

RENEW



Gary Wu

English Ministry Deacon Candidate

About Gary

I grew up in NYC and near Atlanta, GA. I moved to California in 2005 to start my career. I praise God that He led me to become a follower shortly prior to moving here. Today, I am well-settled in Newbury Park with my wife, Angela, happily married for 11 years. I have been a member of CCCTO since 2006 and part of the SemiPro Hungry Fellowship.

What do you do as an occupation and what are your hobbies?

I work in the government as a civilian/engineer. Most of my work has transitioned now to project leads / managerial duties. My latest hobbies include: Music production with a focus on learning the different types of sound equipment and software. Fixing/maintaining the house. It is both a chore and also fun when things are fixed. Sitting on my chaise and staring at the big tree in our backyard, cleansing my mind and resting with my mind on God. My latest craze is eating healthy and plenty of exercise.

Why did you choose to accept the nomination to be a deacon?

I felt that God wanted me to go deeper into a relationship with Him- to achieve that, an opportunity needed to come about that presented significant challenges and rewards. That opportunity was to become a deacon.

How did God speak to you through the process?

I was asked to become deacon for several times in the past few years. It is amazing how much things change since the first time I was asked. God had provided the maturity as well the experience that led me to the decision to take this step of faith. Though it took about two

weeks to seriously consider and pray over this decision, God had started leading me many years ago.

Which area of ministry you look forward to the most as you serve as a deacon?

Working with our pastors, especially Pastor Curtis. There is much to learn and grow from this experience, and I look forward to gaining that wisdom from our pastors.

Do you anticipate any challenges ahead and how can we (the Church) pray for you?

One difficult ministry that I chosen to put on hold is the worship ministry. I will miss leading the congregation. I will miss playing in a team with talented brothers and sisters. The sacrifice means that I can dedicate more time to being a deacon and loving the congregation in a different way; however, I do want to maintain a good balance between time at church and at home so much prayer is needed to keep my priorities straight. Pray for the worship ministry that the transition will lead new leaders to step up. Also, pray that I rely on God more often to make decisions for this church.

NEW



Marcial Chua

English Ministry Deacon Candidate

About Marcial

Our family started attending CCCTO on 2012 after moving here from Canada. We were drawn to CCCTO members' warmth and fellowship. You may know me as Charisse's dad or Margrethe's husband. My other kids are Braden and Darren.

What do you do as an occupation and what are your hobbies?

I used to work in the semiconductor industry designing circuits for data communications. My current occupations are: Charisse's math tutor and mechanic, Braden and Darren's uber driver, and Margrethe's errand boy.

Why did you choose to accept the nomination to be a deacon?

God has been calling and I ran out of excuses.

How did God speak to you through the process?

I've been hearing the still small voice and also confirmed by my wife, and the deacon nomination committee.

Which area of ministry you look forward to the most as you serve as a deacon?

I have no idea. I will serve where the Pastor and Elders need me to serve.

Do you anticipate any challenges ahead and how can we (the Church) pray for you?

I certainly anticipate challenges, since this is my first time serving as a Deacon. Please pray that I may have a closer relationship with God so I can serve Him well.

NEW

Marilou Cheung

English Ministry Deacon Candidate

About Marilou

I was brought to the US from Hong Kong when I was 2.5 and grew up in Westminister, California where my family owned and operated a grocery store. I met my husband, Adolf, in 1984, at a family party through our brothers who were coworkers and best friends at the time. Adolf was born and raised in Hong Kong but came to the US for college in Washington. I have always attributed our meeting and subsequent marriage to divine intervention as there was never a time in my life where I had thought this California raised girl would end up marrying a nice Chinese boy from Hong Kong! We were married in 1985, moved to Thousand Oaks in 1990, started attending CCCTO in 2008 and were baptized here in 2009. We have a son, Matthew, and a daughter, Kristina. Matt is married to Jenna, and they have an 11 month baby boy Alistair. Kristina is a newlywed, she and Stephen got married in January 2020 and managed to evade the complications and misfortunes of trying to get married during the pandemic.

What do you do as an occupation and what are your hobbies?

I retired at the end of 2016, a beneficiary of early retirement brought on by company benefit changes. Before retirement I worked as Hospital CFO for Kaiser Woodland Hills. In 2019, Adolf started working for himself and I now work part-time helping him. I babysit my grandson Alistair part-time and I enjoy playing tennis, working in the yard, doing small improvement projects around the house, boot camp, and enjoying good food by trying different restaurants with my husband.

Why did you choose to accept the nomination to be a deacon?

The role of deacon at church just seemed to be a very daunting commitment, not just physically, but also mentally and emotionally. My days are already filled with work, and it feels like there is so little time left for the things I like to do for leisure and relaxation so adding one more commitment just didn't seem doable. But God's grace is sufficient, He will give me what I need to do His bidding. The truth is I never thought I couldn't rise to the occasion, I just didn't want to, so I decided to obey His calling and leave the rest to Him. Also, both Adolf and Matt had already served as deacons and I didn't want to be known as the one from the Cheung family that said "no."

How did God speak to you through the process?

I saw myself going to heaven and facing God and He asked me why I didn't serve as deacon when He called me and I didn't have a good answer because every response I thought of ultimately led to to my not trusting and obeying Him and making a choice to avoid work and strife rather than a choice to obey. I believe He still wants to shape me and this is another opportunity for me to grow in Christ.

Which area of ministry you look forward to the most as you serve as a deacon?

I currently serve as a Stephen Leader for CCCTO and am eager to see how I can continue to grow this ministry. I also enjoy Disciple-making and I can help with special finance projects.

Do you anticipate any challenges ahead and how can we (the Church) pray for you?

I anticipate there may be differences in philosophy when it comes to how to most efficiently run church business so I would like prayer for myself and others to be able to listen to understand, to be flexible and patient, and to trust that even if things don't go the way we think they should go, God will see to it that all things will work for good.

NEW



Angela Woo

English Ministry Deacon Candidate

About Angela

Hi, I am Angela. My husband, Brian and I moved to Thousand Oaks in 2009 and have attended CCCTO ever since. We have two high school kids, Joshua and Sarah. I served in Children's ministry at CCCTO and also at BSF children's ministry for many years.

What do you do as an occupation and what are your hobbies?

I am a homemaker since 2006 and was an accountant before. I currently help out with CCCTO finance department and volunteer as the Treasurer for Conejo Council PTAs. Trekking national parks with my family to see God's amazing creations is my favorite pastime activity.

Why did you choose to accept the nomination to be a deacon?

COVID lockdown definitely gives me a different perspective in life. GOD is ultimately in control. Trusting God will give me eyes to see and ears to hear the needs of others at our church and the community to serve them.

How did God speak to you through the process?

God equips the people HE calls. These two verses gave me peace while I prayed for HIS guidance.

Joshua 1:5b "I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Which area of ministry you look forward to the most as you serve as a deacon?

I am looking forward to serve with other brothers and sisters before God.

Do you anticipate any challenges ahead and how can we (the Church) pray for you?

Pray for time management as I serve at church and volunteer in our local communities while balancing a home life. Put God first in my daily life. Pray that God equips me to do the jobs God has called me to do as I felt so inadequate at times.

RENEW



Edward Han

Mandarin Ministry Deacon Candidate

About Edward

I came to Thousand Oaks in 2012 and was baptized in our church in June 2012. In 2013, I married my wife Li Hua. We now have two sons, Timothy and Daniel.

What do you do as an occupation and what are your hobbies?

I am currently in charge of Operation in the company. Like reading and traveling, and good food.

Why did you choose to accept the nomination to be a deacon?

My wife and I prayed for this opportunity to serve, and we have unanimous views. I am also willing to grow in service.

How did God speak to you through the process?

In fact, there were some doubts at first. I feel that I am incompetent in the position of a deacon and I have no contribution. But I pray to God, if this is from God's will, I am willing to obey. Even if I can only do some trivial things, I am willing to obey and use it for him. (We are God's workmanship). And God did lead me step by step to become a candidate for deacon. thank God.

Which area of ministry you look forward to the most as you serve as a deacon?

Young families and International students.

Do you anticipate any challenges ahead and how can we (the Church) pray for you?

Please pray for my spiritual growth and maturity.

RENEW



Ken He

Mandarin Ministry Deacon Candidate

About Ken

I was baptized in 1998, became a member in around 2008 after moving to Southern California. I have been in Enguang Fellowship since then. I served as a Sunday school teaching since 2013. My wife, Joanne Cheng was baptized in 2015 at CCCTO. My two children Justin, and Katherine are baptized at CCCTO.

What do you do as an occupation and what are your hobbies?

I am a financial analyst in an Asset management firm. The firm is at Woodland Hills. The nature of the work is like Wall street, some time could be with really high pressure. I love reading books, watching good movies, playing with kids, and staying with good friends.

Why did you choose to accept the nomination to be a deacon?

It is an honor to serve the church and serve God. I feel more joy from serving than my regular job.

How did God speak to you through the process?

I feel peace and joy serving for the past two years. And I feel my time and effort are worthwhile. I am willing to listen to God if He would like to let me know a different idea. I am humble to follow the leaders of CCCTO on how I should serve.

Which area of ministry you look forward to the most as you serve as a deacon?

Any area is fine with me. But maybe Missionary, Fellowship, and Youth.

Do you anticipate any challenges ahead and how can we (the Church) pray for you?

I am currently studying in Master's Seminary. Pray for me to use time well to serve church, my family, my job, and my study.

NEW



Qi Huang

Mandarin Ministry Deacon Candidate

About Qi

I moved to Thousand Oaks to take a job at Amgen in July 1998. At Amgen, I met Li who is now my wife. Soon after we started dating, God took us to CCCTO in 1999. CCCTO has been part of my life and the lives of my family since. I was baptized at CCCTO in 2000, and so was my wife in 2006. We are blessed with a son and a daughter. Simon is a junior in Ohio State, while Sarah is an eighth grader. Both have been growing in the love of this congregation since their birth.

What do you do as an occupation and what are your hobbies?

I am a chemist by training and professionally. My wife is a biochemist and cell biologist. As a family, we enjoy travelling together, though not often enough. We also enjoy hiking around mountain trails in the area, also not often enough. In addition, Li and I enjoy cooking in the weekends, again not often enough.

Why did you choose to accept the nomination to be a deacon?

Disciples are called to serve.

How did God speak to you through the process?

Through our involvement in different ministries and fellowships, God has been calling our family to serve Him between the Mandarin and English congregations.

Which area of ministry you look forward to the most as you serve as a deacon?

There is a burden on me to encourage our brothers and sisters to strengthen our faith through the power of His Word, achieve our church unity through the power of His Word, grow into a congregation with spiritual maturity from God through the power of His Word, and expand the reach of our church also through the power of His Word. Our faith in Him to me means our faith in the promises of His Word through the power of the Word. Working alongside fellow brothers and sisters, towards a common goal to build a Bible rich church. Let God grow us into mature Christians through His Word.

Do you anticipate any challenges ahead and how can we (the Church) pray for you?

Time management may be a challenge for me. Please pray for wisdom, love and truthfulness to myself and all around me. Pray for my family and I will serve the Lord together, at work, school, church, and home.

NEW

Tong Fang 方彤

Mandarin Ministry Deacon Candidate

About Tong

I joined CCCTO in November 2005 and I was baptized and converted in December of the same year. I have been serving in the Audio/ Visual team since 2007 and I am now a member of the Enguang Fellowship.

What do you do as an occupation and what are your hobbies?

I am an Engineer of Reliability Engineering. My hobbies include traveling, hiking, skiing, tennis, etc.

Why did you choose to accept the nomination to be a deacon?

At the beginning I was not sure whether to accept the nomination, but after fellowship with some church brothers and Pastor Wang, especially after many prayers, God moved me to my heart and the support of my family. I think this is God's will for me. , So I accepted the nomination.

How did God speak to you through the process?

God not only touched me by speaking to my heart personally through the Holy Spirit, but He also encouraged and supported me to do a greater work for Him and His church through the brothers, pastors and family members of the church. I am convinced that the Holy Spirit has been guiding me in this process, allowing me to obey the Lord's will willingly and set my mind to serve God, the church, and his people.

Which area of ministry you look forward to the most as you serve as a deacon?

I believe that serving God and the church is a grace and blessing bestowed by the Lord. I can be used anywhere the Lord leads me.

Do you anticipate any challenges ahead and how can we (the Church) pray for you?

I think there are bound to be various challenges, such as how to properly allocate and adjust my time and energy for the church, family and work. Also we will have to learn how to collaborate with other co-workers.

Please pray for me to have heavenly wisdom, so that I may obey God's calling. Pray that I will be in prayer for everything and rely on the Lord in all I do.

NEW

Zhexiong Tang 唐哲雄
 Mandarin Ministry Deacon Candidate

About Zhexiong

My wife Liao Ying and I moved here from New York State in 2017. Although we had been in the United States for 18 years and participated in church activities from time to time, we still wandered at the door of the kingdom of God. Thank the Lord, He always arranged time for us. Not long after we moved here, Liao Ying and I were baptized at CCCTO together. This is truly a wonderful grace given to us by God.

What do you do as an occupation and what are your hobbies?

My name is Tang Zhexiong. I work for research and development on sensor materials. My biggest hobbies are sports and traveling.

Why did you choose to accept the nomination to be a deacon?

After being baptized, we began to serve at CCCTO. Now I am serving in fellowships, church choirs and audio visual team. But what I didn't expect was that the church nomination committee considered me to be the candidate for deacon in the new year. After all, I have only been baptized for less than three years. Although I have been working hard to grow spiritually, I still feel that I am inadequate. I was okay to serve in various ministries but I but I was reluctant to serve as a deacon. After speaking with another brother, I put this matter into my daily prayer. I felt that I should trust in God's Words and He will give us confidence and courage all at once.

How did God speak to you through the process?

Now that I have decided to be a servant of God, I am willing to serve in any capacity. The church needs

different ministries. God's grace is sufficient for me. When I decided to accept the deacon's nomination, my greatest feeling was the peace in my heart. In this chaotic era, only by reading God's words and doing God's work can I truly have peace in my heart.

Which area of ministry you look forward to the most as you serve as a deacon?

I have been serving in fellowships, choirs and audio visual department. I am also very interested in studying the Bible. I hope I can do more for the church in these two directions.

Do you anticipate any challenges ahead and how can we (the Church) pray for you?

Finally, I am very grateful to the church for giving me this opportunity to serve the Lord, and I hope my brothers and sisters will pray for me. After coming to California, I always go to work by bike. Our family only has one car, and my work has become more tense after the epidemic. The schedule has always been the biggest challenge for me. Our God is the God who listens to prayer, and I will not be shaken because God is at my right hand.