



Christian Brethren Secretariat Malaysia

2018

# diakonia

ONE LORD, ONE MISSION, ONE HEART





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## The Chairman's Note

I bring you greetings from the Trustees of CBSM in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Another year has passed by so quickly, and it is time for another Diakonia magazine to be published.

And as I was looking at the magazine cover, the theme "One Lord, One Mission, One Heart" it reminds me of Psalm 133.

How good and pleasant it is, when God's people live together in unity!

<sup>2</sup>It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe.<sup>3</sup>It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

It reminds us of the importance of "unity" and "oneness. Unity is absolutely essential because the church is the "body of Christ" and a body cannot be in disunity or disharmony with itself. God's plan for His church is people unified in the faith.

In John chapter 17, our Lord Jesus prayed to His Father that all of us may be one, just as His Father are in Him and He in the Father.

We acknowledge that each assembly is autonomous and independent in its administration and church government but we believe all the assemblies in Malaysia can have fellowship, co-operate with each other and organise combined meetings together for the furtherance of the gospel, which is our "One Mission".

CBSM has been set up to be the networking link and co-ordination centre so that assemblies can work and grow together in unity and to disseminate timely and useful information, for the purpose of prayer and co-operative action.

And Paul said in Ephesian chapter 4, our attitude should be all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope at your calling—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

And we can experience how good and pleasant it is, when God's people live together in unity!

I also wish to take this opportunity to say a "big thank you" to our brother, Stephen Lew, on behalf of the Trustees and all the assemblies, who has been our General Secretary since January 2012 and has decided to retire at the end of this year.

He has been a great asset and a "walking dictionary" to the work and ministry of CBSM as he efficiently coordinate and manage the administration of the many developments and projects undertaken by CBSM.

In conclusion, may we together continue to strive towards "One Lord One Mission One Heart" as God's people to live together in unity as the way forward for our assemblies in Malaysia.

In His Service,

Kha Kooi, Chairman, CBSM Board of Trustee

## Editor's Note

Putting together the Diakonia this year has been exceptionally challenging with many unexpected events in work, family and church that unfolded as the year went on. The conceptualization phase of this issue earlier in the year coincided with the aftermath of the massive flood in Penang. The several months of follow-up work with a few dozen homes that Bukit Mertajam Gospel Center engaged during the flood essentially took up all of the time meant to work on the Diakonia. As things came to some semblance of order towards the middle of the year when the solicitation for article started, there was a major crisis at work that ate up several months of precious time. Then came the busy year end period in my line of work while this issue was being edited and when the layout was in progress. All these coming together with the many "must attend" work and family functions both outstation and overseas. So you grit yourself and think - no excuses! By Gods grace, we shall get the 2018 Diakonia ready for print in 2018!

As in previous years, I like to thank the contributors for this issue. The Diakonia is the magazine for the assemblies and about the work of the assemblies in Malaysia. There will be no Diakonia if there are no faithful brothers and sisters who took the time to put fingers to keyboard and contributed articles.

It has been my privilege and blessing to have the connections with all the authors. For me personally, I count it a blessing to be able to see the various aspects of the life of the assemblies and its members – the same Spirit moving in different ways.

It is my prayer that the articles in this issue will be helpful and edifying for some of the readers. Enjoy the read and look forward to your stories in 2019

Khong Yoon Loong, Editor, Diakonia 2018

# From the General Secretary's Desk

Greetings in the name of our Lord! It is my pleasure to once again share a brief report of the activities of CBSM.

## 1. CBSM Trustees and Meetings

The new board of trustees, comprising 16 elders representing assemblies in different states, were appointed by the Assembly Leadership Conference (ALC) held at the Methodist Centre, Port Dickson in October 2017. They will serve for two years until the next ALC in 2019. The trustees are:

1. Lee Kha Kooi (Sungai Ara Gospel Hall) - Chairman
2. Teo Pek Bing (Sungai Nibong Hall)
3. Dr. Khong Yoon Loong (Bkt. Mertajam Gospel Centre)
4. Cheah Huck Leong (Bidor Gospel Centre)
5. Stephen Yam (Kampar Gospel Hall)
6. Chris Tay (Bandar Puchong Gospel Centre)
7. Michael Fun (Bandar Sunway Gospel Centre)
8. Michael Choo (Bangsar Gospel Centre)
9. Peter Tan (Agape Chapel)
10. Shanmugam Ramasamy (Melawati Gospel Centre)
11. Jimmy Chok (Gospel Hall Kuala Lumpur)
12. Terence Chong (Seremban Gospel Chapel)
13. Rodney Tan (Melaka Gospel Chapel)
14. Dr. Stephen Chang (Southern Cross Gospel Chapel)
15. Chiew Sai Kee (Temerloh Gospel Chapel)
16. Low Pheng Chuan (Kota Bahru Chapel).

The board of trustees held three meetings during 2018. The 1st Trustees' meeting was held on 20 January at the CBSM office. The 2nd meeting was held on 23 June at Gospel Hall Kuala Lumpur and the last meeting was hosted by Bangsar Gospel Centre on 13 October 2018.

## 2. Disaster Relief

### a) Penang Flood Relief & Activities in November 2017

Assemblies nationwide contributed a total of RM156K directly to Bukit Mertajam Gospel Centre (BMGC) for the flood relief. The committee headed by Dr Khong Yoon Loong (CBSM trustee and an elder of BMGC), administered the distribution of the relief funds. Cash aid disbursed, repairs and outreach expenses, etc amounted to RM97K. The flood at Bukit Mertajam presented for BMGC to reach out to over 150 homes. Penang assemblies were involved in visiting the affected households to inform them of the free holiday programs being carried out. At the Christmas Open House, over 500 people from the neighbourhood came and allowed the assembly to engage them through performances from various churches and gifts. On Christmas day, quite a number of non-Christians join the Christmas service.

### b) Earthquake and Tsunami in Palu, Sulawesi

Following a 7.5 magnitude earthquake on Sept. 28, a tsunami brought 18-ft waves to Palu, the capital city of Sulawesi and home to 350,000 Indonesians. The disaster left heart-wrenching scenes of destruction and human suffering. The GOWW team in Gunung Pati, Indonesia together with Mr. Loh Ah Asiau will visit the affected region for relief work. CBSM donated RM10,000 to assist the affected people and believers in Palu.

## 3. Nepal Mission Project

### a) Kathmandu Mission Centre (KMC)

CBSM is still considering the earlier proposal to purchase a piece of land for the church in Kathmandu. In Nepal, only citizens can buy and own properties. As such the land purchased will have to be under the names of local believers. This could potentially lead to ownership issues in the future. Until this was resolved, CBSM will continue to pay rentals for the building being used for KMC. Together with the spiritual aspect of mission work, there is the need to meet some social concerns of the people. For some years now, children of believers moving to Kathmandu to continue their studies were given support in terms of their accommodation and food.

### b) Mission Through Education - Nepal (MTE-Nepal)

The Pre-school Project sanctioned and coordinated by CBSM under the "Mission through Education" vision is managed by a core team comprising brothers Yap Kok Keong and Tan Boon Hong and sister Chee Siew Choo. The pre-school, named Tara Balbalika (Star Kids) will come under the newly formed not-for-profit company Khushika Pailaharu (Steps of Joy). It is essentially a project to help the Nepalese children/people. What is envisioned is a modern well-managed preschool which can be an education centre to model the best practices in early childhood education. The medium of instruction is English with Nepalese Language taught as a very important subject. Meanwhile, Indra Kumari (the wife of Abraham Sunar who pastors the fellowship in Madi village) has been appointed to undertake some initial preparatory work for the pre-school. Shikshita, the younger daughter of Amar Tamang is pursuing the Diploma in Early Childhood at the Methodist College KL.

### c) Funding for Nepal Mission Project and MTE-Nepal

CBSM office continues to receive and remit love gifts to support our commended worker Amar Tamang and the operations and activities of the Kathmandu Mission Centre (KMC) and MTE-Nepal. Assemblies are requested to prayerfully consider financial support for the projects. Designated gifts can be sent to the CBSM office or

deposited directly to CBSM's Public Bank account no. 3172570809.

#### **4. Christian Brethren Education Advisory Panel (CBEAP)**

The Trustees approved the reactivation of CBEAP, a technical advisory committee under CBSM on educational matters. The Panel comprises the following persons:

- a) Yap Kok Keong (Chairman)
- b) Rodney Tan (Deputy Chairman)
- c) Chiew Sai Kee
- d) Wong Sai Weng

#### **5. Opening of Bank Accounts and other assistance rendered**

Under a special arrangement worked out with the Public Bank, CBSM has successfully assisted 35 assemblies and brethren agencies to open current and fixed deposit accounts with the bank. From time to time, CBSM was called on to provide support letters for other banking needs.

#### **6. Assembly Leadership Conference (ALC) 2017**

ALC2017 was held during 18-21 October 2017 at the Methodist Centre, Port Dickson. The theme chosen for the conference was "YOU ARE MY WITNESS – CHALLENGES OF THE MALAYSIAN ASSEMBLY". It was an attempt to take a serious look at the role of the Malaysian assembly as a relevant Witness for Christ in the 21st Century and to consider and address the multi-faceted challenges and threats to the assemblies' health and growth in Malaysia.

The subjects and topics considered at ALC2017 included:

- Bottom-line to Growth – Preserving & Building on the Unity of the Church.
- Barriers to Growth - Challenges & Threats facing the Malaysian Assemblies today.
- Basics for Growth - Evolved & Evolving Worldviews challenging the Assemblies today.
- Basis for Growth – Lifestyle Choices leading to Societal Changes.
- Bracing for Growth - Moving Forward Part I.
- Building on the Power & the Person of God – Moving Forward Part II.

ALC 2017 was attended by 176 participants, including 10 from the Philippines. About half the participants were aged 55 years and above. There were 45 elders present and a higher number of ladies and youth at the conference. This could be attributed to the name change to "Assembly Leadership Conference". The use of the Convene app proved very useful as participants could access the ALC documents, photos, notes, slides, etc. In some ways the ALC had succeeded in stimulating greater awareness of

the challenges facing the assemblies. CBSM is endeavoring to formulate realistic actionable plans, including setting up "Rover Teams" to assist assemblies formulate their own strategy plans. There is a need to enhance communications with and between the assemblies. Promote Inter-Assembly partnerships for greater effectiveness.

#### **7. Publications, Books, Resources and Archive**

The Diakonia, an annual publication of CBSM is distributed to the assemblies free of charge. CBSM's monthly prayer newsletter is sent out via email to the leaders for their dissemination to members of their respective assemblies. The CBSM office have a large stock of Alexander Strauch's book "Biblical Eldership" and the accompanying Mentor's Guide and Study Guide. The three books are available at RM60 per set. CBSM is slowly building up an archive of documents, church magazines, photos, etc relating assembly work in Malaysia. Assemblies and individuals are encouraged to send copies to the CBSM office.

#### **8. CBSM Office**

The necessary steps to register the CBSM office property in Desa Kiara Condo under the name of the Christian Brethren of Malaysia Property Trust Berhad (CBMPTB) have been completed. The Strata Title for all the units are still outstanding. We are thankful to Mr. Joseph Chong who generously donated the property to CBSM and to Mr. Choo Chee Choy who undertook the legal work of transferring the property to CBMPTB.

CBSM is thankful for the continuous financial support from the assemblies. We pray all assemblies will take note of the financial needs to enable CBSM to continue its service. All gifts should be made payable to "Christian Brethren Secretariat Malaysia" and sent to the CBSM office or deposited directly into CBSM's Public Bank account no. 3172570809.

After serving nearly 7 years as the General Secretary of CBSM, Stephen Lew will retire on 31 December 2018. God willing, a replacement can be appointed soon. In the interim, CBSM trustees Michael Fun, Peter Tan and Chris Tay will oversee the operation of the CBSM office.

Stephen Lew  
General Secretary

# FROM AROUND THE ASSEMBLIES

## Kota Bahru Chapel

*Low Pheng Chuan*

1st Floor, Lot 1365, Taman Koperatif,  
Jln Wakaf Mek Zainab, 15300 Kota Bharu, Kelantan.

### Contacts:

Br Low: 016-980 9164; Br Yam: 019-933 4833;

Br Puan: 018-661 2274

### Brief History

The church was started by the late Brother Tom Grey and June way back in 1967. It was known then as Kota Bharu Gospel Centre. The church met at a rented wooden shophouse at Jalan Pintu Pong. Then the work was continued by the late Brother Tom Watt and Sheila. Since then the church had been renting at various shop lots until 1995 where, through God's grace, we were able to buy a shop lot at Jalan Wakaf Mek Zainab. By then the church was already known as Kota Bharu Chapel. We thank the Lord, that it was with the help of other Brethren churches and individual Christians that chip in to support us buy the present premise through loan (by JIC) and gifts. To date, we have already paid back the loan to JIC.



### The Present

We meet for the Lord's Supper on Friday at 8.30 am. Prayer and Bible study on Tuesday at 8.00 pm. At present the church has two elders, namely Brother Yam Weng Kong and Brother Low Pheng Chuan. The Treasurer of the church is Brother Puan Tai Thong. Elders in the past that served in the church were Brother Lee Kok Keong and Brother Lim Hong Sang. There are about 9 believers who regularly attend the Lord's Supper. Besides these meetings, we also have Gospel meetings and special ministry meetings which are not at a regular basis. Sad to say, that most of our young people has left us especially for further studies and work.

### Prayers

1. We thank our Lord for His abundant grace and blessings upon us.
2. Pray that our Lord, through His grace, will add unto our church young working and faithful believers.
3. Pray that our Lord will continue to bless the work and witness in Kota Bharu Chapel.



## The Southern Assemblies

*Dr. Stephen Chang*

Greetings from the South! Praise the Lord for the good work going on in the southern part of peninsular Malaysia. There are currently 3 English Brethren Assemblies in the state of Johor. They are Johor Bahru Gospel Chapel, Daya Gospel Centre and Southern Cross Gospel Chapel.

Founded in 1968, Johor Bahru Gospel Chapel is located at No: 3-5, Jalan Ulu Ayer Molek, 80100 Johor Bahru. They have about 50 members at their regular Breaking of Bread and Worship Service on Saturdays at 5:30pm. Mr Nathan Maharajah is the current elder.

The next assembly is Daya Gospel Centre at Taman Daya, JB. Founded in 1990's, they have about 50 members at their Breaking of Bread and Worship Service on Saturdays at 5:00pm. Mr Yap Hock Kee and Lee Ah Sang are the Elders.

Lastly, The Southern Cross Gospel Chapel, founded in 2002 meets at 20, Taman Tasek, 80200 Johor Bahru on Sundays at 2pm with about 20 members led by Dr Stephen Chang. Our 3 assemblies share a common fellowship among the elders together with the elders from Melaka Gospel Chapel, Seremban Gospel Chapel and Nilai Gospel Chapel known as SAFE (Southern Assemblies Fellowship). We last met on 29th May at Daya Gospel Centre to discuss on our work and to pray for all our common challenges and plan for greater synergy.

Recently, there was a DMS Fellowship Retreat over the weekend from 15th-17th June 2018 at the Riverview Hotel at Melaka attended by our 3 assemblies as well as Shah Alam Gospel Centre. We had a lot of fun, food and fellowship as well as scriptural teaching taken from 1st and 2nd Peter taken by Dr Daniel Wong and Mr Dexter Ng. Recently, there has been some interest shown by some elderly members of our estate in joining us for our activities. They expressed interest in the coming year end church programs especially Christmas. We hope to share our presence with the community. Please pray for the work and the workers!

It is our vision that our glorious Gospel message be brought even to the southernmost state of Malaysia. Beginning from our 3 assemblies, may Christ's light burn bright in the hearts of God's people. Then the witness will be carried forth with passion and vigor to all parts of the land.

Glory to God in the Highest!

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## Petaling Jaya Gospel Hall, Christianity Explored

*Chew Phye Keat*

PJGH seeks your prayer as we are in the midst of our CE 15 roll out Sept to Oct 2018 (and for prayer thereafter on the follow up).

### **What is Christianity Explored (CE)?**

It is a seeker friendly course encompassing (in our adapted program) 7 sessions whereby the seeker will go through an explanation of the gospel by a series of video clips while at the same time experiencing an evangelistic bible study on the Gospel of Mark. In the last session the seeker is invited to consider making a decision to follow Jesus. The gospel topics include - Who is Jesus? Why did He come? Why did He die? What is Grace? What is discipleship?

The course was produced by All Souls Church, London and the author is still a pastor in that church, Rico Tice.

### **How did PJGH come to choose this course?**

Sometime in 2004 we were looking for an evangelistic program we could conduct regularly for church members to bring their friends to and we found CE. We chose it over ALPHA because we preferred the way the gospel was explained in the course and the opportunity for the seeker to read the Bible for himself. We have had 14 CE roll-outs since 2004 and this year is our 15th roll out which we call CE 15 (which is not to be confused with GE15 ).

### **How is the course conducted?**

The seekers are divided up into small groups (usually around 2-4 seekers per small group) led by a trained CE leader and assistant leader. The seekers are given a CE study guide and an NIV Bible at the beginning of the course. Each session begins with the seeker sharing on his/her reading of selected part of Mark (usually 2-3 chapters of Mark - the seeker would have had the opportunity to study the whole gospel of Mark by the end of the course) and any questions from the passage. The group then does an in-depth discussion on a focused short passage of Mark from the larger passage which had been read. Following this the whole group watches a video clip on the gospel topic for that week and the session then ends with another discussion on the thoughts shared from the video clip. The whole session lasts for about 1.5hrs

### **Has it been effective?**

By God's grace over the years we have seen seekers come to the Lord and joined the church or carried on being a disciple in another church. Because of the nature of the course and the time taken to explain the gospel, we are confident that the seeker has a clear understanding of what the gospel is and the implications of following Christ before he or she makes that decision. Even if the decision for Christ is not made, we know that the seeker goes away knowing what the Lord wants of him/her.



### What are the challenges on using CE?

The whole church needs to be mobilised as the course is dependent on seekers signing up. There can be events leading up to the CE program and the church care groups sharing and praying for their friends who can be invited. The CE working group needs to plan well on the logistics of the meeting and also recruiting and matching the right CE leaders for the seekers. It can be intense with the whole church praying for the seekers to come to and stay on the course.

### Conclusion

So pray for us in PJGH! For CE 15 we have about 10 -15 seekers with us in 4 small groups at the moment and we look to the Lord for the seed to be sown and bear fruit! Thank you!

For the current CE materials you can visit [www.christianityexplored.org](http://www.christianityexplored.org) or contact St Mary's Church in Kuala Lumpur or reach out to us at PJGH – Chew Phye Keat (HP-016-2282497; pjgh1959@gmail.com)



### Seremban Gospel Chapel

*Terence Chong*

The Seremban Gospel Chapel Community Centre is an initiative by Seremban Gospel Chapel to develop a multi-use facility which can be used as a Church as well as a community centre for the community of Rasah Jaya, Seremban.

The facility consists of a:

- 180 pax multi-purpose hall complete with a stage & baptismal chamber
- One medium classroom (20 pax)
- Two small classrooms (10 pax)
- Two discussion rooms (4 pax)
- Teen & Senior Citizen Cafe Lounge
- Outdoor recreation space

The construction of the centre which began in May, 2017 is now essentially complete and we're presently awaiting approval to occupy the facility from the local authorities.

The total cost of the construction is RM 1.873 Million and to date RM 1.4 Million has been raised.

In the interim, the Student Learning Support Ministry which is the anchor ministry for the center has been operating from Pastor James Wong's home since January, 2017. To date, 22 students have benefited from the program and the current enrolment is 15 students.

In addition to that, Deaconess Vivien Lim and team, together with Pastor James have been faithfully visiting families in the nearby flats and connecting with the community.

To conclude, the continued partnership of the saints in the following areas would be greatly appreciated:

1. Prayer for the community in Rasah Jaya that they will be receptive to the truth of the Gospel embodied in the lives of the believers serving at the Community Centre.
2. Financial assistance for the Community Centre.  
Bank Account details as follows:
  - Account Holder: Seremban Gospel Chapel
  - Bank: Public Bank
  - Account No: 3202820218
3. Partnership in ministries that can leverage the facilities at the Community Centre.





Yes, we are on fire. As I write this article, we are approaching our one and half years in existence. Time really flies at the Students' Haven @ BMGC, a community centre for students to have a comfortable place to go to before and after school and for youth enhancement activities.

Truly, the Lord has been very gracious to us. He listened to our prayers and provided for our needs according to His riches in glory. Knowing our limitations as a small assembly, He works wonders with the few He has. For where we are lacking, He provides through other amazing ways beyond our comprehension. Praise the Lord.

Our sister, Kelly Tan from Scripture Union, Penang was introduced to us through our Elder, Dr. Khong. She met up with us and we had meaningful discussions on the set-up and activities that we had at Students' Haven thus far. She shared briefly some of the youth's activities that we can organize for the students whereby the Gospel can be preached to them in a fun and interesting way.

With God's provision, beginning this year, we have reduced the daily usage charges to only RM1.00 for all the facilities available. A one-time registration fee of RM10.00 only is also extended to first timers to Students' Haven to encourage them to come for the coming years. Our total number of registered students has reached 71 comprising of boys and girls from Form one to Form five. We are further encouraged that many of them are from Form one and this is an opportunity for them to be with us for the next four years. Our sister, Kelly has suggested to us to work with the nearby Jit Sin Secondary School Christian Fellowship where we can open up our Students' Haven for their use and to have joint activities outside of their school. She will try to meet up with the teacher in charge when she drops in again in Bukit Mertajam. We will continue to look unto the Lord for His guidance and wisdom for this partnership.

Daily attendance in the Students' Haven has been on the increase this year. We touched the figure of 50 on Friday, 10th of August, 2018, a record. Well, you may wonder how we managed to squeeze all of them in one small hall at one time. Thank God, these 50 students are from both the morning and afternoon sessions so they came at different times. We had to add extra tables to accommodate them. If there is a need, we can make still use of the hall upstairs.



**A full house day**

As the year end approaches, It is examinations period again. To help the students in their examinations, we are in the midst of organizing a bilingual workshop called "Unleash your memory power" to be conducted by Dynamic Memory Training and Development. The participants will learn the basics of Memory Techniques and their applications, take part in various memory exercises and practices with the aims to boost their memory power, learning power and confidence level. The Church will continue to subsidize for the cost of the program to encourage more students to participate.

To close off another fruitful year and looking at the encouraging response of the 'Oreo cheesecake baking demonstration' held on 12th July, 2018, we are planning to have another one during the school holidays. God willing, with our limited resources, we will be able to organize another outdoor excursion to keep the students occupied and give them an opportunity to learn something new and exciting.



**Brother Raymond (Student Haven Supervisor) and his wife sister Siew Mooi**



*There is always food*

*"I lift up my eyes to the mountains –  
where does my help come from?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
the Maker of heaven and earth".  
Psalm 121:1-2 (NIV)*

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## Port Klang Gospel Hall

Philip Ng

### History & Testimony

We thank God that our Assembly at Port Klang Gospel Hall (PKGK) has been a source of witness and testimony since the pioneering work which started in 1952 in a house to the many people around us as we steadfastly uphold the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread and in prayers. (Acts 2:42).

### Let us Rise up and Build

PKGK had a few preliminary dialogues with our believers recently ranging from the different age groups and gender to further Engage the People of God for Rebuilding without compromising the Biblical Truths. We are still praying and seeking His wisdom, plans, sense of purpose and belonging on this matter.

In strengthening bonding, a one day trip to Ipoh by a chartered bus was organized on 9th June 2018. It was a good opportunity to visit places of interest with believers and friends from our English and Chinese Assemblies joining us in this trip of fun and bonding.

Also, an Assembly Family Camp was held at Highlands Christian Centre, Tanah Rata, Cameron Highlands from 8th

September 2018 to 11th September 2018 with Brother Lian Mung Yee as our Camp Teacher dealing on the theme "Let us Rise up and Build" Nehemiah 2:18.

### Care & Cell Groups

Our Care and Cell Groups had on 1st June 2018 initiated on a new format of discussions as follows:

- The speaker at our weekly Breaking of Bread meeting will submit 2 or 3 questions pertaining to the ministry given
- These selected questions will be given out earlier and will be discussed at the cell group meetings or on any other related matters. This will also provide some form of help and encouragements especially to those who are new and are not clear on the message given.

### Praise & Thanksgiving

Our application to renew our 60 year land lease expiring on 6th July 2026 has now been renewed by the Selangor State Government on 25th April 2018 for a further 99 year lease. We have previously requested for your prayers in the 2017 Diakonia publication and we thank the Lord for His faithfulness, furtherance of witness and testimony in PKGH. We are also thankful to the State Government for their timely approval given us.

Furthermore, we have also established a current bank account in the name of "Port Klang Gospel Hall" with Public Bank Berhad, Port Klang on 8th February 2018. We also like to record our thanks and appreciation to CBSM for their kind assistance in this matter.

### Challenges

Please also uphold us in your prayers as we face the different struggles, issues and challenges of the day as we minister His Word and also evangelizing to the unsaved ones around our community.



*Trip to June 2018*



## Engaging with the Community at our Doorstep

*Terry Leong with Colin Kirton*

Subang Jaya Gospel Centre is located in SS19, a generally middle to upper middle class area of the Subang Jaya township. Located like a fish out of water in the midst of this neighbourhood is a single clump of low cost flats, a stone's throw from our church doors, housing generally much poorer families. Some years ago, the Lord connected us with a few families there and in August 2014, SJGC commenced a community project to support Form 5 students in the flats, to help them to prepare for their SPM that year. Several experienced teachers and lecturers provided special coaching in Maths and English.

We soon realised that the students required a stronger foundation in these subjects for them to do better in their exams. Consequently Maths and English classes were extended to Form 1-4 students the following year at the request of parents. These classes continue to be held weekly in the evenings at the *balairaya* in the flats.

In 2015, fortnightly English enrichment classes for primary school children started and a Reading Bus Library was purchased for the use of the community, sponsored by the Subang Jaya ADUN's office. The enrichment classes are aimed at early intervention. Our objectives are: (1) that the young children enjoy learning; (2) to improve the children's ability and confidence in English; and (3) to encourage them to speak the language.

The majority of our students are from Malay lower-income families. More than one sibling often attend the various classes.



*Family Camp, HCC, Tanah Rata Sept 2018*



*Kitchen Ministry*



*Sunday School prize giving*





There are currently about 10 teachers involved, all volunteers and mainly from SJGC. We welcome and have had other volunteers from the community.

We are glad that students have reported generally better results both in SPM and school exams, some sure that they would not have done so without the weekly tuition. Parents of the younger children have also reported more interest in English and better performance in school. Each year, we have seen new students across all classes and especially in the enrichment classes for the younger children.

Our challenge has been to maintain the students' interest in academic studies as they enter their later teens. Typically classes are small for the upper forms. Even some of the lower forms have seen smaller numbers.

As I have personally reflected on this work over the past 5 years, I realise that it is easy to see this as merely a tuition 'project'. But I have come to see and understand that, beyond that, we are also engaged in lives, in families. As important as the academic outcomes are, more important is the intentional building of relationships with the children and their families. This has opened many doors.

Mothers especially have become interested in our activities and are in with us by just being friends. Some chat quite freely and frankly about issues. One mother lamented to me in the early days that *"you orang China best, pandai boleh pergi universiti, kita orang Melayu susah ..."* Hopefully their minds will be opened to be able to believe as we do, that their children *can* do well in school. Her child still comes to our classes.

Parents and community leaders understand and accept that we are in their midst to help their children and not for any other hidden intentions. I often think that we may be the only Christians, perhaps even the only non-Malays, that some of these families have a relationship with. Our presence builds bridges of trust and influence in a very polarised Malaysia and demonstrates the very presence and love of Christ in practical ways.

The annual Amazing Race, organised by the youth group of SJGC and now in its third year, is a highlight for the younger children, and an eye and mind opener for our youth who are often oblivious to the needs of the less fortunate around them. I recall one youth exclaiming that he had no idea that there were people who lived "like that".



Movie Outing



Amazing Race

We intentionally involve other stakeholders in the project. The ADUN's office endorses our work and for the past 3 years has sponsored our annual Amazing Race. Our MPSJ (Majlis Perbandaran Subang Jaya) Councillor flags off the Race each year and has been a supportive enabler of our initiatives. The SS19 Rukun Tetangga committee are always ready to feed us whenever we have events. Our teachers get invited for the community's Hari Raya celebrations.

Through serving these children, we have had the opportunity to be salt and light right in our own neighbourhood and our own lives have been challenged and enriched as a result.

## Penang Balik Pulau Outreach

Teo Pek Bing

January 2018 marked the start of the Lord's Supper in Balik Pulau Gospel Center. Once a month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, we will gather to break bread. We meet at 10am to remember the Lord together and after a bilingual message, we break into groups for sharing and prayer. This will be followed by fellowship lunch before dispersing. Because majority of us still have commitments in our home assemblies, we are not able to be at Balik Pulau every Sunday. The messages were a series of studies on Genesis. We thank the Lord for the brothers who are gifted with English and Mandarin tongues. The Lord indeed has been gracious and at the point of writing, we have had 10 Breaking of bread meetings, i.e. 10 months without fail. Attendance range from 15 to 25 including children.

Outreach work. Our sister has great love for missions and lost souls. Pray for her as she relates with the children and parents, as well as leading the After School Care, Bible studies and Parents' English class, not to mention many other miscellaneous activities.



**The first Lord's Supper 28<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

The English Club on Saturday continues with about 30 to 35 children each week. As before, we have a few difficult children. Pray with us as we begin to plan for 2019. With each passing year the children have grown and the Teens Club is beginning to swell. The challenge of class and teachers' assignment is increasing. Keeping the lessons interesting week after week is also stretching the teachers' creativity. We thank the Lord for enabling the teachers to keep coming up with interesting lessons week after week. We also thank the Lord for bringing new helpers. The youth teams from Burmah Road Gospel Hall, Island Glades Gospel Center and Sg. Nibong/Sg.Ara Gospel Hall have been very forthcoming when we invited them to conduct special sessions at the English Clubs. The children were so captivated that they would ask if the youths would be coming again the following week!

We are also very excited that 2 of the boys attended the Penang Bible Camp 2017 for the very first time. One of them will be attending again this year. Pray that more will follow!



**The first message on Genesis 1 by our brother Choon See**

On 4<sup>th</sup> February 2018, our sister, Wong Ee Ling was commended by Sg. Ara Gospel Hall to the Balik Pulau



**Teens English Club in session**

We also tried out After School Care on weekdays this year instead of tuition in an attempt to increase contact hours with the children. We have 4 – 7 students enrolled, some part-time. Ee Ling leads this, assisted by another Christian mother, plus several volunteers of whom we are very thankful, who come on selected days to help the children with their homework. Discipline was difficult but it improved as the year went by. We are re-evaluating the effectiveness of this versus some form of blend with tuition. Some the children will be taking their UPSR next year and will need extra help. Pray for us.

Ee Ling's Bible studies with the 2 mothers is progressing well. Additionally, she has started an English Class with 2 sets of parents. Up to 9 adults are interested in the parents' English lessons. Pray that this will develop into an opportunity to share the gospel.

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# MISSIONS

## Yi-Sheng Resources Bhd: Building Project

*Jimmy Chok*

("Yi Sheng Resources Bhd" formerly known as "Emmaus Bible School" since 1993)

By God's Grace, since 1993, focusing on the nurturing of young people in the Assemblies from Secondary Form 3 onwards, Yi Sheng has been a blessed mentor and partner for close to 2000 young people from Chinese speaking congregations in Peninsular Malaysia. It has journeyed with teenager students into young adulthood in the context of its mandate from The Chinese speaking "Assembly Leaders Conference".

Over the years, Yi-Sheng has, directly or indirectly, contributed and brought about the full-time ministry of well over two dozen brothers and sisters as pastors, missionary and Bible teachers. There are also nearly 100 others actively serving in local churches and para-church Gospel agencies. On a chained format, annually, about 50% of this group is also the "leaders and teachers" for younger students. The "older" alumni mentors and guides the "younger" ones, creating a continuous flow of the Yi-Sheng legacy in training and learning! It is also heartening to note that, in this "borderless" era, active Yi-Sheng alumni remained connected and steadfast in The Faith wherever they are. By God's Grace, these are the future core of the Assemblies going forward.

The training ministries of Yi-Sheng are charted into four streams, namely Youth Stream, Young Adult Stream, Assembly Leaders Stream and Work-place Ministry Stream. While adhering to Biblical Truth, the delivery of various contents has also evolved over time to cater for new challenges faced by the younger generation. The Work-place Stream is a new development since the first decade of the century. In all these, to-date God has provided three strong and committed Yi-Sheng teaching teams, with smooth succession and seamless continuity.

Premises and infrastructure are obviously another key part of Yi-Sheng. During its 1<sup>st</sup> decade, the operation was based in Kajang with the ardent support of Kajang Life Chapel (Chinese speaking). During that period, training camp accommodation was provided in the form of two separate rented terrace houses for male and female campers respectively. The 2<sup>nd</sup> decade of Yi-Sheng saw the relocation to rented premises in Seremban. Since 2008, Yi-Sheng had moved to Nilai and, in an effort



**Lot 26375, Nilai Springs Villas Resort**

to manage cost, training camps were mainly held in Nilai Gospel Hall and Gospel Hall Kuala Lumpur. However, it was found that these venues are at best stop-gap measures. Facing challenges, the 20-year prayer for a dedicated Yi-Sheng Campus gathered pace and, by God's Grace, Yi-Sheng Board stepped out in faith!

With reference to the sharing in "Yi Sheng Prayer Letter (of Sept/Oct 2017)" [in Chinese language], in January this year, Yi Sheng has formally signed a Sales and Purchase Agreement for a 14655 sq. ft. bungalow lot in Nilai Springs Villas resort. We are thankful to the Elder of Nilai Gospel Chapel (English Section) who rendered much help in referring us to the developer who finally sold the land to us at nearly 50% discount, for the price of RM293,209.00. We have since paid 10% of the purchase price and the balance is due by end-2018.

Currently, the Yi Sheng Building Committee has coordinated the development of the first cut building plan, complete with general internal configuration to fit the purpose of the work of Yi Sheng. Other related construction planning is in progress. The intention is to complete the building project within the budget of RM2m.

As of June, 2018, by God's Grace, Yi Sheng has received RM121,880.00 in cash from various Brethren and Assemblies. We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to all brethren participating and supporting us in this project. For the immediate future, we hope all Assemblies will pray with us and support us to fulfil the remaining RM171,329.00 for the purchase of the land due by end-2018.



***Signing of S&P at Solicitor Lim Hong Nian & Co., Nilai***

For financial participation in this project, kindly deposit directly into PUBLIC BANK, "YI-SHENG RESOURCES BHD" account No. 3-0676611-29, with copy of deposit slip emailed to yisheng4u@yahoo.com or whatsapp to Yi-Sheng Wai Guo +60143389720.

Philippians 1:5 "For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:"



***Yi Sheng Building Committee Meeting on 6/8/2018 @ Life SOAR Centre, Wisma Methodist, K.L.***

## **The Tide Is Changing: Where is Home?**

*Jimmy Chok*

### **Malaysia Myanmar Ministry: Going Forward or Backward?**



*Hundreds of Chin refugees demonstrated at the UNHCR office on Friday after being told that they would have to go back home by 2020."*

*Star Online on Friday, 29 Jun 2018, reported that UNHCR has issued a statement that, due to "the situation in Chin State is now stable and secure, their protection for Myanmar Chin refugees is no longer required and will cease by end-2019."*

Read more at

<https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2018/06/29/unhcr-chin-refugees-no-longer-need-un-protection-as-myanmars-chin-state-now-stable/#eH3bKIGfVCT3mspQ.99>.

Myanmar Chin has several generations of Christian heritage. Chin State is one of the poorest in Myanmar. The primary means of livelihood is farming, which is still mainly relying on bullocks for transport, ploughing the field, etc.

Children education is generally through the Buddhist monastic schools. Since more than a decade ago, the Myanmar Chin chose to flee and tens of thousands landed in Malaysia. Through the UNHCR, they hope to find a home in a third country.

Reported in <http://www.unhcr.org/en-my/figures-at-a-glance-in-malaysia.html> : "As of end August 2018, there are some 161,140 refugees and asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR in Malaysia.

Some 139,740 are from Myanmar, comprising some 77,130 Rohingyas, **29,630 Chins**, 9,810 Myanmar Muslims, 4,030 Rakhines & Arakanese, and other ethnicities from Myanmar."



Much has been written about the Chin refugees, e.g. "Chin Refugees in Malaysia (Part 1)" By Antonio Graceffo, Jul 26, 2010, Asia Pacific, News & Analysis  
<https://www.foreignpolicyjournal.com/2010/07/26/chin-refugees-in-malaysia-part-1/>

Now, the original hope of finding a home appears dwindling into obscurity!

The little they had back in Myanmar was given up years ago. Now, it appears nothing to go back to but yet, the situation is real. Older children in the Myanmar refugee schools are skipping classes and, instead, seeking jobs to earn few more Ringgit to prepare to "go home"!

Our refugee schools partner NGO Shelter has planned "skills training" programs (e.g. simple hotel hospitality jobs, baking, etc.) to help build new means of livelihood. But, there are no takers because, it seem, everyone thinks it is more important to earn a few more Ringgit rather learning a new skill.

On the Myanmar congregations' front, by God's Grace, the refugees have been kept in the Faith. Those who have been resettled in 3<sup>rd</sup> countries (mainly in USA and Australia) have also found new Myanmar churches where fellowship continues. Outreach efforts are often hampered by very strong Myanmar tribal segregation culturally. Generally, the proclamation of The Gospel faces barrier of people groups, including among Christians. This situation is seen to be a major challenge for the Myanmar ethnic churches as well as the country as a whole.

Malaysia Myanmar Ministry (MMM) at its Board Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct, 2018, resolved as follows:

1. Although there is no longer a possibility of relocation to 3<sup>rd</sup> countries, our Myanmar brethren are reluctant to leave Malaysia.
2. As long as our Myanmar brethren remain here, MMM should continue in its current role (in the support of Church Workers / pastors and Myanmar refugee schools).
3. In addition to that, MMM must be ready to help the existing key MCA pastor & family return to Myanmar should they choose to do so.
4. In the area of support for the schools, we can follow NGO Shelter's lead on this.

Nevertheless, new challenges are obvious and let's together prayer that God's Will be Done, even through MMM!

There may be many questions: e.g. "Why should they be refugees?" "Is there really no other way out?" "Can they learn from Malaysia GE14?" "What are the people doing for their country?" "What is the Church doing about the situation?" etc.etc.

However, let's not cease to pray...

Anyone being led by The Spirit to serve with this Ministry during this difficult time, do offer your thoughts and other contributions. If you are moved to participate financially, the bank details are as follows:

Public Bank Bhd  
 Account No. 3181 9349 03  
 Account Name: Malaysia Myanmar Ministry

Please deposit directly into bank with advice to:  
 Mr. Mah Yoon Ghet (Administrator),  
 Malaysia Myanmar Ministry,  
 Bandar Puchong Gospel Chapel  
 Email: bpgc09@gmail.com  
 Tel/WhatsApp: 014-3386141

For further information on this work, please contact  
 Jimmy Chok (Chairman, MMM Board)  
 Tel: 012-3078117 jchokkh@gmail.com



## The Journey Goes On

Annie Khoo

Several years ago, my elder had asked if I would consider serving at Sangkhim Canaan School (SCS) at Kampong Chhnang, in Cambodia. Back then, I had 'brushed aside' the idea because SCS was a mission school teaching the Cambodian national curriculum and as far as I know, there was no church or discipleship ministry. Furthermore, I was already deeply occupied and like a horse on blinkers, intensely focused on one tiny part of Cambodia. Over the years, the people of Suong had become such a big part of my life that the Lord had to literally uproot me from that place. I had to leave because of deteriorating health and I didn't know if I would ever get to be with my beloved students and friends again. When I was saying farewell to them, I felt as though I was preparing for my own funeral. I prayed that each one of the precious babes in Christ will stand firm in faith till we meet again to worship God before His throne.

However, many months before I knew I had to leave, God had already prepared the Assembly Fellowship Camp (AFC) to be held in Phnom Penh for the first time, in November, 2017. Part of their itinerary was to visit Sangkhim Canaan School. Months ahead before the camp, my IGGC big sister and close friend had called me from Penang a few times to encourage me to join the camp in Phnom Penh, but I was not really interested.

After one month back in Malaysia, while I was recuperating, I received the September, 2017, issue of Sangkhim Canaan School Newsletter. The last prayer point (no. 7) read... *"Pray for the next phase of the ministry with Sangkhim Church & Bethany House to focus on evangelism and discipleship. The Lord will send many workers to join us."* My heart began to open up to the possibility of returning to the Cambodian people. Then, a few elders from other assemblies also encouraged me to write to Mr. Tan Kian Huat to enquire about the opportunities at Sangkhim.

To cut the story short, I finally joined the AFC camp in November, 2017, and had a fruitful meeting with brother Kian at Sangkhim Canaan School. The Chapel of Hope (Sangkhim means Hope) was still in the final stages of construction then. I was also not ready to start a new work until I had time to settle down, unwind, recuperate, and to process the grief and face the reality of not having my parents to turn to anymore when I am home. The one year back home was a time for healing and restoration. God was also teaching me to be still and wait, while He prepares a new place for me. It was also a time for me to reconnect with church family and to get to know the

younger generation who grew up while I was away. God also brought very precious people who were willing to walk life with me through the valley of the shadow of death, till I come out of it.



Finally, on 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2018, I had the privilege of having IGGC deacon, Dr. Lai and Siew Mei to accompany me to Kampong Chhnang, Cambodia, to begin a new phase in my life at Sangkhim Canaan School and Church. (on my maiden trip to Cambodia in 2004, I came alone, not knowing anyone else on the land)



Dr Lai conducted a seminar for parents and Siew Mei conducted a 3 day Training for SCS Teachers on Multiple Intelligences and Behaviour Management. The teachers were presented with certificates. Siew Mei has also committed to help prepare the English class curriculum for Grades 10, 11 and 12, and help raise the level of English of the local English teachers through on-going support and training.

In the first week of September, a team of 8 from IGGC came to help run Sangkhim Church's first Youth Camp. It was truly an international team as we worked alongside Singaporeans and Cambodians to help make this camp a success.

In October, the new school year started. The first batch of Kindergarten students from 2008, now entered Grade 9. The school now has close to six hundred students, and over forty teachers.



My job description became full time missionary with Sangkhim Church and volunteer English Language teacher for SCS. There is a huge disparity of language ability among the students and I was compelled to start a remedial class during lunch time to help the weakest from G7, 8 and 9.

There are many opportunities to reach out to the six hundred students and teachers at Sangkhim Canaan School. We thank God that sister Mouy Ngim, who had just graduated from GLO Australia, is now with us as a local church worker, together with brother Sambath, who graduated from GLO Australia last year. God willing, Abigail from America, will join our team next year.



One of the greatest joys of doing discipleship is to see God's Word transforming lives.

I thank God for the many opportunities to share God's Word in Khmer to the students, some of their parents and some teachers at Sangkhim.

Khmer Bible Class for adults  
From Creation to Christ



It is really amazing to see God working in the people as some of them learn from the Bible for the first time, about the Creator God, the deception of Satan, and God's plan for our salvation.



Khmer Bible Study for Teachers



Khmer Bible Class  
for students



Theary

Phalla

Phalla was one of my first few KBS students at Sangkhim. Her father was retrenched and her parents had wanted to sell off their land and move to another province to start a new life. Phalla had believed Christ and didn't want to leave Sangkhim. We prayed that her parents will stay on in Kampong Chhnang and that they will come to church and know the Lord. The Lord answered our prayer.

Visitation



Pray for Sambath's mother (centre), Mouy Ngim's mother (second from left, and auntie Maly (first from the right) that they will come join us for worship regularly.



Theary was the last student I had the privilege to lead to Christ just a few months before I left Suong end of July, 2017. After she completed her G12 exams, Theary moved away from Suong and had received no follow up. When I contacted her more than one year later, she just left her job as a cashier. Theary decided to come join us as a Kindergarten Assistant Teacher at SCS. She is now out of the wilderness and her spiritual life is growing well in our Christian community.

**Please pray for us as we grow Sangkhim Church leaders & members towards maturity in Christ.**



**Construction of Bethany House**

Phalla's parents, Chim Phai and Mengly now worship the True God



Bethany House will house the missionaries and some select students with leadership potential. We endeavour to provide a wholesome Christian home environment for these teenagers so that with proper guidance, their God-given-potential will blossom & grow. We pray and hope that they will be good leaders. Pray too that we will have enough funds to pay the contractor when the building is completed by early next year. Please contact brother Kian at [kian@sangkhimchurch.org](mailto:kian@sangkhimchurch.org) if you need further information.

Thank you and God bless!





# CAREERS

## Living as Salt and Light in our Career

*Dr. Lai Fong Hwa*

I guess I was in a way 'forced' into my present career as a child and family psychiatrist by God. 'Forced' because psychiatry was not one of the specialties I was interested in when I was studying in medical school in University of Malaya. During my third year of medical training, I was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa (RP), a degenerative disorder of the retina which has no cure at present. The kind professor of ophthalmology who diagnosed my condition gave me this advice, "Be a general practitioner (GP), earn as much money as you can and then retire". He said this because people with RP inevitably lose their sight when they reach 50 years of age or thereabout. It was around that time that I came across an article written by a blind psychiatrist from Canada in a medical journal sharing about some of the difficulties he experienced in his training in the specialty. It was then that I decided to take up psychiatry.

This was some 30 years ago. Looking back, I realize the truth of a verse in Hebrews 12 where Christians are called to run with perseverance the race "marked out for us". I came to see that every believer of the Lord Jesus has a personal journey of life marked out for him or her by God. Our role is to be faithful, to deny ourselves, take up the cross that God has appointed for us and follow Him. So what did it mean to live as salt and light in my situation? Salt during Jesus' day was used to prevent bad things from growing and to help good things flourish. I believe that we can do this in our working environment by doing the best that we can do. For me, it meant putting in hours of studies during my training years and now keeping abreast with the latest developments in the medical and more specifically, in psychiatry and psychological fields. It also meant that I availed myself of opportunities for improving my skills in different therapies to provide my patients with the best care possible.

In 2001, God gave me an opportunity to pursue subspecialty training in child psychiatry in the United Kingdom through a Malaysian government scholarship which I never expected due to my visual disability. With support from my wife who taught in British state schools, I was able to also pick up some experience in cognitive therapy as well as family therapy. I also enrolled in a basic parenting programme as well as control & restraint technique training; these two skills I later passed on to

occupational therapists and paramedics in our hospitals back home in Malaysia. What did I gain from these?

Nothing monetary but I remembered what our Lord said (though not necessarily in this context) "Freely you have received, freely give"

So, we can be salt and light by setting a good example to others around us by ensuring that what we can do, we do it well and also by treating others with respect, irrespective of position or wealth. I have always tried to make my motto for living what the Lord said in the Sermon on the Mount: "Do to others what you would like others to do to you".

God has given me the privilege of experiencing a little of what He meant when He said, "I came that you may have abundant life". When I see how God heals broken lives and relationships through my work, I experience feelings of fulfilment that money cannot buy. Times like these make me think that to use my medical and psychiatric training just to earn money is actually short-changing myself from so much greater rewards that God wants to give us.

No, I have not made my millions nor do I expect to. But the Lord has been faithful to me and my family and we have not lacked anything.



*Dato' Dr Lai Fong Hwa graduated in medicine and psychiatry from University of Malaya in 1987 and 1994 respectively. He pursued sub-speciality training in child and adolescent psychiatry in Oxford, UK in 2001. Upon his return to Penang, he served as consultant child & adolescent psychiatrist at Penang General Hospital. In 2009, he was certified as a cognitive behaviour therapist by the Academy of Cognitive Therapy, America. In 2018, Dr Lai completed training in family therapy with the Rome Academy of Family Therapy on a scholarship. He is the recipient of four state honours from the governor of Penang for his contributions to mental health services in Penang. He was also awarded the annual exemplary person with disability award by the Penang governor in 2006. Dr Lai is contactable at [laifh78@gmail.com](mailto:laifh78@gmail.com).*

## Becoming a Pilot

*Captain Peter Tan*

### *The Reasons*

Of the many reasons why I became a pilot, it starts with, and still is a dream job!

Dreaming of flying a plane started when I was in High School, watching and hearing planes fly over our house in Butterworth from the Butterworth Air Base. Military jet planes flew over our house a few hundred feet above on its approach path. I could literally see its belly as I watched these magnificent metal birds roared overhead me. Of course, when I started as a flight student I could only imagine how the job of a pilot would be. At the beginning it was my fascination and passion, which strove me to become a pilot. Therefore the reasons I am listing here rather tell you why you would want to pursue a career as a pilot.

Unfortunately, the economy gives a lot of reasons why you should not become a pilot. But like in every professional career there are ups and downs. But it is for sure that air travel will expand. Pilot training is costly! Today it will cost you between RM300-400, 000 to complete a commercial pilot training and depending on when you graduate, you may have to wait for many years to get a job! There are some who never make it into the commercial pilot career even after obtaining a license.

According to Boeing there is a requirement of 617,000 pilots in the next 20 years. The glory days of flying are not over yet. It just has changed a lot over the decades. In my opinion, it is still the best job in the world and there are many great reasons why you should become a pilot.

### *The View*

You are leaving the hotel and it is grey and rainy weather outside. Don't worry! An hour later you will be up in the air wearing your sunglasses because the sunlight just became too bright. One of the few jobs where you can wear sunglasses 365 days a year! In my student pilot days, I saw the vast beauty of the Philippines from the seashores to the mountains, lakes and green paddy fields all across Luzon where I received my initial flight training. How marvelous to see God's creation from a bird's eye view. "An office with a view beats a desk job any day!"

It is still spectacular to see the world from above even after 38 years of flying. The beautiful views from the cockpit during sunset and sunrise are priceless. When flying I sometimes get the impression that I am alone in

the world since you are so far away from the activities on the ground. Especially during night flying when everything is black outside except the moon and stars shine really bright. It is these times when I feel a deep connection with God as I feel de-connection to the rest of the world. The words of the psalmist of the awesomeness of God come alive when read at 39,000' above sea level!

### *The Fascination*

Aviation is fascinating. Already as a small boy, airplanes attracted me and I figured that it is probably a lot of fun to fly. Yes of course it is. Getting behind the controls of a huge machine, which weigh several tons is an amazing feeling. Especially when you push the thrust levers forward and the moment you take off is a blast. It is always a sense of accomplishment when you land safely after each flight knowing that you were behind the controls of a powerful machine. "It is contagious!"

Have you listened to a conversation between pilots? My daughter always complains that my son and I always talk about aviation when we get together. (My son, Aaron is also an aviator) They always have to tell a story about places they flew to and other things that happened to them. It is really contagious. When I meet up with my friends from flight school or my colleagues who are flying in airlines all over the world, the first couple of hours are only about flying.

From propeller aircrafts to big shiny birds, I've flown the Pipers, Cessna, Fokker, Boeings and Airbus. My favorite airplane is still the Boeing 777, which I flew for 18 years.

### *Flight Training*

When I finished high school with the age of 17, I did not have the big desire to go to University and continue studying for years. In fact I considered going to Bible School and getting started in ministry work. I rather wanted to get into a job as quick as possible and be independent. It was really awesome that a church friend would send me an application form for cadet pilot training with Malaysia Airlines; I applied without expecting a positive reply but as it turned out, I was accepted into the cadet program, all expenses paid! God is good, and the rest is history.

The next two years were a big adventure. Even though the training was not easy and I had to face a lot of challenges, they turned out to be the best ones of my pilot career. To be with a crew of other flight students who had the same goals was motivating. We always supported each other in

every way. During the training, you knew that the effort would pay off in the end with a seat in the cockpit whereas studying a degree is not necessarily linked to a certain job. If you are interested in my full story of how I became a pilot, meet up with me over a cup of coffee and be prepared for long aviation stories.

### *Knowledge*

Flying makes you smarter, wiser and adaptable. The knowledge you gain as a pilot, you can apply to your everyday life. You will become an expert in planning; staying organized and a good decision maker.

Aviation requires you to be up to date about new procedures and regulations. Even after flying an aircraft for thousands of hours you will find out something new about it. The adrenaline rush at the beginning of your career gets less and so does the nervousness of carrying hundreds of men, women and children, sometimes less than ideal weather conditions. Actions become second nature but flying to new places, flying new approaches and even learning a new type of aircraft makes this job so diverse and interesting. I had to face a new challenge when learning a new aircraft type at the beginning of 2016, when I flew my first Airbus after decades of flying Boeing airplanes. I was busy several months with training in the simulator. This was a great occasion to improve my skills and knowledge, in my mid-fifties. You're never too old to learn new things.

### *Great Crew*

Becoming a pilot means you become part of a big aviation family. As a new pilot, the more experienced colleagues will support you and they will never make you give up. Every pilot is unique in his own way but all share the same passion. The past three years at Air Asia, I flew with lots of different young pilots and I learn from every single experience with them. This new generation of pilots is very adaptable to the fast-changing technological advancements of aviation. I enjoy working with them, and they make me feel young.

Since this industry is actually comparably small, everyone is somehow connected with each other. Especially in the Malaysian aviation world, you will have the impression that everyone knows each other.

### *The Travelling*

You are probably wondering why I did not mention the travel aspect for example. This should not primarily be the reason why you want to become a commercial pilot. With some companies, you only operate from and to your home base and do not get to stay overnight.

In my present company, Air Asia, it was a lifestyle change as I am home almost everyday with the occasional posting to our hubs. For the last 34 years I've spent many nights away, in many cities of the world, including New York, London, Paris and Tokyo, the so-called glamorous cities of the world.

But this also meant that I had time for sightseeing and to spend mini vacations, often with my family. It can be quite the opposite at times, in some cases; you really don't care about the location you just want to get sleep. Fortunately, this was not always like that. I had so many nice rotations where I had time to discover new cities, relax at the beach, take long walks in the park and meet friends. This is a really nice perk of the job. There are also the times that I get to reflect and spend alone time with God, away from the busyness of life.

### *Career Decisions*

Today, career decisions can seem overwhelming because of the sheer number of options that are available; more than at any other time in history. We long to make the "right" decision, the choice that proves to be good for us and that is the one we believe God would have us make. So, what can we do to make wise career decisions that are within the will of God for our lives?

I believe our first priority in life must always be to develop an increasingly intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. Jesus said that all of life's decisions don't matter unless the person is intimately connected to Him: "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned" (John 15:5-6). I'm reminded that Christ calls us to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Mt. 6:33) and not to seek what we can do for the kingdom of God. Being rooted in Christ is a fundamental "prerequisite" to finding God's will for your career.



As a pilot, you will experience so many of awe-inspiring moments that you are left with no choice but to fly! What makes aviation for you so fascinating?

Please connect me on Facebook or email me on [captainpetros777@gmail.com](mailto:captainpetros777@gmail.com). I am Captain Peter Tan; I am a commercial pilot with Air Asia. After flying with Malaysia Airlines for 34 years, I joined Air Asia in 2016, I am now type rated on the Airbus A320, having flown F27, B737, B747 and B777 with MH. I'm happy to talk aviation with anyone interested. Blue skies and everything nice!



***Peter Tan and son Aaron in the cockpit flying together.***

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## FEATURES

Mr Daniel Jeveraj

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Service @ Taiping Gospel Hall

*Rosalind Low*



Mr Daniel Jeveraj has been with the Sungai Nibong Gospel Hall (SNGH) work right from the start. He was with the Church Care Committee as the Chairman and in 1989, Island Glades Gospel Centre (IGGC) seconded him to SNGH to be fully involved with all its activities.

He was one of our earliest elders and

served on the Board of Directors of Tadika Sungai Nibong (TSN), later holding the position of Chairman for many years.

Being a man always burdened for the Lord's people and the Lord's work, he was also stretching himself to assist in the work at Taiping Gospel Hall (TGH), knowing the desperate needs there especially with the failing health of the only elder, the late Mr Ooi Hoay Yam.

When Jalan Imbi Chapel (JIC), KL was alerted about the urgency of the matter at TGH, the elders of JIC immediately thought of the one man who would be most suitable to provide the leadership, direction and encouragement for the members of TGH – Mr Daniel Jeveraj and his very supportive wife, Ruth.

A touching letter dated 29<sup>th</sup> June 1998 was then sent by the late Mr H.V. Cooke and Mr Wong San Tosh (elders of JIC) to the fellow saints in the body of Christ in Taiping.

Mr Ooi Hoay Yam responded with an immediate letter to the Oversight of SNGH requesting for the help of Mr and Mrs Daniel Jeveraj.

As an assembly, SNGH was made aware of the urgent need and after much prayer and consideration, the Oversight decided to 'share' this dearly loved and respected couple with our brothers and sisters in TGH.

Our elders, Mr Edward Low and Mr Yong Hin Seng wrote to TGH on 10<sup>th</sup> July 1998 confirming this decision. Copies of this letter were also sent to other assemblies.

For years then, Mr and Mrs Daniel Jeveraj would make the trip from Penang to Taiping each weekend to be with the believers at TGH. Later, it included travelling to be with the believers for their Wednesday Prayer Meetings as well. We salute a couple such as this. Age and distance never came in the way when it comes to serving their Master. Whilst younger ones would have surrendered, they were going on and going strong!

Finally in 2000, the big decision and move came. Convinced that their Lord had led them thus far, their home at 3X, Lorong Delima 11, Island Glades (Penang) was put up for sale and packing began.

I personally felt the nostalgia for them and wondered what went through their minds as they went about their packing.

As I prayed and remembered them, I knew it was obedience to the Master's voice and call that must have brought peace to their hearts and to move at this age of theirs – in their 70s.

We have since had the privilege of visiting TGH and this we can say – the Lord's witness at TGH has indeed prospered. We just thank the Lord and rejoice at what God can do with two obedient hearts and two pairs of willing hands.

May it please the Lord to raise up within the walls of TGH, a band of faithful God-fearing men to take on the challenge of shouldering the responsibilities of leadership even as their eyes behold the outstanding example of our dear Mr and Mrs Daniel Jeveraj.

On 21<sup>st</sup> March 2004, our elders Mr Edward Low and Mr Teo Pek Bing sent out the Commendation Letter concerning Mr and Mrs Daniel.

2018 marks Mr and Mrs Daniel's 20 years in Taiping Gospel Hall! What a significant milestone! What a testimony to God's great faithfulness! Indeed, Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

SNGH remember with much gratitude to our God for the way He has marvelously used our dear brother and sister in the Taiping assembly. Against all odds, the Lord has indeed kept them through all the challenges in the work and given them the joy of seeing even another testimony established in Kamunting assembly.

A group of us together with the leadership made our way for a special visit to the Daniels on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018 to celebrate this 20<sup>th</sup> year of their service for the Master.

We sang, prayed and enjoyed a simple lunch together. We thank the Lord for this precious partnership in the Gospel and also the sweet fellowship we could share together. The added bonus was having David Jevaraj amongst us. He had flown back from the U.S. to spend time with his aging parents.

Mr Daniel also shared from his heart acknowledging the Lord's special enabling and help as he persevered despite resistance and difficulties. With age catching up, lower energy levels, coupled with Mrs Daniel's physical frailty, Mr Daniel laments that he is no longer able to do what he wishes to do. He is thankful for the team of responsible brethren who are now actively shouldering the work. As always, he stressed the need for a more prayer focused assembly, waiting upon the Lord and trusting Him to lead us forward.

The sober challenge and the urgent need for leadership succession is certainly here! Passing on the baton of faith, ministry and the torch of witness and testimony cannot be ignored. The passing on of this baton was from the days of the leaders of old – Moses to Joshua, Elijah to Elisha, David to Solomon and Paul to Timothy.

The chorus of a well-loved song crossed my mind as I think again of dear Mr and Mrs Daniel.

*"Oh, may all who come behind us, Find us faithful  
May the fire of our devotion, Light their way  
May the footprints that we leave, Lead them to believe  
And the lives we live, Inspire them to obey  
Oh, may all who come behind us, Find us faithful"*

Thank you Mr and Mrs Daniel for your life of devotion to our Lord and His cause. You have both impacted our lives.



Photo taken at the home of Mr and Mrs Daniel by Rachael Low  
(Front Row) Leong Kian Yoong, Mr Daniel J., Mrs Daniel J., Yong Chiew Ngor, Ezra Low, Edward Low  
(Middle Row) David J., Evan Low, Rosalind Low, Margaret Chan, Sally Foo  
(Back Row) Andrew Low, David Foo, Yong Hin Seng, Teo Pek Bing & Teo Fang Fang

## The Penang Flood

Paul Ong

It has been about a year since Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> of November 2017, , Taman Sri Rambai where Bukit Mertajam Gospel Center (BMGC) is situated was hit by the most severe flood I know of. When the water starting to recede on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, we wondered what we could do as we at BMGC are few in numbers and the entire Sri Rambai neighborhood was devastated. BMGC itself was also under 2 feet of water. We felt totally helpless.



**BMGC Hall under 2 feet of water**



**BMGC's members house on 1<sup>st</sup> day of flood**

As some of us prayed, the Lord answered in the most miraculous way. Our elder Dr. Khong received a call from Jimmy Chok from KL Gospel Hall saying that a group called 7979 is on its way from KL. We never heard about 7979 before. By evening, they arrived at Sri Rambai and asked if they could use our church as the coordination center for its flood relief work in Bukit Mertajam. We agreed and within a day, we had the first batch of about 100 volunteers to help with the disaster relief. They continue to come over the next two weeks. All in all, about 200 Christian volunteers of different denominations came from all over Malaysia made their way to Bukit Mertajam. Some came from as far as Johor. Individual members from the Penang assemblies also participated in the flood relief work.

Indeed,

*"I lift up my eyes to the mountains –  
where does my help come from?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
the Maker of heaven and earth".  
Psalm 121:1-2 (NIV)*

This passage from Psalm 121 became our main passage for meditation during the entire flood relief period. It was such an encouragement for all of us to experience the Helping Hand of the Lord in our moment of greatest need.





**Brother Paul, Raymond and Dr. Khong ( not in pix) took two hours trying to get to the church building. Water was waist height in some parts**

The relief work comprised house cleaning, spraying disinfectant, distribution of love gifts, supplies – food, mattresses, stoves, etc. It is an experience that I never had before. God must have had his own purpose for allowing such a disaster to happen here.



**Boats are great for evacuation but there were not enough of them**

He raised helpers and provided resources from unexpected sources starting with the 7979 team.

Finances for the relief work poured in from the Assemblies around Malaysia. In total, about RM156,872.8 was raised. A total of RM97,288.6 was disbursed through 3 assemblies in the Penang mainland i.e. Bukit Mertajam Gospel Center, Kepala Batas Gospel Center and Butterworth Gospel Hall as direct aid to the members of the assemblies and the communities around the assemblies. RM10,000 was retained for ongoing outreach work post flood at Bukit Mertajam. The balance of unutilized funds amounting to RM49,584 was returned to CBSM.



**Sister Stephanie and parents of brother Fook Soon stranded in BMGC building and their homes respectively were extracted to dry ground via lorry.**



**Briefing for the day for the 7979 Christian volunteers from all over Malaysia before setting out to the neighborhood.**



**BMGC members with some relief volunteers organizing suppliers at the church building.**





*Putting things out to dry*



*Typical carnage in houses affected by flood. All in all, we attended to about 80 houses over two weeks*



*Volunteers hard at work cleaning up.*



*The volunteers being fed. Being seven months pregnant did not stop sister Joyce ( Sg. Ara Gospel Center) from coming to help feed the volunteers.*

After about one month of flood relief work, we started to focus on those homes who were relatively receptive to the church. As our members are few, we focused on about 40 homes. The other churches in Bukit Mertajam also did post flood follow-up work.

The first major event we did was a post flood Christmas street party where about 500 people from the neighborhood came. We had performances by the various churches. Though this was an Assembly initiative, many churches came and supported. We are grateful for brothers and sisters from Sunway Gospel Center and Seremban Gospel Center and Island Glades Gospel Center who came all the way to help in this event. The Penang EXCO for Women, Sports and Youth at that time YB Chong Eng and the MP for Bukit Mertajam YB Steven Sim attended. 7979 setup a small exhibition of their relief work all over the country. It was a great time of testimony to the community.

During CNY, we distributed 2018 Chinese New Year goodies. We could not cover all the homes since the number of residents were far beyond the number of members we have in BMGC. The harvest is plentiful but workers are few. We came to know quite a number of residents. Subsequently, BMGC held activities like gospel meetings, Chinese and English tuition classes, baking sessions, karaoke and various outings for the residents.

We see people accepting Christ during the flood period but later put up conditions to come to faith, claiming if God further does this or that then will they only confirm accepting Christ. They quickly forgot that God has been kind to send them help during their difficult time. Truly, humans are forgetful and ignorant, and we need to be constantly reminded of the goodness and kindness of God. We learn that when people are in trouble and when we help them, they may react positively to the Gospel due to the emotions at that moment. But after some time, when things are getting better, people change their minds. Hopefully we do not need another flood to wake people up from their complacency.

Some flood victims are open and willing to pray together, giving thanks and praises to the help given but they merely see the good deed but didn't arrive at the stage of praising the Father in heaven. May God grant them wisdom to grasp the gospel that was preached to them. Pray that they may perceive that all was done came on the Love from God, not from ourselves.

We also see idols had been destroyed during the flood, hoping this will bring message to the residents that idols are not the true God, but then only to see that the idols are put up again later when things slowly get back to normal. As we witness for Christ, the dark forces are at work too to lead them in different directions. And some Chinese cultures or beliefs are very difficult to be

eradicated from their minds. Some old experiences keep on bugging on them. We need to pray against evil forces.

There is one particular case where a family stepped forward to accept Christ; they even gave up their idols and amulet but later stopped coming to church again. We still visit and pray for them. May God grant them a humble heart to seek the Truth. May the flood experience remind all residents and believers that nothing in the world is permanent. The wealth built in this world will come to nothing. May all be reminded:

*"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever." Isaiah 40:8*

Pray that our light will continue to shine before men that they may see our good deeds and praise the Father in heaven. We pray that the residents through the continuous engagement of the saints will eventually come to the knowledge of Christ who can truly save them.

Lastly, the flood has landed us to work with saints from other denominations to help flood victims, to pray and to hold gospel meetings. It is such a pleasant and blessed experience to see believers came together to display Unity allowing us to answer the non-believers that we are One.. All Glory and Honour be unto Him! Amen!



**Lunch in the midst of the carnage**



**YB Chong Eng (ADUN Pdg Lalan and EXCO for Youth and Sports, Women, Family and Community) spoke at our Christmas open house to thank the Christians for their flood relief effort in Bukit Mertajam**





**MP for Bukit Mertajam, who used to attend BMGC was also present**



**One for the press. Symbolic handing of cheque representing the contributions of the Brethren churches to the flood relief work at Bukit Mertajam.**



**About 500 people from the neighborhood turned up for the post- flood Christmas Open House**



**Creative mime with fluorescing gloves by Island Glades Gospel Center**



**Very popular sand art activity by brothers and sisters of Sunway Gospel Center during the Christmas Open House**



**Song item were presented by The Bukit Mertajam Baptist Church (Chinese section)**



*Item by kids from the nearby Church of River Waters*

*Newspaper articles related to flood relief related effort at Bukit Mertajam can be found in the links below. You can also scan the QR codes to obtain the link.*



**KWONG WAH 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017**  
<http://www.kwongwah.com.my/?p=442508>



**GUANG MING 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017**  
<http://www.guangming.com.my/node/420210>



**THE STAR 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017**  
<https://www.thestar.com.my/metro/metro-news/2017/12/08/instilling-a-passion-for-science-young-flood-victims-enjoy-attractions-at-tech-dome/>

## **The 7979 Disaster Relief Team at the Penang flood** *Pastor Cheng Pysong*

Effective disaster response is based on first-hand information, reliable data, helpful volunteers and a welcoming local host for effective operation. It requires a high degree of flexibility. Most importantly, we look to the divine intervention that enabled plans to be carried out smoothly.

That's exactly what happened during our flood relief operation in Bukit Mertajam on Nov 2017.

Our original action plan was to set up an ops station in Penang island, but were being led to the mainland on the next day. When the flood receded in BM, we quickly

moved there to start cleaning operation. During the day, we received calls and messages from Elder Chok of KLGH saying that BMGC is located in the flooded area and asked if we could work with them. And through Elder Chok we got connected with Dr. Khong who invited us to use the church as our operation base. After the day's work, we realized that BMGC was flooded as well and their members cleaned the church in one day and were expecting us!

We praise the LORD for BMGC who gladly received us, and from day 2 onward, we no longer operated under the hot sun and had a safe place to launch our operations.

The location of BMGC is strategic in the sense that it is right in the middle of the whole disaster zone at Taman Sri Rambai. I was told that this area consists of 3,000 houses, and every house got flooded. So we set our objective clear that we extend our help to those vulnerable and underprivileged families, e.g. single parents, old folks etc.

And God heard our prayers. We received calls and messages from those in need, and we managed to clean about 67 houses in 5 days! Besides being a command base, BMGC also served as a storage point for all the tools and equipment, a resting place for volunteers, and a collection plus distribution points of relief items.

The members of BMGC were so dedicated that they were with us everyday. They assisted us to access to local resources, took care of all our meals and provided whatever help they could. For these, BMGC had served extremely well and beyond their capacity.

I would like thank BMGC for their generous hospitality and full cooperation in the relief operation. BMGC has set their heart in the community, served selflessly, and worked for the kingdom of God in time of adversity and dire need.



*Pastor Pysong (郑百颂) is the Department Lead for HISTEAM (Holistic Integrated Services Bhd). He led the disaster relief work at Bukit Mertajam during the Nov 2017 flood.*

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**H/P:** 012-3158219;

**Skype:** Pysong Cheng **Web:** [www.histeam.org.my](http://www.histeam.org.my)



Watch a video of 7979's flood relief work at Bukit Mertajam.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5Z4PtOgHYA>

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## GOD'S REFINING FIRE THROUGH RBS 2018

Wong Zhu Shi

*Berjalan-jalan mencari batu,  
Nampak gunung hendak naik;  
Izinkan saya bertanya sesuatu,  
Apa pengorbanan yang terbaik?*

To be honest, I'd been anticipating RBS since my 3 Holiday Camp graduation night two years earlier. But I never expected it to be such a huge turning point in my life, where I learnt what truly matters. The idea for the *pantun* above came from Micah 6:6-7, where the Israelites asked God what kind of sacrifices he would be pleased with. That's one of the questions I constantly asked myself throughout RBS: How far would I be willing to go for God? What would I be willing to sacrifice for him?

These past few years, I've been struggling with issues such as jealousy and being unable to take criticism. The root of all this is **pride**. Right from the first day of RBS, a whole string of events happened that required me to put my ego aside and submit to others. I was really upset, and I asked God, "Why are you making me go through all this? Can't you just make me humble so this won't hurt so much?" And then I realised God wouldn't give me humility just like *that*. He was putting situations into my life to teach me how to be humble. That forced me to keep looking to God for wisdom and guidance in every situation as I tried to die to myself. During RBS, God reminded me from his Word and the classes that each of us has different spiritual gifts, and each can be used to serve God uniquely. I've learnt to celebrate the gifts that others have instead of envying them. Apart from that, instead of viewing people who criticise me as opposing me, I now see them as people who are working alongside me in order to shape me to be the person wants me to be.

There was also an issue of **head vs heart knowledge**. I've always known that God loves me for who I am, but it never really got into my heart. It's in RBS that I started to actually believe in my *heart* that my identity before God isn't determined by my achievements. I've been chasing after a lot of things in my life, such as scholarships and awards, and I'm always disappointed with myself when I don't get them. But now, I have come to realise my value as his child isn't determined by what I do. I don't need to constantly feel down or beat myself up over every goal I fail to achieve. Sure, achievements may feel good, but nothing compares to the pure joy and satisfaction of knowing that God will never stop loving me no matter what.

Something else I learnt was **following God's will**. It was really scary thinking about God directing what I should do in my life, since I'd already planned out the whole thing! I was going to study in such and such a university, and on such and such a scholarship. I'd never really prayed about it, since I wanted all this, and I was scared that God might want something totally different. On the first day of RBS, I even shared to everyone that I was thinking of being the UN Secretary-General someday. That's how crazy it was! But then God reminded me that it is he who has given me life. My life belongs to him, and I must surrender to him what's rightfully his. In one of the classes, YB Hannah Yeoh, the stateswoman, shared something that really impacted me. She told us to take small steps of faith and trust in God's perfect plan for us. He may not reveal the whole thing at once, since it might be overwhelming, no matter how much we'd like to know it. So we've got to listen to God's voice by reading his Word – no shortcuts! – and we have to keep trusting and praying to let God guide our steps. It's really comforting to know he loves hearing from us, and thanks to our daily time at RBS spent with God in his Word and prayer, I've learned to love hearing from him too!

One of the best things about RBS is that it's given me the opportunity to sit down with God daily and really rethink my aspirations and my dreams in life: basically, to **recalibrate my life**. I'd been burdened with thoughts of my future for so long. But I know I'm meant for more. I want God to direct my paths, to lift my burdens of over-ambition and pride. I'd always thought that he would restrict my ambitions, but if I sit at his feet daily and let him lead me day by day, that's true freedom and true fulfilment indeed.

Remember how I mentioned Micah 6 in the beginning, and how the Israelites were asking God what they should sacrifice to him? This next *pantun* is taken from God's reply to the Israelites, in Micah 6:8. I can now see that the best, most pleasing sacrifice we can give God is our lives. To walk humbly before God, to follow his calling for us, to surrender everything we have to him, is what's most important. It's the one thing we'll only ever need.



*Nampak gunung hendak naik,  
Jadi sebagai cita-cita;  
Apa pengorbanan yang terbaik?  
Hanyalah satu: kehidupan kita.*

*Zhu Shi form Melaka Gospel Chapel was one of 55 students from 29 churches who attended Residential Bible School (RBS) 2018 from 1 January to 8 February 2018 in Cameron Highlands and Petaling Jaya. She is now a student in Kolej Matrikulasi Johor in Tangkak, Johor.*

## CPHM: THE STORY SO FAR

Lee Min Choon

*My journey in starting the first Christian peace movement in our country was chronicled in Diakonia, September 2016, pages 14-16. Christians for Peace and Harmony in Malaysia (CPHM) approaches its fourth year and this our story.*



### All Tears Taste the Same

CPHM Christmas dinners, since it started in 2015, had provided Christian leaders with the unique experience of celebrating Christmas with their counterparts from the other religions. In particular, imams, ustaz's, officials from the Islamic agencies and Muslim NGOs had the opportunity to see how Christmas is celebrated. Such events nourished friendships between rivals and cooled tensions resulting from inter-religious incidents. In December 2017, CPHM held its first Christmas celebration in Penang attended by 200 people from various religious communities. The focus of the dinner was to remember all those who suffered in the floods that devastated parts of Penang in November 2017.



Special guest, Datuk Rashid Hasnon, the Deputy Chief Minister of Penang (now the Deputy Speaker of the current Parliament) joined me in handing out souvenirs of appreciation to the representatives of the different religious groups who participated in the rescue and relief efforts during the floods. Especially inspirational was the testimony of Sapno Tukijo (far left), the bilal of Surau Al Diniah in Taman Free School who sheltered non-Muslim flood victims in his surau.

Tragedy is no respecter of persons or their faith. When it strikes, the tears that flow from its victims all taste the same. It is during times of tragedy when we rise to assist each other in spite of the differences in our race, religion and status that we demonstrate our humanity. True brotherhood among our communities goes beyond socialising at dinners but is tested and proven by working together for the good of others.

### Forgiven and Forgotten

The latest instalment of the CPHM-backed interfaith buka puasa for "imam-imam Islam dan paderi-paderi Kristian" in June 2017 held a pleasant surprise for me. At the first buka puasa event in 2015, I made friends with a number of officials from JAIS including Ustadz Basori, the head of the Dakwah Department of JAIS. At our first encounter, I told him jokingly that "you guys arrested me in the JAIS raid on the Bible Society in 2014." Since then, we have been meeting regularly during the Ramadhan and Christmas season to celebrate each other's festivals.



I was ushered to the main table of this year's interfaith buka puasa in Blue Wave Hotel in Shah Alam. A Malay



gentleman in a white baju melayu seated at the man table greeted me and asked if I was the president of the Bible Society. I said I was but not anymore. He said that he was Shahzihan who led the raid on the Bible Society. I was pleasantly surprised and shook his hand warmly. I told him how happy I was to see him. I asked him about his family and his job. He had been promoted to replace Basori as the head of JAIS' Dakwah Department.

Shahzihan made the opening speech and remarked that he was surprised to meet me at this dinner and was even more was touched that there was no hard feelings ("tiada dendam"). When it was my turn to make my speech, I said how glad I was to see Shahzihan and that one thing leads to another. I said that if not for Shahzihan and the raid on the Bible Society in 2014, CPHM would not have been born. I pointed out that we need to put difficult experiences behind us without any recriminations if we are to experience peace and harmony between our communities.

That evening I experienced the truth and the liberating power of Christ's teaching to forgive our enemies. The work of CPHM over the past few years had prepared me for this moment. When I finally met my arrestor, I had no anger or hatred in my heart towards him but was able to show my respect and love for him as a Malaysian brother.

### **Run, Brother, Run!**

In August 2016, the newspapers reported that Nasir Abas, an army veteran and imam of a mosque in Alor Setar, Kedah planned to embark on a 2-week run for peace starting from his hometown and targeting to arrive at Dataran Merdeka, Kuala Lumpur at the stroke of midnight

of 31 August in time for the Merdeka celebrations taking place there.

CPHM felt a sense of solidarity with Nasir's objective. Since long-distance running was not one of our abilities, we contacted Nasir and offered to sponsor part of the expenses of his run.



The day after Nasir reached KL, CPHM held an appreciation dinner for Nasir, his family and team and to present a mock cheque and souvenirs. Nasir was accompanied by a group of over 30 people comprising his family and support team most of whom were retired military personnel. Over dinner Nasir shared that when he started this project even his own community did not give him any support and that he was very touched that a Christian group was willing to support him in his venture.



Since then, Nasir had been running for peace from Alor Setar to KL every Merdeka. CPHM had become a regular sponsor providing funds for the expenses of the run and organising the celebration meals for Nasir and his team. In 2017, Krishnan, a Hindu Army veteran, joined Nasir in his run. I told Nasir that I hope that we can find a Christian runner to join him in 2018. Unfortunately, we were not



able to find a Christian with the stamina to run with Nasir and Krishnan. Maybe, next year.



After the service, the students remained behind for a Q & A session with the church leaders. Among the questions they asked:

“Where did you get the holy water for the baptism?”

“What does Christianity teach about how a person may get to heaven?”

“What does the Christian faith teach about the afterlife, the second coming of Jesus Christ and the end of the world?”

After that, the church members hosted the students for lunch at the mamak restaurant downstairs.

I hope the day will come when it will be commonplace for Muslims to visit churches and for Christians to visit mosques. By the grace of God and by the decency and common sense found in most Malaysians, the good old days can still make a return.



### Come Into My World

Older Malaysians always reminisce about how people of different races used to freely visit each other's homes. Unfortunately, we also lament that this facet of Malaysian culture had become a rarity today. A group of Muslim students from International Islamic University in Gombak, KL had been attending the interfaith buka puasa and Christmas dinners organised by CPHM. They felt challenged to do something. In October 2018, through the Quranic Youth Club of IIUM they requested CPHM to arrange for them to visit a church so that they can observe how Christians worship.

A number of churches I contacted were happy to host the students. The choice was made for them to join the Sunday Service of Cornerstone Doulos Church in Sunway, PJ on 21 October 2019. The request for the visit was formally put in writing and an advance team from the university visited the church office 2 days before to discuss the details of the visit. On the appointed Sunday, 50 Muslim students attended Cornerstone's worship service. They saw first-hand how Christians worshipped God and also witnessed a baptism. It so happened that I was the speaker invited to give the sermon that morning.

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### 3HC: 3 Holiday Camp

*Elucia Yong and Edwin Tay*

Investing in our youths today is necessary in growing the body of Christ. It is important that our young people are taught to grow in their relationship with the Lord as this prepares them to serve in all that they do. With this in mind, 3 Holiday Camp (3HC) was started to help equip our youths with the necessary skills and habits every believer in Christ needs to develop and grow to spiritual maturity.

3 Holiday Camp, started in 2011, is a thirteen-day camp specially designed for Form 3 students which is usually held during the November-December school holidays. The multi-faceted purpose of 3 Holiday Camp includes the



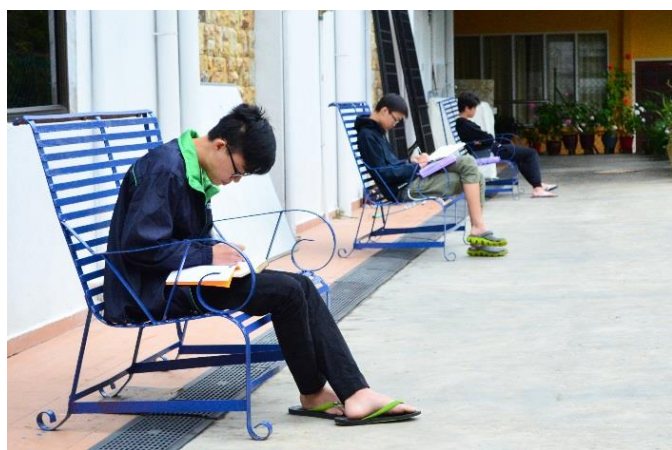
inculcation of good habitudes – good habits and good attitudes – through the reading and studying of the Word of God. Campers will be equipped with the skills in building them up spiritually and fostering a closer relationship with God and His local church.

As Colossians 4:12b puts it, 3HC hopes to mould the campers “to be strong and perfect, fully confident that they are following the whole will of God.” 3HC, with its theme “Lighting Up on Spiritual Maturity”, aims to set campers' hearts on fire where they will learn to build bridges towards godliness.

Throughout the eight years of 3 Holiday Camp, various lessons in camp have been introduced to tackle issues close to the lives of the youths.

The core lessons in camp give emphasis to developing the right habits as a believer in Christ. Campers are taught on how to hear, read, study, meditate and memorise the Word of God. To make memorising verses more interesting, campers will be given a new Bible verse or passage each day in which they are required to memorise them, present it, and earn points. Creativity in presenting the memorised verse would result in more points collected. This activity has seen many campers taking part imaginatively from campers singing out verses, choreographing simple dance action, to reciting the text while jumping on a pogo stick.

The camp also focuses on the need for prayer and daily devotion or quiet time with God where one is encouraged to pen down their reflections and thoughts in a journal. Campers are encouraged to share about their experiences through communal and dorm sharing sessions.



*Devotion is carried out every day.*



*Me Experience God: Students nailing their sins onto the cross*

Adolescence has always been an awkward period where teens struggle to build their own identity. Due to varying pressures from school, family, relationships, and social media, it is crucial that the youths be steered onto walking on the right track. With this, 3 Holiday Camp also provides more interpersonal lessons where it relates to what teens are experiencing in their lives, such as “Me and My Parents” and “BGR: Boy-Girl Relationships”.



*Me Experience God: Staff washing students' feet*



*Classes: A session with Uncle Dexter*

With the fast-paced and plugged-in environment that we now live in, it has undoubtedly set the tone for how our youths perceive things. Some of the lessons in this camp look at such issues where it tackles on addiction and

unhealthy habits on social media, video games as well as pornography.

In addition, the 3HC team provides staff-student mentorship where campers are given guidance and support. One staff is assigned to 5 campers which allows the staff to build a meaningful relationship with the campers, to pray, listen and share their experience and to walk alongside them throughout the camp.



**Mentorship: Staff having morning prayer with campers**



**My Spiritual Growth Pledge Card given to students at the end of camp**

Ultimately, we need to realize that it is important to prepare our youths to serve Christ in all that they do. 3 Holiday Camp offers a safe and wholesome environment for the youths to build healthy habitudes and to discover and connect with God and with one another. Our hope is that through the two weeks of lessons and activities that they are able to take in all that they have learnt and put it into practice in their respective churches and communities.

We request that you pray for the upcoming 3 Holiday Camp, that each camp participant will be able to be more like Christ, be committed to God and His local church. Pray also for the 3HC teaching staff, pastoral staff and crew members as they join hands to minister to the students at 3HC.

## Why are you in a Brethren Assembly and not any other church?

*William L. Doraisamy*

What I propose to do in this short paper is to share my thoughts, experience and observations that may be useful as we forge ahead.

### Firstly, my personal opinions (which is open to objections)

1. I have been involved with the assembly in Klang for the past 68 years beginning from 1949 or thereabouts. During this period of time, I have witnessed the efforts of local and foreign missionaries serving the assemblies faithfully here in Klang and in many parts of the country. I have also shared God's word in almost all the assemblies (old and new) at Worship Meetings, Prayer Meetings, Gospel Meetings, Retreats, Camps and Seminars. I have served as Youth Chairman, Sunday School Teacher and Superintendent, deacon and elder. There are other inter church portfolios that I held but I do not need to enumerate them here.
2. The assemblies have functioned in Malaysia for almost 150 years. The Klang assembly was established in 1911. WE have opened up four other centres (English and Chinese) Praise God for the faithful witnesses
3. The total number of English- speaking believers through out Malaysia is about 5000. There are also about 3000 Orang Asli believers and not more than 1500 Chinese speaking believers. WE have about 70 assemblies (English, Chinese and Tamil).
4. These figures may not be very accurate but they are close to what actually exists. Christians who have left our assemblies and are attending other churches are probably equal to the number who have chosen to stay behind. Many of them are holding leadership positions such as pastors and ministry leaders. WE sometimes console ourselves by saying that at least they are still believers and have not left the Lord although they worship in other churches.
5. But it is a very demeaning situation when these Christians are prepared to travel to K.L. , P.J. or even around the corner just to attend another church. This should bear heavily on our conscience.
6. This situation is not only in Klang. Many children of our more conservative leaders have also left the assemblies and have gone to other churches and sing the praises of their new places of worship.
7. I do not see our assembly in any apparent growth mode.
8. WE have not ascertained if we are a pro-tradition (orthodox) or a pro-growth church. We have (at least some leaders have) kept our traditions and practices



jealousy guarded . Have these shown any marked improvement in believer spirituality or believer devotion?

### **Secondly, what we need to accept**

1. Being theologically and politically correct has not been sufficient to help the church grow or prevent Christians from leaving.
2. Our main aim as believers is to glorify God by worshipping Him, obeying His will and spreading the Gospel.
3. An evangelistic team is vital for the spreading of the Gospel. Luke 14:23-‘Make them to come in’. We need to give the team the vision and know-how to keep the evangelistic temperature high. Contact is important, Events such as funerals, weddings, Parents’ day functions need not have Gospel sermons but they can be effective avenues for contact, invitations to special meetings and visitation
4. For newcomers and visitors, first impressions are vital. These factors influence first impressions:
  - a. Hospitality
  - b. Their understanding of what is going on. Notices, pictures, banners etc
  - c. Singing of Hymns
  - d. Message
  - e. Parking
  - f. Our mission statement, blueprint and direction
  - g. Welcome and warmth of leadership
  - h. Availability of follow-up and communicational literature.

### **Thirdly, Growth Principles**

1. Copying methods used by mega churches do not work
2. Identify and add quality to gifts.
3. Have empowering leadership
  - a. Empowering others in ministry by discipleship through training and delegation
  - b. Willingness to learn from other sources outside the assembly.
4. Have gift-oriented ministry.
5. Passionate spirituality - learn and develop the workings of the Holy Spirit in the believer and the Church. Churches that concentrate only on getting the forms right do not grow. We should concentrate on getting lives right with God.
6. Read Acts 2 and apply these structures that enhance growth
  - a. Evangelism
  - b. Education
  - c. Fellowship- integrating every believer into the Body of Christ
  - d. Worship
  - e. Service

Only then ‘THE LORD WILL ADD’

7. Inspiring worship service. Changing style does not impact growth. Do away with what does not inspire growth.
8. Holistic small groups - Home fellowships
  - a. Designed to help members use their gifts
  - b. Share their lives
  - c. Minister to one another
  - d. Pray and support each other
9. Loving relationship - Our God who loves is worshipped by a church who loves
10. Have faith goals -
  - a. Have a clear and well-informed mission statement
  - b. Prepare a blue print that involves everyone in its planning and implementation
  - c. Have periodic reviews to steer progress and growth

### **Fourthly, Resources**

1. The Holy Spirit and the Word of God is our ultimate resource.
2. Astonishingly we have the most qualified and committed human resources. These are Christians who have gone through the mill. They are extremely successful in their professions and vocations, have stable households, are [financially](#) secure and are admirably loyal to the assembly.
3. What we need is one ‘charismatic’ (not Pentecostal) forward- thinking, innovative and extremely positive-thinking leader who can inspire the rest of the pack to move confidently and single-mindedly towards the goal of the ‘high calling in Christ Jesus’.
4. He should be bold enough to discard unproductive traditional practices and tell off those who insist on holding on to them although there are absolutely no evidences of their usefulness or relevance.
5. Sad to say, but it is vital to cease following leaders who have lost the vision, are unable to revitalize themselves or are more committed to improving their lot in the world to the detriment of the Body of Christ.
6. We need a single and strong rallying point - a motto or concept that encompasses everything that we hope to achieve. This will be our battle cry!
7. Finance? I wouldn’t give this a second thought. When Paul wrote , I can do all things in Him who strengthens me’ he essentially had finance in mind. Apply that!





*To serve the terminally ill with love, medicine and The Gospel, during the last stage of life on this earth!*

The birth of this ministry in hospice care started about 7 years ago, at a "ministry exploration" meeting in Gospel Hall Kuala Lumpur, led by Datuk Professor Dr. Tan Chong Tin and Elder Jimmy Chok. Professor Tan first said to those gathered that we should think about hospice ministry. He said various authorities should be concern about this area of care, but it's particularly important for Christian and The Church for obvious reasons of opportunity to exercise the witness for The Lord Jesus Christ.

**On 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017, another exploratory meeting held at Gospel Hall Kuala Lumpur** with representative from various Chinese-speaking churches, namely Jalan Tiga Gospel Hall, Gospel Hall Kuala Lumpur, First Assembly of God, Pudu.

It was discussed and stated that Christians should give Hospice Care in conjunction with our faith.

For logistic and other reasons, no one church can solely render such a service.

Terminal care is most timely for the Gospel, by God's Grace, with high effectiveness.

In terms of scope, Hospice is no longer limited to cancer patient, there's early palliative care, e.g. no-cure neuro patients; HIV palliative care.

Some Hospice services and referral criteria are limited to 6-mths life expectancy care, e.g. advance lung cancer, etc.

Our Hospice should be Faith based.

安宁疗护/临终关怀讲座与论坛分享  
A Talk and Forum Sharing on Palliative/Hospice Care

# 臨終關懷 | 一路走來

## OUR JOURNEY OF HOSPICE CARE IN MALAYSIA

目的:  
· 鼓励基督徒群体投入临终关怀工作并传达其重要性  
· 希望联系巴生谷的基督教会, 合作建立临终关怀事工  
· 招募更多愿意事奉或接受进一步临终关怀培训的志愿者

Objectives  
· motivate the Christian community to the importance of hospice work  
· aspire to set up a Hospice Ministry in collaborative efforts of Christian organisations in Klang Valley  
· recruit more volunteers who are willing to serve and get further training in hospice ministry

日期/Date 时间/Time	26/8/2017, 星期六 Saturday 7.45pm – 10.00pm
地点 Venue	吉隆坡福音堂 Gospel Hall Kuala Lumpur 3, Jalan Hang Jebat, 50150 Kuala Lumpur.
语言 Language	华文为主 Chinese
主题讲员 Theme Speaker	陈翠芬医生 (安宁疗护医生) Dr Felicia Chang (Palliative Care Doctor)
论坛分享 (临终关怀的经历) Forum Sharing (hospice care experiences)	吴议芳医生、张莉娟姐妹 & 关亚珍传道 Dr Ng Woon Fang, Sis. Ruby Chong & Pastor Lydia Kuan
入场免费 (有限的座位)	Admission Free (limited seating)

主办单位: 信望爱安宁疗护 Faith Hope Love (FHL) Palliative Care  
协办单位: 西马华福会 & 文桥 CCOOME & The Bridge Communication  
查询 Enquiry: +60 16-776 2061 吴议芳医生

### Important initiation milestones in the journey of this Hospice Ministry:

26 August 2017 First Public Forum/Talk on Hospice Care at GHKL

Topic of the Public forum: “临终关怀，一路走来”，The journey of Hospice Care in Malaysia.

Invited Speakers: Dr Felicia, Pastor Lydia Kuan, Sister Ruby Chong and Dr Ng Woon Fang.

Registered participants of 120 from up to 40 different entities.

30<sup>th</sup> September 2017: Hospice Volunteer training at Jalan Tiga Gospel Hall: 53 registered participants turn up

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018: Mega Chinese Methodist Church (CMC) 20<sup>th</sup> Senior Fellowship Anniversary Thanks Giving Service fund-raising for FHL Hospice Care Ministries.

18<sup>th</sup> May 2018 official registration of FHL Hospice Care Malaysia with Registry of Society Malaysia

FHL Hospice is in the process of engaging a full-time nurse and train church volunteers. The initial annual budget will be about RM160,000. We prayerfully hope various churches can participate and support this ministry for His Glory.

Upcoming activities:

Central Malaya Church Music Association (CMCMA) (中马基督教圣乐促进会) 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cum Messiah concert & fund-raising for FHL Hospice

Recruitment of volunteer with introductory courses at various churches will continue to promote the ministry and invite collaboration. Advance volunteer training to be conducted.

For the sake of God's Love, your prayers and fellowship in our Lord Jesus Christ, is much appreciated!



**1<sup>st</sup> AGM: 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018  
At Gospel Hall Kuala Lumpur**

For further information, please contact

Jimmy Chok, Treasurer, FHL Hospice Care Malaysia  
Gospel Hall Kuala Lumpur  
(012-3078117)

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## PARTNERS IN THE HARVEST (PITH)

Chris Leong

*'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field . . . (and) that they may be one as we are one . . . so that the world may know that you sent me'. (Matthew 9:37-38 & John 17:22-23, NIV).*

Driven by these words of our Lord Jesus, "Partners in the Harvest" (PITH) emerged as a movement with a vision to see MORE local churches to be planted and multiplied across Asia, and to hasten the fulfilling of the Great Commission. As such, PITH's mission is to inspire and encourage churches to partner in prayer, disciple-making and church multiplication.

The first PITH Conference began in 2009, having received the blessing and support of the Klang Valley Assembly Elders' Committee (KVAEC) and the Christian Brethren Secretariat of Malaysia (CBSM). The conference was held in Petaling Jaya Gospel Hall. The conference theme was **"Count Me In! Partners in the Harvest"** and it was attended by 350 delegates from 16 countries. Immediately after the main event, a PITH YOUTH was held at the same venue which attracted 400 youths from various cities in Malaysia. Many were truly blessed by the teaching and exchange of ideas, and delegates left with a strong sense of mission. With the impact made by this event, a second conference was organised, using the same name: Partners in the Harvest.

PITH II was held at Subic Bay, Luzon, Philippines in 2013 based on the theme **"Pass It On"** and was attended by about 200 delegates, followed by PITH III held in Jogjakarta, Indonesia in 2016. **READY FEET – Reaching the Unreached with the Good News (Romans 10:14-15)** was the theme and the conference saw 172 participants from 13 nations come together for many interesting talks and workshop sessions. The committee added a new feature, a mission practicum, which incorporated 2 extra days where those who wanted to take part in the practicum could choose between a few programmes. The participants' feedback was very encouraging.

Following the success of the PITH III, the proposal to organise a 1<sup>st</sup> NextGen PITH conference for those in the Asia Pacific countries to be held in 2018 was taken up. Its main thrust is to bring youths together to catch the vision of partnering with one another towards the completion of Great Commission (John 17.21), hence meant for those in the 18-35 age bracket. This sees for the first time, the collaboration between MLPI (Mission link Philippine Incorporated) and CMPI (Christian Mission Philippines Incorporated) who are organising the conference in Luzon, Philippines (26 – 29 Dec, 2018). This conference is the daughter event of PITH, with the aim of raising partners



for the harvest and it is intentional in reaching the next generation.

PITH is the platform for Brethren assemblies in Asia and Oceania to come together to pray and consider our response to the Lord's mission mandate. We have also received the support and endorsement of IBCM (International Brethren Conference on Mission), which helped to promote PITH to their Asian networks. As evidence of their support, a slot was given to PITH to share about our conference, and this was done in Rome in 2016, where delegates from 16 countries about us and many indicated their interest to join us in our next conference (2020).

Below are **PITH's values** as formulated by the leaders in this region.

1. The urgency in the proclamation of the Gospel and the fulfilment of the Great Commission (Matthew 28.19, Acts 1.8)
2. The importance of partnership & networking (John 17.21) to complete the task of world evangelization. To bring together local churches and para-church agencies to work hand in hand to realize the vision of becoming a church-multiplication movement
3. The discipling of believers in the local church (Matthew 28.19) has to be the primary goal in preparing leaders for the multiplication of churches
4. Prayers precede revival. The need to intensify prayer (Acts 1.14, 4.24, 13.2-3)
5. The priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2.9). No clergy-laity hierarchy—raising up both full-time workers/pastors as well as marketplace leaders to make disciples who make disciples.

And to conclude, we share some of **PITH's Blessings and Benefits**

- Encouragement to those struggling in their outreach efforts as they hear inspiring testimonies from various parts of the world
- Developing relationships, particularly among leaders from different countries, which can result in cross-border mission partnerships (e.g. enhancing and extending the participation of the Singapore assemblies in OA work, Malaysia Philippines Mission Partnership)
- Many have shared on how their mission and vision have broadened and deepened, esp. those who participated in the mission practicum in 2016, which was held in the largest Islamic country in the world.

- Uniting with people from different nations. Call to pray/intercede—many have not prayed, let alone pray with people from other nations for the advance of the Gospel.
- Provide adequate introduction to ministry opportunities available for mission involvement
- There is now further collaboration with Singapore (e.g. invitation of Singapore speakers to take our church camps). We believe that the building of relationships among participants can pave the way for future inter-church collaborative mission engagements across cultures.

PITH has indeed moved forward with the involvement and commitment of all our brethren churches in Malaysia and Singapore. There is an urgent need for our younger generation's participation to be involved in reaching out to the lost, and disciple-making. There is also a reminder to our assemblies that we are called to make disciples, not just have converts to add membership. Let us continue to join hands and press forward for the 'race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith (Hebrews 12: 1-2).





PITH 2016 CONFERENCE  
**READY FEET**  
*Reaching the unreachable with the good news*



Grand Quality Hotel - Joyakarta Indonesia, July 18-22 2016





