



Church of Singapore
新加坡教会

BEHOLD THE HARVEST

JULY 2024

IT'S MISSIONS TIME!

Contents

03 **MISSIONS CONVENTION PROGRAMME**

04 **MISSION TRIP DATES**

05 **FOREWORD**

06 **SINGAPORE**
Stepping Into The Hearts
Of Doorstep Souls

08 **MALAYSIA**
Simpang Renggam
Kuala Lumpur

10 **CAMBODIA**
Siem Reap

12 **VIETNAM**
Ho Chi Minh

14 **INDIA**
Siliguri

16 **INDONESIA**
Tanjung Pinang

Editor:

Foong Daw Ching

Editorial Team:

Henry Yeo, Serene Ng, Yeo Hong Hai,
Chong Sal Liang, Regina Chao, Koh Chin Kok,
Rachel Yim, Rachel Koh, Ho Suet Sen

MCI (P) 017/01/2024



Mission Convention 2024

Dr Walter McConnell

Biodata

Walter McConnell originally comes from a small town near Seattle in America, but now splits his time between Coleraine, Northern Ireland and Singapore. He served with OMF in Taiwan for about eight years as a church planter and theological educator. After completing his PhD in Old Testament at Queen's University of Belfast, he taught for seven years at the Singapore Bible College. From 2010-2013, he was a pastor at the Belfast Chinese Christian Church, before returning to Singapore to be the Head of Mission Research for OMF and the editor of Mission Round Table, OMF's journal for reflective practitioners.

Walter is married to Claire and they have five grown children and seven grandchildren.

Programme 2024

03 JULY **Mission Focus Prayer Meeting | Galilee Hall**
Wednesday | 7:45pm - 9:15pm

19 - 20 JULY **Mission Convention (*Bilingual*) | Chapel**
Friday | 7:30pm - 9:30pm
Saturday | 4:30pm - 6:30pm

20 JULY **Mission Workshop (*Bilingual*) | Galilee Hall**
Saturday | 2pm - 3:30pm
Tea Fellowship | 3:30pm - 4:15pm

21 JULY **Mission Convention Sunday | Chapel**
English / Mandarin Service
Sunday | 8:45am - 10:15am

Bilingual / Filipino Service
Sunday | 11am - 12.30pm

Mission Trip

From August To December 2024



PHILIPPINES ILOCOS REGION VISAYAS



Date

December

27 Nov - 1 Dec



Leaders/Services

Philip Chia

Paul Yeo



Estimate cost

\$700

\$700



CAMBODIA SIEM REAP PHNOM PENH

December

Jaslyn Leong

\$700

December

Celine Woo / Janice Ang

\$700



VIETNAM

19 - 23 Dec

Henry Yeo

\$500



INDIA

30 Oct - 05 Nov

Sabrina Kirk /
Annabelle Zhang

\$950



INDONESIA TANJUNG PINANG

09 - 11 Aug

Lim Kok Seng / John Tang

\$290

06 - 08 Sept

John Tang

\$290

29 Nov - 01 Dec

Ong Chiau Ho

\$290

KARIMUN

06 - 08 Dec

Tracy Lim / Herman

\$290



MALAYSIA MELAKA

21 - 22 Sept

Bilingual Service

23 - 24 Nov

Hokkien Service

KUANTAN

23 - 25 Aug

Bilingual Service

SIMPANG RENGAM

17 Aug

Cantonese Service

07 Sept

Mandarin Service

05 Oct

Mandarin Service

02 Nov

Mandarin Service

07 Dec

Mandarin Service

SKUDAI

03 Aug

Mandarin Service

4



If you are interested to join the trip or to enquire more, you can scan the QR Code to fill in the COS Mission trips interest form or call the trip leader / **Suet Sen (Missions Secretary) @ 94351648**



Foreword

Every year in July, our Church celebrates missions month during which we raise awareness of the importance of missions work as our Lord's command and encourage us all to participate in missions.

In July 2024, our Church will be holding Missions Convention from 19 to 21 July - a weekend of missions-focused sermons and a workshop where we hope to discern God's call for our Church and for each of us in the field of missions work.

This year's Missions Convention theme - **"Behold the harvest! It's missions time!"** takes its reference from our general Church theme for 2024. The Convention's focus verse is taken from Mark 16:15 where our Lord commands us - *"He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."*

Our Missions Convention speaker is Dr. Walter McConnell. Dr. McConnell serves with OMF and is its current Head of Mission Research and the editor of Mission Round Table, OMF's journal for reflective practitioners. He previously served with OMF Taiwan for about eight years as a church planter and theological educator. He has also taught for seven years at the Singapore Bible College where he was head of the Old Testament department.

Come and be reinvigorated and refreshed for missions work through listening to the series of sermons which will be shared, and the missions-focused workshop which will be conducted, by Dr. McConnell. Through this year's Missions Convention, we hope that our Church will be reignited for the call to missions and to behold the vast harvest of souls in our part of the World with a renewed compassion for the lost and a hope for their salvation.

Bro Trent Ng

Missions Convention Comm Chairman

by Trent Ng

SINGAPORE

Stepping into the Hearts of Doorstep Souls

In 2016, when the Marine Parade MRT station construction works began outside our church, **we were very excited that the Lord has given COS an entry into the hearts of the foreign workers working at our church doorstep!** Speedily we got in touch with Samsung C&T Corporation (the main contractor for the Marine Parade MRT station works) and they were extremely receptive and grateful for our partnership to bless and care for their workers.



This paved the way for a nine-year outreach ministry to these foreign construction workers who mostly hailed from Bangladesh. From Dec 2016 to 2024, our church organized many outreach activities: 9 blessing meals and 4 outings (to major tourist attractions in Singapore such as Sentosa, Mandai Zoo, Bird Park during festive seasons and on public holidays), free haircuts on Thursday evenings, carnival-style games and prizes, thrift stall, souvenir photo taking, supermarket gift vouchers and more. Many of our church members readily volunteered as ambassadors and befriended these workers with open arms and hearts.





By early 2024, most of the construction works on the Marine Parade MRT station were completed and we would no longer have a large number of foreign construction workers working daily in our neighbourhood. However, we are thankful to God for the opportunity in the past 9 years to be able to bless and reach out to these foreign workers – just as much as they have been a blessing to us and our church by building the MRT station at our doorstep. Let us continue the good work of doorstep ministry.

NTUC voucher distribution



7



MALAYSIA • SIMPANG RENGAM

by Hokkien Service Mission Team

April

MALAYSIA

Simpang Renggam



Thanks be to God, eight brothers and sisters from our Hokkien service went on a short-term mission trip to Simpang Renggam on 6 April 2024.

Luke 10:2 says “He told them, The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”



During the trip, we had the opportunity to visit four families before the church service. Three of them had handmade idols in their homes. We prayed for them, that God's grace and light shine upon them. Praise God, one of the families decided to remove the idols from their house and be baptized! Hallelujah! In another sister's (Vietnamese) home, a cross and framed Bible scriptures in Chinese and Vietnamese were hung on the walls. Her salvation story moved us deeply.

The evening service started at eight o'clock. We sang hymns, worshipped, and praised God together with the local brothers and sisters. Brother Wei Seng's life testimony and Sister Seok Wah's pulpit message touched everyone. After the service, several brothers and sisters came forward, asked us to lay hands on them and pray over their needs and for God's blessings.

To God be all glory!



The families we have visited



by Sis Neubronner Adeline

Kuala Lumpur

April

A small group of us embarked on a mission trip to Kuala Lumpur Christian Fellowship. The three-day journey was filled with purpose and joy.



9

On the second evening, we organized games for the children. It was heartwarming to see their faces light up with excitement and happiness as we distributed toys, chocolates and sweets as game prizes. Thanks to a kind sponsor, we were able to provide a KFC dinner for them. A boy's comment brought me to tears. He said, "Aunty, I haven't had KFC in a year and a half. I'm so thankful to God for this opportunity." His gratitude and joy touched my heart and made the trip truly worthwhile. We also had the privilege of joining an exercise session conducted by a church member at a park overlooking the stunning Twin Towers. The exercise music was composed of Bible verses and we had participants from all walks of life. It was a beautiful moment of praise.



On the final day, during the Sunday service, I was deeply moved by the small group of members who had travelled far to serve this small but vibrant church. Despite their small numbers, their dedication and love for God were palpable. As I looked at the children who had attended the Saturday services, their adorable dancing and singing still fresh in my mind, and the members who had attended the Sunday service, I felt God's presence so strongly. His love filled every corner of the church and comforted all of us. We are family, united in our adoration of the same God. I will not forget this feeling of God's presence and unwavering love. He does not forsake anyone, big or small.

CAMBODIA • SIEM REAP



by Bro Moses Ding, Sis Dorothy Oh and family

10

CAMBODIA

December

Siem Reap



We were truly blessed to make this trip as a family, with God removing several obstacles so that all of us could go. It was humbling to see how our family came together to serve Church of Siem Reap (COSR) in various ways.



Together with COSR, we conducted an outreach programme on Christmas day for villagers affected by relocation. We tended to their physical needs, shared with the children the true meaning of Christmas through a skit about Jesus's birth, sang action songs and led them in the sinner's prayer. We thank God for hearts that were open to receiving salvation and healing.





Work hard, play hard

Work hard, play hard. We were invited to a monthly COSR soccer bonding activity and were impressed by their inclusiveness. Though the game was highly competitive with both sides fighting hard to score goals, they eagerly said yes when asked if less soccer-savvy people could join. We will always remember how the nightly UNO games, that anyone regardless of age and language could participate in, ended our days with joy and laughter.



Although we went on this trip thinking that the language barrier would be a great challenge, the warm welcome and overflowing love of the locals tore down the barrier. We were extremely touched and blessed to have been able to get to know them. We are thankful for the friendships forged with Pastor Thon Kong, his family, and the lovely people of COSR. We sincerely look forward to visiting them again!

That night, we did a prayer walk around Siem Reap King Palace, which consists of a royal residence and a religiously significant shrine. Like the Israelites circling the wall of Jericho, we circled the palace in prayer and worship - speaking life, deliverance, and salvation in the name of Jesus!



VIETNAM • HO CHI MINH

March

by Bro Trent Ng

VIETNAM HO CHI MINH



In March 2024, nine of us from COS made a short mission trip to the Govap New Life Church (GNLC) in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC), Vietnam. We conducted outreach programs and activities that centered on Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday celebrations, and visited the outskirt villages of Binh Duong and Long An.

Easter egg painting workshop

12



We conducted an Easter-egg painting workshop at the weekly art club which GNLC organises to evangelise through interest group activities. At the end of the workshop, Brother Trent delivered a short Gospel message using the Easter egg as an analogy for the death and resurrection of Christ.

VIETNAM • HO CHI MINH



GNLC held an outreach service on Good Friday and five newcomers accepted Christ and received salvation.



At the Resurrection Sunday service, Sister Hayley testified of God's faithfulness, and we presented a worship song that sings of God's goodness. We enjoyed a sumptuous lunch prepared by the GNLC team after that.

We also went on a "City Tour" where GNLC members invited their local friends to play host and bring us to some of the tourist attractions around District 1 of HCMC. It was not merely a sightseeing tour, but an intentional endeavor for us to befriend these local friends through activities during the tour.



Lastly, we visited the family homes of some of the GNLC members in the nearby villages. In Binh Duong, we had a Bible study session and lunch fellowship. In Long An, we visited a GNLC member's peanut farm and helped to harvest peanuts before the evening outreach event.

We were blessed by the warmth and hospitality of our counterparts in HCMC, and grateful to be able to continue to strengthen our friendships with them.

by Bro Jonathan Choy



INDIA

Siliguri

In April 2024, a small team from our church departed for Siliguri, India for a missions trip. Together with Wonchio and his TMTC (Theos Missiological Training College) team, we conducted a discipleship workshop for the TMTC alumni, ran a football clinic for the children in Batasi and Moti Dhar and taught the children a few Bible stories and worship songs.



Bible stories

We encountered some setbacks before the football clinic, but managed to run it smoothly ultimately. All glory and praise to God! The children were overjoyed to see us and to be able to play football. They were also captivated by the stories of David and Goliath and Jesus feeding the five thousand. We pray that through these stories, seeds were sown on good soil in their hearts. On the second day, the coaches (COS and TMTC Team) played against the youths in a friendly match. It was tremendous fun!

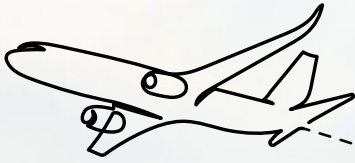
During the discipleship workshop, we got to know some of the TMTC alumni who are now pastors in some of the villages in Siliguri. It was wonderful to hear them share about their various ministries.



During the discipleship workshop

A TMTC graduate sharing





All the past TMTG graduates at the discipleship workshop

Throughout the trip, we interacted a lot with Wonchio, and his co-workers, Renchio and Chonben, who have been faithfully and lovingly working with the local community. It was very encouraging to see the work that they are doing. We are truly grateful for their warm hospitality as they went to great lengths to take care of us and ensured that we could run our programs smoothly. We are blessed to be able to work with them during this trip and look forward to meeting them again soon in November!

15



Football clinic



COS & TMTG Family

by Bro John Tang

March

INDONESIA

Tanjung Pinang



Praise be to God for His Grace and Faithfulness over the successful construction of the new community house in Tanjung Pinang! The community house is used by Melayu Bersinar Ministry (MBM) to reach out and serve the village community. There is also a kindergarten for the children of needy families.

16



Special service was held to dedicate the new community house

The original building (an old wooden house with zinc roof) was built on the seafront. After years of being exposed to monsoons and eroded by sea water, it was deemed structurally unsafe for further operations of the church ministry. A decision was therefore made in October 2023 to demolish it and build a new building. With God's Grace, the construction of the new building was completed in mid-February 2024. It stands on concrete foundations and flooring and has sturdy brick walls.

On 16 March 2024, a special service was held to dedicate the new community house. MBM members, the village head, as well as many other locals were invited to the service. The village head expressed his heartfelt gratitude and appreciation of our work with the ministry, as well as within the community. It was an evening of joyous fellowship! All glory be to our Lord Jesus Christ!