We are doing more for the church than ever before. But I also believe that this is our challenge, to do even more for God's kingdom - a relentless pursuit of God as we grow older as a congregation.



Perhaps unbeknownst to some, it has been a challenging year for many of us. This year we experienced some heartbreaks and difficulties, changes in membership, loved ones that have gone overseas, ongoing struggles of stagnant faith. It has been especially difficult as a pastor to navigate through these rough terrains. Seeking guidance of where God is to lead us.

And for this reason, the fact that God was pressing on me the idea of thankfulness hit me even harder. And so as you reflect on this past year, I wonder what you will be thinking about. The messages that were shared, the communities that were built up, the ministries that are being developed, or only the struggles and difficulties?

Thus in prayer, that your memories of our third year is filled with abundant blessings in ministry, bearing it fruit and reaping the rewards. It is with a heart of great expectations that I conclude this letter.

May God continue to bless Chara Community. Not for what we are good at, but in the areas that need support and fixing, in the members that are struggling, in the ministries that need volunteers, in the decisions that have to be made. In the ebb and flow of what we call faith.

God be with us, always.

With deep affection and love, Rev. James Lee



Dear Chara,

As we reflect on this last year, our hearts are filled with joy and thankfulness for God's continued providence over our ministry and community. We have seen our body continue to grow, but also had to say farewell to some. We were able to see more members serving the body through different ministries and be challenged to take up their cross. We continued to build deeper relationships with one another through retreats, life groups, women's and college Bible studies. Through all of this, we acknowledge His sovereign hand over all of the blessings and challenges that this year brought us.

This year, life groups have been a real blessing to our ministry. Being able to gather with brothers and sisters who we may not normally talk to during the week, and discussing the Word and praying for one other has helped us foster a deeper sense of community within our body. As we welcome new groups, new leaders, may we continue to take advantage of these gatherings, as a place of genuine fellowship and Christ-filled conversations.

As we continue to go into this next year of ministry, our hope is that we would continue to run this race together, as one. That we would continue to serve faithfully in the areas we are in, but also challenge ourselves to look to other areas that may be in need and faithfully say yes. Our hope and prayer is for our Chara Community to be one body with many parts, each with our roles, depending on one another, running alongside each other, until that day when we will meet our Savior face to face.

Love, The Leadership Team





9.16 -9.18 Back to Church Sunday was held over three days. Praise and prayer nights followed by an invitational Sunday worship.



Testimonies were shared by Sooji Jeon and Sarah Lee. The Pilgrim Youth Student Leadership Team led a night of prayer while the Pilgrim Youth Body Worship Team performed "There Is None Like You". Pastor James shared the gospel over two nights.









Photos taken during the Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner.



A joint Christmas Party was held with Pilgrim Youth with a surprise visit from Santa.















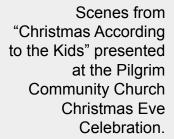








12.25





















Rev. Paul Jeon from NewCity Church joined our church at West River Center for our winter retreat. The theme of the retreat was "Renewed". Brother Hwihu Kang from KPCW led worship. A total of 32 members and volunteers gathered to hear the Word of God and were strongly encouraged by Pastor Paul.



























3.12

Our brother Billy Tran was baptized in March on a cold winter like day as per Chara tradition.





4.9

Easter Sunday celebration & invitational. A testimony was shared by our brother Nathan Park.







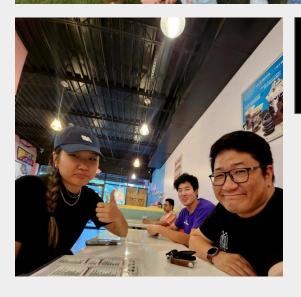
Brother Jiung Her's Farewell.

5.21



5.29

Group photo for the Memorial Day Picnic at Van Dyck Park.



6.1

First summer college fellowship gathering.



6.11

A prayer of blessing for the newlyweds, Jae and Sarah Bae.







A praise and prayer night was held with the church across the street. Our sister Irene Kim shared her testimony about her faith and work.

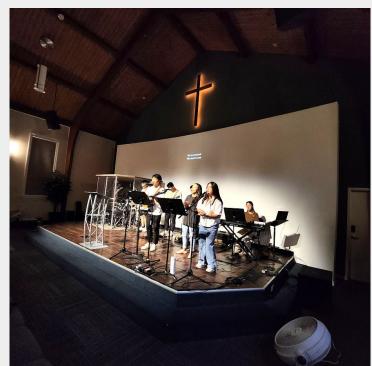












Our marriage panel for new graduates of marriage class.



6.19





College outing to TopGolf.

6.22





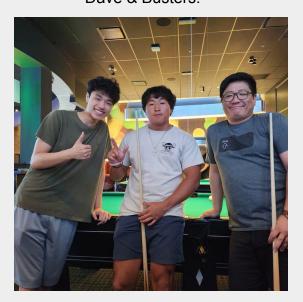




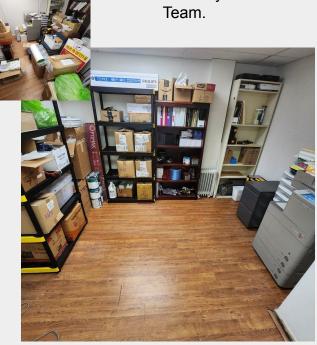
Rev. John Park from Ambassador Bible Church came to share the Word for our summer retreat. Praise and worship was led by Andrew Kwon from KCPC DC. The theme of the retreat was "Fear of the Lord" and was attended by 20 of our members.



Another one of the many college fellowship outings at Dave & Busters.



Before and after photos courtesy of the Care Team



7.8

College graduates dinner at P.James' house.

7.8



8.20

This photo was taken during Pastor Charles and Esther Kim's farewell lunch. Our long term members were assigned to a new post in Germany. Brothers and sisters said their goodbyes but also heard some good news.



8.20-8.26













Karis Oh and Andy Kim joined the Pilgrim Mission Trip to Nicaragua.





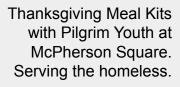








OUTREACH MINISTRY

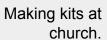


11.19





2.26









4.29

Campus outreach.





Making meals for the Lamb Center.

8.30

SUNDAY WORSHIP















































OUR MESSAGES

September 2022 - January 2023

Acts: the Continuation of the Gospel

January - April

Judges: Returning to God

April - June

James: Practicing Christianity

July-September

God's Minor Prophets: Obadiah, Jonah & Micah

OUR SPEAKERS



Reverend James Lee



Pastor Sammuel Moon



Chaplain Charles Kim



Reverend Mark Oh



MEMBERSHIP

FINANCES

New Members:

Total Offering:

11

\$46,955.00

Average Sunday Attendance: Total Expenses:

37

\$21,858.80

Removed From Membership

Average Weekly Offering:

4

\$1,304.31

Total No. Of Members Annual Projection

43

\$67,823.89



Weekly

Sunday Service

Small Group Bible Study

Sport Fellowship

Online College Bible Study

Monthly

Communion

Outreach

Care Day

Book Club

Women's Fellowship

Odd Weeks

Midweek Bible Study

> Leaders Meeting

Even Weeks

Life Groups

Ad Hoc

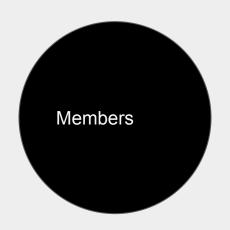
Membership Classes

Discipleship Training

Leadership Training

Marriage Classes

Baptism Classes



Alice Ji Andy Kim Billy Tran Charles Lim **David Park** DJ Lee Elizabeth Lee **Esther Park** Ha-Jun Cho Hanna Yu Hannah Jin Irene Kim Jae Bae James Choi James Jin James Lee Jessica Choi Jin Lee John Jin Jonathan Bae

Joseph Kim Joshua Oh Justin Ha **Justin Woo** Karis Oh Kibo Park Laura Sim Michelle Song Nathan Cho Nathan Park Noah Yi Penelope Kim Rachel Kim Ricky Chong Sammuel Moon Sarah Bae Sarah Lee Sharon Yi Sooji Jeon Stephen Suh Tony Lee



College

James Jin

Communion

Laura Sim Michelle Song

Sarah DiPatrizio

Discipleship Training

Rev. James Lee Nathan Park

Events

Justin Ha

Finance

Nathan Cho

Leadership

John Jin

Karis Oh

Rev. James Lee

Sarah Lee

Life Groups

John Jin

Joshua Oh

Karis Oh

P.Sammuel Moon

Sarah Lee

Tony Lee

David Park

Laura Sim

Care

Charles Lim

Stephen Suh



Media Team

Esther Park
Tony Lee
Jae Bae

Outreach Team

Irene Kim Joshua Oh

Praise Team

James Choi
Joseph Kim
Joshua Oh
Noah Yi
P.Sammuel Moon
Sarah Lee

Small Group

Charles Lim

Nathan Park
P.Sammuel Moon
Laura Sim

Social Media

Elizabeth Lee Jin Lee Hanna Yu

Sports Fellowship

DJ Lee

Welcoming

Andy Kim
Jae Bae
Karis Oh
Ha-Jun Cho

Women's Ministry

Sarah Lee



Elementary

Charles Lim
Esther Park
Sarah DiPatrizio
Tony Lee
Karis Oh
Sharon Yi

Kindergarten

Penelope Kim

Toddlers

James Jin Sooji Jeon

Youth

Alice Ji John Jin Joseph Kim Sarah Lee Noah Yi

Substitutes

David Park Jae Bae



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