DIOCESE OF KUCHING

Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church

CORNERSTONE

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Issue No.7 December 2010

Acts 2:47

*"...praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people.
And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."*

Theme 2010
"Year Of Fruitfulness"

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VISION

"To Take Tabuan Jaya And Beyond For Christ"

MISSION

"To Build A Community Of Believers To Love And To Know Christ And To Make Him Known To Others"

Cover

Home cells, like honeycombs in a beehive, make up TJAC. Similarly, TJAC undertakes a myriad of activities through the home cells to provide spiritual honey for its 'bees' or members and pre-believers in the community.

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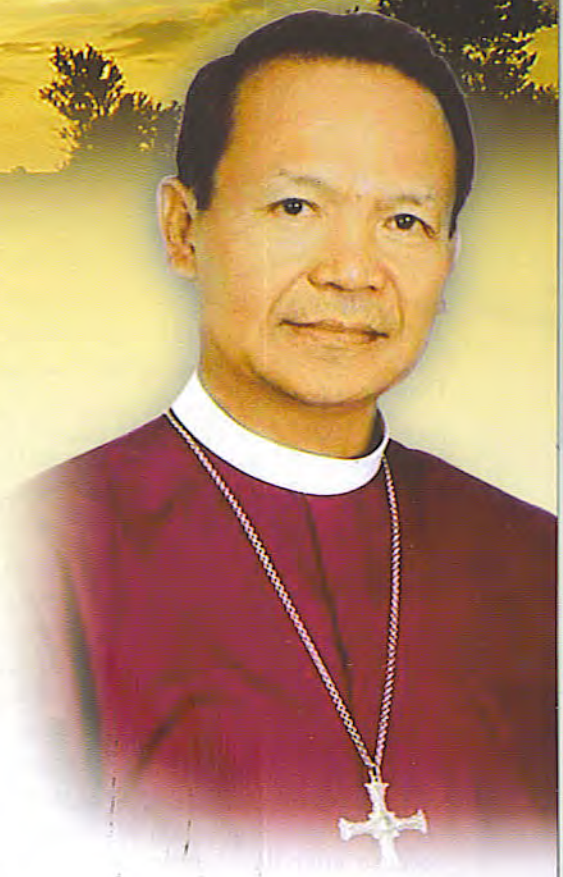
Acknowledgement

A big thank you to all who have contributed reports, testimonies, articles, photographs, etc. to this magazine.

Rise, let us be on our way. (John 14:31)

Bishop Datuk Bolly writes.....



An anxious Vicar tried all kinds of imaginative approaches hoping to bring about change to the monotonous tired Parish despite the usual prayers and intercessions that had been offered. One day he put up an appeal aimed at persuading the parishioners to volunteer and to give to the budget of the various ministries, to encourage discipleship and stewardship.

In his appeal he wrote of a stranded kampong boy in a city, found dead due to hunger and overnight open-air exposure on a cold street corner.

"This is one tragic loss of a young life …" it says, "yesterday someone ***almost*** brought him something to eat, someone ***almost*** drove him to the Hospital and someone else ***almost*** rang to inform the police; … and the lad, well he ***almost*** made it through the night."

I am sure any of us, looking back at our lives, could find times when the future (the now) has been determined by a split second decision to act in the past. Perhaps we can also recall times when we ***almost*** acted too, and as a result let an opportunity slip-by that might have been important for us and for others as well.

My friends, we cannot change the past, of course, but the good news is: God does not give up on us as easily as we give up on him. He calls to us to love, to grow, to serve and come afresh again and again. I would like to invite you to ask yourselves whether there are things you are almost doing at the moment, appeals you are almost responding to, people you are almost helping, path you are almost setting out on, gift you are almost blessing someone with. Remember, ***almost*** doing something, is no better than not doing it at all. God calls us to turn our "almosts", even our intercessions into concrete actions. The astonishing thing is, in those actions the Lord assures that we are not alone, He Himself is leading. "Rise, let us be on our way".

Most warmly,

THE RT. REV'D DATUK BOLLY LAPOK

MESSAGE
from the Priest-In-Charge

Dear Friends,

Greetings to all of you in the Sweetest Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We thank God for His blessings upon our Church for the year 2010. As we draw near to Christmas, I would like to wish all of you a meaningful Christmas and a blessed New Year 2011. Christmas for us as brothers and sisters in the Family of God in Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church is significant because after the completion of our new Church building, we had our first Holy Communion Service on 25th December, 2008 in TJAC. So, as we celebrate Christmas again this year, we remember how God brings TJAC into existence and unites us together to experience His Holy presence as well as His love, peace and joy when we celebrate the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ - our Wonderful Saviour.

Christmas began with the Perfect Gift that God has given to us when He gave us His one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Saviour so that we might live forever with Him (1 John 4:9).

I take this opportunity to remind everyone of our Church members that the theme for this year is "Year of Fruitfulness". We always have to remember that Jesus Christ is the true vine and we Christians are the branches. He is the true source of life and blessings. When we know Him personally, the unconditional love of God which is the gift of God and also the fruit of the Holy Spirit have been born in our hearts, the inner men (Romans 5:5).

The Word of God also tells us that we did not choose God but He chose us and appointed us to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last (John 15:16). However, it is important to know that though we are God's children and have a new nature born in our spirit, we still need to remain and grow in the Lord Jesus Christ because Jesus is the true vine and we are the branches. So as Christians, when we remain in Jesus, that is His Word, He will remain in us. Then in due time, we will bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit, which is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22). Actually, the fruit of the Holy Spirit is the expression of the character of Jesus. So as we bear the spiritual fruit, we will become mature Christians who are praying, reading and meditating on God's Word like trees planted by streams of water, always alive and always fruitful.

I believe that through prayers and studying of God's Word during our daily devotional time, we will be able to reflect the Christ-like nature more in our daily lives and be a better witness to bring pre-believers to know God personally. As a local Church in Tabuan Jaya, let us reflect Christ likeness in our daily walk with Him so that our Christian lifestyle can impact and bring transformation in our community we are called to witness.

During this joyous season, let us thank God for His grace and favour to build our Church in the housing estate of Tabuan Jaya with the Vision, "To Take Tabuan Jaya and Beyond For Christ" which means to evangelise to the community of Tabuan Jaya through our evangelistic programmes. We will also make an effort to do mission works beyond Tabuan Jaya. Prayerfully, through this Vision, we can win more souls unto His Kingdom. When our communities have high percentage of Christian population, then we will enjoy great blessings and open heaven before us (John 1:51). The spiritual atmosphere in such places will bring forth cleanliness, pureness, peace and prosperity. As the Family of God, let us remind ourselves that our spiritual Vision is on-going so that many may know our Saviour, Jesus Christ personally and be blessed abundantly.

Finally, my family and I would like to wish that you and your family members be filled with love, peace and joy of Jesus Christ this Christmas and a very blessed New Year.

In His Love,

Rev. Kenny Tan
(Priest-In-Charge)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." (2 Tim. 3 : 16-17)

Christian Education Ministry focuses on nurturing and building up of believers through organizing teachings and trainings to meet the needs of the church as a whole.

Confirmation Class 2010

The English and Chinese confirmation classes for year 2010 were held from 21 March to 10 October. The lessons consisted of twenty-three topics which included the Introduction Session. Classes were held once a week on Sundays after the church service from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All the candidates were required to be punctual, achieved full attendance for all sessions in addition to attending the Sunday Service each week. They were also briefed during the Introduction Session on the purpose and objectives of the confirmation classes which are, to prepare them to confirm their desires to be Christ's disciples, to deepen their faith in God and to broaden their understanding of the Christian faith.

Thank God that this year, the Student English Classes were held and conducted separately for the first time from the Adult Classes. There were 27 candidates comprising 11 adults and 10 students in the English classes and 6 adults in the Chinese classes. We were very blessed with many teachers to help out in this programme. The students only combined with the adult classes for topics on "The Gospel of Sacraments" and "The Church Calendar (Lectionary)" which had to be taught by Rev. Kenny Tan and also the last topic on "Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church" taught by Bro. Dennis Wee. The candidates, after completing their confirmation classes were confirmed by the Rt. Rev'd Datuk Bolly Lapok on 24 October 2010 during the Sunday Service.

We praise the Lord for the 15 adults and 2 infants who were baptized during the church camp on 28 August 2010 at Santubong Resort.

Once again we, the church, rejoice and welcome all of them as God's family in Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church.

We thank God for His hands of guidance upon the confirmation classes that were conducted smoothly and in an orderly manner each year. The church deeply appreciates the commitment and dedication of all teachers who had willingly given their time in helping out with the teachings.

Christian Education Ministry will liaise with the Home Cell Ministry and various other ministry heads to identify and plan for any training needs for 2011 that will help equip and build up the body of Christ.

May the Lord continue to bless the works of our hands for His glory.

By: Sis. Agnes Chew

Chinese class..say cheese!

Students enlightened!

Adult class engrossed in the session

MUSIC MINISTRY

"Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs" Psalm 100:2

The music ministry brings God's people together in amazing worship for Him through the sound of music. God changes lives with music; lives like yours and mine.

Daphne (singer) said :

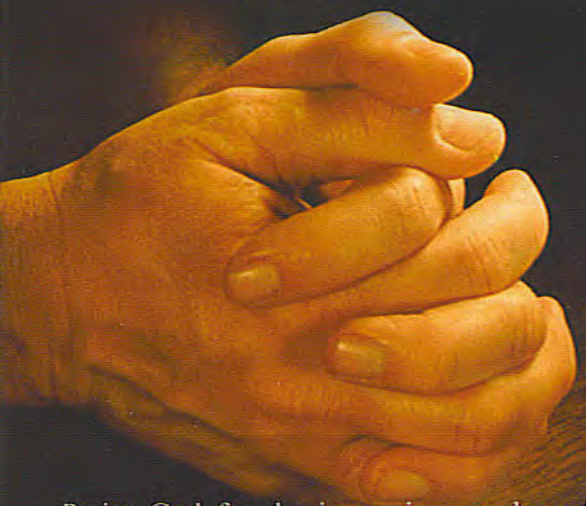
Our church music ministry is an interesting ministry whereby some of our church members meet once or twice a week to practise their talent. They also have fellowship with one another through these talents where God speaks to some of us. Although there are not many of us, we can all come together as one voice, in one accord and unity. We are always ready to praise and serve God whole heartedly. As one popular song that was written, "Let us be one voice that glorifies the Lord... Let us be one voice in love and harmony... and we pray to our God grant us unity." So, as we all grow together in one unity... Let us not forget to continue to give God all the glory and honour because through Him, this ministry was birthed. All things are indeed possible through Him, our Mighty Saviour.

Patrick (drummer) also commented :

The role of musicians is to create a consistent atmosphere for the worshippers. And with the power of understanding and expectation, worshippers are able to experience and encounter the presence of God.

John (guitarist) has this to say:

Being in the music ministry, one must admit that changes can be felt. For me, my perception about worship has changed from being a weekly routine to joy in serving the Lord with what little He has given to me in exchange for all the great plans He has installed for me. I have learnt to work with different personalities as well as to learn that serving God is not something one can be ordered to but it comes from within and that is what makes serving God through music and songs of praise so wonderful. Music does great things and all the more when it is all about God. It has changed me - what about you?



PRAYER MINISTRY

Praise God for the increasing number of members coming to the weekly Wednesday Corporate prayer meeting. We praise and thank God for those who have faithfully come to the Wednesday night prayer meeting since the days of St. Faith's Extension Centre until now when we have our own Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church. We pray that Leaders, Home cell members and the congregation will see and know how important it is to come and pray together, seeking God for direction, revelation, praying for others etc. and praying corporately together as one in unity in the body of Christ as a church.

In Matthew 28:18 Jesus said "...All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth". "Power" here is the Greek word "Exousia", its primary meaning is Authority-the right to use the power and ability of God. This authority of Jesus is absolute dominion of both Heaven and Earth! Jesus knowing He was about to ascend into Heaven immediately bestowed the authority, to act on His behalf, on the Church on earth. The body of Jesus Christ - the church on earth, has the same authority vested in us as Jesus has.

With this authority in mind let us look at Isaiah 55:5 "Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the Lord thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee". We have not only the authority but, also the commission to call nations into God's Kingdom.

"I will therefore want that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting." *1 Timothy 2:8*

"If my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and **will forgive their sin, and** will heal their land." *2 Chronicles 7:14*

It is very clear from the above scriptures that God is waiting with great desire in His heart for the fruit of earth which is its people to come to a saving knowledge of Jesus and receive all God's blessing. It is also very clear from these and other scriptures that it is our job to help them come to Him.

In Him.

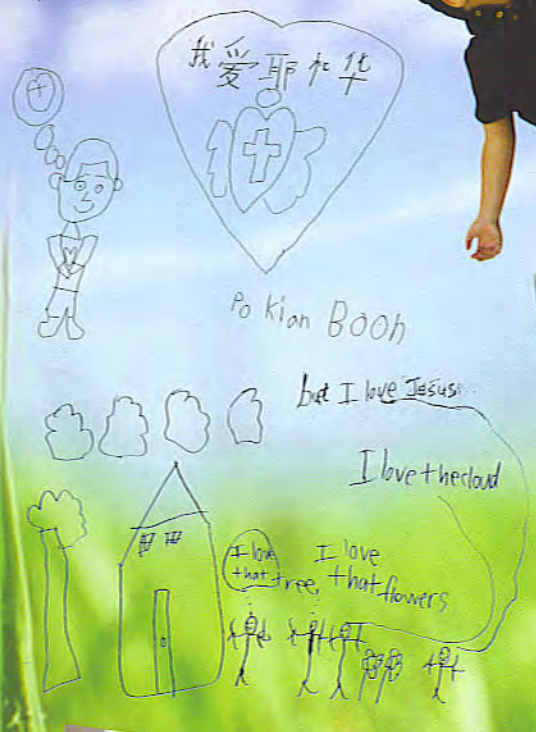
By: Bro. Bill Mowe

CHILDREN MINISTRY

Every Sunday, 40 to 50 beautiful, clever, vibrant and joyful children aged between 4 and 12 years congregate at the Sunday School premise. They sing songs of praise and worship the Lord Jesus with reverence and awe. Then the teachers take their role of teaching the Word of God which influences and nurtures the children in God's way. They learn the memory verses eagerly through art and crafts and fun games.

The Children Ministry has an even bigger task to accomplish as the children grow in their walk with the Lord. However, we believe that God is our strength. Praise be to Him!

By: Sis. Ngang Peng



Easter Gathering

Mooncake Festival

Children's Bible Camp
22-24 November 2010

Theme: Praise, Pray & Play

No. Of Participants: 45 children

Faye Jong writes....

I am twelve years old. I started my Christian life when I was four years old when I was studying at Tadika Rhema. I attended the Sunday School there which was called CJ. My parents sent me there to learn the Word of God, to learn moral values and to socialize with others. I stayed with CJ for three years before moving on to St. Mary's Primary School.

At St. Mary's Primary School, I have been attending the weekly Friday Christian Fellowship class organized in my school since I was in Primary One. During the class, I learn to sing new songs of praise and learn the Word of God. I enjoy attending the Christian Fellowship class as it is very interesting.

Last year, when I was in Primary 5, my parents decided to send me to Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church. They found out about the church as it is nearby to my housing area. I learnt about their Sunday School from Aunty Ngang Peng and decided to attend it. I received a warm welcome from the aunties, uncles and children of the Sunday School. There I also met Sister Agfa and became quite close to her. I am really enjoying myself at the Sunday School, learning more about the Word of God week by week.

At the beginning of this year, I learnt about the confirmation class from my classmate, Kimberly, who also attends the Sunday School. I signed up as a candidate for the confirmation class with Kimberly and I have been attending the classes from 11:30 a.m to 12:30 noon every Sunday. I expect to be confirmed on the 24th October this year.

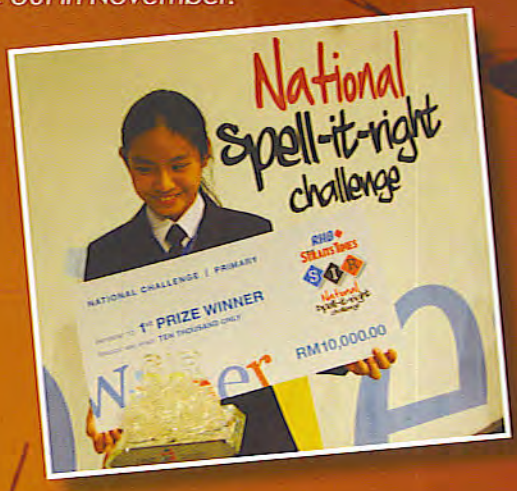
On 28 August this year, I attended the church camp at Santubong Resort and was baptized. I am very grateful that Aunty Roselind was my witness.

In September, I will be sitting for my UPSR examination. I hope to get 5A's for my exam. I have been working hard in my studies and I know that God will also help me during the exam. I recently attended the prayer for the UPSR, PMR and SPM candidates at my church on 1 September.

Lastly, I would like to thank my parents, aunties and uncles at Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church for their help and support.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL!!!!

**Editor's note: Faye scored 5A's when UPSR results were out in November.*



YOUTH MINISTRY

The Youth Speaks...

2010 has indeed been a very busy year for the Youth Ministry of TJAC. Week after week, there were activities just awaiting them. The first of their exciting adventures was their annual youth camp. This year it was held at Bank Union retreat and it was carried out for three days and two nights. The speaker for this camp was an eighteen year boy who indeed moved the hearts of all the youths who attended. All had a great time in the youth camp together with Bro. Chris and Bro. Voon. The theme of this year's camp was "Learning to Trust God in Everything We Do in our Lives". The main verse that the camp revolved around was Proverbs 3:5 which read "Trust the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."

The second event was starting a LYPG Kuching. LYPG simply means "Local Youth Prayer Gathering". This will be an ongoing event carried out by the Youth Ministry from now on. It is an event where all the young people from different churches, regardless of which denomination, come together and start praying for our nation, Malaysia. Every other state in Malaysia has already started a LYPG of its own. That is why the TJAC Youth decided to take up the challenge by being the first church in Sarawak to start a LYPG Kuching. Currently, it consists of three churches, namely TJAC, Calvary Church and Trinity Methodist Church. The LYPG Kuching is growing each week as they look forward to bringing more churches to come together and pray. It is held every fortnightly on Sunday nights.

The third fun-filled event that the youths of TJAC have been working on is the worship workshop which is led by the worship leaders of TJAC Youth, Sis. Joanna Liaw and Sis. Daphne Ho. The aim of this worship workshop is to help youths understand the reasons why they worship God and to help them find their talents and make it possible for them to serve God through playing instruments and singing. It also helps them find their true meaning of worshipping God and it also lets them have fun with musical instruments. This event is held fortnightly on Saturday evenings and the response from the youths is tremendous. It really is amazing to see a group of youths just having fun while worshipping God.

The fourth and most recent project the youths of TJAC have been working on is the food collection for the needy through Breakthrough. The youths got the inspiration to start collecting food from the needy from a similar programme run by DUMC KL. The youths will appeal to the congregation to donate food which is collected weekly. After the amount of food and clothes collected is sufficient, the youths will visit families in the rural areas who need food and other basic necessities. A group of youths who recently visited five houses to donate food found out that one of the houses had no electricity and would even flood every time it rained. Going to those houses, they felt grateful of their own lives where they have such a comfortable life compared to those in the rural areas.

By : Bro. Justin Yeo

Retreat

HIS WORD MY HOPE SECURES

CHINESE MINISTRY

达万堂华語部

达万堂已步入第二年，感谢神在这两年里一路带领眾牧者们和主内弟兄姐妹们忠心服事，彼此互相搭配事奉，建立让上帝喜悦的教会. 华语部逐步成長，有美好的見证，皆是神丰富恩典的印證.

主日崇拜

目前，每周有五十至六十位人数前来参加华语部主日崇拜. 为我们主持圣餐和分享讯息的眾牧師们有主理陈庆宜牧師，黄绍安牧師，许统明牧師，邓奕生牧師，万德传牧師，田志賢会吏，以及为主事奉的張荣銮弟兄，鈡宝国弟兄，陈惠文弟兄和陈玉珍姐妹. 愿神继续賜給他们智慧和启示的灵，使他们在事奉的道路上有平安和喜乐.

启发课程

感謝神让今年三月至五月的启发课程順利完成. 今年参加人数比往年增多，大約有二十多位，其中有一半人数是来自达万公园赞美操的姐妹们. “万軍之耶和华說：不是倚靠勢力，不是倚靠才能，乃是倚靠我的灵方能成事”. (亜4:6)感谢圣灵动工，使我们华语部首次有足夠人数参加在山都望渡假村所举办的圣灵周末. 的確当晚我们大家都感受到主的灵进入我们的心. 特别是那些新朋友们，他们都领受到神的爱澆灌在他们心里.

学道班

今年参加华语部学道班的弟兄姐妹们只有五位，他们热心接受福音培訓，并且已在10月24日領受会督的坚振礼. 我们恭喜他们成为神的儿女.

福音传道

神的恩典使华语部福音传道活动順利进展. 健身贊美操的运动現有两組练习班分别在本达万堂和达万再也公园举行.

家庭小组

目前华语部共有四个家庭小组，分别由陈庆宜牧师，張荣銮弟兄，鈡宝国弟兄及陈玉珍姐妹领导。

华語主日学

神的保守与眷顧和几位事奉的老師们的努力和摆上，已使华語主导的主日学的小朋友们成为主爱的器皿，成为神的好兒女.

家庭拜訪

主理陈庆宜牧師，陈芝仙師母和吳瑞枝女会吏在本教会服事，他们诚心付出，斉心搭配，分别到医院和住家拜訪，慰問那些身体軟弱，身心受困扰的教友们，并为他们祈祷和鼓历他们对主的信心及患难中的忍耐，让他们领受神所賜的平安和盼望.

馮淑鎣姐妹稿

PASTORAL MINISTRY

It is by God's grace through faith that a person becomes a Christian or accepted as a child of God when he repents of his sins and receives Jesus as his personal Saviour. After a person is saved through Alpha Course or Evangelistic Rally, he would then be encouraged to attend the "New Believers Follow Up Programme" which is the New Believer Station of Spiritual Journey in our Church. However, in his spiritual journey, a Christian will not totally be free of crisis or problems in his life, such as sickness, death of loved ones and the like, and the church exists to provide pastoral care and practical help through God's love to those in needs.

The pastoral work of Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church which covers broadly, visitation and ministry to the sick and the bereaved families, and blessing of homes, is spearheaded by the Pastor, Rev. Kenny Tan and Deaconess Eleanor Goh. Home Cell leaders and theirs assistants and interns, are also instrumental in ministering to the spiritual needs of members of their respective cell groups.

Both Rev. Kenny and Deaconess Eleanor averagely make two to three visitations to the homes of our Church members every week. They are sometimes assisted by other leaders of the church. During these visitations, they would have the opportunities to share the Word of God to encourage those with needs, besides providing counseling and advice, and prayers for them and their family members. For some of the disabled and elderly Church members, home communion is also ministered to them once a month to strengthen their inner beings.

The Pastor also ministers to the patients at the Sarawak General Hospital and medical centres, and also inmates of the Lions Nursing Home at Stutong. Whenever the need arises, he would bring along one or two of our Church leaders to visit, counsel and pray for the Church members, especially those who are in need of more pastoral care and counseling, and also in the area of deliverance.

With the rapid expansion of our membership, it would become difficult and indeed, an impossible task for the Pastor and his pastoral team to minister to every need in the church. This is where the leaders, together with their assistants and interns of the cell groups would play an effective role in the pastoral function of the church. Home cells also provide a non-threatening environment for new believers to prosper in body, soul and spirit. Hopefully, as TJAC moves more effectively towards Cell Church next year, we will undertake training programmes to equip our Church members on "How to do Visitation", "How to Pray for the sick", "How to Counsel" and etc. In fact, this is the Training Station of Spiritual Journey yet to be implemented in our Church.

As Christians, when we seek first God's Kingdom and His righteousness, then all the necessities of life will be added unto us (Matthew 6:33). When we serve God, He promises to bless us with the basic needs in our lives and that is food, drink, clothes and shelter. When God prospers our spirit, soul and body, He will also prosper us with physical blessings; however, we must learn to be content (1 Thessalonians 5:23; Philippians 4:12,13). The truth of being able to be content is that we must be happy. And God's Word says, a joyful spirit can bring us into good health (Proverb 17: 22). The Sunday Service is mainly a time of getting together of the whole Church as a big family of God to celebrate the power of the love of our Lord Jesus Christ through worship, but the Cell Group system provides the channel for Church growth.

So let us as a Family of God, arise and continue to build His Church by caring for the sick and the needy both in the church and in the community, and in so doing we will also fulfill the Great Commission of reaching out to the pre-believers of Tabuan Jaya with the Gospel.

By : Rev. Kenny Tan

HOME CELL MINISTRY

In 2010, Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church continues with its journey of moving towards an effective home cell church (Acts 2 : 42,46,47). Our objective is to achieve greater church growth, both in quality and quantity, through cell church principle and structure. At the same time, we try to adapt the cell church system to suit our unique Anglican identity.

At present, the Church has eighteen home cells (14 English speaking cells and 4 Chinese speaking cells), comprising 190 members. We expect the number of home cells to increase by the end of 2010. Each home cell is considered a living cell that grows and multiplies. Each week, cell members meet in a home to worship God, study His Word and have fellowship. The stress of home cell meeting is on 4Ws (Welcome, Worship, Word and Works); the thrusts are Edification (building one another up) and Evangelism (reaching out to others). The emphasis is for growth rather than just maintenance. Other than the weekly cell meeting, cell members also involve themselves in carrying out functions such as visitation, evangelism and prayer during the week.

Through the cell church system, we believe that cell members will have great opportunities to grow in Christ and to use their spiritual gifts to first serve in the home cell, then in the Church. It is a requirement that anyone who wishes to serve in a ministry in the Church, must first belong to a home cell. Home cell is an excellent channel to foster individual growth in spirituality, character, value and attitude. It is also an effective training ground to prepare God's people for serving ministries in God's Kingdom. In a home cell, members foster sincere friendship and fellowship as well as sharing their joy and sorrow through a caring support system.

While each home cell is primarily under the care of a Home Cell Leader, it is also under the pastoral care of a Zone Leader, whose role is to oversee and shepherd the leadership of the home cell to move forward progressively. The Zone Leader aims to foster close rapport and relationship with the cells under his or her care. He or she is to ensure that the cells are not functioning as mere independent cells but are linked together under one leadership and direction. All cells are to work together in unison with the focus and purpose laid out by the Church.

Guided by our Church Vision and Theme for 2010, 'Spiritual Journey' was formulated to guide every member of the home cells to grow in spiritual maturity and to develop closer relationship with God and with others. With the Vision 'To Take Tabuan Jaya and Beyond for Christ', each home cell is encouraged to work towards cell multiplication. Home cell normally multiplies with members from the same cell. To provide further opportunity for growth, attempt was made to take members from different home cells to form a new cell. This serves to open door for new cell leaders to rise up. We also work toward widening the leadership base so that more leaders will be able to lead a home cell when multiplication takes place. To achieve that, more potential leaders were invited to attend the monthly Combined Home Cell Leaders Meeting. In the meeting, matters concerning home cells are discussed and decisions for implementation are made.

At present, about 65% of our members are in the home cells. To further increase the intake of cell members, home cell promotion was organised. The target groups are baptised and confirmed candidates, Alpha candidates, Church members who have yet to join a home cell and our oikos contacts especially the pre-believers. Our objective is to encourage them to first visit a home cell, to learn about how home cell functions as a care group, before they make a decision to join one they find suitable.

In line with the cell church principle, major events of the Church during the year were assigned to various home cells to organise. Cells were

given the opportunity to take turns to run the events. This allows the cell members to have the experience to participate directly in serving the Church, and not to always rely on a few leaders to do all the work.

An area which we feel important to invest in is training. Besides the on-going training, mentoring and discipleship which take place in a home cell on a continuous basis, courses were organised to equip our leaders on leadership skills and to prepare our potential leaders to take over the leadership roles in future. In 2010, fifty-four of our leaders attended the Cell Leaders Advanced Programme training CLAP Part 1 on 24-25 April and CLAP Part 2 on 19-20 June, 2010 in Kuching. With the aim to expose and update ourselves on cell church, twenty-eight of our leaders attended the annual Malaysian Cell Church Conference at DUMC, Kuala Lumpur from 10-13 June, 2010. We found the inputs beneficial, and hopefully some of the principles could be integrated into our home cell system.

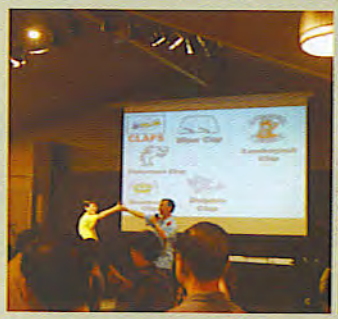
For the expansion of God's Kingdom, we feel strongly that aspect of evangelism should be given due emphasis in a home cell. To further equip us with the required skills to do so, a cell harvest training is confirmed to be held on 12 March, 2011 for all members of the Church. The targeted cell harvest events are Easter and Christmas next year.

Let us all work together in unity, to further God's purpose through our home cells. Prayerfully all members in a home cell, including the leaders and every member, are able to play their roles effectively towards achieving greater church growth and producing spiritual fruits for the glory of His Name!

By: Bro. John Cheong

Combined cell leaders' meeting

Delegates at DUMC Conference



CLAP training obviously is not just work but also fun!!

Home Cells - Inspiring, Exciting & Much More...

Judah

'Smile, smile'

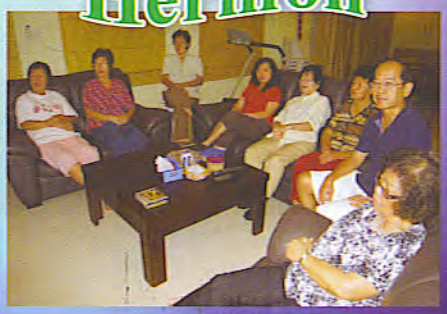
Gawai visiting

Bethel

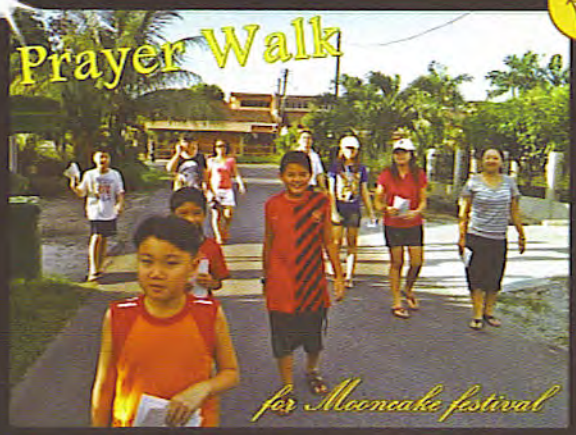
All in the family

Praise & worship time

Hermon



Prayer Walk

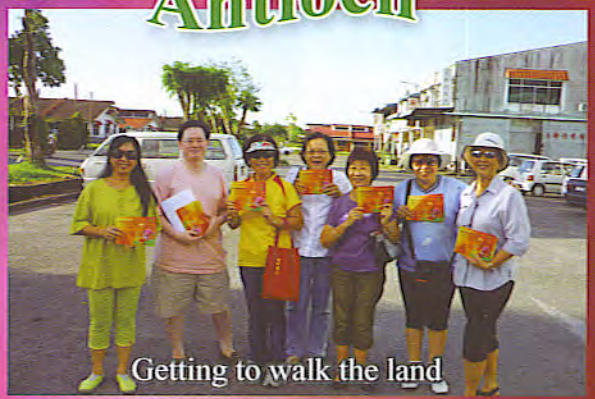


There's fun too!

Emmaus

Hmmm... awaiting sumptuous dinner

Antioch



Getting to walk the land

Bethlehem

Family Album

Outing & fellowship

'Makan' time... so yummy

Horeb

Jabez

1 year older, 1 year wiser

Roland & Cyndi's wedding

Philippi

Philippi Home Cell is led by Bro Lawrence Wah Onn assisted by Bro Yong Sieng Hong. We meet in different homes in Tabuan Dayak, Tabuan Jaya, Hui Sing Garden and BDC on Friday evenings.

The Bible study sessions are facilitated by both Bro. Lawrence and Bro. Yong while the other members take turns to lead in the praise and worship as well as the opening and closing prayers. Initially, they found it hard to say prayers. They will write them down and read from the papers but now they have learnt to say their prayers from their hearts!

Home Cell meeting is something not to be missed as that is where one comes not only to learn God's Word, to pray for needs but also to enjoy each other's cooking. There would be many things to share particularly happenings during the week. It also allows the members to take a break off from their usual routine, have fellowship with each other enjoying coffee, tea, satay, char kuih and what not in the neighboring food courts. We also enjoyed our retreat at Sematan. Bro. James Kong and Sis. Evelyn served the best meal they ever did for the members. Whoaaa….. was what they all could say!

Life in the home cell is something not easily and usually found elsewhere. There is that sense of belonging, that sense of oneness, the feeling of joy and peace and sharing each other's burden when one is down and almost out. The prayers, the comforting words, and just the silent presence makes one feel loved, cared for and needed. That's the joy one has in Philippi Home Cell.

By: SD Lawrence Wah Onn

Mount of Olives – Damai and Lundu Retreats

Fun in fellowship and togetherness, joy in Praise and Worship, and continuous learning in spiritual development – those are three main objectives achieved as the Mt. of Olives cell group went for two outings – the first one to Damai from 7-8 August, and the second to Lundu from 10-12 September.

For the Damai outing, the group stayed at Damai Beach Resort. We were blessed with sunny weather. And this was also a blessing for a couple, who had their poolside wedding ceremony – a marriage of Scottish and Bidayuh cultures, which the group witnessed. After a sumptuous dinner at Buntal with fresh sea food, we had their games followed with Christmas carol practice. The next morning started with Praise and Worship, after which there was sharing of testimonials based on the *Upper Room*, before the group left for home.

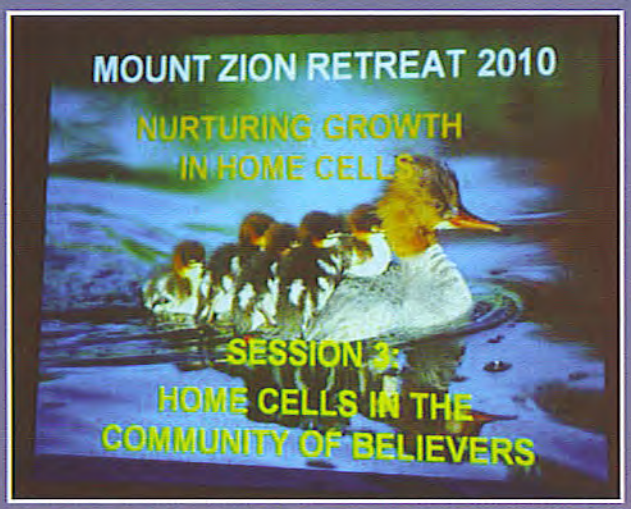
The Lundu retreat was held at the Lundu District Council Rest House. Drizzling, cloudy weather met us on the first day but it was refreshing. The day started with group quiet time, prayers and sharing of testimonials. Other activities included flower arrangement by Sis. Susan, line dancing led by Sis. Lily and sight seeing around Lundu and Sematan. After dinner with great food at Ah Choo's nearby, the evenings started with Bro. Tuang Siew, Sis. Margaret and Sis. Lily who had the group laughing into stitches with magic tricks and ice breaker games, followed by Praise and Worship.

The highlight of the retreat was the sharing on "Prayers" for two evenings led by Bro. Michael Ngui. This concluded with a very interesting Q&A session on the third morning.

We went home blessed with spiritual food, amidst the idyllic environment of Lundu. There was no doubt that all of us felt rejuvenated and blessed by the Lord that everything went smoothly on both retreats.

So, cell life is really exciting, enjoyable, not just feasting only on physical food but spiritual as well, creating an avenue to build one another up especially in our walk with the Lord, ... and the list goes on. Even now, we all are looking forward to next year's plans!

By: Bro. Ron J. Bunchol



Mount Zion – Retreat 2010

Theme : Nurturing Growth in Home Cell

Praise the Lord, Mt. Zion home cell was again blessed with another retreat this year at Damai Beach Resort, Kuching from 27th to 29th June. This is the 22nd Retreat that the Home Cell has been organising every year since it's formation in 1988. What a feat! Thanks be to God.

All the 17 members attended, though there were 'transient' members in the group. Our leader, Bro. Dennis taught and prepared the members for further multiplication. Topics included "Cell growth in quantity & quality, Nurture & development in home cells and Home cells in the Community of Believers".

An interesting topic was on "If every member brings in ONE member EACH year..". Imagine, if all our home cells do that, there will be multiplication of members in no time, all for the Glory of God.

It is during retreats like this that we can leave all our worldly things, come together in fellowship, learn together and be ministered to. The program included light physical activities. It also provided an opportunity to bring other family members. In that way, they can also be ministered to as well.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" Matthew 28:19. Let us go in the Home Cell WAY. Alleluia!

By: Bro. Mathew Ong

SPIRITUAL GROWTH THROUGH THE HOME CELL FAMILY

My spiritual journey to seek the Lord started with attending the Alpha in 2009. It was only natural to continue on to join a home cell which I did though with some hesitation at first. However, looking back after joining the Mt. of Olives home cell for one year, I have no regrets. Instead I feel blessed with the Lord's grace, mercy and peace that know no bounds for which I am forever thankful.

To me, being a member of a home cell means having a second family who can nurture and guide me in my spiritual growth. This is important as I am still a new believer, and there are many things to learn about the Christian faith. Along the way, temptations abound. Therefore, the home cell is the first connection the new believer has in his or her spiritual journey. The members will look out for each other when we miss the meetings, and encourage each other to grow spiritually. There is the bonding of relationship between members just as we are all members of the body of Christ. With good fellowship between members, there is communication, whereby we can easily seek guidance from each other. This communication also ensures that the progress of each member is monitored, especially that new ones such as I do not backslide in my faith.

Learning to read the Bible is another essential part of spiritual growth which I acquired in my cell family. This was not an easy thing initially as it took discipline, but praise the Lord I persevered so far and learned to apply the principles of Discovery, Understand, Application (DUA) when I read the scriptures daily. With my cell family, there is discussion over the Bible verses during the cell meeting. The daily devotionals such as Upper Room, Daily Bread also helped me to apply the DUA principles. The scriptures have continued to be the lamp to my feet and a light to my path in my search for guidance from the Lord. (Psalm 119:105)

My cell family also encourages me to take part in other activities such as Corporate Bible study, retreats and seminars which have further provided me the additional armour in my daily devotion to God. The retreats and seminars allow fellowship with other cell groups with focus on certain areas such as prayer, while seminars such as CLAP provide interaction with other church groups, learning the tools in the Christian life such as in evangelism, cell group etc. This has widen my perspective and given me the overall outlook of my journey in the Christian faith.

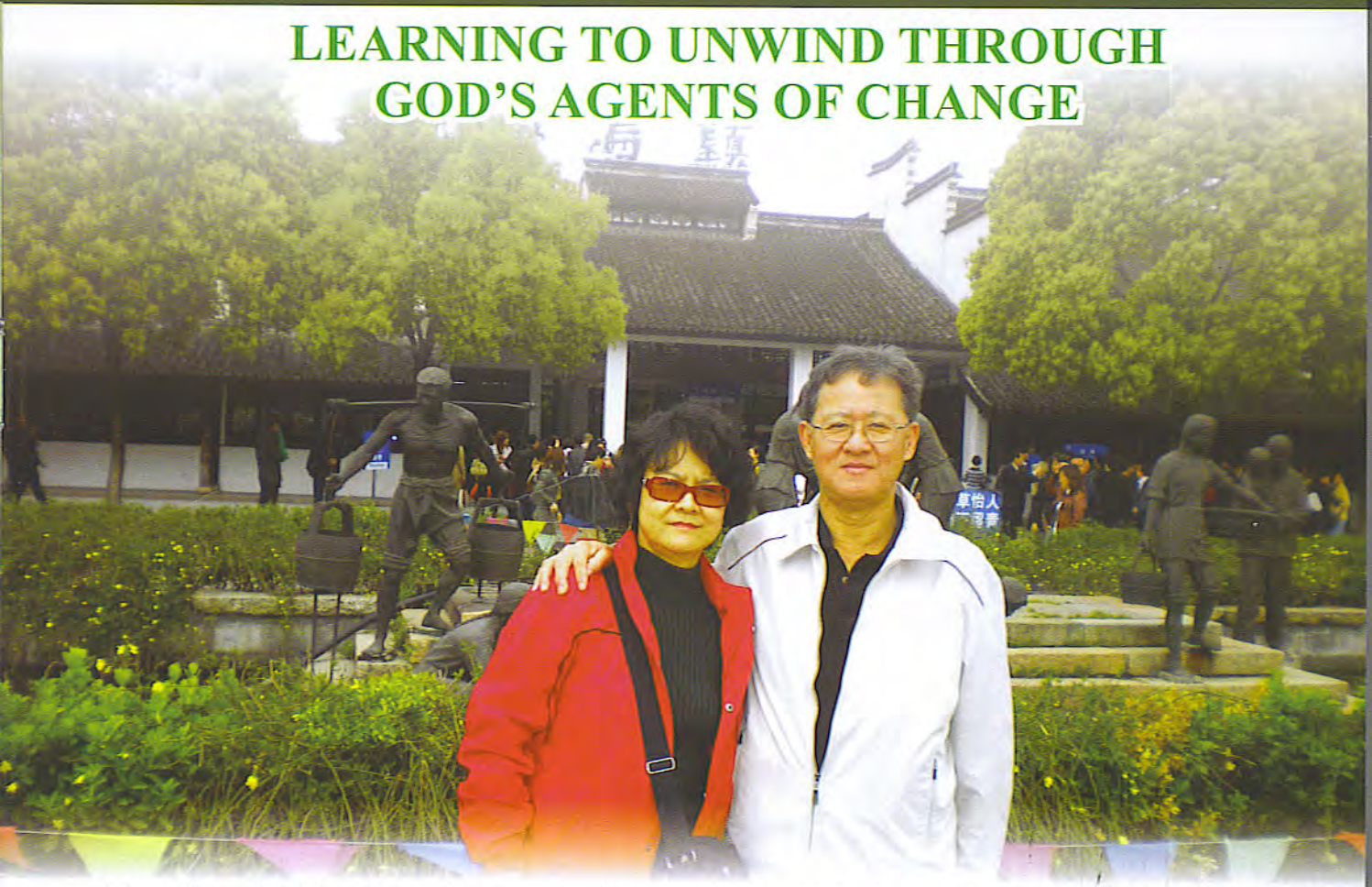
Learning to pray is another new role for me. Being given a responsibility of either leading the Praise and Worship or doing the closing prayer, is a completely new task for me – nonetheless with time and with the help of the Holy Spirit, I am learning to communicate with the Heavenly Father. The home cell meetings coupled with Alpha have helped me put into practice the principles of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication (ACTS) during prayer. This has further enriched me in delivering my prayers, seeking guidance, trusting God and appreciating His presence, adding meaning to Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust God with your whole heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge God, and He shall direct your paths"

In prayers too, learning to intercede for others – is a step higher for me as I have hardly done this in the past. This takes the act of prayer to a whole new meaning for me as now it is not only about me and my immediate needs but rather praying unselfishly for others. This, in a way, is good training for a new believer like me to reach out to God for the needs of others as it teaches humility and putting me in the shoes of others.

In short, joining a home cell is a valuable investment in the life of a growing Christian. It is a commitment for us to show the Lord how much we love Him, and that we want to commit the time to get to know Him more and improve on our relationship with Him. For those who have not joined a home cell, do not hesitate to join one. I recommend it highly. That will be one decision you will never regret as you take that journey to spiritual growth. God bless.

By: Bro. Ron J. Bunchol

LEARNING TO UNWIND THROUGH GOD'S AGENTS OF CHANGE



My wife and I joined the Alpha course on 10th March, 2009 by invitation from Bro. Geoffrey and Bro. Henry. Being total strangers to the Bible, we found our queries and previous ignorance on Christianity being addressed during the series of teachings. Filled with zeal for further understanding on this subject matter, we joined Mt. Zion Home Cell led by Bro. Dennis in May 2009.

Since then, we have discovered Bible study to be interesting and rewarding and most importantly, the Word of God has re-moulded our personalities, characters, behaviors of handling and tackling daily chores and issues. One example how our interaction with Bible study has changed our lives is through my wife.

Frankly speaking, my wife who is an orderly woman by nature or rather put in local Hokkien dialect - a bit "kotak" and "chen ki sion", has now been moved by the warmth and brotherly-like relationship among home cell members. Consequently, she offered our home voluntarily as one of the venues for the weekly home cell meeting even though it requires her to clean-up our house after the meeting. To her, the gain from home cell has far out-weighed the trouble for extra house-work she has to face later.

We have really enjoyed the get-together and in fact, have always looked forward eagerly to the cell meeting every Sunday evening. Besides the regular weekly meetings, our home cell has also organized outings or retreats outside Kuching to cement closer relationship among all members, deeper sharing of our thoughts and cleansing of our mindset.

We have experienced that Bible reading can be difficult at times as some of the words carry a lot of meaning and interpretation. Reading alone will not bring one all the relevant messages from God. It is only through group study which involves discussions and Q&A as in the home cell model that will offer opportunity for better comprehension of His Word.

Now, I will not hesitate to declare that after my acquaintance with the Church, if time can be reverted, I would be a better son, better father, better husband, better boss, better subordinate and better friend for all.

By: Bro. Lim Teck Seng

UP CLOSE & PERSONAL WITH DS ELEANOR GOH

"A Life of No Regrets in Serving the Lord"

Deaconess Eleanor Goh is one person who is more than meets the eye. While the congregation knows her as the smiling, warm personality that she is – beneath that, she is a lady of wide experience in the service of the Lord attending to those in need of her care.

To find out more, here is the interview with Deaconess:

"Tell us a bit of your background"

I was born into an Anglican family. As a child, I grew up at Wayang Street. When I was a student, I was the sporty type playing table tennis and badminton.

I taught at various schools in the State in the 1970s and 1980s. At the same time, I was blessed with scholarships to study Education at Bristol University, Teaching of English as Communicative Language at Lancaster University, UK and Teaching of English as Second Language at Victoria University, New Zealand. These overseas stints helped enhanced my profession as a trained teacher and a teacher-trainer until I opted for early retirement from the Education Department in 1998. That was when I really gave my heart to serve the Children Ministry at St. Faith's Church. Other activities included teaching at Sunday school, serving as Captain of 2nd Kuching Company Girls Brigade, as well as a home cell leader. I also started St. Faith's kindergarten.

I was counselling, praying, listening to people and before you know it, Bishop Emeritus Dato Sri John Leong commissioned me as Deaconess on 20 November 1992 at St. Thomas' Cathedral. At Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church, I currently assist during both the English and Chinese services. At the same time, I still assist once a month at St. Faith's Church 6:45 am service. Besides being involved in the Pastoral Ministry, I also head the Children Ministry. Under the Pastoral Ministry, my team and I make house calls for the bed-ridden, elderly and visit the sick at hospitals.

"What are your most rewarding moments in serving the Lord?"

One day in 1980, I saw a poster with the words "People all around me, Why should I care?, Why should I reach out? Because You Love them, Lord." The words caught my attention and my heart. There was a deep desire within me to reach out, to touch, to influence people for God. And people have always fascinated

me and when I came to know God personally, I began to see in them as people who need God in their lives.

Hence, my most rewarding moments in serving the Lord is to see people coming to the Lord and get delivered from their fears, anxieties and problems. During my visitations, I would read the Scriptures especially to the elderly, and it is good to see them uplifted.

"What are your dreams or vision for your Ministry?"

Being a woman, naturally it is mostly the women who would approach me when I am ministering my Pastoral duties. And I can understand this as part of our Asian culture. In this respect, I hope to see more of our Christian brothers joining the Pastoral Ministry in order to reduce the gap and win over more brothers to the Lord.

"What do you feel are the challenges you face in your Ministry, and how would you describe your feelings of doing the Lord's work?"

I would say the challenge is dealing with all kinds of people. However, I love people so I do not see them as challenge or pressure. I feel that my disadvantage now is that age is catching up on me, and my knees are failing. So this has slowed me down a bit.

Nonetheless, I feel it is fulfilling and rewarding. It is a life of no regrets. To this day, I have never regretted my consent to serve as Deaconess and I will continue to serve as long as I am needed.

Christmas 2009

Christmas Dinner

Carolling Joy

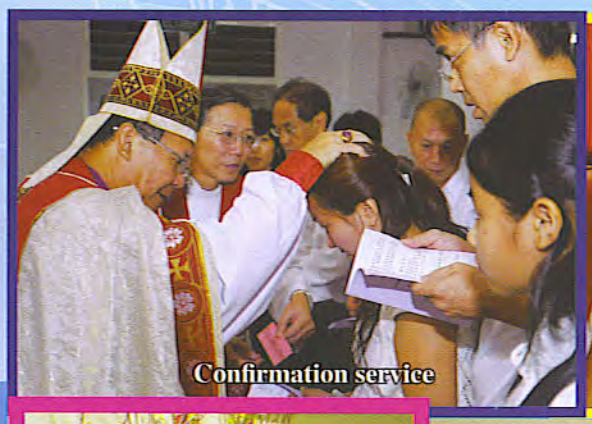
Reaching Out To The Needy

The hapless

Victim of wasp attack

The destitute

Life In



Confirmation service

Such a sweet moment!

Young entertainers

What's so funny?

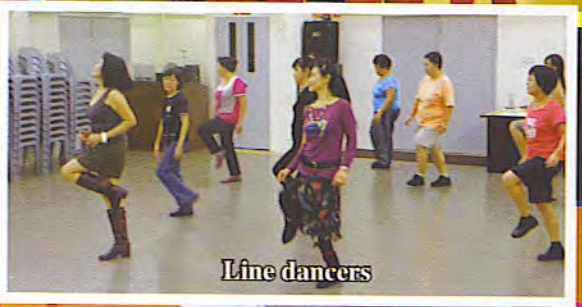
The Church

Mmm multi-tasking

Kinda hard to see

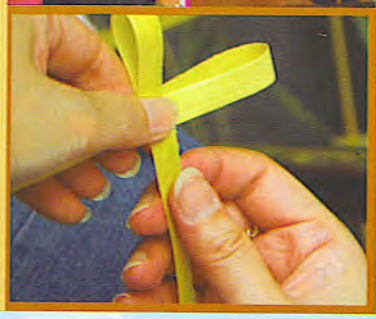
Stressing a point!

Prayer walk



Line dancers

Love has no age barrier



KUCHING INTERNATIONAL ALPHA CONFERENCE 16-17 APRIL 2010

It was indeed a great honour for Kuching to be given the privilege of hosting for the first time the Alpha International Conference from 16-17 April 2010 under the auspices of the Association of Churches Sarawak. Credit must go to the Chairperson Sis. Perpetua Phang for effectively putting together a multi-denominational Committee from the Roman Catholic, Anglican, SIB, Salvation Army, Seventh Day Adventist, Bethany and the Methodist churches – a great testimony indeed of the unity of our churches in Sarawak. Meetings began as early as August 2009 reinforced by regular prayer meetings, praise the Lord! The Committee rose up well to the daunting task of coordinating the International Conference with three different international organizations from Alpha Malaysia, KL, Alpha Asia Pacific in Singapore and Holy Trinity Brompton Church in London, the latter being the church of Revd. Nicky Gumbel, Alpha's pioneer. Within the constraints of the limited budget and the wide ranging demands in such a big conference, the venue ultimately chosen was Trinity Methodist Church.

About 1,200 delegates from Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, New Zealand, Australia, United Kingdom, Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, India, Sri Lanka and the Seychelles attended the 2-day conference. The main speaker was Rev. Nicky Gumbel who brought along the UK team comprising his wife Pippa, Jamie Haith, Tim Hughes and Al Gordan. 17 workshops were conducted ranging from Classic Alpha, Youth/ National Service Alpha, School Alpha, Prison Alpha, Workplace Alpha, Chinese Alpha, Senior Alpha, Family Alpha, Alpha DNA etc. Time for 'ministering to' needs were not neglected as delegates were also attended to with prayers. The many testimonies from delegates confirmed the huge success of the conference. Glory be unto Him!

By: Bro. Dennis Wee

THE ALPHA MARRIAGE COURSE

How To Build A Healthy Marriage That Lasts A Lifetime

By: Sis. Sally Lim

Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church jointly with Good News Fellowship successfully conducted the Alpha Marriage Course from 21/8/10 to 3/10/10. There were altogether 14 couples who registered, with 7 couples from each church.

Over eight evenings spent together weekly, couples talk to each other in private about important issues that can get swept under the carpet in the rush of daily life. Nicky Gumbel, the founder of Alpha, and Sila Lee from Holy Trinity Church, Brompton, England through their DVD shared with the participants on the following topics:-

- Building strong foundations
- The art of communication
- Resolving conflict
- The power of forgiveness
- Parents and in-laws
- Good sex
- Love in action
- The Marriage course party

Let us hear from the following couples on how this course has helped them grow closer through commitment, time together, greater understanding of each other and developing good habits:-

"Wonderful, an eye opener for all married couples"

Teck Seng & Lisa Pei

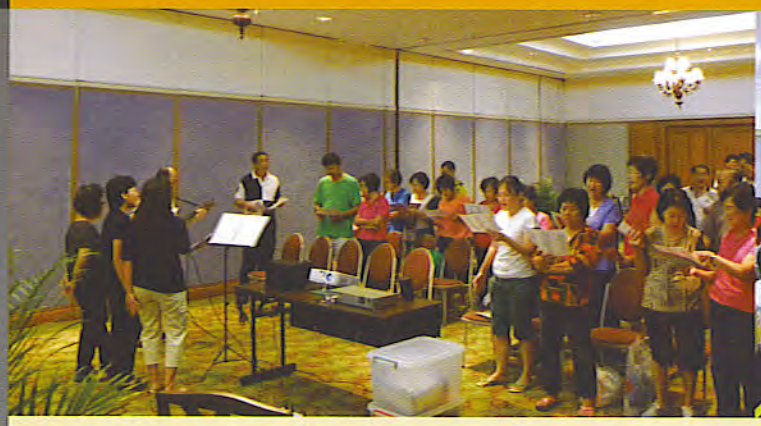
"We were doubtful at first but now we are delighted and have no regrets at all that we have completed the course which has taken our marriage life to a new level. We will not hesitate to recommend any couples, young and old to attend this course. Our gratitude to Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sally for inviting us to this course."

Sylvester & Irene

"Praise God for Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sally for having the vision of strengthening the very foundation of our church – the marriage life of our members. The Marriage Course is more than just a course. It is an astonishing journey to the very core of the hearts of both husband and wife and an exciting new discovery of true love. It is one of the sweetest journey that we have taken together. All glory to God in the Highest!"

Alex & Linda

EVANGELISM MINISTRY



It has been said that if the church does not evangelise it will fossilize, but more importantly, the church must highlight evangelism as Christ's Great Commission for all Christians (Matt 28: 19).

Even from the very beginning, evangelism has remained the main thrust and the purpose of existence of our forerunner, St. Faith's Extension Centre. We really thank and praise God for 2010 as another fruitful year where Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church continued to bring the Gospel of Christ to the pre-believers through its several outreach programmes and activities, driven by its vision of 'To Take Tabuan Jaya and Beyond for Christ', and its mission statement of knowing Christ and making Him known to others .

The Evangelism Ministry, comprising Bro Alex Tan (Head), Ds Eleanor Goh, Sis. Madeline Goh, Sis. Teresa Chung, Sis. Margaret Fong, Bro. Wiliam Yeo and Bro. Chris Chan, initiated and coordinated the programme of sowing and harvesting, but it is the members, who actually executed all the hard work and of course, it is God who does the work of harvesting.

At TJAC, the following activities and programmes were carried out in 2010 :

Alpha Classic participants

Alpha - The Alpha Classic course continued to lead in TJAC's evangelistic thrust. Organized by Bro. William Yeo and his team from March to May, about forty participants from both the English and Chinese groups, completed the course successfully. The week-end away was held at Damai Beach Resort, and the celebration night was at the church, with the latter drawing a huge response from members' oikos.

Apart from the classic course, Alpha Marriage Course was also conducted for the first time, led by Bro. Dennis Wee, soon after the Alpha Conference in Kuching. In 2011, it is planned to organize other Alpha programmes such as Alpha Youth and Senior Alpha to cater for the other target groups.

Rally by Rev. Lawrence Seow

Evangelistic Rally - A two night evangelistic rally, with the theme 'Life Without Regret', was held on 18th and 19th July, conducted by Rev. Lawrence Seow from Singapore. Some 5,000 copies of flyers were distributed to the community by the home cells, resulting in large turn-outs on the nights. Rev Seow also conducted seminar workshops over the weekend for our members.

Wider publicity and promotion will be looked into in 2011, where a healing ministry is planned to meet essential needs.

Lodge School Outreach – On Fridays during the long lunch hour, the primary students at Lodge School in Pending gather for religious instruction. This year the Anglican group had about 28 children with the teaching team coordinated by Sis.

Lodge School Outreach

Madeline Goh. Activities such as singing, telling Bible stories, prayers, watching Christian DVDs, worksheet activities, icebreakers and games were used to make the sessions an enjoyable and memorable time. Often children are invited to come to church for Sunday school or other special children activities held on a weekend. This has been an outreach of our Evangelism effort for a number of years.

One of the satisfying aspects of this year has been the leading of the singing and worship by students from the secondary school every other week. This group was coordinated by Chole Sim in Form Three. These were students who have 'come up through the ranks' and were now giving back what they have learnt. Our guitarists include Anson Tan, Irvin Lim and Patrick Ho while Madeline Goh led in song, encouraging praise and worship.

This year's story tellers included Madeline Goh, Ds Eleanor Goh, Anna Kong, Laurie Diaz and Margaret Fong. Topics included prayer, character studies, parables, Jesus's life and teachings of the Old and New Testament.

Free English Tuition - meet the parents

Free English Tuition

Free English Tuition - The programme aimed to help improve the standard of English for the UPSR students had been successful, as many had over the past years shown great improvement in their results. As they come, Sis. Teresa and her team of teachers, also involved the students in the Children's community parties. They were also exposed to and fed on God's Word. Two meetings with the parents were held and apart from sharing with parents on their children's progress, doors were open to share God's love also.

This year the attendance for Primary 5 was 11 and Primary 6 was 17. The programme will continue in 2011. New study programme will be incorporated to expose the student more towards Christian values, and to encourage them to join our children and youth programmes, even after graduating from FET.

Dance Exercises - Three forms of dance exercise activities were conducted, namely, Praise Dance, Line Dance and Aerobics. Through the untiring effort of its instructor, Sis.Margaret Fong, Praise Dance has expanded from the church venue to the Community Park at Tabuan Jaya. The activity has connected very well with the community as evident from the enthusiastic response from the people (about 100 have joined) whose ages ranged from 8 to 80 years.

Line Dancing is held on every Thursday night. Very slow growth was recorded during the year; and more promotional work has to be done to attract the community to this form of exercise.

Aerobic dance session on Sunday afternoons was started in October, and attendance was reported to be good, and likely to grow in 2011.

Mooncake Festival - The event was held on 24th September. The 2,000 flyers distributed over the community and members' personal invitation drew about 100 adults and children. The message was given by Rev. Stephen Wong and Rev. Kenny Tan, and guests had a fun-filled evening with praise dances

and songs by Sunday School, children's games, blessed draws and a generous spread of moon cakes, titbits and drinks. This was an effective way of identifying with the community around us, and demonstrating to them Christ's love, and it was also an opportunity to share the Good News.

Other Community Activities- A newsletter was distributed to the neighbourhood in March. The purpose was to create awareness amongst our neighbours as to what programmes we were conducting, and at the same time to bring to them the message of salvation. The church website, also carried announcements and write-ups on its outreach activities and programmes.

A film show, entitled 'Flywheel' was shown on 14th March. The story, which portrayed the transformation of a crooked car salesman who was on the verge of bankruptcy to become a wealthy and successful businessman after he turned his life to Christ, touched the hearts of the audience.

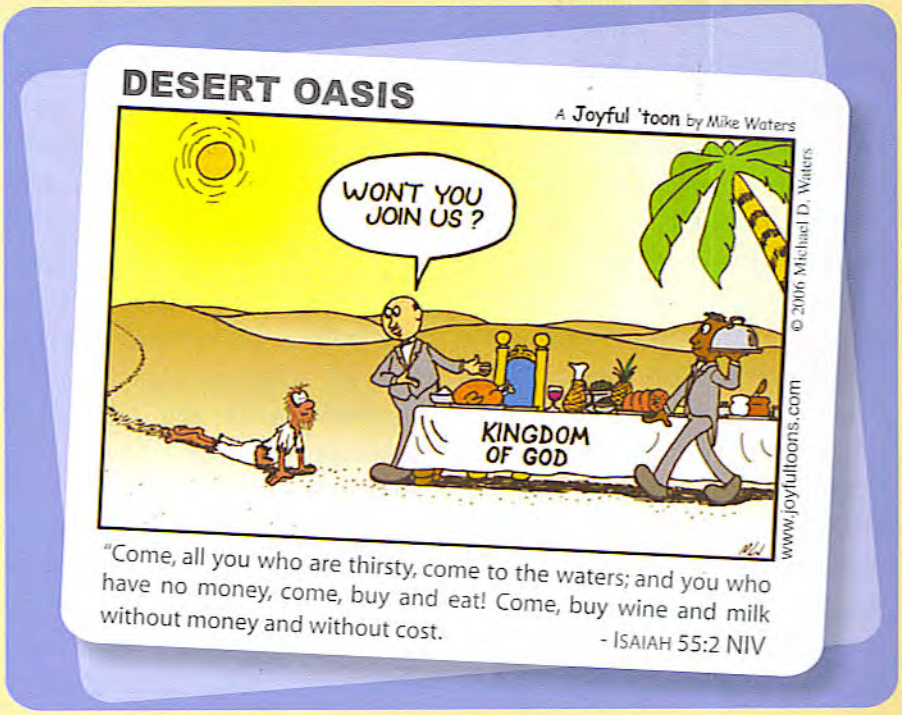
Hopefully, the basketball/ volleyball court will be completed next year to pave the way for social interaction with the community through recreation.

In 2011, the ministry will assist the Home Cell Ministry to organize Cell Harvest Events during Easter and Christmas. It will also assist to set up the mission department, which will embark on missions beyond Tabuan Jaya, our Jerusalem, thus, paving the way for the church to go on mission trips and to establish preaching points/extension centres in areas yet unreached.

We pray that in the coming year, in intensifying our evangelistic efforts we will not cram up the church calendar with an additional list of activities and programmes that would wear our members down. The change needs to be more on spurring our members towards this important upward call to share the good news of Jesus Christ, so that the church on the whole can impact and transform the community to His glory.

By: Bro. Alex Tan

Chinese Alpha



WHAT ALPHA COURSE PARTICIPANTS HAVE TO SAY

Became Spiritually Stronger

By: Bro. Jimmy Leong

"At first I thought the Alpha was similar to other Christian courses or seminars, but I found it to be more in-depth than others. Through this course, I learnt how Christ comes into our lives and when we pray He is there for us. The Alpha has transformed me – I am more patient and at peace with myself.

At the Alpha weekend away, I experienced the outpouring of the Holy Spirit when I prayed for the Holy Spirit to fill me so that I could be an example to others. I could feel the warmth of the Holy Spirit and I felt blessed. Now I am spiritually stronger and able to understand the Word of God more. I certainly would encourage others to join the next Alpha course"

Holy Spirit....Best Gift In My Life

By: Sis. Elizabeth Kho

"When I was invited to the Alpha Course, I honestly did not know what it was all about. So I attended with an open mind. Most importantly, my relationship with God grew stronger. I began to understand God and question my purpose in life.

God answered my question during the Holy Spirit weekend at Damai Beach. At the time that I was prayed over, I saw a bright orange light with a force that pushed me to fall after which I said "Father, it is your will that I receive the Holy Spirit". I was filled with the Holy Spirit and began to pray in tongues. It was the best gift in my life! I am happy to serve the Lord for His purpose for He has created us for a purpose.

I sincerely pray that we will meet again for the Alpha to learn, share and experience God's blessings. Alpha is for everyone, Christians and non Christians!"

What Jesus Can Do For Me

By : Sis. Felicia Chai

"I learnt who the Holy Spirit of God is. I now know more about Jesus and how He died on the cross to save us and redeem our sins. Jesus loves us so we also must love our families, relatives and friends. I also learnt that if I have any problem, I can pray to Jesus for guidance so that I can make my decision and have more confidence in my life."

Alpha Made Me A Better Man

By: Bro. Abner Vincent

"What a great joy for me to be able to share my testimony about how the Lord had been faithful to me throughout the Alpha course!

I came to know about Alpha when Mr & Mrs Leong strongly recommended and invited me and my wife to join the course. I was reluctant at first because of work schedule which might prevent me from attending all the sessions. But, my wife persistently reminded me to go with her. When the day came, I thought I will just try the first session. Praise the Lord, I continued to attend the course with Him blessing me more and more. I felt joy in my life, felt more comfortable in my workplace adapting to all situations. Because of God, I managed to go through all the 15 sessions!

The touch of the Holy Spirit was so amazing during the Alpha weekend at Damai. I experienced lots of peace, love and cried out to the Lord with joy. I felt free and relaxed as I was reborn in Christ. The Holy Spirit is so powerful. The family of God is really amazing!

Through Alpha, I saw God's plans for me. He gave me patience, self-control, ability to make wise choices, learn to forgive and be a good example to my wife and daughter. All these are not instant changes - slowly but surely.

Yes! Praise God, Alpha has indeed made me a better man and I certainly hope this testimony will bless and inspire all. With love."

Great Spiritual Experience

By : Sis. Margaret Ong

"I came from a Taoist family. I am a new Christian convert who was just baptised last Easter. I was invited to attend the Alpha Course in TJAC and this indeed was an opportune time for me to learn more about God and Christianity.

The Alpha weekend away in Damai was a great spiritual experience for me. When the church elders prayed over me, it took a while before I received the Holy Spirit. I was touched and moved to tears by the Holy Spirit.

I have 2 housemates and occasionally had conflicts with one of them. Consequently, I suffered from depression and needed a saviour to heal my troubled heart and soul. Since I started attending the Alpha talks, Bible classes, home cell fellowships and church services, I began to find peace with Jesus through prayers and teachings of Christ. I have also learnt to develop a harmonious relationship with my housemate.

I realised that God has been with me all the time through my caring family members, Sis. Siok Kim, Sis. Angela and Bro. Alex. I am truly inspired by their spiritual guidance and their devotion to God.

As a new Christian, I still have a lot to learn about how to grow in the Christian faith.

I pray that we will all meet again in ALPHA next year. Praise the Lord! Amen."

贊美操 PRAISE DANCE

贊美操

贊美操是一个以优美音乐，简单的肢体運动来保持身心灵健康的体操. 贊美操組合使身体健康，扩传福音，更使不認識主的弟兄姐妹，感受到有主是多么喜乐，让生活更美好，更有情趣. 感謝贊美操創办人，也是台湾贊美操协会創作人及理事長 － 吳美云导師. 自2003年至2008年，吳美云导師共創作了四集贊美操. 每集的轻松动作和经文及音乐的配合都是向神贊美，祷告，感恩，让人感觉時時刻刻都有神的同在. 圣公会达万堂的贊美操活动得蒙神的保守和眷顧，我们感謝主內弟兄姐妹们的祷告和支持，使我们贊美操不断長进. 目前有两組贊美操練習班. 分別在达万堂和达万再也公园举行.

达万堂贊美操

达万堂贊美操自去年七月开始，每星期二傍晚七时半至八时半与星期四傍晚六时至七时练习. 感謝圣灵帶領，目前前来参加贊美操弟的兄姐妹们约有二十至三十位.

达万再也公园贊美操

“我不以福音为恥，这福音本是神的大能，要救一切信他的人”. (罗馬書1:16). 在神的指引下. 自今年三月开始，我们贊美操活动扩展到左邻右舍. 每星期一，三与五從早上七时至八时，我们贊美操同工们会在达万再也公园进行这既能贊美神，又能锻练身体的运动. 我们感謝神的恩典，前来参加贊美操人数目前已達到一百多位. 他们大多数是来自达万公园附近住宅区的居民，其中最年長的是81歲的曾祝花姐妹. 我们贊美操团員曾经在去年圣誕晚会，教会周年紀念日及本年的中秋節晚会中做出表演. 今年的中秋節晚会有三支团隊表演. 他们是来自本教会，达万再也公园和Lodge小学的小朋友们. 最令人注目的是Lodge小学几位小朋友们. 他们唯妙唯真以手足舞蹈将神的话语表現出来，使当晚的气氛更加热鬧欢欣.

感謝神差遣与使用馮淑瑩姐妹，岑平珠姐妹和謝可容姐妹. 让他们能齐心合力和互相搭配，播下的福音种子.

馮淑瑩姐妹今年6月22-23日在星加坡圣約翰堂 (St. John’s Chapel)，参加了贊美操种子导師培訓課程，成功考取了由台湾贊美操協会吳美云导師親自簽發的结业证书. 目前她已经是一位合格的贊美操导師. 愿荣耀頌贊尊貴都归于至高神。

“做优質的身心贊美操，每天有神的话语滋润心灵，
以感恩喜乐態度面对生活，人生将是彩色有意义的”

馮淑瑩姐妹稿

TOGETHER WE TESTIFY

Transformed from a Violent Man to an Intimate Son of God

All the glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who was yesterday, is today and to come. **Hallelujah, AMEN.**

Looking back for the past 16 months, it has been a sweet and memorable journey of our spiritual life when my wife and I were able to perceive and understand from our spiritual hearts that it is the works of our Almighty God, who has divinely directed each of our foot- steps until our entire lives have been transformed, and able to love Him like never before.

I used to be a very self-centered, ambitious, temperamental, and hot tempered person, and nothing can stop my ambition to earn millions of ringgit, live in a big detached house and drive a BMW 5 series. I was even physically violent with colleagues, and throwing and banging objects when quarrelling with my mother. My aggressiveness in pursuing the worldly wealth, title and human praise caused the accumulation of hatred, envy, anger and grudges in my heart. Even after I married, these bondages were never broken off from my life, and I brought them along with me into my marriage life. Because of these, my wife had suffered emotionally, crying countless times.

I lived in these bondages for twenty years of my adult life, chasing worldly dreams with my human might and strength. All the gratification that I enjoyed was short lived. At the end of the day, I felt hopeless with a big vacuum in my heart. It is through God's plan of salvation that I am able to perceive and understand the works of His holy hands that were actually, providing the guidance and direction for the past forty years of my life, while I was in the wilderness. Though I had offended Him, disobeyed Him and sinned against Him, yet He had never forsaken me. His mighty hands were constantly shielding me from falling further into gangsterism, drugs, alcoholism and gambling. So, it is by God's grace and the Holy Spirit that He had put in my heart, that I am able to write this testimony to glorify and honor His name. **Hallelujah, AMEN.**

The journey began when my family and I joined Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church on 26 April 2009. Soon after, we were encouraged to join a home cell, and attend the Alpha Course. I was reluctant to go for the Alpha weekend away but our God reigned supreme. It was by His grace that my brothers and sisters at TJAC encouraged me to go, and that sparked the journey of victory in my spiritual life. It was during that weekend that my wife and I for the first time were baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit. While being prayed for by Bro. Bill Mowe, I was slained and cried like a baby. I sensed there was such heaviness in my heart, that it pinned my whole ninety-eight kilogrammes body down to the floor. It was so amazing and yet so wonderful during the whole encounter with the Holy Spirit.

Hallelujah! All the praises to You O God - It was His unfailing love for me that our God, through the works of the Holy Spirit, had cleansed and healed my heart. It was through the Holy Spirit, God had put in my heart the strong desire to pursue Him. I became so hungry and thirsty for God that I started to attend conferences, and search for spiritual books, worship songs and articles written by men and women of God around the world.

Ever since that memorable day of the Alpha weekend away, praying and reading the Word of God at 4:30 a.m., and an hour every night before I sleep has become my lifestyle. It is the greatest joy and peace that I never had before, when I am able to communicate, have fellowship and listen to our God every day for the rest of my life. All the glory to You O God. I became more disciplined in reading my Bible, bringing it along to office every day, reading the Word of God first before work and before I have my lunch.

The dramatic transformation in my life had also melted my heart to show compassion, love and care for others. It had caused the change in my mindset and perspective towards life. By the grace of God, I also learn to be humble like Jesus Christ, to understand God's purpose and

know Him better, and I love God like never before.

Amazingly, out of my perseverance and persistence to seek God every day, in December last year, as I knelt down quietly in my living room, in the stillness of my heart, I sensed the wonderful words from the Holy Spirit saying, **"God is pleased with what you are doing"**. At that instance, tears started to flow from my eyes, and both of my hands were trembling and shaking, I felt the warmth in my body with sweat flowing from my forehead. It is written in the Scriptures, when we please God in the things that we do, we would become His favor. When we become His favor, He will pour out His heavenly blessing upon us with great abundance. Truly without expecting anything, in December 2009, I was promoted as manager. His abundant blessing had also been extended to Linda who had salary increment this year. **Hallelujah, AMEN** - for these promotions came from God. Incredibly, **God had taught us to walk by faith and not by sight.**

It is by faith that led me to attend the 14th Malaysia Cell Church Conference at Damansara Utama Methodist Church, Kuala Lumpur in June 2010, and Asia Christian Conference at Osanri Fasting Prayer Mountain, South Korea in July 2010. Initially, the cost of the conferences was a hindrance. However, through persistent prayers and surrendering these plans to God, He inspired me with this assurance: **"If tumor in a lung can be removed by Me, what is the cost of that you had worked out to seek Me? If a growth in a colon can be removed by Me, what is the cost of that to seek Me?"** Wow! Without any more doubt, I proceeded to attend both the conferences.

At DUMC, I sensed the strong presence of the Holy Spirit throughout each prayer workshop that I attended. Delegates were weeping and immensely touched and filled with the Holy Spirit especially during worship time. The pre-celebration prayers were from 7a.m. to 8a.m., and I felt spiritually blessed by the Lord during those morning prayers. This was evident on the last day, when I had to walk and carry my luggages to DUMC. On the way with such a heavy load, I was truly blessed when a BMW 7 Series stopped by and the owner offered a lift. He introduced himself and mentioned that he was also going to DUMC. Hallelujah! How great is our God! - for He is the true living God who provides for us when we walk in unshakable faith with Him.

In July, I attended the Asia Christian Conference at Osanri Prayer Mountain, a Christian retreat operated by Yoido Full Gospel Church, Korea's largest church. There are four prayer services daily at 6:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the main sanctuary at the Prayer Mountain. In addition, there are 211 prayer grottoes open daily for those who desire to spend prolonged periods in intercessory prayer.

When all 3,700 delegates from seventeen countries were asked to fast for three days, I was not confident if I was up to the task. As a body builder, I take seven meals a day but amazingly, through the Holy Spirit filled worship, powerful prayers and sharing of the Word of God by Senior Pastors from Korea, Taiwan, China and Hong Kong, I was fed with spiritual food to the brim, and was able to accomplish the three-day fast just on water and fruit juice. It was through the fast, pray and worship that I was able to see vision for the first time in my spiritual journey. As I was experiencing my spiritual breakthrough, God graciously lifted me up to give me His words of assurance and confidence to seek Him first before I do anything. Hallelujah!

Now, I only have one ambition in my life and that is to seek God's face and His glory. Yes I believe it is not easy but it is the ultimate task everyone should aim for. **I strongly believe nothing is impossible with our God. If I am faithful, God is faithful.** When I fall, I will rise up to be stronger, faster and wiser in pursuit of God the Almighty. I strongly believe in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and that He will open more doors of opportunities for me to excel in all aspects of my life, living strictly according to His purpose and His will. Then, His name will be glorified and honored. **Hallelujah, AMEN**

By: Bro. Alex Yap Min Su

Unfailing Love

I come from a Buddhist family background. When I married my husband in 1996, I accepted Christ in my life just for the sake that we could have the wedding ceremony in the church. My husband, Alex Yap, though from a Christian family, was a lapsed Anglican. As for me, without having any Christian relatives or friends around to guide me, my faith and walk with Christ gradually diminished. I felt the emptiness in my life. This was especially so after being married, where there is a change of lifestyle and the presence of kids who kept me busy. I felt very lost, so lost that I went through a depression.

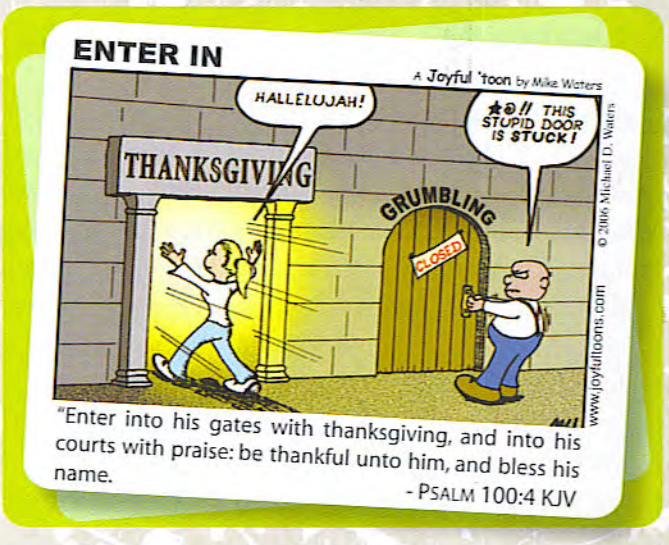
Yet God is a good God. He saw me and He never gave up on me though I had sinned against him again and again. One day last year, my husband and I were invited to attend the Alpha weekend away at Camp Permai organised by Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church. During the prayers and blessings session, I heard God's call to confession. I prayed and asked God to forgive me and restore my life.

I was not sure if God had forgiven me or not at that time, but God is a merciful and loving God. He cleared my doubts and showed me His wonderful love during the Alpha weekend away. When Bro. Bill Mowe and Sis. Margaret Ho prayed for me, the presence of God's Holy Spirit overwhelmed me. I was amazed! I felt that all the burdens, fears, sorrows and worries inside my heart were lifted up and out of my body (literally like throwing out rubbish!). I was so touched by His love and my tears just flowed beyond my control. Since then, I am encouraged! I know God loves me very much and has forgiven me, not only that, the Holy Spirit now lives in me and guides me.

I am so glad and this has inspired my thoughts and encouraged my spiritual growth in God by reading the Bible. I have also started to pray since then. I am no more a lost sheep. Even though I have attended church for so many years, I would say that the time I really become a faithful Christian is now. Thank GOD and praise the Lord.

By: Sis. Linda Liew

Happy family now.... Alex with wife Linda and sons Allister and Almeric



A Fast Run Down Memory Lane – Just One Of The Highlights

By: Bro. Prof Justo Diaz

Our family has been blessed over and over again as we have moved from one place to another. In the USA, we attended three churches (both Laurie and I were born into a Baptist environment): The First Baptist Church of Ottawa, Kansas, the First Baptist Church of Berkeley, California (where I met Laurie) and the Ottawa Bible Church (a conservative evangelical church). The highlight is that we were at home in each one of them, taken in, loved and supported.

After 28 years in the USA, the Lord decided that we should move to New Zealand (this is another story). One of my contacts was the Full Gospel Business Men in New Zealand. On my first trip to NZ, they were my host providing advice and guidance and when I went to Wellington, they directed me to Tim Garland, one of their members there. He and his family took me in for a whole week and I was stranger.

Upon our migration to New Zealand, Tim Garland was there to receive us. Not knowing what to do, we asked him where we could find a church and he asked us to join him at the church they attended and that I had visited previously. It was named Life Point, an Assembly of God Church. And they took us in, loved us and supported us. We were strangers in a strange land.

When we moved to Auckland, Tim has preceded us and we again asked him for guidance. We joined Pigeon Mountain Baptist Church and again they took us in, loved us and supported us. Eventually we felt the need to shift churches and we joined St. Columba Presbyterian Church (remember Andrew Norton, St. Columba's senior pastor.) And again they took us in, loved us and supported us.

After retiring from the University of Auckland, Laurie and I started coming to Kuching and working at Swinburne, and we joined the St. Faith Extension Centre where our friends, Tuang Siew and Victor, invited us to visit. You took us in, and continue to love us and support us. We were strangers in a strange land but we are no longer strangers (different, but not strangers.)

So in every congregation we have been shown the love of God. And you know they are Christians by their love. And we love you.

Visitation of the Lord

By : Sis. Mary Chua

I underwent a surgery to remove a bladder tumour in May 2010. As my age is 89 years, the doctors recommended the surgery be administered with general anesthetics, and it was a very delicate and risky process as it might cause complications. With complete trust in our gracious God, lo and behold, my operation was a success!

When Pastor Amos was in Kuching on 1 August, he ministered to me and said I will experience power of the Holy Spirit who will bring healing. He said I will also receive a dream that will strengthen my physical body. The very next night, though it was not my usual sleeping time yet, I slipped into a deep slumber and suddenly I wept so profusely that my daughter panicked. It was at this time, I experienced the visitation of the Lord bringing Pastor Amos's prophesy to pass. I sincerely praise God, thank Him and give Him all the Glory!! Amen.

Be Strong, Don't Give Up.... Pain & Numbness No More

By: Sis. Evelyn Yeo

Last year, I fell down from a train while on holiday overseas. Since then, I have been having pain and numbness on my left hand. My nerve scan test report showed that I was suffering from Carpal Tunnel Syndrome at the left wrist area.

The doctor told me that there was not much to be done except to wear a wrist guard temporarily for a few months or alternatively go for an operation. I dreaded the word "operation" because I was scared of the pain. With my hand's immobility, I would be unable to do many things. I became so fearful. I told myself that I must be strong and to claim God's healing every day. Though I felt discomfort and pain almost every day, I never gave up praying. Philippians 4:6 said "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."

In August 2010 this year, I attended the International Women's Conference and responded when there was an altar call. While lifting my two hands and praying in tongues, I suddenly felt a warm prickling sensation around my left wrist area. I became excited and prayed in tongues unceasingly. The great warmth plus the prickling sensation around my left hand wrist area continued to stay. Oh! What a tremendous feeling..... to God Be The Glory. Hallelujah!!!!!! God has not forgotten me. HE even took time to tell me that HE is Healing me in "HIS OWN TIME". Praise to our Great and Mighty God that the pain and numbness have all gone away. I am healed..... God miraculously healed me!!!!!!!!

A Letter To My Siblings Overseas

By: Sis. Angela Tan

18 July 2010

Dearest Chee, Keong and Roz,

My daily prayers for you are that God will keep you all safe and in good health and be blessed each day. God has indeed blessed me with loving siblings and I would like to say how much I appreciate you all for being there for us here. It is God's Love and your love that have sustained our sister Boi to live on day by day. You have given Boi so much and I tell her everyday of your kindness and goodness!

Boi was admitted to KPJ Specialist Hospital on Monday, 21st June, 2010 with a minor heart attack, very bad rashes, fatigue, anaemia, and diabetes. For the first few days at the hospital, Dr. Ang, her Cardiologist, put her on very strong antibiotics but informed me that she did not respond at all to the medication. She then developed pneumonia but did not seem to recover from it, and everything seemed so hopeless, with Dr. Ang trying everything to save her life. I began to have insomnia, fearing that the worst would happen to Boi, but then God was there all the time listening to my pleas for mercy for Boi.

I would begin each day by asking God to help me when I was desperate - feeding her was impossible, as she would throw out all her food! God blessed Boi with a single room with a panoramic view of the Tabuan Jaya area and of our Church. One day, I looked out of the window and at the sky and cried out to God, "God, I know You are up there in heaven, please send Your Healing on Boi, and please do not let her suffer anymore." As I prayed this prayer, I could sense God's Peace descending on me, and telling me that everything would be fine.

From then, I could see God touching her and restoring her health gradually. There were some good and bad days, but I believe that God was there to give Boi good days. She began to eat very small portions, with her oxygen and nose feeding tubes attached, but I remembered and did what Serena earlier on advised me to do, that is, to feed her with very small portions and to do it slowly. She then became alert but was still uncomfortable with all the tubes and rashes.

I believe that it was God's Divine Intervention when the doctor informed us that there would be no operation for Boi. Do you know that every time we pray together with her, she will lift her hands up and acknowledge God? Do you know that she can recite the Lord's Prayer, without making a single mistake? The whole Church prays for her everyday and indeed I believe that God hears our prayers and has preserved her life! God loves Boi so much that He sends down His Abundant Blessings on her.

Today is the 28th day that Boi has been staying in hospital, and thank God her appetite has improved tremendously, as she can now eat a lot of porridge with an apple/kiwi and fruit juice every lunch time. When I see her eating so well, I just cannot help crying with tears of joy that it is God who delivers and heals her, through His Wisdom upon the doctors and the medical staff. Her rashes have now healed and the layer of bad skin has peeled off, thank God!

By the way, we have a very caring Church where the Pastor, Deaconess and our cell group members pray and make regular visits to Boi to minister God's Love and Healing touch on her.

During the crisis, Aunty Rosalind (Say Ee), and Uncles Kee Bian and Kee Huat and our cousins also showed their love and concern with their constant telephone calls and text messages. What a wonderful and loving family we have!

All Glory and Honour to Our God! Amen.

With Much Love, Angela

TESTIMONIES FROM OUR CHINESE CHURCH

我生命中的大医生

我来自于一个传统拜拜的家庭，我父亲是一位跳童，母亲是我父亲的翻译员。每天都有很多寻求医治的人来我们家寻找医治。很多人都以为我们是过着山珍海味的生活。但实际上，我们生活过得很辛苦，有时候是穷到没米煮饭。

有一天，我父亲得了病，喉咙阻塞了，看了医生也没办法医好。我父亲用了很多他传统拜拜的方式来医治他自己。但很可悲的是，他本身身为一个跳童，却根本医治不了他自己。那时，我们几个兄弟姐妹都还小，根本都不懂怎样处理。在七个兄弟姐妹当中，我父亲最疼我，只要有最好的东西，我父亲都会留给我。所以当我父亲离世后，我常常都去安放我父亲灵位的佛教会和我父亲说话。

父亲逝世十多年后，我开始面对邪恶的势力。我得了怪病，腿和手臂都腐烂了，而且还呈现动物的图案，左脚也弯了，我的身体斜了四十五度，根本不能站，也不能坐，只能蹲着，连晚上睡觉也是蹲着睡。我到处寻求医治，不论是西医或中医。西医说我的骨歪了，要开刀。但是我因为不想挨痛，就去神庙求神，可是我的病不但没有好转，反而越来越糟糕。

有一天，我的一位朋友听到消息后就带了一个牧师来我家探访我，我还记得当时我第一眼见到牧师时，我就问牧师“你可以为我到祷告吗?”，牧师说可以，但是你一定要到教会去。於是我开始去教会。在教会时，我经历了奇妙的医治，在众人为我祷告的时候，我吐了好多黑色的东西，连续三天的祷告后，我的身体完全恢复正常，腐烂的皮肤也好了。我真的很惊讶这奇妙的医治。那一刻起，我决定完全把我的生命献上给主。

赞美主，因着顺服，我今天才有这样的恩典，气息存留在这世界上继续的为主做见证。赞美主，祂是我的耶和华拉法，我的大医生，我的救主，祂释放医治了我，更把我从死亡边缘拯救出来。

三年前，当我得了黑班蚊骨痛热症时，这位奇妙的大医生再次的把我从死亡边缘救出来。我的血小板降到平底，是主耶稣供应血小板给我，使我在最危机的时候看到生命的曙光。感谢耶稣，是祂打开天上的门，赐下医治的能力，使我能走出古晋医药中心，也让我今天有这恩典做见证。赞美主，我生命中真正的大医生！

虽然走在主的道路上，常常受到言语的攻击，人对我的扁底看轻，但我知道主的恩典够我用，在我最软弱的时候，祂让我得力量，更刚强。总而言之，不管这十字架的路有多辛苦，环境多么的逼迫我，我都会坚持走下去，一路跟着主耶稣走。因为我知道有主陪着我，我还怕谁呢？因为那在我里面的比那外面的更大。哈利路亚！

赖美梅

感谢上帝坚固了我

小时候，每个月的初一和十五，我都会跟随父母亲到庙去烧香拜观音，从不间断。祭拜祖先更是不用说，每个华人传统的节日，我都是跟家人一起打理祭拜的事务。

念中学时，我是转到一间英语教会学校开始我的中学教育课程。在求学过程中，圣经是其中一个科目。虽然当时念着圣经，但是我却没有被神的话语所触摸，我是为了应付考试而念圣经。当时的我，只是一心一意想要实现出国深造的理想。留学回国后，我有了一份固定的职业，也组织了自己的家庭。我继续朝向我人生的目标行走，我每天为事业，为家庭，为子女忙碌。在我接近退休的年龄时，我已经有了一切我要得到的东西，例如房屋，汽车等等。但是，我的内心深处却开始感到空虚，心灵上仿佛缺少了什么。

就在那时，一位朋友邀请我参加我们教堂所举办的启发课程。在课程中，我开始了解基督教，内心也深深被上帝的爱所感动。于是，我开始来教会参加主日崇拜及家庭小组，并且接受洗礼和坚振礼，也开始事奉上帝。

今年初，当我一家人正忙着准备我大女儿的婚礼时，我的妻子忽然一声不响的就离开了这世界，离开了我们。那是我们一家人所意料不到，也难以接受的。然而，一切痛苦悲伤都无法改变事实。所幸上帝的话语陪我度过了那段煎熬痛苦的日子。

我常想上帝让我面临这痛苦，必有祂的旨意，这旨意是我所不能明白的，但我必要信靠顺服祂。上帝看得见我人生的整个蓝图，祂凭着比我们人更高的视野，在我的人生中作工。我要信靠祂，因为祂看得比我更远，更清楚。

我感谢上帝在我那段悲伤痛苦的日子中，一直都与我同在，扶持我，更坚固了我。祂也让我的心灵更接近祂，更信靠祂。我明白祂会为我预备我的人生。因着这恩典，我要全心全意来信靠祂，顺服祂，并事奉祂。

感谢赞美主。 哈利路亚！

彼得前書 5:10
但是，你們受了短暫的苦難以後，那位賜一切恩典的上帝，就是呼召你們藉著跟基督耶穌連結來分享他永遠的榮耀的上帝，必定親自重建你們，堅定你們，賜力量和鞏固的根基給你們。

陈周清

GOD NEVER FAILS

"Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed Thy hand has provided. Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me." What a great hymn of faith! Here are a few testimonies to God's faithfulness and what He has done in my life, my family and my ministry.

There was one trip to Sydney where I got a pleasant surprise. My flight was delayed. Quite unexpectedly, the supervisor upgraded me to business class. It was a real blessing – 8 hours on business class is heaven compared to economy class.

What the supervisor knew then (but I did not) was that the delay meant the plane could not land in Sydney. It would be past midnight and all passengers had to spend a night in Melbourne before taking another flight to Sydney the next morning. This change was only announced when we boarded and were en-route to the destination. The supervisor was doing me a favour because I now held a business class boarding pass and could stay in a hotel suite. Not only did I enjoy the comfort of plush and bigger seats, with superior meals and personalised service on board the flight (at economy price), I now got to stay in a suite. It was all an unexpected treat and I enjoyed every minute of it.

Another occasion I was on an Air France flight to London, transiting at Paris. When I checked in the supervisor asked me if I would assist them by transferring to British Airways instead. It would be a direct flight to London. I agreed as it made sense; I would save about 2 hours. Then I told her since I did her a favour, could she do me a favour of putting me in business class. By then, I knew such upgrades were possible at the discretion of the supervisor. She came back with good news. There was a business class passenger who did not show up. There was now no need for me to fly on British Airways because I was upgraded to business class on Air France.

Of course, these upgrades do not happen all the time. If they did, I would be flying around every week and every Christian would volunteer to be an evangelist.

God knows the desires of our hearts and answers even the little things. When I first started flying to different countries, I used cheap ordinary bags. After a while, I began to notice many passengers travelling with designer or branded bags – like Samsonite and Louis Vuitton. These bags were classy but way above my budget. I felt a bit inferior but never said a word to anyone. Secretly, I hoped to travel with a Samsonite some day and at least, I would have some class. Funny, don't you think?

Out of the blue, while I was in a department store downtown one day, I chanced upon a black Samsonite duffel bag that was on sale. It was heavily discounted, less than S$100 and exactly what I had in mind. I was not even looking for a bag so I knew this was God's leading. Immediately I bought the Samsonite and now I do not feel 'inferior' anymore because I have a Samsonite. Please do not judge me – evangelists are human too.

Have you ever heard the term 'God's cheque-writer'? One day after preaching, I said a prayer to one young lady. At the end of it, she asked me, "What's your full name please?" I was caught off-guard as this was a highly unusual request. So I asked her why she wanted my full name and this was her reply, "I am God's cheque-writer and I'd like to write you a cheque."

Have you ever heard such nerve or audacity? I gave her my name and she wrote down a very generous amount. And no, the cheque did not bounce (in case you are wondering).

You never know how and when the Lord is going to provide. There are many more such testimonies of God's provisions. Suffice it to say that I do not preach for upgrades, suites or these blessings. God, however, knows how to take care of His own.

Extract from
"Memoirs Of An Evangelist"
By: Rev. Lawrence Seow

CHOICES - A TALE OF TWO TREES

Once upon a time, long, long ago at the beginning of time, there was an outstanding tree in the middle of a garden. Outstanding not for its physical beauty but because of its fruit it was glaringly out of place with everything else in the garden. It was the tree of knowledge of good and evil, placed by God in the middle of the Garden of Eden when He created the world. In the midst of all that was "Yes-yes", good and harmonious, this was a "No-no" tree, a forbidden tree "And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil …' "(Genesis 2:16 -17a). The one million ringgit question is , "Why did God put that forbidden tree in the middle of the garden if He did not want Adam to eat from it ?" We can only speculate but perhaps the answer to that question is not as important as the outcome. Adam and Eve chose to disobey the only command God gave them because "the fruit was good for food and pleasing to the eye and also desirable for gaining wisdom" (Genesis 3:6). Humankind is the fruit from that sin of disobedience.

Thousands of years later, another outstanding tree was placed in between two other trees on a hill – Calvary. In contrast to the first tree, this was a tree of infamy, an ugly tree representing pain, punishment and death. "Cursed is he who is hung on a tree" (Galatians 3:13b). This tree is the cross of Jesus Christ, outstanding not because of its physical appearance as it was no different from the other two crosses on either side of it, but outstanding because of its fruit. Nailed to this tree is one who carries every sin conceivable in the world and yet the one who is hanging on that cross and bearing it all was neither an ordinary criminal nor an ordinary human being nor a sinner. He was the precious only Son of God, who lived on earth as a humble human being, blameless and totally without sin, a sacrifice of love from God, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16), the fruit of total obedience to God.

Since the fall of Adam every human begins life as the fruit inherited from Adam from that first tree of the knowledge of good and evil, the fruit that represents the sin of disobedience, a life of self-centredness, divorced from the will of God, focusing on self-aggrandisement, self-pleasure and on external physical beauty pleasing to the human eye. God has placed each of us at the junction of a road that begins with the fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. In one direction lies a road that is easy and effortless to follow, it is wide, cruises comfortably downhill, full of earthly pleasures. Its destination, however, is the destruction of humankind through sin and ends in eternal death.

From this junction, heading in the opposite direction is another road. It is a difficult, narrow and rough road, full of pot-holes and side tracks, going uphill, leading to the tree in Calvary hill – the cross of Jesus Christ. Those who embrace and endure this difficult road will reach a destination whose fruit is the redemption of all that was sinful before, the forgiveness of sins, it leads to eternal life. "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction … " (Matthew 7:13)

Which road have you been heading ? What is your choice ?

By: Bro. Dennis Wee

The Eternal Furnace

An article captioned, 'Return to China on Ghost Ship' appeared in local newspaper on 7 September, 2010. The newspaper reported about a ship, measuring 27.7m by 4.5m, which was laden with hell money, that was set on fire for 'the purpose of sending wandering spirits which had been unable to return to their birth places in China'. The ceremony was conducted on the Hungry Ghost Festival which falls on the 15th day of the 7th month of the lunar calendar. On that annual festival, other replicas of worldly possessions such as houses, motorcars, telephones, computers, and whatever the enterprising craftsmen can fashion to meet the pressing needs and demands of the 'dead', but yet believed to be living in a realm called 'hell'. These artifacts along with stacks of 'Bank of Hell' money are set ablaze by the living, which supposedly would be received by their departed loved ones.

To the non-believers, Satan never hides the fact that they are going to a place called hell, but he never really tells them the truth about the true 'conditions' of the place either. Instead, everyone of them knows that they will go there, and they also believe that their descendents who are still living will have to provide for them from this side of eternity to support them with an acceptable level of comfort – hence, the burning of hell money, etc. This is perhaps the greatest paradox created by the evil one to lure people away from the real truth.

Is there such a place called hell or is it just a figment of one's imagination? Is it a physical place or a spiritual realm? The Bible touches a great deal on the subject. Yet, in the church today, it is hardly addressed perhaps because we are not even sure what it is or the consequence of going there is just too terrible or even offensive to talk about. Or maybe, it is also because we need to be sensitive to other people's belief.

According to David Pawson, even prominent church leaders have different viewpoints concerning the subject, and consequently, come up with various interpretations. One holds the view that hell is separation from God, rather than a burning pit or anything like that. So why does Jesus choose the language of 'fire' rather than 'separation' then? Another comes up with the view that only 'saints' will survive and live forever, and sinners will be totally eradicated and go into oblivion. This belief is known as annihilationalism. Then everyone would rather choose to live recklessly in sin since there is no eternity for sinners.

What does the Bible say about hell? In Matthew 22, Jesus in His parable of the Wedding Feast talks about the man who did not come in wedding clothes – the king told the attendants to tie him and throw him into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Jesus provided clothes of righteousness, but if people refuse to wear them (i.e. to accept His righteousness), they will consequently, be thrown into a place of eternal suffering. Jude 5-7 talks about godless men who will suffer the punishment of eternal fire. So hell is real – it is a place of eternal suffering.

On the flip side of hell is heaven. Rev 21 and 22 give us glimpses of what heaven is like – it is a place of beauty and majestic glory, where humanity will no longer be under any curse. It is also a place of perfect and intimate fellowship with God and between God's people. It is also a place of happiness and purity. Who can enter heaven? The Bible says only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

For **everyone** who is still living on this side of eternity, he can choose between entering hell or heaven. To choose heaven is God's plan for all humanity, but man must first repent and accept Jesus Christ as his Lord and Saviour, for He has taken the initiative to provide us the way to salvation by dying on the cross for us.

There is therefore **hope for everyone** still living to be rescued from going to the dreadful place called hell. For us who have received Christ, it is our duty and our highest calling to share on the path of salvation and eternal life with God, with those who are ignorant and who may be on their way to the eternal fire.

By : Bro. Alex Tan

LEADERS' RETREAT 2010

The Leaders' Retreat 2010 was successfully conducted on 23rd October 2010. It was attended by 58 persons from the Parochial Council Committee members, Home Cell Leaders, their assistants and interns, the Church wardens, Sunday School teachers and members of Philippi and Galilee Home Cells that co-hosted the event.

The Leaders' Retreat started with praise and worship led by Bro. Clarence Won and straight on to the Opening Remarks by the Priest-In-Charge, Rev. Kenny Tan at 8.30 am. There was a pre-Retreat prayer session led by Sub-Deacon Lawrence Wah Onn with some of the participants.

The theme for 2011 is "Year of Transformation" which is taken from Romans 12:1-2, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

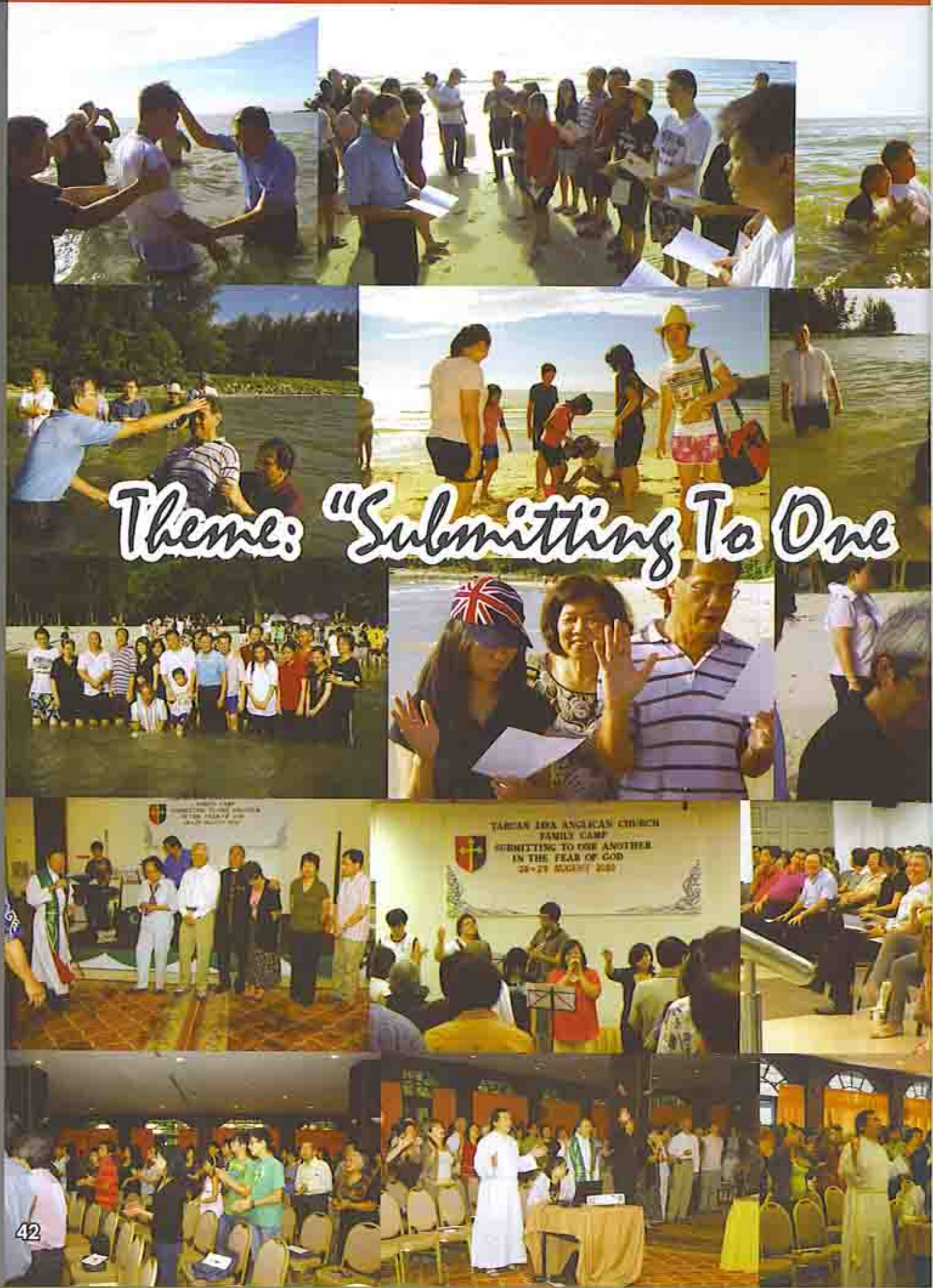
In his address, Rev. Kenny called on the leaders of the church to be transformed in body, mind and spirit. They are to read more of the Bible, engage more in quiet time and prayer, and to move out into the mission field bringing with them the Gospel of Christ which is the vision and mission of Tabuan Jaya Anglican Church.

After receiving the reports and plans from the respective ministries, the participants were divided into 7 groups to deliberate on 3 given questions. Before considering the dates of events to be included in the Master Calendar 2011, the participants selected their representatives to share on what they had discussed earlier. All the groups agreed that transformation must start with the individual who then revolves around the Home cells and into the church. Only when the church is transformed, then the community surrounding it can feel the impact and thus God's name is glorified.

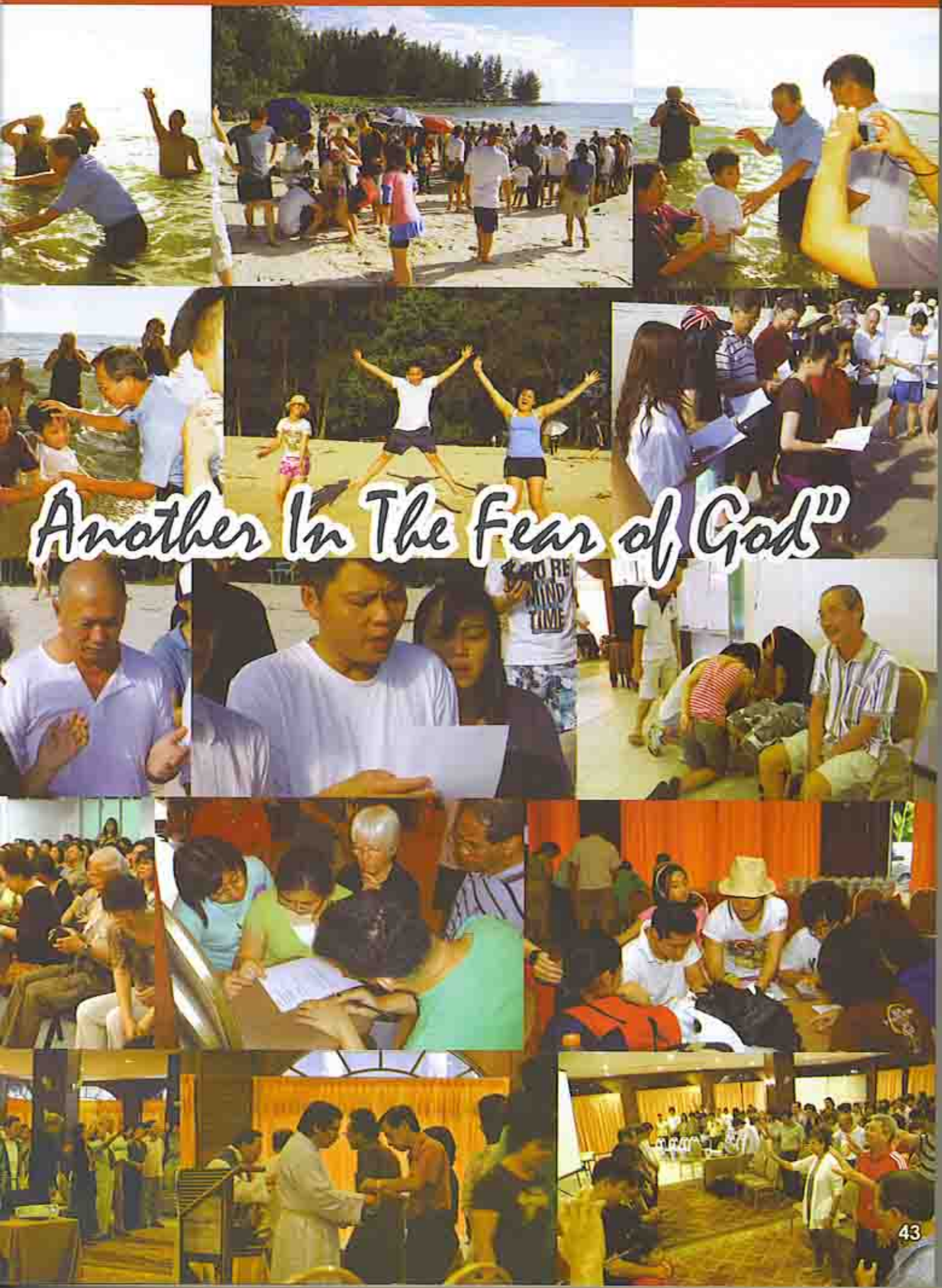
The Retreat ended with a dinner.

May the Retreat truly and really bring in the desired transformation through the leaders to the congregation of TJAC for the community of Tabuan Jaya. To God be the glory! Amen.

By : SD Lawrence Wah Onn


Theme: "Submitting To One
TARUAN JAYA ANGLICAN CHURCH
FAMILY CAMP
SUBMITTING TO ONE ANOTHER
IN THE FEAR OF GOD

CAMP



PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

From Right: Bro. William Yeo, Bro. Bill Mowe, Bro. John Chow, Bro. John Cheong, Bro. Robert Chang, SD Lawrence Wah Onn, Sis. Agnes Chew, Rev. Kenny Tan, Ds Eleanor Goh, Sis. Angela Tan, Bro. Alex Tan, Bro. Goh Beng Hock, Bro. Christopher Chan, Bro. Stanley Chua, Bro. Eric Tan

CHURCH STAFF

Priest-In-Charge
Rev. Kenny Tan

Sis. Helen Chan

Sis. Mariam Janggak

Bro. Mathew Ong

Bro. Daniel Tan

TABUAN JAYA ANGLICAN CHURCH

No.	Home Cells	Leader	Telephone
1.	Antioch	Alex	019-8871842
2.	Bethel	Leung	019-8769144
3.	Bethlehem	Agnes	019-8171334
4.	Cana	Bill	016-8952643
5.	Canaan	Martin	016-8507718
6.	Common Bond	Justin	016-8578085
7.	Emmaus	Joshua	019-8278221
8.	Eden	Kevin	012-8926871
9.	Galilee	Clarence	013-8111025
10.	Hebron (Chinese)	Rev. Kenny	012-8748897
11.	Hermon (Chinese)	Helen	013-8010770
12.	Horeb (Chinese)	John	019-8485928
13.	Jabez	Anson	019-8867140
14.	Judah	Madeline	014-3933524
15.	Mt. Moriah (Chinese)	Geoffrey	016-8886612
16.	Mt. of Olives	Margaret	019-8899265
17.	Mt. Zion	Dennis	013-8203989
18.	Philippi	SD Lawrence	013-8168248

Sunday Services

English Service	9:00 am
Chinese Service	9:00 am
Sunday School	9:00 am
Teen Ambassadors	12:00 pm
Youth Fellowship	12:00 pm

Weekly Activities

Prayer Meeting	7:45 - 9:00 pm (every Wednesday)
Line Dancing	7:00 - 8:30 pm (every Thursday)
Praise Dance	7:30 - 8:30 pm (every Tuesday)
	6:00 - 7:00 pm (every Thursday)
Aerobics	4:30 - 5:30 pm (every Sunday)
Free English Tuition	2:00 - 4:30 pm (every Saturday except Public Holiday)

Church Office Hours

Mondays to Fridays	8:30 am - 4:45 pm
Saturdays	8:30 am - 1:00 pm
Sundays & Public Holidays	Off days

Contact Information

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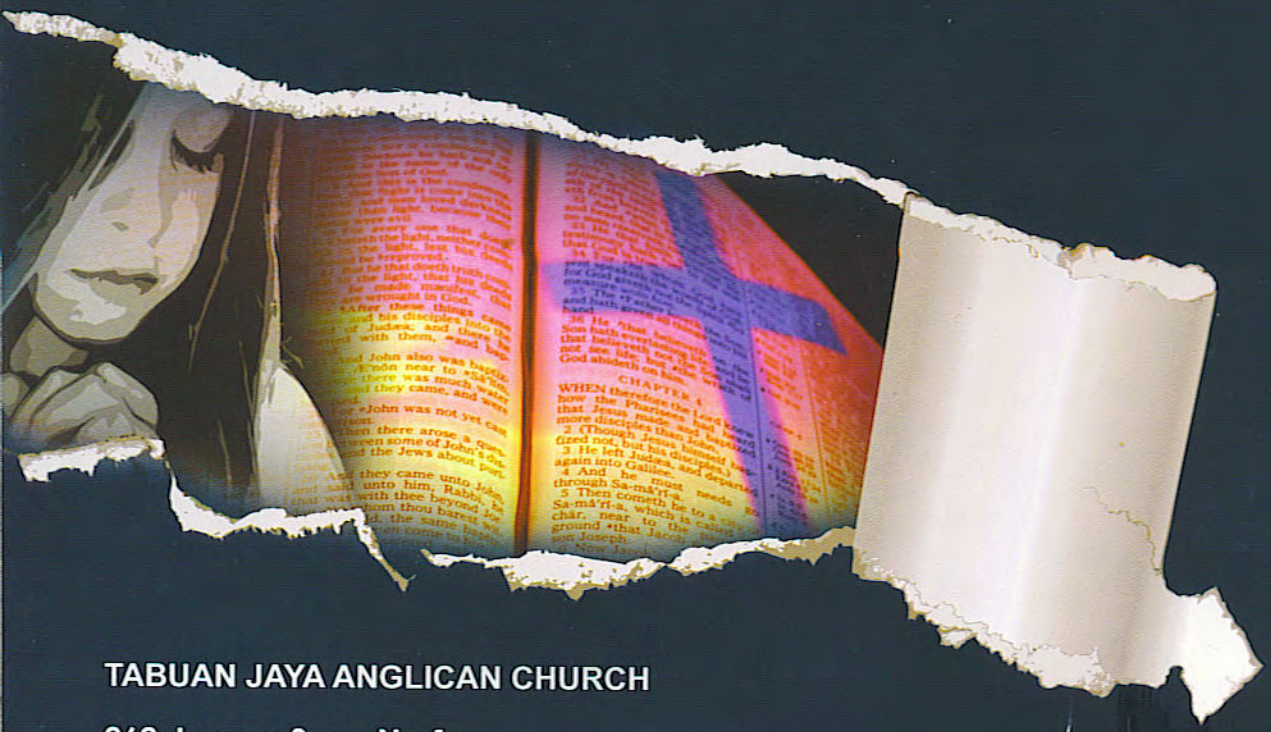
Website	www.tjanglican.org



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