The Church in New York City
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 363 November 15, 2026

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Citywide Senior Saints' Conference (Nov. 21)**

  We are glad to announce that we will have a special in-person gathering for all the senior saints, including all the districts and all languages. The conference is for all nine halls of the church. Lunch, translation and transportation will be provided.

  Time: Saturday, November 21, 2026, 10am
  Place: Hall 1 (Jamaica Estates, Queens)

- **2026 December Semiannual Training Registration**

  Registration for the 2026 December Semiannual Training is still open. Please submit your registration for the Video Training by filling out the online form: http://bit.ly/nycregistration.

- **2026 International Thanksgiving Blending Conference (Nov. 26 – 29)**

  The 2026 International Thanksgiving Blending Conference will be held **in Denver, CO** from **Thursday, Nov. 26 through Lord's Day, Nov. 29, 2026.** Living Stream Ministry is still looking for volunteers to serve with childcare during the conference. If you are planning to attend this conference in Denver, CO and are willing to serve, please **contact Brother Frank Hong (mobile: 917-881-5332**). For more details, please visit: https://www.lsm.org/pdfs/2027-tgconf/tgconf-info-en.pdf.

- **2027 International Chinese-speaking Blending Conference (ICSC) (Feb. 20-21, in Taipei)**

  The 2027 International Chinese-speaking Blending Conference (ICSC) will be held in Taipei from Saturday, Feb. 20, 2027, through Lord's Day, Feb. 21, 2027. All conference meetings will be held at the Taipei Dome. For registration and more information, please see https://bit.ly/icsc2027nyc.

- **2027 Gospel Calendar for Purchase**

  The 2027 Gospel Calendar is available for purchase at Hall 1 Book Room. Each copy is US$15.

PRAYER BURDENS

- As we approach the end of the year, thanksgiving to the Lord for His faithful shepherding of the church in NYC this year and prayer for the Lord to take the church on for the remainder of this year according to the three banners for the church in 2026:
  Blending—within the church and among the churches—*1 Cor. 12:24*
  Increase and spread—*John 15:1-11, 16*
  Walking in the truth—*3 John 4*
- The Northeast High School Juniors and Seniors Retreat which concludes today at Camp Penuel
- The citywide Senior Saints' Conference which will be held on Saturday, November 21, in Hall 1
- The International Thanksgiving Blending Conference to be held in Denver, CO over the weekend of November 26-29
- The churches in North Carolina–A conference will concludes today in Raleigh, NC on the burden of raising up the next generation for the church life
- The Lord's move in Europe–The need for meeting halls in Lisbon (Portugal) and Turin (Italy) and prayer for the renovation of meeting halls in Stuttgart (Germany) and Riga (Latvia)
- The various needs of the saints both locally and in other localities (e.g. physical and emotional, health-related, job-related, family-related, etc.)

MORNING WATCH

HWMR: 2026 JUNE SEMIANNUAL TRAINING – The Believers (1)

WEEK 6: Brothers of Christ as the Firstborn Son of God

Portion from Days 3, 4 & 6:

Acts 13:33 tells us that in resurrection Christ as the Son of Man was born to be the Son of God. As the Son of God with humanity, He is the God-man. This composition of divinity and humanity becomes a God-man, and this God-man is a prototype to produce something. (CWWL, 1994–1997, vol. 1, "Crystallization-study of the Epistle to the Romans," pp. 235, 216-217, 236)

In [Christ's] resurrection all His believers were born, regenerated, with Him as His millions of "twins" to make all these twins the same as He is (1 Pet. 1:3)...The prototype is the firstborn Son of God, and the reproduction is the many sons of God...When Jesus as the Son of Man through death and resurrection was born to be the firstborn Son of God, the millions of God's chosen people were born in the same birth.

God's firstborn Son is the prototype, and we are the mass production. Christ is the model, mold, and pattern. God has put us all into Him that we may be molded into the image of His firstborn Son. Eventually, we all will be conformed to the mold. Sometimes when the sisters make cakes, they put dough into a mold. By being put into the mold, the dough assumes the pattern and image of the mold. Furthermore, the dough must also be baked so that the cake may bear the pattern of the mold without any change...Likewise, Christ, the firstborn Son of God, is the prototype, pattern, and mold, and we are pieces of dough. We all have been put into the mold and are now being kneaded by the hand of God.

Why does God arrange our environment, surroundings, and situations in such a way that we experience suffering? We should not explain this according to our natural concept, saying, "The whole earth is filled with sufferings, and everyone undergoes hardship. Why should we be an exception?" This is a natural concept, and we should not accept it. We must realize that God's purpose is to make us full-grown sons, not little children. We should not be content to remain children enjoying His cherishing and loving. God intends to make us full sons, completely grown up to be legal heirs that we may inherit all that He is in this universe and that we may express Him and exercise His dominion over the earth. Since God's intention is to bring us into full sonship, we need to grow. There is no doubt that growth comes from inward nourishment, but this inward nourishment needs the coordination of the outward environment. According to our feeling, most of the outward environment is unpleasant. Thus, the outward environment becomes a suffering as far as we are concerned. I do not say that the outward environment is not good; it is always good, but it may not appear good to your feeling. (Life-study of Romans, pp. 234-235)

MINISTRY READINGS

GRAFTED INTO CHRIST TO ENJOY CHRIST

God's intention is to present Himself to us as the tree of life. We not only eat of this tree, but we also are abiding in this tree. Not only do we take something of the tree into us, but we also have become a part of the tree. By drinking of the Lord and by feeding on Him, we become a part of Him; we become the branches of the tree. For the branches to absorb the life-juice of the tree is the real drinking. The branches are drinking of the tree and eating of the tree by absorbing the life-juice of the tree. The branches absorb all that the tree is and has and also abide in the tree, have their existence in the tree. Without the tree the branches can do nothing, and they cannot even live or exist. It is in the tree that they have their existence.

The Triune God is the tree of life to us, and we can share of this tree of life because of His incarnation plus His death and resurrection. By His incarnation He brought God into man, and by His death and resurrection He has brought man into God. Also, by His death and resurrection He became a Spirit; He was transfigured from the flesh into the Spirit, a life-giving Spirit. This life-giving Spirit brings God into us and brings us into God. He grafts us into Christ, the universal tree, to make us branches of this tree. Now we need to enjoy all that He is. Through our abiding and our enjoying Him, the church will come into existence as the real expression of the Triune God. Out of our enjoyment and experience of the tree of life, God's eternal purpose will be fulfilled.

Excerpts from "The Tree of Life", Chapter 7: How the Last Adam Becomes the Tree of Life in Us (part 4)