



# EBENEZER WEEKLY

606 - 622 Mt Dandenong Rd Kilsyth VIC 3137

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

Date 29 March 2009

City Gospel F'ship  
Resident Pastor

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Elder  
Deacons  
Preacher

ACN No: A0038695

"Hit herto hath the LORD helped us."

1 Samuel 7:12

Supervisory & Senior Pastor

Dr S H Tow

COMING WEEK APPOINTMENTS (30 March – 05 April 2009)			LAST WEEK'S Collection (22/03/09)		
			EBENEZER		CGF
<b>TUE</b> (31/03/09)	7.00 pm	CGF BS Dinner Fellowship	<b>Attendance</b>	121	61
<b>FRI</b> (03/04/09)	8.00 pm	Mark 4 - "The Harvest Is Come"	<b>Offerings</b>	\$2961	\$323.10
<b>SAT</b> (04/04/09)	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting: Dr. Stephen Lim	<b>Building Fund</b>		\$400
<b>SUN</b> (05/04/09)	8.00 pm	YAF: 12 Apostles-Andrew	<b>Misc</b>	\$270	\$319.51
		Monash BS "Miracles of Jesus"	<b>MBS</b>		\$50
		CGF - BS Discussion /Prayer meeting	<b>Internal Loan</b>		
	9.30 am	Choir Practice	<b>Received To Date</b>		
	9.30 am	Pre Worship Prayer Meeting	Internal Gift	270,170	
	10.15 am	Pre Worship Praise	Internal Loan	192,000	
	10.30 am	Ebenezer Worship: "Salt of the Earth, Light of The World" LS & Palm Sunday - Rev Patrick Tan	External Gift	409,277	
	11.45 am	Sunday School	External Loan	150,000	
	12.15 pm	Church Lunch – Bring a Dish	Art & Craft	846	
	12.45 pm	SBC: No Class today	Book Sales	1,644	
	2.30 pm	Strabane: - Dn. John Tann	Mission Fund YTD	1,450	
	2.30 pm	BBK at CGF	Pew	9,890	
	4.00 pm	CGF: "Flee From The Presence of God" Jonah (LS) - Pr. Hai Seng Lim	Building Fund giving since 01/07/08:	18,996	
	6.00pm	CGF Singing Group Practice	<b>Next Loan</b>	95,000	01 July 09
			<b>Repayment</b>	100,000	31 Dec 09

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. WARM WELCOME:** Stay back for fellowship tea.
- 2. BBK:** Elder Meyale, (Ebenezer), Pr. Lim Hai Seng (CGF) **SBC:** Today Dr Stephen Lim on Christ's Second Coming. All welcome.
- 3. PRAYER FOCUS: a) HEALTH & HEALING:** Stephanie, Mildred, Thomas, Priscilla's mother, Anne's mother, Vicky's mother. Olivia Ong, Richard & Lorraine Turner, Michael Yap **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 & Nirand **Chiangmai**, **c) OVERSEAS & INTERSTATE:** Dr Tow Siang Hwa, Damien, Su Shiang Lo **FEBC**, Joseph, 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**, Eric Choong in **Malaysia**. **Special prayer:** Anne Clements & family
- 4. GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE:** In conjunction with the Easter Camp, there will be a Good Friday worship service on Fri 10 April at 9.00 am. It will be a full worship with full complement of worship leader, ushers, & musician. Non campers and friends please come to remember our Lord's suffering. No Maundy Thu service.
- 5. EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE:** To remember the Lord's resurrection the congregation will assemble for a sunrise service at Kilsyth on Sun 12 Apr at 9 am. After the service the congregation will have Brunch fellowship.
- 6. EASTER CAMP 2009:** Date: 10-11 April 09, Venue 606-622 Kilsyth, Speaker: Pr. David Weng, Camp Master: Chew Hou Lian. Topic: "Pursuit of Piety" VBS for Sunday School children by Preacher Lim Hai Seng. **Urgent** – Please register today with Paul Yeo. We need the Nos. for planning and catering. Payments to be made to Susanna Ting.
- 7. YOUTH WINTER CAMP:** June 28-July 2. Sp.: Rev Isaac Ong, Pastor of Calvary BPC, Venue Lyrebird Park, Yellingbo. Huey camp master.
- 8. WORKING BEE:** 04th April 2009. We invite all to come and join in this service for the Lord as we do a spring cleaning of the Church and its grounds. Please see John for more info.
- 9. REV PETER CLEMENTS:** We sadly announce the home going of Rev Peter Clements on Fri 20 Mar at 3 am. Pray for Anne & 6 children
- 10. HOPE BPC EASTER CAMP:** Ps & Mrs P Tan will speak at Hope BPC Easter camp. Theme: Serving the Lord in Spirit and in Truth. Josh 24:15.
- 11. CHURCH LUNCH 05/4/09** – There will be church lunch next Sunday.

From Pulpit to Pew

### MY BROTHER AND COMPANION

"Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and companion in labour, and fellow soldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants." Phil 2:25.

The pastoral ministry is a difficult one. Paul the apostle was both a missionary and a pastor. He was grateful to God for men like Timothy and Epaphroditus who assisted him in the ministry to the local churches. Christians need spiritual feeding. Elders need to be warned to defend the flock. "Therefore watch, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn everyone night and day with tears." Acts 20:31. Pastors protect the flock.

### Assisting In the Ministry Companion in labour

When Jesus appointed 70 disciples he sent them out 2 by 2. "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few." Lk 10:2. They are to look after one another as brothers. "2 are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour." Ecc 4:9. Companionship in God's work has a multiplier effect. Deut 32:30. Paul believed in team work. Session is a team.

### Fellow Soldier

Christian ministry is spiritual warfare. It is a fight for the souls of men. Satan is our adversary. The weapons of our warfare are spiritual "mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds." 2 Cor 10:4. We fight shoulder to shoulder. We bind one another's wounds. Paul often felt lonely, especially when he was in the Roman prison. He was glad that Luke was with him. 2 Tim 4:11.

### Your messenger

The Philippian church sent Paul financial support. He was self supporting through tent making. Acts 18:3. But God supplied all his needs. Paul was careful not to murmur. He lived frugally. "In whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Phil 4:11. Paul appreciated a friend from the church who cared for him.

Dr. Patrick Tan

**Memory Verse: Psalm 19:7** "The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure making wise the simple."

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

	10.30 am (Ebenezer)	4.00 pm (City Gospel Fellowship)
<b>Pre Worship Praise</b>	Stephen Lim/Carol Raw (p)	William Ong
<b>Prelude</b>	Judith Lim(p) Asha Meyale (o) Hui En, Keene (f)	Yvonne Yeap
<b>Flowers</b>	Mrs. Sue Edward	
<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>		
<b>Call to Worship</b>	Pr. Lim Hai Seng	Pr. Hai Seng Lim
<b>Opening Hymn</b>	75 – Come, Christians Join To Sing	MH 57– Worship The Lord
<b>Invocation</b>	Pr. Lim Hai Seng	Pr. Hai Seng Lim
<b>Gloria Patri</b>	<i>Glory Be To The Father</i>	
<b>Responsive Reading</b>	Psalm 46	Psalm 1
<b>Hymn</b>	319 – It Is Well With My Soul	MH 475 – Rejoice In The Lord
<b>Tithes / Offering</b>	454 – Make Me a Blessing Jonathan Liao/Huey Chan/Peter Yong/Richard Ang	454 – Make Me A Blessing Kee Zhi Wong /Wei Yong Lee
<b>Doxology</b>	<i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Psalm 13 Mark Yeo	Galatians 6:11-18 Wei Yong Lee
<b>Preparatory Hymn</b>	311 – Does Jesus Care	MH 577 – Be Strong In The Lord
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>	Rev. Patrick Tan	Rev. Patrick Tan
<b>Sermon</b>	"Trust In God's Mercy" Rev. Patrick Tan	" Marks Of Jesus" John Chen
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	115 – Constantly Abiding	551 – When I Survey
<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>(05/04/09) @ 10.30 am</b>	<b>City Gospel Fellowship (CGF) @ 4 pm</b>
<b>Speaker</b>	Rev. Patrick Tan (LS)	Pr. Hai Seng Lim (LS)
<b>Pre Worship Praise</b>	Huey Chan/ Samantha Raw	Rong Sheng Kee
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Dr. Stephen Lim	William Ong
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	William Ong	Keene Chen
<b>Pianist</b>	Jia Hui Teo (p)/ Yvonne Yeap(o)	Rachel Soon
<b>Ushers</b>	John Tann/Wong Kwang Kow/Alan Mouzon/Vincent Tai	Keene Chen/Stuart Turner
<b>Flowers</b>	Margaret Campbell	
<b>Tea Fellowship</b>	Church Lunch – Bring A Dish	Jean Ching/Susanna Ting

### 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.

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. Lesson in following – forsaking the world!

*"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."* (Matt 16:24)

The pain of severing a fourteen-year association was eased by the excitement of setting up one's own practice, building on the experience gained in that fabulous Birth-quake KKH of Guinness Records fame. But while the Clinic took shape and grew *"from strength to strength,"* I had not for a moment forgotten my 1938 vow to give myself in the Master's service.

Writing forty years later, and with the advantage of hindsight, it is ever so clear that the Author of the consecration vow was also the Director of its fulfilment. To some young person whom the Lord may call, rest assured, *"...thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it .."* (Isa 30:21). Herein is the secret of discipleship: when the Lord calls, He will also facilitate the response.

Managing a private Clinic, one is in a position to order the pace of life and pattern of practice according to one's own purpose. In the speciality of "OB-GYN" (Obstetrics and Gynaecology) the OB part is by far the most time consuming and attention demanding part. When one accepts an expectant woman it is a commitment to a nine-month-long "on call" 24 hours daily standby duty for the relief and comfort of the patient, until she has been safely delivered of her baby and established in the duties of motherhood.

### 2. Make time for the Lord

That, in brief, describes the burden imposed by each pregnancy added to one's patient load. Incidentally, this "built-in" responsibility is implied in the word "obstetrician" which literally means *"one who stands by the pregnant woman for nine months!"*

My practice, from the first, was by design weighted on GYN and light on OB, for reasons stated, so as to make time for fulfilling the 1938 promise. Foremost in my thinking was the call to servanthood. Constantly I was reminded by my Master "whose I am and whom I serve" that servanthood demanded total surrender.

The verse of that hymn classic by Scotland's Horatius Bonar touches a responsive chord in the heart:

*"Go labour on, spend and be spent;  
Thy joy to do the Father's will;  
It is the way the Master went;  
Should not the servant tread it still?"*

If my Lord went to Calvary to bear away my sins, can I His bondservant do any less than to return my body "a living sacrifice" (Rom 12:1), to bear my cross and follow Him?

Conscious or not, we followers are also imitators: we all have our "hero models." For me, as for all true disciples, it is the Lord Himself. But the Lord has also given us godly men whose examples we do well to imitate. As the Apostle said, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ" (1 Cor 11:1).

### 3. John Sung My Example

Memories and blessings of the revival meetings of God's servant Dr John Sung remain to this day, the foundation on which much of my work has been built. During those formative years from ten to thirteen, God sent four annual "spiritual feasts" of fire-hot-Spirit-charged sermons (three 2-hour sessions daily through two weeks each year).

What lessons did I learn from John Sung?

From his example one learned the meaning of "consecration." Dr John Sung lived simply, dressed simply, ate simply, for the Gospel's sake. For John Sung, life was in the chorus –

*"All for Jesus, all for Jesus,  
All my days and all my hours" -*

Dr John Sung literally spent himself for the Lord in the relentless pursuit of souls - the evangelizing of the Chinese in China and Southeast Asia.

### 4. All for Jesus

In his complete consecration, the beloved Doctor refrained from socialising and any sort of entertainment. Like the Apostle Paul, he *"determined not to know anything ... save Jesus Christ, and him crucified"* (1 Cor 1:2), *"... for to me to live is Christ ..."* (Phil 1:21).

Knowing that he had only a short fifteen-year span wherein to repay his gospel debt, he literally burned out for His Lord in fifteen blazing years. When racked by pain of cancer, he preached sitting (or in his final days from his sick bed). No better verse describes Dr John Sung's indomitable spirit than the Apostle's own testimony in Acts 20:24: *"But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God."*

John Sung's life was immersed in *"prayer and ... the ministry of the word"* (Acts 6:4). The power in his preaching lay in his praying, and his *"infecting"* the congregation with the same spirit. When he called for prayer, the response was a thunderous vocal invocation and supplication from a thousand redeemed voices.

How I long for a return of those Spirit-blessed days!

John Sung taught us to witness. Every truly born again believer was instructed, *"Go and tell, for the Lord!"* We formed ourselves into Evangelistic Bands with the promise to go witnessing at least once a week. And why not? Ashamed? Listen! Our Lord says, *"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven"* (Matt 10:32,33).

*Lovingly in the Lord  
Dr SH Tow, Sr Pastor*