



EBENEZER WEEKLY

606 - 622 Mt Dandenong Rd Kilsyth VIC 3137

Web Page: www.ebenezerbpc.org

Date 08 February 2009

City Gospel F'ship 15 Drummond St, Carlton, VIC 3053.
 Resident Pastor Rev (Dr) Patrick Tan Mobile: 0401 225 880
 Tel 9723 5612(R) / 9421 6972
 Elder Edward Meyale Tel: 9551 8979
 Deacons Philip Soon; Stephen Lim;
 Khoo Yew Hock, John Tann
 Preachers Lim Hai Seng Tel: 9548 9193
 Eduardo Morante Tel: 8786 5248

ACN No: A0038695

"Hitherto hath the LORD helped us."

1 Samuel 7:12

Supervisory & Senior Pastor

Dr S H Tow

COMING WEEK APPOINTMENTS (09 February – 15 February 2009)			LAST WEEK'S Collection (01/02/09)		
			EBENEZER		CGF
TUE (10/02/09)	7.00 pm	CGF Dinner Fellowship	Attendance	121	41
FRI (13/02/09)	8.00 pm	Parables from the Old Testament	Offerings	\$1922.70	\$506.95
SAT (14/02/09)	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting/YAF: Rev.Patrick Tan.	Building Fund Designated	\$50, \$1,200	
SUN (15/02/09)	8.00 pm	CGF - BS Discussion /Prayer meeting	Love Gift	\$150.00 (CGF)	\$150.00
	9.30 am	Choir Practice	Pew	\$20	
	10.15 am	Pre Worship Prayer Meeting	Internal Loan		
	10.15 am	Pre Worship Praise	Received To Date		
	10.30 am	Ebenezer Worship: "God is my Judge"	Internal Gift	265,544	
	11.45 am	Psalm 7 – Rev. Patrick Tan	Internal Loan	192,000	
	12.30 pm	Sunday School	External Gift	406,277	
	12.45 pm	Tea Fellowship	External Loan	150,000	
	2.30 pm	Bible Study - No class	Art & Craft	846	
	2.30 pm	Strabane: - Elder Edward Meyale	Book Sales	1,644	
	2.30 pm	BBK at CGF	Mission Fund YTD	1,450	
	4.00 pm	CGF – "Adoption of Sons" Gal 4:5 – Dn Stephen Lim	Pew	9,450	
	6.00pm	CGF Singing Group Practice	Building Fund giving since 01/07/08:	14,370	
			Next Loan		
			Repayment	150,000	01 July 09

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. WARM WELCOME: Welcome to all. We invite you to join us for tea fellowship after the service. Please stay and get to know one another.
2. BASIC BIBLE KNOWLEDGE – Those interested please see Elder Meyale. (Ebenezer), Pr. Lim Hai Seng (CGF)
3. PRAYER FOCUS: a) **HEALTH & HEALING:** Stephanie, Mildred, Alicia, Priscilla's mother, Anne's mother, Ps John McKenzie Adelaide, Peter Koo, Vicky's mother. Kidd Leong, Olivia Ong, Richard & Lorraine Turner b) **MISSIONS:** Cambodia–Life University & BPC: Rev David Koo (Sihanokville); Glory BPC: Rev Stephen Choi (Phnom Penh), First BPC: Bro Chanthon & Siang Lai (Siem Reap). **Kenya** – Samson & June Korir; Chan Pui Meng at Clinic of Life in Kiluani; Stephen Masila Nairobi, Surish **Laos**, Andrew Kam **Myanmar**, Roska Choi-Sihombing- **Batam**. Jess & Neeram **Chiangmai**, Dr Paul Hoole **Sri Lanka** c) **OVERSEAS & INTERSTATE:** Dr Tow Siang Hwa, Damien, Su Shiang Lo **FEBC**, Hean, Angie & Kaitlyn in **Spore**, Karen and Ross, Wei Hua **China**, Jonathan Raw **WA**, Michael Benjamin, Joyce & Scott in **Qld**. Shu ling & Wai Yee, **Spore**. Stephanie **Taiwan**. Dexter **Hong Kong**, Xing Mao **London**. Special prayer for **BPCWA**: that God will resolve conflict within membership.
4. TRAVEL – Continue to pray for those returning to Melbourne especially the new students as they settle in to life in Australia. Pray also for those traveling overseas for their holidays: Eld Meyale & family; Dn Philip & Rita.
5. ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Revised membership (103) Quorum with ACM (34); for election (52) Election of Resident Pastor. Chairman Dn Stephen Lim, Returning Officer Chew Hou Lian. Scrutineers Eric Choong & William Ong. Those without Annual Report see Anne Tan.
6. EASTER CAMP 2009: Date: 9-12 April 09, Venue 606-622 Kilsyth, Speaker: Rev. David Weng (Asst.Pastor of Hope BPC), Camp Master: Chew Hou Lian. Keep the dates free. More information coming.
7. YOUTH WINTER CAMP: June 29-July 3. Speaker: Rev Isaac Ong, Pastor of Calvary BPC (Jurong).
7. CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Yvonne Yeap – Unit 6, 1 Villiers Street, North Melbourne Vic 3051.
8. LONDON NEW LIFE BPC: Rev Timothy Okman Ki is now preaching in London together with Rev Lim Chee Boon & Pr Mark Chen.
MEMORY VERSE Ezekiel 22:30 "And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none."

From PULPIT to PEW

WORTHY OF DOUBLE HONOUR

"Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine." 1 Timothy 5:17

There is governance in the church. Paul instructed Timothy and Titus to ordain elders in the churches to "set in order things that are wanting" Titus 1:5. In the BP Church, the Board of Elders is empowered with the oversight of the congregation. Elders are assisted by the deacons in church administration. Both Elders and deacons form the session of the church.

The church is an organism that functions in an orderly manner for worship of God and promotion of the gospel. Leaders are responsible for the orderliness of the church. They labour in the teaching and oversight of the members.

APPRECIATION OF CHURCH LEADERS

Worthy of reward, v18. We appreciate leaders in our church who beyond the responsibilities of their profession and heads of the home, also volunteer to serve in different departments of the church. We thank God for the many assistants who volunteer in unseen tasks. Together we advance God's kingdom. Mt 6:33.
Unworthy of accusations, v19. When we see a leader not fulfilling his task, we are quick to criticise, when we are unwilling to volunteer. Let us be the solution and not the problem.
Church discipline, v20. There are those who walk disorderly in the church. They are either attention seekers or they desire to promoted their own views. The BP Church has a constitution, and the Westminster Confession of faith. We have scriptures to direct our thoughts and actions. Peace is maintained when we agree in word and doctrine and are obedient.
Impartial judgment, v21. God is no respecter of persons so must leaders of the church be. We have an open door church, and we even have an open communion which is open to born again Christians who have been baptised. May we all lift up high our crucified Saviour. Jn 12:32.

Dr Patrick Tan

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	10.30 am (Ebenezer)	4.00 pm (City Gospel Fellowship)
Pre Worship Praise	William Ong/Lydia Chia	Grace Kong
Prelude	Samantha Raw (p) Hannah Chia (o)Hui En,Keene (f)	Esther Chin
Flowers	Serene Yam	
<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>		
Call to Worship	Dn. Stephen Lim	Paul Soon
Opening Hymn	1- O Worship the King	37- "Praise my soul the King of Heaven".
Invocation	Dn. Stephen Lim	Paul Soon
<i>Glory Be To The Father</i>		
Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Peter 1:1-9; 13-19	Romans 3:21-31
Hymn	355 - Day by Day	332-"Moment by Moment"
Tithes / Offering	318 - Blessed Assurance Paul Yeo/Alan Mouzon/Vincent Tai/KK Wan	137 - Thanks to God Rong Shen / Richard Elijah Tee
<i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>		
Doxology		
Scripture Reading	Psalm 6 Vincent Tai	Galatians 3: 15—29 Richard Elijah Tee
Preparatory Hymn	543 - Face to Face	340 -Hiding in Thee
Family Prayer	Rev. Patrick Tan	Rev. Patrick Tan
Sermon	"Death & the Grave" Rev. Patrick Tan	" Justified By Faith" John Chen
Closing Hymn	542 - Saved by Grace	183 - Jesus Paid it All
Benediction	Rev. Patrick Tan	Rev. Patrick Tan
<i>The Lord Bless You & Keep You</i>		
Postlude		
**Next Week's Roster	(15/02/09) @ 10.30 am	City Gospel Fellowship (CGF) @ 4 pm
Speaker	Rev. Patrick Tan	Dn Stephen Lim
Pre Worship Praise	Huey Chan/Judith Lim	Jia Hui Teo
Worship Leader	Pr Hai Seng Lim	Pr Hai Seng Lim
Scripture Reader	Huey Chan	Wei Yong Lee
Pianist	Trisha Yeo (p)/ Yvonne Yeap(o)	Yvonne Yeap
Ushers	Chia K Lum/Chew H Lian/Jock Campbell/ Victor Ho	Ming Jian Lim/Wei Yong Lee
Flowers	Margaret Campbell	
Tea Fellowship	Belle Raw, Janet Jean/Margaret Campbell	Heidi Ho/Jia Hui Teo

THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE

The Lord is in His Holy Temple (x2)
 Let all the earth keep silence
 Let all the earth keep silence before Him
 Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise Him all creatures here below
 Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen, Amen.

THE LORD BLESS YOU

The Lord bless you and keep you ,
 The Lord lift His countenance upon you
 And give you peace and give you peace.
 The Lord make His face to shine upon You
 And be gracious unto you, be gracious;
 The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.

From our Supervisory Pastor

08 February 2009

My dear readers,

This week I share with readers a chapter of my memoirs describing an incident which happened in Batu Pahat after the Japanese collapse and before the British returned.

A TASTE OF 3-STAR LAW

In the final months of the Japanese Years, underground sources kept up a steady supply of bad news for the Co-Prosperity Sphere. Setbacks on every front painted a black picture for the Japanese - worried masters of East Asia.

America's two atom bombs brought Japan to her knees. The Emperor Hirohito capitulated on 15 August 1945, marking the official end of the war.

But the return of power and administration to the British would take time.

Batu Pahat became a political "no man's land." The Japanese simply disappeared from sight. Everybody was expecting the British to return, but the question was when? There was a period of uncertainty and unease of about three weeks - ten days on either side of 1 September 1945. During this "waiting interval" some unusual things happened.

One day while we were having our morning Family Worship, a certain friend of the family, a young man in his late twenties, hurriedly came a-visiting. He was obviously in trouble, nervous and apprehensive of something.

"Dr Tow and Mrs Tow, may I have a private word with you?"

"By all means - what is troubling you, Boon Liang?" said Father.

"They are looking for me - those 3-star people."

These were the members of the "Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army," the MPAJA of the Malayan Communist Party.

Boon Liang was a somewhat mysterious character, dealing with Japanese patent medicines on the "black market" and a secret listener to Voice of America broadcasts on the short-wave radio. Now he was in trouble with the 3-star people on his trail.

Mother took him upstairs and hid him under the bed in our Guest Room.

We resumed our Family Meeting: Father, Mother and six children. Shortly afterwards, two teen age soldiers with guns arrived at the front door, asking to search the house for a man (obviously referring to Boon Liang). Mother took them on a tour of the house, downstairs and upstairs. They searched everywhere, and finding nobody, they left.

What a relief! Boon Liang stayed the rest of the day, and slipped out by the back door when all was dark and the coast was clear.

The next day the sound of aircraft overhead was heard. Everybody excitedly ran on to the streets, and saw leaflets dropping from the air. The leaflets contained a brief announcement in four languages - English, Chinese, Malay, Tamil. It said: The Japanese have surrendered, the British are due back very soon. All people are to keep law and order.

Two days later, about mid-morning, there was an unusual "noisiness" in the street outside Father's Clinic. In the middle of the street was a group of youths in military uniform of the MPAJA, about twenty strong, marching in orderly formation, carrying weapons on their shoulders. Marching with them in their midst was a miserable looking middle-aged Chinese man, dressed in black with hands bound together at the wrists and a large cloth banner suspended by two bamboo poles displaying the man's crime. It read "Traitor Rebel" (漢奸叛逆罪).

A crowd of 50-60 men and youths walked along with the MPAJA contingent as they made their way through the town in what was presumably a "pre-execution parade" on the way to death.

It was later reported that the condemned man was taken to a cemetery three miles out of town and shot. Such was the fate of "collaborators and traitors" who had worked for the Japanese.

"Summary executions" or "revenge killings" were not uncommon during the few weeks after the Japanese surrender and before the British return.

About the middle of September, 1945, the British returned and the "BMA" (British Military Administration) restored law and order over the country, after an absence of almost four long years.

It felt like "old times" - with a difference. The British rulers had lost their aura of colour superiority and invincibility. As for me I was glad to return to my old school ACS to prepare for my Senior Cambridge School Leaving Certificate.

Life must go on, thanks to the Allies - British and American, not forgetting, it was the Americans who dropped the bombs which ended the war. (End of article)

Regimes come and regimes go, each in its time. But all of Earth's regimes will fade away when our Lord returns and established His everlasting Kingdom of righteousness and peace. Daniel was shown a vision of this some 3,000 years ago (Dan 7).

Lovingly in the Lord

Dr SH Tow, Sr Pastor