



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

EBENEZER WEEKLY

606 - 622 Mt Dandenong Rd Kilsyth VIC 3137

Web Page: www.ebenezerbpc.org

Date 28 March 2010

City Gospel F'ship 15 Drummond St, Carlton, VIC 3053.
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COMING WEEK APPOINTMENTS (29 March 2010 – 04 April 2010)			LAST WEEK'S Collection (21/03/10)		
			EBENEZER		CGF
TUE (30/03/10)	7.00 pm 7.45 pm	CGF Dinner James: L4 "Favouritism-Breaking God's Royal Law" Js 2:1-13	Attendance	145	36
Thurs (01/04/10)	8.00 pm	Maundy Thurs. – Rev. Tan Eng Boo (LS will be served)	Offerings	\$2,248.45	\$725.00
FRI (02/04/10)		Easter Camp – 3 – 5 Apr 2010 Prayer Meeting/BS – Recess	Designated - CGF Building Fund - Int		\$850
SAT (03/04/10)	8.00 pm 6.00 pm	YAF – Recess CGF Facilitators' & Prayer Meeting - Recess	Received To Date		
SUN (04/04/10)	9.30 am 9.45 am 10.15 am 10.30 am 11.45 am 12.15 pm 12.30 pm 2.30 pm 4.00 pm 6.00pm	Choir Practice - Recess Pre Worship Prayer Meeting Pre Worship Praise Easter Service – Eld. Lim Siah Chuan Sunday School Biscuit Fellowship SBC/BBK - Recess Strabane: - Recess CGF Worship – Recess CGF Singing Group/BBK - Recess	Internal Gift Internal Loan External Gift Art & Craft Book Sales Easter Service YTD Mission Fund YTD Pew/Sanctuary Sanctuary Air con.	317,727 127,000 435,994 846 2,244 3,000 17,760 (11,630)	
			Next Loan (Internal) Repayment	\$127,000	31 Dec 2010

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Welcome to Ebenezer:** All worshippers & friends invited for F'ship tea. Welcome Ps & Mrs Syd Bell.
- MAUNDY THURSDAY:** "The night in which Jesus was betrayed". Ebenezer BPC observes this special evening with a commemoration of the Lord's Supper. Speaker Rev Tan Eng Boo. Please come as there will be no Good Fri worship.
- SUPPER Fellowship** – Please bring a plate of finger food for a time of fellowship
- EASTER SUNDAY:** Campers will observe Easter at Halls Gap. Ebenezer & CGF will assemble at Kilsyth on Sun Apr 4 at 10.30 am to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus. Speaker Eld Lim Siah Chuan. Chairman Dn Philip Soon.
- PRAYER FOCUS: a) HEALTH & HEALING:** Olivia Ong, Koh Choon Fong, Michael Yap, Odilia, Tina, Ai Choo, Alan Muzon, Richard Turner. **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-Molot** June Korir; **Laos** Surish, **Batam** Ev Roska Sihombing & Pr Efendi Ginting; Schools & Churches, Ev Ang Liang Filadelfia Shelter Home. **Chiangmai** Rev Nirand & Jess.
- YOUTH WINTER CONFERENCE:** Jun 30-Jul 3 Speaker Dr Bob Vandermay Theme: "Believing God & Honouring Him in Our Loves" Titus 3:8.
- HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:** Mar 28 10.30am: Palm Sun, sp Ps Syd Bell; Apr 1, 8pm: Maundy Thu (LS), sp Rev Tan Eng Boo; Apr 4 10.30 am: Easter Sun, sp Eld Lim Siah Chuan. Need helpers for Easter Service, see Rita or pastor.
- EASTER FAMILY CAMP 2010:** Today immediately after worship service, Campers remain in the sanctuary for briefing by the camp master on admin for the travel and camp.
- FRIDAY PRAYER MEETING:** 8 pm at Kilsyth. Calling all worshippers to come together for corporate prayer. There is a Bible study on Galatians.
- DR PETER YONG:** Praise the Lord for a successful operation for acute pain in the abdomen on Mon night. He is recovering well.
- FAMILY DAY & WORKING BEE:** Many thanks for those who responded to clean God's house for the Holy Week.
- VISIT OF SUPERVISORY PASTOR:** Ebenezer BPC has invited Dr Tow Siang Hwa to visit us in Oct 2010 for the election of the new Session and Reformation Sunday.
- MINISTRY OF CGF & MBS:** Praise the Lord for good attendance at the Bible Study on Tue and Fri night. CGF studies Epistle of James & MBS on 2 Sam. Pray for all the facilitators.

Memory Verse: Luke 9:23 "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."

Pastoral Meditation

TRULY THIS IS THE SON OF GOD

"And when the centurion, which stood over against him, saw that he so cried out, and gave up the ghost, he said, Truly this was the Son of God." Mark 15:39.

Events on Friday were the most painful in the life of our Lord. Jesus was tried before the hostile Sanhedrin. The High Priest who presided demanded His death. Only Rome had the power of capital sentence. Pontius Pilate the Roman governor could not stop the death cry of the people. Reluctantly he ordered the execution and washed his hands. This was a grave miscarriage of Roman justice.

Jesus was whipped and a crown of thorns placed on His sacred head. His garments were possessed by soldiers by casting of lots. He was then led to Golgotha to be crucified between 2 thieves. From noon to 3 pm there was darkness over the land. In the cruel events of good Friday at least 3 people confessed faith in Jesus.

COMING TO FAITH ON GOOD FRIDAY

SIMON CARRY THE CROSS. He was from Cyrene, a city in Libya in north Africa. He was pressed by the Roman soldiers to carry the cross of Jesus. It was God's appointment for Simon to be chosen. We read of his sons Alexander and Rufus to be members of the NT church. Mk 15:21; Rom 16:13. Discipleship demands of us to carry the cross of Christ. Lk 9:23. Are we ready to bear the cross and suffer for Jesus?

THIEF ON THE CROSS. OT prophecy predicted that the Messiah would be crucified with transgressors. Isa 63:12. The amazing doctrine of election saw one thief pleading with Jesus, "Lord, remember me." Jesus promised him paradise and salvation. Death bed conversions have been recorded. Yet we must not delay coming to the Saviour. "Now is the accepted time." 2 Cor 6:2

CENTURION BENEATH THE CROSS. He was a Gentile. He was a Roman soldier assigned to supervise the crucifixion. His task no doubt was to certify death. Jesus gave a loud cry, "It is finished." Jn 19:30. He saw the death of an innocent man, but He was no ordinary mortal. The events were extraordinary and signified the death of deity. Jesus is God incarnate and He has come to save sinful man.

Dr Patrick Tan

ORDER OF WORSHIP		
	10.30 am (Ebenezer) Mission Sunday	4.00 pm (City Gospel Fellowship)
Pre Worship Praise	William Ong/Judith Lim(p)	Grace Kong
Prelude	Samantha Raw(p) Yvonne Yeap(o)Hui En,Keene Chan (f)	Han Jie Soh
Flowers	Serene Yam	
<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>		
Call to Worship	Dn. Chew Hou Lian	Paul Yeo
Opening Hymn	209 – Because He Lives	8 – Holy, Holy, Holy
Invocation	Dn. Chew Hou Lian	Paul Yeo
Gloria Patri	<i>Glory Be To The Father</i>	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 22: 1 - 22	Ephesians 4: 1-16
Hymn	196 – Blessed Redeemer	493 – Rolled Away
Tithes / Offering	420 – I Surrender All N. Lindenburg/David Leong/William Ong/Lionel Leong	419 – Take My Life & Let It Be Rong Sheng Keel/Kee Zhi Wong
Doxology	<i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	
Scripture Reading	Acts 13: 1-12 Paul Yeo	1 Corinthians 12: 1-13 Kee Zhi Wong
Preparatory Hymn	216 – Jesus Shall Reign	446 – Lord, Speak To Me
Pastoral Prayer	Rev. Patrick Tan	Rev. Patrick Tan
	"The Most Unique Eight Days in All Human History" Pastor Syd. Bell	"Diversities Of Spiritual Gifts" Eld. Loke Tat Luen
Closing Hymn	225 – Christ Returneth	80 – The Day Thou Gavest, Lord
Benediction	Rev. Patrick Tan	Rev. Patrick Tan
Postlude	<i>The Lord Bless You & Keep You</i>	
**Next Week's Roster	04/04/2010 Ebenezer @ 10.30am	City Gospel Fellowship (CGF) @ 4 pm
Speaker	Eld. Lim Siah Chuan	<i>COMBINED</i>
Pre Worship Praise		
Worship Leader	Dn. Philip Soon	<i>SERVICE WITH</i>
Scripture Reader	Jock Campbell	
Musicians	Rachel Soon(p) Asha Meyale (o)	<i>EBENEZER</i>
Ushers	Chris Rudalski/Victor Ho/N. Lindenburg/Robert Chua	
Flowers	Mrs. Sue Edward	
Fellowship Tea	Biscuit Fellowship	<i>10.30AM</i>

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. **"Thistle Hotel," venue of Session Retreat 2010**

Calvary Pandan held its Session Retreat at "Thistle Hotel," Johor Baru, March 18 – 20. Except for three Elders who were on official duties in Singapore, all the Session members were present, including some families. Thank God for providing us the excellent facility to conduct our meetings and deliberations.

2. **Theme of our Retreat: "Perils of the End Time"**

Appropriate "Guide Notes" for our deliberations was our Conference Theme: "Perils of the End Time," as God's Word has warned in 2 Timothy 3:1: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come" when men shall be "lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God" (v 4), "for we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph 6:12).

How much must we servants of God rely on the Spirit for wisdom, direction and power as we wrestle against Satan, the god of this world.

3. **A matter of Time and Priority**

As we surveyed the scene, it became quite clear: our problem, put in a nutshell, is "Time and Priority." The "god of this world," working by legitimate means, has all but taken away our precious hours and minutes, leaving us barely any time to attend to more needful things: for Quiet Time, for Reflection, service, and spiritual employments.

Our children today are busy, busy, busy! Amazing new stuff fills their curriculums, taking up practically all their hours, leaving hardly any time for spiritual needs.

The same applies to parents and elders: their workdays are similarly filled with ever-increasing demands to do more and to do better, simply to keep pace with "modern life."

4. **What, then, must we do?**

"Spiritual things must be spiritually discerned." By prayer and supplication, we make known our concerns to our Master and Lord. He who called us "...is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us" (Eph 3:20).

We considered the urgent needs of the Church, the problems and solutions, and committed them to the Lord in prayer. We are confident, and are sure, that He who called us to serve will also help us to solve these hard problems. Only, be faithful and steadfast, always abounding in the work of the Lord (1 Cor 15:58).

5. **Areas of need – urgent**

For a congregation of our size, our Session is "under-powered." So much work is being done by so few. But our God is able to multiply our effectiveness, "...according to the power that worketh in us" (Eph 3:20).

We need more willing hands to join us in the work to share out the load, for this is "reasonable service" for all who have received the saving grace of God. And the best workers are the volunteers – men and women, and youths – those who are minded to repay their "gospel debt" unto the Lord who gave us His all.

One area of urgent need is the "CMC" – Calvary Missions to Children. Here is the "acid test" of devotion, to sacrifice one's Saturday afternoon in order to help little children aged 4 – 12 years know the Saviour. Our CMC currently ministers to 70 – 80 children, mostly from non-Christian homes within a 5-mile radius. Each Saturday four buses, manned by volunteer members, go out to homes and fetch the children to Pandan, to join other children hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is a labour of love. It requires strong resolution and a grateful heart. I speak to readers who are minded to join in a most rewarding and satisfying ministry. If the message has touched your heart, please see me, or Deacon and Mrs Vincent Teo, or Mr Simon Chua. God bless you.

6. **"Golden Years" Mini Camp in Penang, June 15 – 19, 2010**

God-willing, Preacher Lek and I will lead a group of our "Old Folks" and a few helpers to Penang for our second "Mini Bible Camp." The theme "Rejoice with joy unspeakable" (1 Pet 1:8) is especially suitable for the "Golden Years." Let's pray for a blessed time of comfort and encouragement in the Lord. Older readers, please pray and come, join us for a time of happy fellowship in the Lord.

God bless all readers with His peace.

Faithfully in the Lord
Dr SH Tow, Sr Pastor