



EBENEZER WEEKLY

606 - 622 Mt Dandenong Rd Kilsyth VIC 3137

Web Page: www.ebenezerbpc.org

Date 22 February 2009

City Gospel F'ship
Resident Pastor

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Elder
Deacons

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"Hitherto hath the LORD helped us."

1 Samuel 7:12

Supervisory & Senior Pastor

Dr S H Tow

COMING WEEK APPOINTMENTS (23 February – 1 March 2009)			LAST WEEK'S Collection (15/02/09)	
			EBENEZER	CGF
TUE (24/02/09)	7.00 pm	CGF Dinner Fellowship	Attendance	45
FRI (27/02/09)	8.00 pm	Sharing/Summary of Parables	Offerings	\$1,767.35
SAT (28/02/09)	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting/YAF: Ps Patrick Tan.	Building Fund	\$1,200
SUN (01/03/09)	8.00 pm	CGF - BS Discussion /Prayer meeting	Bushfire Appeal	\$2,103.75
	9.30 am	Choir Practice	Love Gift	
	9.30 am	Pre Worship Prayer Meeting	Pew	\$30
	10.15 am	Pre Worship Praise	Internal Loan	
	10.30 am	Ebenezer Worship: "Rejoice in the Lord" Psalm 9 – Rev.Patrick Tan (LS)	Received To Date	
	11.45 am	Sunday School	Internal Gift	266,744
	12.30 pm	Tea Fellowship	Internal Loan	192,000
	12.45 pm	Bible Study – The King is Coming - Rev Patrick Tan	External Gift	409,277
	2.30 pm	Strabane: - Dn Stephen Lim	External Loan	150,000
	2.30 pm	BBK at CGF	Art & Craft	846
	4.00 pm	CGF – "Son of Promise" Gal 4:23 – Rev.Patrick Tan (LS)	Book Sales	1,644
	6.00pm	CGF Singing Group Practice	Mission Fund YTD	1,450
			Pew	9,500
			Building Fund giving since 01/07/08:	15,570
			Next Loan	
			Repayment	150,000
				01 July 09

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. WARM WELCOME: Welcome to families of David & Lellian Seet; Richard & Lareen Ng. Join us for tea fellowship after the service.

2. BASIC BIBLE KNOWLEDGE – Those interested please see Elder Meyale. (Ebenezer), Pr. Lim Hai Seng (CGF)

3. PRAYER FOCUS: a) **HEALTH & HEALING** (CGF): Stephanie, Mildred, Thomas, Priscilla's mother, Anne's mother, Ps John McKenzie Adelaide, Peter Kooy, Vicky's mother. Olivia Ong, Richard & Lorraine Turner, Simon Jean, Kathy Tye

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**, c) **OVERSEAS & INTERSTATE:** Dr Tow Siang Hwa, Damien, Su Shiang Lo **FEBC**, Huan, 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. For families affected by the Victorian Bush fire.

4. TRAVEL – Pray for those returning to Melbourne, new students as they settle to study. Traveling overseas for their holidays: Dn Khoo Yew Hock, Marcos & Thomas in Cambodia.

5. ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Attendance 58. Both ACM & Election smooth. Ps elected to serve a 3 year term (2009-2011)

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 28-July 2. Speaker: Rev Isaac Ong, Pastor of Calvary BPC (Jurong). YAF/CGF organizing.

8. CGF WELCOME EVENING: 3 Mar at 7 pm. New students. Help needed from members of mother church to bring a dish. 8 pm Gospel meeting.

MEMORY VERSE 1 Corinthians 14:40 "Let all things be done decently and in order."

From PULPIT to PEW

EXCEPT YOU REPENT

"I tell you, Nay; but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3; 5.

The bush fires that raged in Victoria have caused untold damages in lives and property. Marysville where we held many Easter camps has been entirely destroyed. We thank God for the valiant efforts of the fire and rescue workers. We pray for those who suffered. Why did God allow so much pain and devastation? Danny Nalliah a charismatic pastor of the Pentecostal church "Catch the Fire Ministries" is reported by the Age that God punished because of Victoria's relaxation of the Abortion Law. Barney Swartz, a Presbyterian religious reporter called for sympathy and not condemnation. He asked Christians to remember Rom 8:28.

Jesus was asked to explain the murder of Galilians by Pilate. Were they more sinful? The tower of Siloam collapsed on 18 people. Did they above others deserve death?

REASONS FOR SUFFERING

WARNING FROM JESUS. All men are worthy of death because of our sins. "For the wages of sin is death" Rom 6:23. To escape death we must come to Christ. "But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Except you repent.

LESSON FROM JOB. Satan is at war with God and he is the accuser of the brethren. Rev 12:10. God allowed Job to suffer. Thus the righteous is often not spared by natural disasters.

ENCOURAGEMENT FROM PAUL. God promises strength to meet the trials of life. "My grace is sufficient for thee" 2 Cor 12:9. Christians mature in faith and learn to depend on God. "When I am weak, then am I strong."

WAITING FOR GOD'S REDEMPTION. Our hope is in God and eternal life when we exit from the earth. "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable." 1 Cor 15:19. Believers wait anxiously to meet with Christ.

Dr Patrick Tan

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	10.30 am (Ebenezer)	4.00 pm (City Gospel Fellowship)
Pre Worship Praise	Paul Yeo/Trisha Yeo (p)	Han Jie Soh
Prelude	Carol Raw(p) Hannah Chia (o) Hui En, Keene (f)	Keene Chen
Flowers	Belle Raw	
<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>		
Call to Worship	Pr Hai Seng Lim	Dn John Tann
Opening Hymn	Majesty hymnal - Worship the Lord	283 – In Times Like These
Invocation	Pr Hai Seng Lim	Dn John Tann
Gloria Patri	<i>Glory Be To The Father</i>	
Responsive Reading	Isaiah 40:10 - 26	Romans 3:10 - 26
Hymn	281 – There is Power in the Blood	284 – Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus
Tithes / Offering	309 – Thank you, Lord Robert Chua/Alan Mouzon/Thomas Tan/David Leong	309 – Thank you, Lord Andrew Lam/Perryn Ng
Doxology	<i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	
Scripture Reading	Psalm 8 - Huey Chan	Romans 1:16 – 32 – Perryn Ng
Gospel song	Dn Stephen Lim	CGF Singers - Grace
Preparatory Hymn	288 – Are You Washed in the Blood?	295 – The Light of the World is Jesus
Family Prayer	Rev. Patrick Tan	Rev. Patrick Tan
Sermon	"Man's insignificance" Rev. Patrick Tan	"Gospel Bridge" Pr Hai Seng Lim
Closing Hymn	266 – I Am Coming Home, Lord	In His Time
Benediction	Rev. Patrick Tan	Rev. Patrick Tan
Postlude	<i>The Lord Bless You & Keep You</i>	
**Next Week's Roster	(01/03/09) @ 10.30 am	City Gospel Fellowship (CGF) @ 4 pm
Speaker	Rev. Patrick Tan (LS)	Rev. Patrick Tan (LS)
Pre Worship Praise	Dn Stephen Lim/Samantha Raw	Kee Zhi Wong
Worship Leader	Dn Philip Soon	Joo Seng Yap
Scripture Reader	Dr Peter Yong	Kee Zhi Wong
Pianist	Jia Hui Teo (p)/ Asha Meyale(o)	Jia Hui Teo
Ushers	John Tann/Huey Chan/Peter Yong/Richard Ang	Kee Zhi wong/Stuart Turner
Flowers	Stephanie Ho	
Tea Fellowship	Church Lunch (bring-a-dish)	Lynn Wirayasaputra

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

15 February 2009

My dear readers,

1. Present "Economic Downturn" hits home

Two weeks ago I received a letter from a member, reprinted here for readers' encouragement.

"I write to thank you for your timely messages on Sunday, both over the pulpit as well as in the Bulletin. Why timely?

I have just lost my job and I know that given the current economic situation and job market, it is going to be tough for me to find a job. Yet when I look back on what God has done for me, I know I can look forward without fear but with calm confidence on the faithfulness, grace and mercy of God to see me through yet another trial period in my life.

It always thrills me afterwards, after the storm has passed, how God over-rules when man can only rule. Your sharing of the purchase of the house at Andrew Road shows clearly again, that God always works in mysterious ways, when we commit and trust Him. How great is our God! Do pray for me that God will lead me to a job soon."

Let us remember one another in our daily prayers.

2. "Cast thy bread upon the waters"

This week I release another "preview" from "Footprints," to encourage members in every good work for the Lord and the gospel.

Solomon, in this verse from Ecclesiastes Chapter 11, presses upon the Christian reader to be liberal in good works as often as the occasion presents. Such benevolent acts will abound to their account in a later day.

He says, "Cast thy bread upon the waters for thou shalt find it after many days." This alludes to the sower who goes forth and scatters precious seed apparently to no purpose. He may need to wait "many days" but the harvest will surely come in time.

In Gospel work the same principle applies. A good act, a timely word fitly spoken for the gospel, may not bear fruit for a time, perhaps years, but this should not deter us from "sowing the gospel seed" and persevering in every worthy endeavour. God is able to multiply the scattered seed with a bountiful harvest in after years. Therefore be not weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not (Galatians 6:9).

In one of my rare house-calls to see Mrs Teo Poh Kong, a post-hysterectomy patient, I noticed three children, two boys and a girl, ranging from six to ten. Here was a gospel opportunity, I thought. That was in 1969.

"Mrs Teo, do your children attend Sunday School?"

"No, they stay home on Sunday."

"Would you mind if I come by this Sunday and fetch them to my Church? Your children will love Sunday School; we have two hundred happy kids."

For the next two years, on our way to Life BP Church in Gilstead Road, we took a little detour, so the Teo children could receive the Gospel.

The years passed and I lost track of the Teo family until I was called to help the New Life BP Church in London in 1996. There, lo and behold, I found Dr Teo Chong Gee, younger son of Mr and Mrs Teo Poh Kong, settled in London with wife and three children, Esmeralda, Elrond and Ellerina.

Dr Teo was one of the two Teo children who had followed me to Life Church Sunday School in those early years. There he received the Lord. Later, he was elected Deacon of Grace BP Church (an offshoot of Life Church). In 1984 Dr Teo and family migrated to London.

For nine years, Dr Teo served as Elder of our newly formed New Life BP Church, London. In this appointment he and his family rendered excellent and faithful service until he moved to the USA in 2005.

Then in July 2007, I received a letter from the USA, written by Chong Gee's Sister Aye Tee.

"Dear Dr Tow,

Our Heavenly Father was most gracious to bring you and Mrs Tow into our lives forty years ago! Thank you for your faithfulness in taking us to church, Sunday after Sunday, exposing us to the Word of God. Your love and concern for us through the years remind us of the apostle Paul's love for Timothy. Through your care, my parents and brothers have come to receive the Lord and the good news of salvation. You are instrumental in God's loving hand in pulling us away from the world of darkness and despair into God's love and hope."

Signed Aye Tee Monaco

(Aye Tee is married to Daniel Monaco. They have two teenage daughters, Lauren and Kathryn. They attend a fundamental Bible Believing Presbyterian Church in Dallas, Texas, USA).

We conclude by quoting again from God's Word, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:9).

3. "Through the Bible in 2009"

We are now in the second month of a challenging exercise. As I have said, you need to be consistent and committed. Let us persevere and see if God will not help you grow in knowledge of His wonderful word of life.

Lovingly in the Lord

Dr SH Tow, Sr Pastor