

2009 Theme: Ebenezer - Pursuit of Piety (1 Peter 1:15); CGF – Dedication to Discipleship (Luke 9:23)

COMING WEEK APPOINTMENTS (30 Nov – 06 Dec 2009)			LAST WEEK'S Collection (22/11/09)		
			EBENEZER		CGF
TUE (01/12/09)	7.00 pm	CGF Dinner	<b>Attendance</b>	131	46
	7.45 pm	BS – "Forever Faithful" – Psalm 68	<b>Offerings</b>	\$1937.30	\$486.10
THU (3/12/09)	8.00 pm	CGF – Book of Daniel	<b>Gift for Sanctuary aircon/heating :</b>	\$ 800	
FRI (04/12/09)	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting/BS – Rev. Patrick Tan	<b>Received To Date</b>		
		"Another Gospel In Church Tradition" – Gal 1:1-10	Internal Gift	304,192	
	8.00 pm	YAF: Closing Session	Internal Loan	142,000	
SAT (05/12/09)	3.00 pm	CGF How To Meditate on God's Word	External Gift	422,894	
	6.00 pm	CGF - Facilitators Meeting/ Prayer Meeting	External Loan	100,000	
SUN (06/12/09)	9.30 am	Choir Practice	Art & Craft	846	
	9.45 am	Pre Worship Prayer Meeting	Book Sales	1,644	
	10.15 am	Pre Worship Praise	Mission Fund YTD	4,250	
	10.30 am	Ebenezer Worship – Rev Patrick Tan	Pew	16,440	
		"More Than Conquerors" Romans 8:37	Building Fund giving since 01/07/08 :	53,018	
	11.45 am	Sunday School	<b>Next Loan</b>	100,000	
	12.15 pm	Finger Food Fellowship – Pls Bring A Dish	<b>Repayment</b>		31 Dec 09
	12.30 pm	SBC: No Class			
	2.30 pm	Strabane: Dr. Stephen Lim			
	4.00 pm	CGF Worship – Rev. Patrick Tan			
		"What Your Hands Find To Do" Ecc:9:10			
	6.00 pm	BBK & Singing Group Practice			

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. WARM WELCOME:** To all worshippers & friends. Stay back for f'ship lunch.
- 2. BBK Eld Meyale-new class. SBC:** today Lesson 4 - "Ecumenical Movement: All Roads Lead To Rome?" All worshippers are welcome to attend & contribute.
- 3. EASTER FAMILY CAMP 2010:** Apr 2-5 at Tandara Lutheran Camp in Halls Gap Gramplains for recco. Nestled in between mountain ranges, the camp can accommodate 90 campers. Plenty of out door activities for everybody. Families plan early to have spiritual holiday together. Sp. Rev Tan Eng Boo.
- 4. CGF WEEKLY NIGHT CLASSES:** 15 Drummond St Thu 8pm Book of Daniel & Sat 3-5 pm Workshop: How to Meditate on God's Word by Lo Su Shiang.
- 5. PRAYER FOCUS: a) HEALTH & HEALING:** Olivia Ong, Koh Choon Fong, Helen Eio, Michael Yap, Tan Chee Chee & William's grandfather. **b) MISSIONS: Cambodia** Life University: Rev David Koo (Sihanokville); Moses Han BPC & Rev Stephen Choi Glory BPC: (Phnom Penh), First BPC: Chanthon & Siang Lai (Siem Reap). Barnabas & Lekema (Poipet); **Kenya** June Korir; Chan Pui Meng at Clinic of Life in Kiluani; **Laos** Surish, **Yanong** Rev Andrew Kam, - **Batam** Ev Roska Sihombing & Pr Efendi Ginting. **Chiangmai** Rev Nirand & Jess. **c)** Students taking University exams.
- 6. CAROLING 2009:** Combined choir is preparing for Christmas. Carolling on Sun 20 after Christmas lunch. Homes to invite carolers see Yvonne or Rachel.
- 7. GOSPEL CAROL SERVICE:** Dec 24 at 8 pm. Chairman Dn Stephen Lim, Speaker Pr Lim Hai Seng. Join the choir. Invite your friends.
- 8. AUSTRALIA ORIENTATION DAY:** Spore – Sat Jan 9 2010 at Life BPC. Sp: Eld Dr Chin Hoon Chor. Coordinator: Dr Joseph Lo. Kuala Lumpur – Sat Jan 16 2010 at Evangel BPC. Sp: Eld Dr Lim Yew Cheng. Coordinator: Ms Teng Yu Yuet. Returning students to contact Keene Chen & Kee Rongshen.
- 9. BATAM MISSIONS TRIP:** Jan 20-24 (Wed-Sun) 2010 at Life Batam Mission. School programme by Pr Lim Hai Seng; Med/Den by Dr Joseph Lo & Church by Ps Patrick Tan. Those interested see Pr Lim Hai Seng or Jean Liu of CGF.
- 10. BP NATIONAL YOUTH CAMP:** 2009 Australian BP youth camp is organized by BPCWA. Date: Dec 8-12, 2009; venue: Camp Serpentine, Perth.
- 11. STRABANE HOME:** There will be a Thanksgiving Service on Sat Dec 12 at 2 p, at 1-3 Strabane Ave, Mont Albert. All Welcome. Ebenezer has a worship service every Sunday. Volunteers needed. Patricia Kiang is in charge.
- 12. WELCOME BACK:** Damien Choong & Lo Su Shiang are back in Melbourne on vacation. They are Bible students of FEBC in Spore.
- 13. EBENEZER 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MAGAZINE:** This commemorative is for the glory of God for a decade of His goodness and blessings. Get a copy.

**Memory Verse: John 13:35** "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if you have love one to another."

#### HEART to HEART

##### TRUE CHRISTIAN UNITY

*"That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." John 17:21.*

Christian Churches today are seeking for unity, between the Protestant denominations and of recent years with the Roman Catholic Church. The way forward is to abandon all doctrinal differences and unite in service. Parachurch organizations have risen and draw members from different denominations.

Unity with Rome is contingent on Protestants no longer protesting for Vatican has not given up any dogma. The Pope willingly receives Billy Graham and the archbishop of Canterbury. The Reformation of 1517 remains in the heart of a small minority.

##### THE TRUTH OF THE HIGH PRIESTLY PRAYER

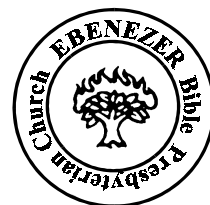
**All may be one.** Unity of the Church is in the heart of the Lord of the Church. He has bought the church with a blood ransom. He calls His disciples to wash one another's feet and to express love for each other in a practical way. Unity is in word and deed. The NT believers were united in prayer and the gospel. Persecutions for their faith brought them closer together.

**Father's union with the Son.** Jesus and His father are one. In 10:30. Father and Son are not two Gods but one. They are one in essence. In function God the Creator of mankind sent His only begotten Son to redeem sinful man. Jesus "being in the form of God" Phil 2:6, became man to die for man. This unity is desired for the church. We are to be one as God and Jesus are one

**Witness to the world.** The world may believe in Jesus when the believers hold the truth of the eternal God and the gospel. Our union is therefore theological and not only in service, internal and not just external in evidence. Our witness to the world is in what we believe and not just our desire for peace and conformity to one another.

There is true Christian unity and a false one. Let us beware of Satan's counterfeit of Christian unity at the expense of biblical and doctrinal truth.

Dr Patrick Tan



ACN No: A0038695  
*"Hitherto hath the LORD helped us."*  
 1 Samuel 7:12  
 Supervisory & Senior Pastor  
 Dr S H Tan

# EBENEZER WEEKLY

606 – 622 Mt Dandenong Rd Kilsyth VIC 3137

Web Page: [www.ebenezerbpc.org](http://www.ebenezerbpc.org)

Date 29 November 2009

City Gospel F'ship  
 Resident Pastor

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Elder  
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Edward Meyale Tel: 9551 8979  
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 Chew Hou Lian (Treasurer), John Tann  
 Lim Hai Seng Tel: 9548 9193

Preacher

#### ORDER OF WORSHIP

	10.30 am (Ebenezer)	4.00 pm (City Gospel Fellowship)
<b>Pre Worship Praise</b>	Paul Yeo/Carol Raw (p)	Han Jie Soh
<b>Prelude</b>	Samantha Raw(p) Yvonne Yeap(o);Teo Hui Ern,Keene (f)	Yvonne Yeap
<b>Flowers</b>	Irene Khoo	
<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>		
<b>Call to Worship</b>	Dn. Philip Soon	William Ong
<b>Opening Hymn</b>	61 – O For a Thousand Tongues	36 – High In The Heavens, Eternal God
<b>Invocation</b>	Dn. Philip Soon	William Ong
<b>Gloria Patri</b>	<i>Glory Be To The Father</i>	
<b>Responsive Reading</b>	Galatians 5:16-26	Psalm 39
<b>Hymn</b>	445 – O Master Let Me Walk With Thee	387 – I Need Thee Every Hour
<b>Tithes / Offering</b>	403 – Count Your Blessings Huey Chan/John Tann/Vincent Tai/Thomas Tan	Rodney Chen
<b>Doxology</b>	<i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Rom 7:7-24 Huey Chan	Ecclesiastes 8 Rodney Chen
<b>Preparatory Hymn</b>	414 – Is Your All On The Alter?	359 – My Faith Looks Up To Thee
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>	Rev. Patrick Tan	Rev. Patrick Tan
	"I am A Wretched Man" Rev. Patrick Tan	"Discern Both Time and Judgment" Pr. Lim Hai Seng
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	117 – In Tenderness He Sought Me	386 – Be Thou My Vision
<b>Benediction</b>	Rev. Patrick Tan	Rev. Patrick Tan
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>The Lord Bless You &amp; Keep You</i>	
<b>**Next Week's Roster</b>	<b>06/12/2009 Ebenezer @ 10.30am</b>	<b>City Gospel Fellowship (CGF) @ 4 pm</b>
Speaker	Rev. Patrick Tan (LS) Stephen Lim/Samantha Raw (p) Dn Chew Hou Lian	Rev. Patrick Tan (LS) Heidi Ho Pr. Lim Hi Seng
Scripture Reader	Tye Kim Khiat	Andrew Lam
Musicians	Jia Hui Teo (p) Asha Meyale (o)	Grace Kong Andrew Lam
Ushers	David leong/John Tann/Joel Tan/Chris Rudalski	
Flowers	Margaret Campbell	
Fellowship Tea	Finger Food Fellowship – Bring A Dish	Yvonne Yeap

#### 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.

My dear readers,

## 1. Class of '47 Reunion

For four days (November 16 – 19, 2009), 21 of the original 75-member "Class of 1947" gathered at the "Cyberview Resort" in the newly developed "City of Cyberjaya," a brand new development midway between Kuala Lumpur City and its International Airport.

Since graduation from the King Edward VII College of Medicine (renamed University of Singapore) in 1953, the Class has held a dozen Reunions in various locations, mostly in Malaysia. The earlier gatherings were occasions for comparing notes on vital statistics – the number of offsprings, their sexes and ages, as well as to catch up with each other's achievements. With the passing of years, came along children's "boyfriends and girlfriends," followed by grandchildren: that is the natural course of life.

Inevitably the Class numbers shrank as time took its toll: this is the "attrition of years." At this latest gathering the roll call was 21 (54 of the original 75 members failed to turn up for various reasons – emigration, physical illness and disability, natural attrition).

Of those who turned up, the joy of meeting again, and the surprise "new look" of some members made the Reunion memorable. This brings to mind the descriptive account of Ecclesiastes 12:1-5 which speaks of "... evil days ... the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them ... the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few ... when they shall be afraid of that which is high ... and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets." The foregoing description by the wise King Solomon paints a picture of gloom and decline as life nears its end – even as our Reunion depicted.

The most noticeable feature was that of "strong men, and women, bowing themselves" because of arthritis of old age, and many holding on to walking sticks! Almost all were "afraid of that which is high" – staircases and steep bus-steps. Locomotion was laboured and halting: time and decay had done its work – silently and inexorably.

## 2. "What is your response to all this?"

As I try to paint a picture of our Class of 47, I am reminded of the classic hymn by Henry F. Lyte:

### Abide with Me – Stanza 2

*"Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day,  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;  
Change and decay in all around I see –  
O Thou who changest not, abide with me."*

The final night was a Farewell Banquet in the home of our illustrious classmates, Doctors Mahathir and Siti Hasmah (both titled: Tun, the highest honour conferred for exceptional contribution to the nation).

Before dinner, the Master of Ceremonies, a Malay young man said, "As we begin this Dinner, it is appropriate that we acknowledge God's great goodness to us by asking Him to bless our gathering of the Class 47." Then he intoned a prayer (which must have lasted a good ten minutes). There was perfect silence as the prayer was offered in Malay and English. This event was obviously requested by our hosts, who are deeply devout Muslims.

After dinner was concluded there was the usual traditional singing of College songs of yesteryear – songs of a bygone generation. One song (chorus only) is mentioned in particular, to highlight the carnal content of society's prevailing mood:

*"Enjoy yourself, it's later than you think"*

This mindless exhortation was repeated again and again some five times! The whole emphasis was "enjoy yourself, enjoy yourself," as though that was the chief purpose of our existence on Planet Earth.

Consider what our Lord said, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36). Re-stated: "For what shall it prosper a man, if he shall enjoy the whole world, and all that it has to offer, and lose his own soul?"

O the worth of one's soul! Four days of Reunion has provoked me to seriously re-consider: "The night is far spent, the day is at hand ..." (Rom 13:12). Indeed, it's later than we think! No more should any right thinking Christian indulge in worldly pastimes, and instead of "enjoy yourself" let him "employ himself" for the Master.

Truly it's later than you think! "The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof" (Rom 13:12-14).

God bless all readers.

*Faithfully in the Lord,  
Dr SH Tow, Sr Pastor  
(Penang, 21 November 20*