

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



# Uncharted

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Opening message: a move of the Spirit	3
Eldership: thank you and welcome	4
Our year in numbers	8
Justice Conference Asia	18
BOH Sunday	21
Oasis	22
Finance	26
Justice & Missions partnerships	28
Coming up in 2026	32

## A move of the Spirit

In March 2025, during Vision Sunday, we felt the Lord call us into a season of “uncharted waters.” This calling urged us to trust Him completely, stepping away from reliance on strategy, resources, or human wisdom. Instead, the focus was on Jesus as our guide, leading us as a community out of our comfort zone into deeper reliance and expectation in him. This has moved us into a year where we have consecrated ourselves, surrendered control, and experienced a fresh move of the Holy Spirit.

Throughout the year, countless stories of God’s love and grace have emerged as individuals navigated their own “uncharted waters.” Some of these stories are captured for you in this report, but many others are found within those who are the heartbeat of our church – our volunteers, our Community Group members, our ministry teams, and those who faithfully show up week after week in our services and gatherings. Please do take the time to connect with one another and ask a simple question: “what has uncharted meant for you?” I think you will be amazed at what you hear!

For me, it has meant a greater call to listening to others around me, a deeper personal journey in prayer and lament, a widening of my expectations of how God wants to work amongst our community, and a renewed hope for the many people in our church who desire greater freedom and breakthrough in their own areas of challenge and difficulty.

At the centre of all of this has been the transformative role of the Holy Spirit. This year we have been blessed with a new season of experiencing, encountering and making room for the work of the Holy Spirit amongst us, and this has brought with it a profound work of inner healing and communal holiness. May we continue to lean into this in the new year ahead and be grateful for a season where God is drawing us closer to him in every aspect. And may it all be for his glory.



ANDREW GARDENER  
SENIOR PASTOR

# Eldership

## THANK YOU AND WELCOME

There was a significant shift within our Eldership as we entered 2025, as three of our long-serving elders reached the maximum term permitted to serve before being required to step down for a one-year sabbatical. We take this opportunity to acknowledge and honour those elders that have faithfully and sacrificially led us through challenging and flourishing seasons. A sincere thank you to Sidney Yip, Trudy Tam and Damien Bos.

In God's good and perfect timing, two seasoned members of The Vine were voted in as Elders. Tim Ker and Nathan de Lyster\* joined our eldership board alongside Susanna Lynam, Taz Moyo, Ken Lung and Shwumin Soo and throughout this year we have benefited from their collective wisdom, discernment and prayerful guidance. As we continue in our uncharted season, we do so with confidence knowing the spiritual leadership and governance of The Vine Church is in good hands.

KARLA ROSCOE  
EXECUTIVE PASTOR

\*Nathan de Lyster stepped down from eldership in the beginning of October to take on the role of Executive Director at Branches of Hope



# Stories from our communities

## YOUNG ADULTS

Oneighty has become more than just a community with structured fellowship on Saturdays and social time on Sundays. We do life together outside of church by playing games online, watching The Vine livestream whilst chatting together on Discord during Typhoon Sundays, attending each other's birthday parties, and generally stepping up to take care of one another. We have also learnt to set up healthy emotional, mental and spiritual boundaries in an honouring and loving way so that we don't drain ourselves.

In addition, four members have been water baptised at The Vine this year! Discipleship continues as our hunger for the word has grown with more regular young adults attending our bible study group on Tuesday nights.

Our young adults have also experienced some major challenges which resulted in isolation, but after reaching out to the community and receiving support and care they have come back stronger.

Praise God for such growth so far, we are looking forward to seeing more of what the Holy Spirit will do in the next year and beyond.

SAMANTHA LEUNG  
ONEIGHTY CORE TEAM LEADER



WELCOME!  
It's good to see you.

the vine



## Our year in numbers

It is an impossible task to try and capture the depth and breadth of how God has been moving in a community of this size and diversity. And yet, we find it deeply important to chronicle some of the ways in which we have been able to observe His hand, and to pass on those observations to you, that you may, along with us, be encouraged and inspired to participate in the work of the gospel, either in the spaces we have noted, or beyond!

CHURCH ATTENDANCE NUMBERS

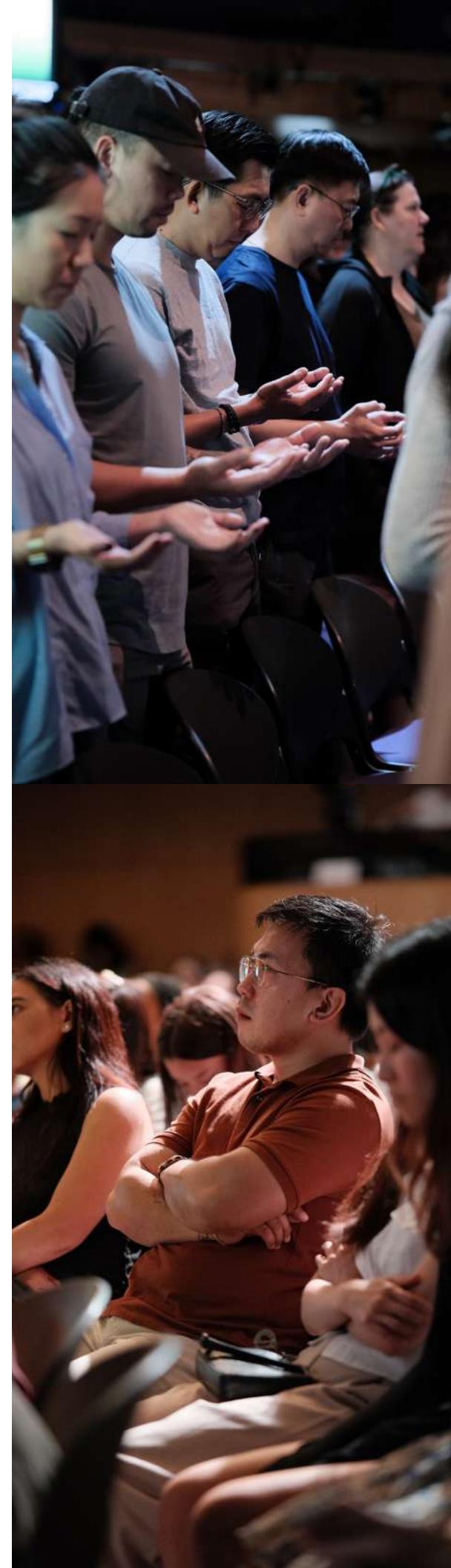
 1,820  
CONGREGANTS WEEKLY

1,530  
WAN CHAI

290  
YUEN LONG

 170  
VOLUNTEERS  
AT WAN CHAI

 56  
BAPTISMS



# Community Groups

 60

CGs MEETING REGULARLY

 450

CONGREGANTS IN CGs

 105

LEADERS SERVING  
\*most groups have co-leaders

 7

NEW GROUPS

 87%

MIXED GENDER GROUPS

 8%

WOMEN'S GROUPS

 5%

MEN'S GROUPS

 LANGUAGES

65%

ENGLISH

32%

CANTONESE

3%

TAGALOG

# Community Groups CONT.

In response to the uncharted season, one thing we have been hearing throughout the whole year is that CGs are exploring ways to serve – either within the church or through outreach – as a group. Currently, 17 CGs are serving either in the church community or engaging in outreach together, additionally, 10 CGs are exploring opportunities to start serving together.



K4C

177

AVERAGE CHILDREN  
PER WEEK



V B S

A joyful and deeply impactful week for families and leaders alike

130  
CHILDREN

78  
VOLUNTEERS

FAMILY WORSHIP

35-40  
FAMILIES

Co-hosted with Simon Parry and Viva



BAPTISMS

5  
CHILDREN

Many other children have expressed curiosity about faith, asked thoughtful questions, and engaged more deeply in small group discussions.



# Young Adults

It is exciting if we consider our attendance numbers. While compared to the previous years or 2 we have stayed the same at **30-40 people** a week, the scene is yet so transitional and more the half of the people currently attending have only been here for a year or less. Every week we have 3-5 newcomers and so 'uncharted' speaking we are a bit like a small but active valve – people come as they are and yet they go carrying a bit of the memories and values instilled. We bless and walk with whoever who comes through the threshold, and yet have no strategies, no knowledge or how they will go and touch on the different parts of society and beyond. Holy Spirit knows and leads 180 'graduates' to live with purpose.

On another note, this year has been awesome in the sense we have had almost every elder visit us or scheduled to visit us before the end of the year. Usually they come and serve us in the Word and their visitations have been exciting and remarkable for us.

Baptism wise we have 3 regulars at 180 baptised this year. Plus, as many as 10 young adults baptised this year having visited us. Praise the Lord.

# Prayer

Praise the Lord for the growing interest in the Service Prayer Team!

Our team has welcomed four new members this year, growing from 18 to **22 members**. We're also excited that two more individuals are currently in the onboarding process. This steady growth is a testimony to how God is stirring hearts to serve through prayer.

We also celebrate a dedicated team of 12 members who have committed to providing weekly prayer coverage for the church and BOH. Their faithful intercession is a vital part of the spiritual foundation of our ministries, and we are grateful for their faithfulness and dedication to serving behind the scenes.



# ARISE

 79

NEW FAMILIES

140

INDIVIDUALS

 178

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AT  
WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

---

 35%

OF CORE MEMBERS SERVE  
at ARISE Fellowship and/or Vine Church

 67

ATTENDING GROWTH  
TRACK CLASSES

 18

COMPLETED AND  
GRADUATED FROM  
GROWTH TRACK CLASSES

 20

MEMBERS TRAINED &  
COMPLETED HOME/  
HOSPITAL/PRISON  
VISITATIONS

 5

MEMBERS BAPTISED

YOU ARE LIFTED HIGH HOLY  
HOLY FOREVER



# Stories from our communities

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

Over the past year, spurred on by Pastor Andrew's challenge to the broader church to develop a sense of holy dissatisfaction, several community groups at The Vine banded together to continue the homeless outreach ministry started by Southside Community Group in 2019. With the help of volunteer chefs from our refugee and asylum seeker community ARISE, these community groups have faithfully served the homeless living in the Happy Valley pedestrian tunnels by distributing meals, building relationships and praying for them.

For many of the community group members with little prior experience of serving the homeless, this outreach has certainly been uncharted territory. Indeed, outreach has not always been easy with unexpected challenges in the form of medical emergencies and government mandated clean-ups. But God often calls those who are willing, and not necessarily fully prepared, to action and so with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the homeless outreach ministry continues to shine God's light and demonstrate God's love to the homeless community in our city.

J E R E M Y C H I U  
W O V E N C G C O - L E A D E R

DR LAMMA MA

# Dare Imagine

the Justice Conference  
asia





This year marked the rebirth of The Justice Conference Asia as we hosted the conference for the first time in six years. Partnering with a number of churches in the city and a group of amazing NGOs, the conference brought together 600 participants from 20 different nations over 2 days of worship, discussion, learning, and dreaming around God's heart for justice.

Our theme this year was 'Re-Imagine', and at the centre of the conference was a consistent call to imagine afresh a world where the most vulnerable, marginalized and hurting are embraced, loved, and fought for. Themes of a need to reimagine power from the bottom up rather than top down, of prophetically bearing witness with those facing war and displacement, of re-thinking economic models for the most poor and vulnerable, and of bringing a greater balance to gender equality in leadership were at the forefront of conversations.

We are so grateful for the incredible army of 140 volunteers who worked tirelessly in the lead up to the conference and over the weekend. None of this would have been possible without their dedication, passion and love. Thank you to everyone who helped or attended – we are so grateful for what the spirit did amongst us. And we can't wait for JCA 2027!

**ANDREW GARDENER**  
SENIOR PASTOR







BOH Sunday 2025, themed “Journey: From Struggle to Hope,” aimed to provide spiritual nourishment while raising awareness and funds for Branches of Hope (BOH). The event featured a sermon by Tafadzwa (Taz) Moyo, Vine Elder and BOH Board member, focusing on the call to love our neighbours through the lens of agape love, as outlined in Matthew 22:37-40. This was complemented by testimonies and shared experiences highlighting the challenges faced by asylum seekers and refugees.

The congregation was invited to engage emotionally through a four-minute audio journey, immersing them in the realities faced by those that BOH serves. Following this, Alexander Pforte, BOH Executive Director, led a collective exercise to emphasize the arduous journey from struggle to hope, encouraging attendees to consider their role in offering support.

The day culminated in a call to action, inviting the community to contribute to the STAR programme, which provides vital assistance to those in need. With opportunities to become monthly donors and volunteers, the service fostered a connection between the congregation and the client community. Once again, everyone at BOH was blown away by the response, with around HK\$1.5 million raised in support of its services!

ALEXANDER PFORTE  
FORMER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# Oasis

 1,116

SERVED  
CLIENTS

14.6% increase  
from 2024

 1,952

HOURS OF  
THERAPY

11.6% increase  
from 2024

 287

PRO BONO  
HOURS

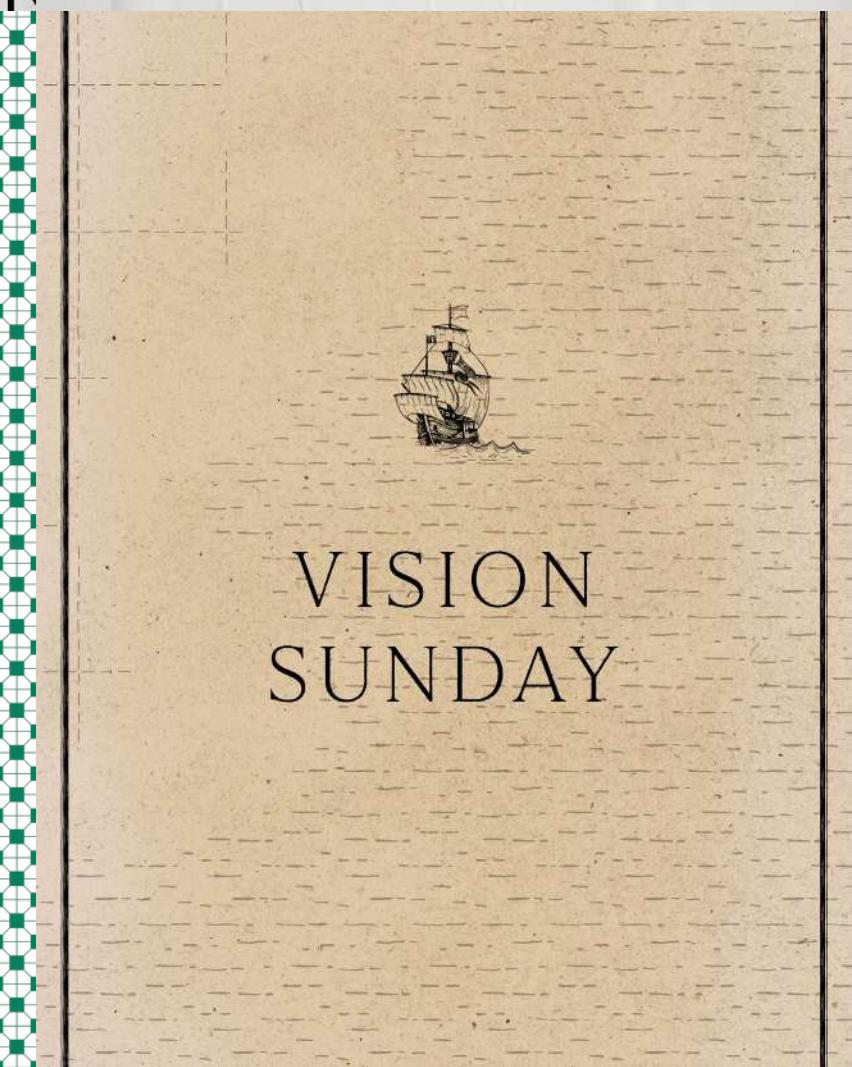
53.5% increase  
from 2024

Looking back over the journey that Oasis has been on during 2025, and in the context of 'uncharted' God has led us safely through waters that were unexpected. One of the main areas was related to the Oasis team. It was towards the beginning of summer that we started thinking about adding new therapists and began meeting with several newly graduated counsellors. Two individuals stood out, and we were excited to have them join our team. It was only a few weeks after making this decision that two of our existing partners decided to shift their focus of practice away from Oasis. Of course, we encourage all our therapists to flourish and serve the mental health of our city in whatever environment God is leading them, but it was by the grace of the Holy Spirit that we had found two new therapists even before we knew that there were individuals on the team which God was calling away. It was an encouragement to us all to know God is always ahead of us.

CHRISTINE GARDENER  
CLINIC DIRECTOR &  
SENIOR COUNSELLOR



SERMON SERIES



# Stories from our communities

## YOUTH

A journey full of uncertainty as to the direction of one of the most important relationships in my life – this is what “uncharted” looked like for me. But what spun me out of control, also led my heart to a fuller trust in God, and a self-awareness of my human stubbornness in the midst of never-ending doubts.

Through it all, the Holy Spirit has been more than just a guiding hand – he has been my lifeline, like the thick handle on a fully packed bus as it twisted violently through mountain roads, without anyone knowing its destination. As I have held on to him for dear life, drunk on motion sickness, I turned around to see that the youth of our church, right next to me, were also holding on.

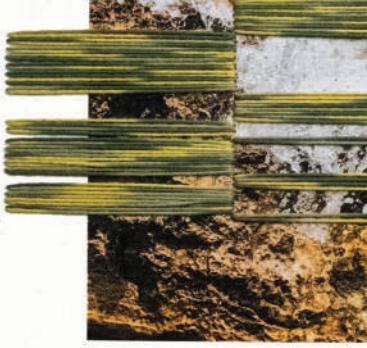
‘Where and when is our stop?’ They often ask, anxiously.

Not much less clueless than they are, I’d often say, ‘I don’t know, but I trust the driver.’

Holding on can be tiring, but as we each alighted at stops with our names, we found peace at where we’ve been brought, with hallelujah on our hearts.

‘You do not realise now what I am doing, but later you will understand.’ — John 13:7

ALTON  
YOUTH MENTOR



SERMON SERIES

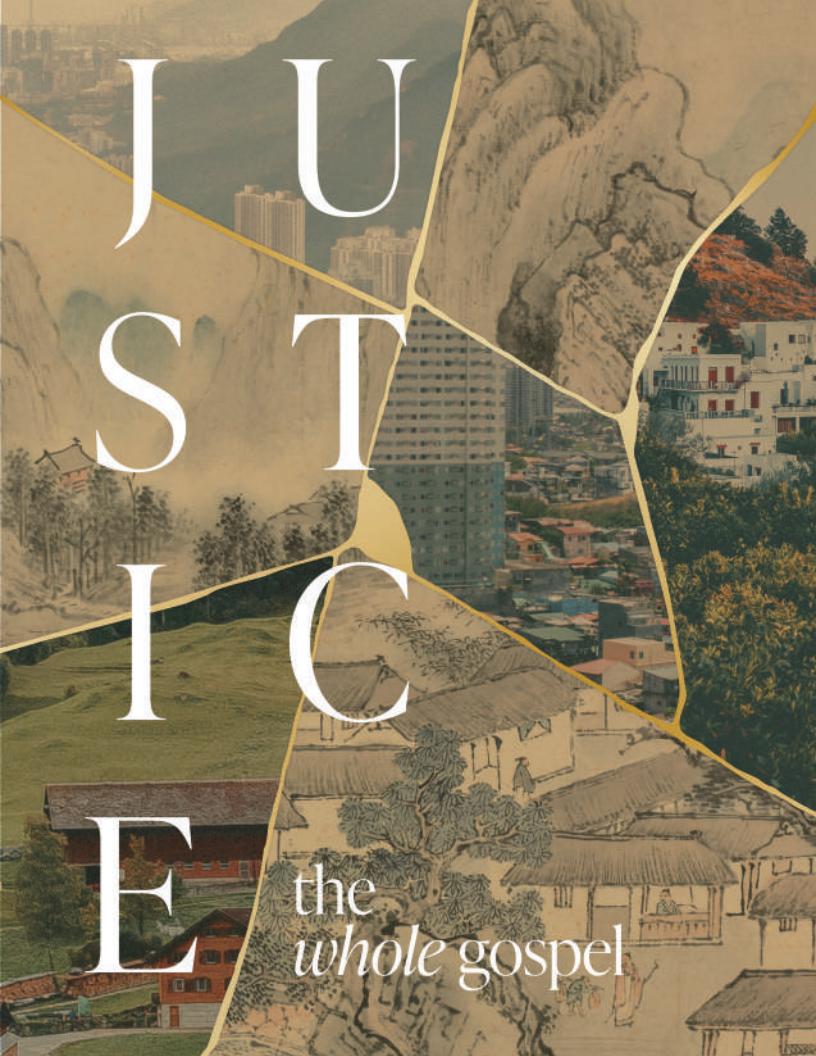
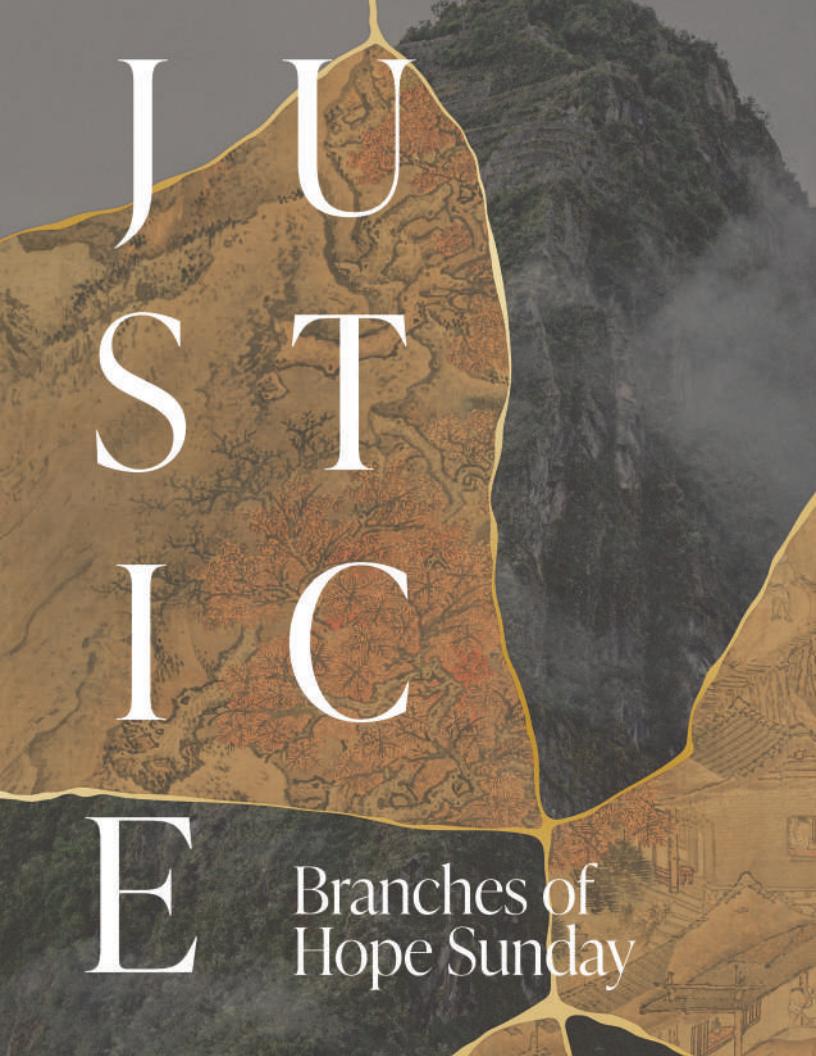


# THE SPIRIT

---

## BOTH (AND)

introduction / comfort + conviction / teaching + revelation  
congregational + personal / spirit + truth  
the spirit in + the spirit upon/ gift of the spirit + fruit of the spirit



On behalf of the staff and leadership of the Vine, we thank all of you who have given generously and faithfully to the church last year. Your contribution made a difference. First, by funding the work of the church. Second, by being a constant source of encouragement.

In 2025 we acknowledged that we were entering a period of being in the uncharted. We embraced not having all the answers, or a clear picture of what the future held, but knowing that God was inviting us into an adventure of discovery with him. On Vision Sunday we shifted our focus from immediate financial giving, to preparing ourselves so that we could respond fully and, if called, radically to the Holy Spirit *at the appropriate time*.

Our full year church income for Wan Chai was \$45.3M, which is approximately \$10 million less than in 2024. Much of this shortfall is accounted for by our decision not to make a call for immediate financial giving on Vision Sunday, for which we received \$12.5M in 2024. However, it is important to note we have also seen an increase in congregation size of 7% and so might have expected that to increase our income. We are therefore growing numerically but not yet seeing an equivalent growth in tithing.

During this year, our expenses amounted to \$45.4M including our tithing of approximately \$6 million to external mission and ministry partners. This was a modest, 4.3% increase from 2024. Therefore, primarily due to the reduction in giving, our income was \$86 thousand less than our expenses. This resulted in a 0.18% reduction in our total financial reserves.

For Yuen Long, our full year church income was \$3.9M. This is approximately \$1 million more than in 2024. The increased income is encouraging sign of the church growing and becoming more established as it moves towards self-sufficiency.

Total expenses for Yuen Long were \$5.9M resulting in a little over \$2M deficit. This is 5% more than last year. As in previous years this deficit is covered by Wan Chai.

As a church both in Yuen Long and Wan Chai we are, and always have been, solely dependent on God. For finances God has almost entirely provided for us through the generous giving of our congregation. We humbly ask those who are wondering how to contribute to the church to consider doing so financially, ideally through a regular tithe. As our vision and ambition expands, including through planting new churches, we do not doubt that we can depend on God. Our prayer is that when God calls us to act boldly we will be prepared to do so, in our actions and in our giving.

**TIM KER**  
CHAIRMAN OF ELDERS

# NOT YOUR ADVENTURE



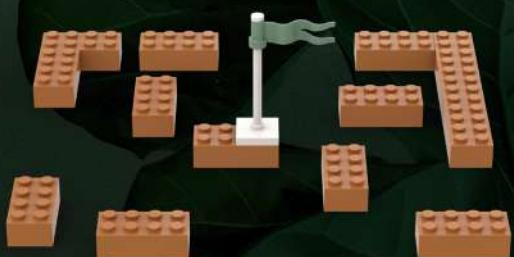
THE BOOK OF JAMES

SERMON SERIES

# NOT YOUR ADVENTURE

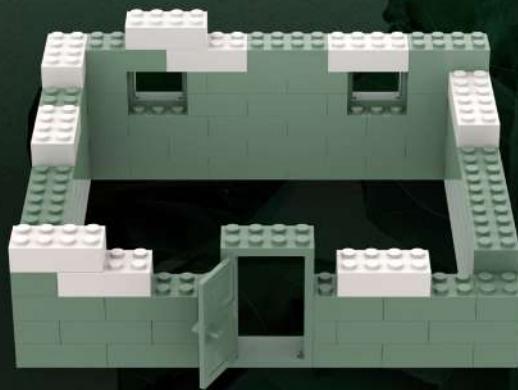
THE BOOK OF JAMES

FOUNDATIONS



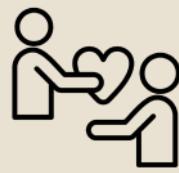
THE JOY OF  
BEGINNING

FOUNDATIONS



THE STRENGTHENING  
OF HANDS

# Partnerships

 HK\$ **1.59M**  
 TOTAL

**50%**

 LOCAL  
 HK\$0.79M

**50%**  
 OVERSEAS  
 HK\$0.80M  
 includes \$0.20M in  
 disaster relief



## Ministry & Evangelism

**37%**

HK\$0.59M

Supporting missionary partners, local and overseas, in different gospel expressions: leading congregations, walking alongside foreign students, working with migrants in their local communities.

## Economic Empowerment

**9%**

HK\$0.15M

Initiate the “building back” of individuals or families thru the provision of personal needs as well as medical and legal referrals to Refugees and Assylum Seekers who have newly arrived in Hong Kong.



## Anti-Human Trafficking

**28%****HK\$0.45M**

Different levels of engagement in the fight against trafficking of persons into forced slavery, forced marriages and prostitution, both local and overseas.



## Childhood Development

**6%****HK\$0.10M**

Crisis intervention to ensure children and migrant mothers has access to essentials needs and services during the most critical years of early childhood development.



## Disaster Relief

**19%****HK\$0.30M**

Emergency funds were released to support relief operations for:

- the Myanmar Earthquake in March,
- the trafficked victims during the raid of scam compounds in the borders of Myanmar and Thailand in November, and
- the victims of the Wang Fuk Court Fire in Taipo, also in November.





## A C T I V I T I E S



Hosted an **audience of 150 people** – both Deaf and hearing – at The Vine for the Hong Kong premier of the first sign language Jesus film, Jesus: Deaf Missions Film, this is the first of its kind produced and acted by the deaf as a gospel expression.



Mobilized **47 passionate volunteers** from the Vine missions, ARISE outreach teams and staff members, who regularly bring hope and companionship to detention centers, elderly homes, hospitals, and asylum seeker households.



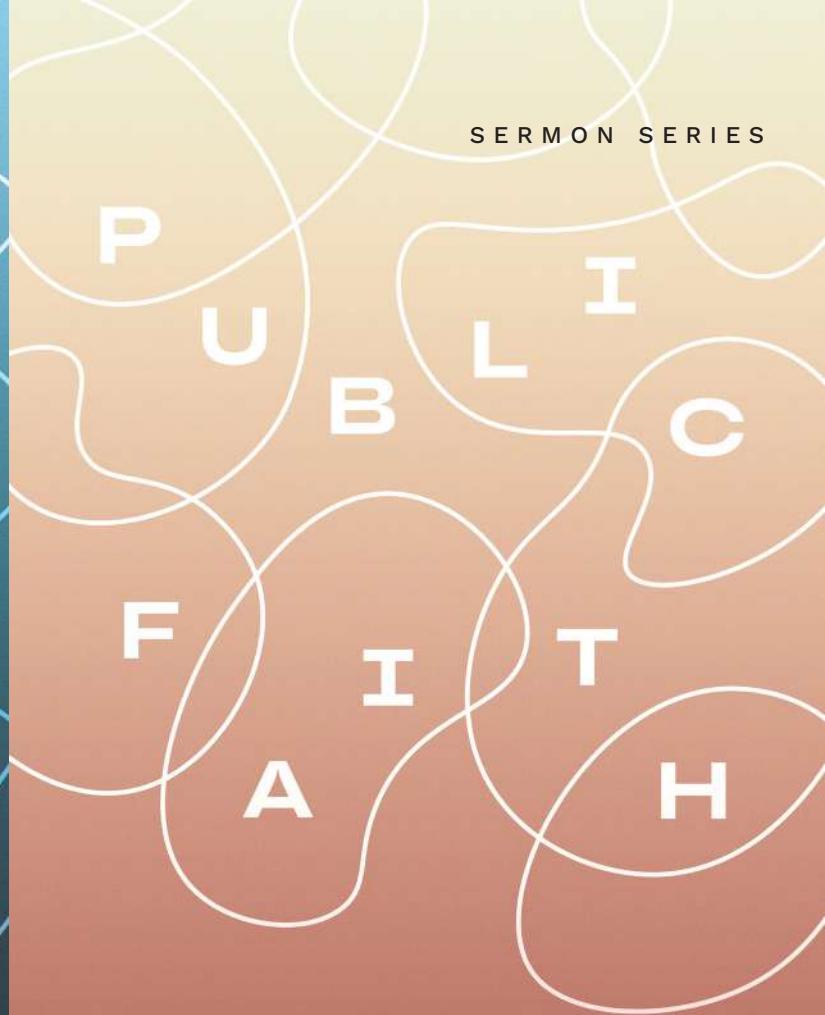
Represented by **30 caring participants**, The Vine joined City Serve 2025, working alongside other churches and NGO partners across the city to meet diverse needs and share God's love in tangible ways.



Engaged **over 80 volunteers** – including both adults and children – in Helper Appreciation Month in May, expressing heartfelt gratitude and care for migrant domestic workers within our community.



Linked with **7 organisations** in a united initiative for the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons in July, amplifying our collective voice in building awareness in human trafficking.



**make  
room**



make  
room

The People  
of Bethlehem



## Coming up in 2026

2026 looks set to be a landmark year for the Vine as we continue in our ‘uncharted’ season and make greater room for the work of the Spirit amongst us. Central to this will be Vision Sunday where we will communicate what we believe Jesus is calling us to as a church over the next five years, highlighting the key areas of focus for us as we seek to make ourselves ‘fit for purpose’ in response to Jesus’ leading. This will include four key pillars of our church community and how each of these pillars will be developed through to 2030.

Alongside this, we believe the year ahead will reveal to us the next steps in our ‘uncharted’ journey and strengthen our desire to continue to see more and more people come into the Kingdom of God. So can I invite you all to join me in praying for the new year and preparing your hearts as a community for all that God wants to do – in us together, and you personally. Jesus meets a church in prayer, so may he find us on our knees as 2025 turns into 2026.

ANDREW GARDENER  
SENIOR PASTOR



