



Church of Singapore
新加坡教会



It's Harvest Time

庄稼熟了 *Let's Go!* 同去收割！

Catch the Vision, Stand in the Gap, Make a Difference
领受异象，堵住破口，带来改变

THE
TIME IS

NOW!

SEP - DEC 2024

The urgency of catching the Lord's vision and putting it into action

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2024

CHURCH EVENTS

Sep - Dec

Leaders'
Family Retreat

06-07

Healing
Service

18

Mission
Weekend

28-29

SEPTEMBER

Evaluation Meeting II/
Leaders Planning
Camp I

05

Healing
Service

16

Leaders/
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23

OCTOBER

Leaders Planning
Camp II

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Community
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NOVEMBER

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Camp

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DECEMBER

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The Time is Now!

I completed my A-levels in 1974. After graduating from Pre-University and completing National Service, my classmates and I went our separate ways, gradually losing touch with one another.

However, over the past two years, some of us have made an effort to reconnect. Our WhatsApp group has now grown to seventy-four members. On July 20, we were delighted to welcome back an old classmate with whom we had lost touch. He had become a successful businessman and CEO of several listed companies. Just as everyone was looking forward to catching up with him at our next dinner gathering, we received heartbreaking news on August 13: while on a business trip in the United States, he suffered a fall and passed away shortly after.

As Ecclesiastes 8:8 reminds us, "No man has power to retain the spirit, or power over the day of death. There is no discharge from war, nor will wickedness deliver those who are given to it."

Consider the image of an hourglass. The water at the top represents life, and the sand below symbolises death—dust to dust. As the water flows downward, it gradually disappears and turns into sand. This hourglass is a powerful symbol of our time on earth, slipping away moment by moment. Once the water becomes sand, from dust to dust, it's gone forever.

The Bible often reminds us of the brevity of life.

“ So teach us to number our days, that we may get a heart of wisdom. ”
[Psalm 90:12]

We are reminded that life is short and each day is a gift from God. Like the water in an hourglass, our time is limited. So, how do we use the time we have left?

We are called to share the good news of salvation and lead people to Christ. But how often do we procrastinate? How often do we think we have more time?

The truth is, we don't know how much water is left in the hourglass, and the mission we have been given carries great urgency. We don't have forever to reach those who do not yet know Christ.

Lord, grant us the wisdom and courage to be faithful witnesses for you in every situation. Help us to treat everyone with love, tenderness, and patience, regardless of their social status, whether they are locals or foreigners. May we spread the good news of the gospel with your mercy and grace. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Wong Mun Chung
Elder



Evangelising with Soccer



The fields are ripe for harvest, and the time to act is now. I started playing football at the age of 17, and what began as a mere game became a powerful ministry. Through the tears and triumphs of training, my teammates and I became like family, fighting fiercely for each other on and off the pitch. If these people are so precious to me, how could I not share the gospel with them?

God showed me that football is more than just a sport; it's a platform for sowing seeds and reaping a harvest of souls. In His divine timing, I was introduced to sports ministry in Singapore when a Youth For Christ (YFC) staff member doing street evangelism approached me. This encounter opened my eyes to how sports can be a tool for reaching the lost and bringing them into God's kingdom.

Being involved in sports ministry has given me opportunities to use my gift of football not just to play, but to coach, mentor, and walk alongside players from all walks of life,

**God gives gifts to everyone—
some can write, some can dance.**
“ He gave me the skill to play ”
**football, and I am making the
most of it.**
[Ronaldo]

sharing the love of Christ with them and their families. The harvest is indeed plentiful.

Even if you don't play football, you can still be part of this harvest. You can serve by transporting children to football venues, mentoring them, or helping as chaperones or group facilitators at evangelistic football camps. We all have gifts—let's use them to bring in the harvest and shine for Him. The fields are ready; it's time to take action and reap the harvest for the Kingdom.



Jaslyn Leong
English Service

CATCH THE VISION
LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL NOW

Reaching Out to the Lost:

Parent's Day outreach

As we reflect on this significant event, we are filled with gratitude for the remarkable ways in which God's goodness was manifested. We rejoice in the 21 individuals who responded to Brother Choo Hou Ren's invitation, stepping forward to accept Christ as their Lord and Savior. We praise the Lord for His unwavering love and boundless grace.

The outreach was attended by 423 people, including 82 invited guests. We are deeply thankful to our members who extended invitations to their non-Christian family members, relatives, friends, and loved ones. The gospel message resonated powerfully through Brother Choo Hou Ren's heartfelt sermon, Sister Sal Liang's compelling testimony, and the inspiring praise and worship. The beautiful presentations of dance and saxophone further enriched the atmosphere, touching many hearts with the love of Christ.

We also express our profound gratitude for the spirit of joy and unity that permeated the organising committee. Their collaboration with various ministries—Music Ministry, Evangelism Ministry, Communications Ministry,

Admin Ministry, Ushers, Counsellors, dinner team, and the different services—was a testament to the church's unwavering commitment to advancing the Kingdom of God. The unceasing support and dedication of the entire church body were pivotal to the success of this gospel outreach.

On 22 June 2024, our church held the Parent's Day Gospel Outreach under the theme "Love Never Fails" (感恩, 爱永不止息), celebrating God's enduring love and grace. Hallelujah!

One significant lesson we learnt in organising the Parent's Day Gospel Outreach is the vital importance of prayer. We sought God's inspiration to unite our community in spreading the gospel and to motivate their family and friends to attend. We also prayed for unity, faith, wisdom, and spiritual strength for all who served, empowering them to fulfil their roles effectively. Additionally, we asked the Holy Spirit to prepare the hearts of our non-Christian family members and friends so that they might accept the invitations and receive God's gift of salvation.

As we look back on this event, we are reminded that all glory belongs to God. His faithfulness was evident in every aspect of the outreach, and we give Him all the praise for the lives transformed and the seeds of faith that were sown. May we continue to rely on His guidance as we carry out His mission, confident in the truth that His love never fails.

All glory to God!

Ng Kok Hwa
Parent's Day Outreach Chairperson

CATCH THE VISION
LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL NOW



Thank God for this year's Annual Bible Camp, which not only provided physical nourishment but also brought spiritual fulfilment to the brothers and sisters who attended. The theme, "It is Now!" aligned perfectly with the church's vision and greatly benefitted all of us. We were especially blessed to have two guest speakers whose messages were deeply practical and life-giving.

Pastor Wang Zuxiang from Seremban highlighted the urgency of **"It is Now"** in preaching the gospel. Through his teachings and ministry testimonies, we witnessed how God is accelerating His work in these times, as the hour is drawing near. Jesus said,



While it is day, we must do the works of Him who sent me. Night is coming when no one can work.
[John 9:4]

Pastor Lim Gee Tiong from East Malaysia focused on the importance of faith as the driving force in our personal lives. He emphasised that we must approach God with humility to experience His presence. Without God's presence in all we do, we cannot accomplish anything of true significance.



Preaching, sharing, and living out the gospel with confidence should be the duty and responsibility of every believer. It is the gospel of Christ and the presence of God that give the church its true value and purpose.

Through this year's Bible Camp, God's Spirit has once again ignited the urgency in us to preach the gospel, to walk closely with Him, and to **"GO"** and make disciples of all nations!

Lau Siew Yeh
Annual Bible Camp Chair
Mandarin Service Assistant SIC

STAND IN THE GAP
THE POWER OF NOW:
EMPOWERED TO TRANSFORM LIVES

Mission Convention:

Behold the Harvest, It's Mission Time



This year's Missions Convention, themed **"Behold the Harvest! It's Missions Time!"** was centred on the powerful directive, where our Lord commands us to

We were privileged to have Dr. Walter McConnell, Head of Mission Research at Overseas Missions Fellowship (OMF), as our convention speaker. Dr. McConnell offered a refreshing and insightful perspective on the importance of missions, emphasising that the Great Commission is foremost about making disciples before venturing into the mission field. He referenced the early church in Acts 13:1–5, where the church fasted and prayed before the Holy Spirit sent out Barnabas and Paul as missionaries. This underscores the significance of spiritual preparation in the mission process. Dr. McConnell also highlighted that **worship is both the beginning and the culmination of missions, as depicted in Revelation 7:9-11.**

According to Dr. McConnell, mission is not an end in itself but a means to an ultimate goal—the worship of the One who sits on the throne. It is through worship that we are moved to recognise the ripe harvest in the mission field. As we reflect on what God has done for us, may our awe and gratitude inspire us to bring others into worship and the joy of knowing Him.



Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.



Henry Yeo
Missions Ministry Head



National Day Prayer Walk

March in Faith

The National Day prayer event this year presented unique challenges as it combined both a prayer meeting and a prayer walk on the same day. This proved difficult for many members who had already participated in earlier worship services, especially since the event could only begin in the afternoon. Despite these challenges, we firmly believe that God is sovereign over all circumstances when we approach Him in obedience.



A total of 267 prayer warriors gathered for the prayer meeting, and 11 teams were ready to participate in the prayer walk. Although a heavy downpour prevented the physical walk, members found creative ways to simulate it, resulting in greater unity and spiritual empowerment. The event concluded with joyful fellowship, with many members lingering well beyond the dismissal time.

It is my prayer that this event, and many of such will serve as a catalyst for ongoing dedication to prayer, encouraging all members to remain steadfast in their commitment to intercede and to make a difference in the community.

Wendy Lim
Combined National Day Prayer Meeting
and Prayer Walk Committee Member

A Journey of Service: *Lessons* from Running Tung Ling Shelter

Managing the Tung Ling Shelter over the past four years has shown us how simple obedience to God can create lasting change. Working closely with the stayers has highlighted the profound value of humble service, even amid challenges. In tough moments, we are reminded that every effort matters to God, who desires that none be lost.

Supporting the stayers has been both rewarding and enriching. Navigating their unique needs and building meaningful relationships has been deeply fulfilling.

However, challenges have arisen, from frustrations over basic amenities to conflicts over personal belongings. These moments test our patience and remind us to seek God's direction and wisdom.



We've faced medical emergencies and the complexities of managing COVID-19 cases, requiring us to rely on God's strength. During the pandemic, some stayers struggled to follow rules, highlighting the need for compassion and understanding.

As a church, this experience encourages us to step out of our comfort zones. We have the unique opportunity to extend compassion and demonstrate God's love. During festive periods, members donated "ang pows" and hosted meals to support the stayers.

Today, many former stayers are living independently and thriving. They express gratitude to our church for being a Safe, Sound, Sleeping Place (S3P) during their hardships. We have embodied this year's church theme—Our Leadership **Caught the Vision**, members **Stood in the Gap**, and together, we **Made a Difference**.

All glory to God in the highest!



Finding Hope and Belonging

When I was asked if I felt comfortable sharing a message about my experience as a resident under the Church of Singapore's care, I didn't hesitate to accept. Living here has taught me the importance of embracing the environment, respecting fellow residents, keeping my belongings in order, and following the rules set by the church.

Since I began my stay in April 2022, I've had many encounters with church members, senior leaders, and staff as I returned to the stayers' area. Their warmth and friendliness were evident as they greeted me with a simple, "Hello, how are you? Are you a stayer here?" These brief interactions often led to longer conversations where they shared advice and encouragement, urging me to stay

Roger Neo

Tung Ling Community Services Ministry Head

Murgen s/o Vellayan Muniandy

Church Maintenance Officer

strong, pray to God, and seek His protection and guidance. Their words became a source of strength, assuring me of God's blessings.

With so much encouragement, I started attending COS Sunday services regularly in the past two months. I've been blessed by the support of Brother Kok Hwa and Brother Roger, who have guided me both mentally and spiritually. They introduced me to other members, and now, Sundays have become a joy for me, filling me with a deep sense of belonging. I've experienced God's presence and peace in ways I never imagined.

I thank God for guiding me to this community, and I'm grateful to the brothers and sisters who have stood by me during my darkest times. Their support is a true reflection of God's love, and I'm now experiencing a new sense of peace and happiness.

Lee Tiong Whatt (David)

Resident at Tung Ling Shelter

Hello New Staff



In 2006, my husband's business failed and he was home-bound for nine months. One day, Jesus spoke to him through a dream, "Come worship me and I will deliver you." Ten days later, God led a couple whom we do not know to share the gospel with us. Subsequently, we were baptised in 2008, while this couple had been inviting us for seventeen years since.

In November last year, I wanted to change a job, so I prayed to God asking Him to open a way for me. God spoke to me in prayer telling me the word "Church".

At that time, I read from the bulletin that the Pre-School was hiring a cook whom they could not get for a few months, so I asked God whether this is the opening that He has for me and to give me an affirmation if it is so. In this prayer to Him, I heard from him the words "Bible Camp" clearly. I approached a sister from the Hokkien Service who is an assistant to the cook in the pre-school. Subsequently, I understand that it is impossible for both of us to apply leave to go for Bible Camp if we are both working in the pre-school, in this way, I understood that this is not the opening He had for me.

Then I prayed again and again I heard Him telling me, "Church".

After exactly a month, Brother Phua, one of the elders, approached me with a surprising question. He asked if I had ever considered becoming a pastoral staff member. He encouraged me to pray about it, and after taking time in prayer and finding peace in my heart, I agreed to his suggestion.

I believe this is the call that God has for me. Praise the Lord!

Ong Poh Kim
Hokkien Service Pastoral Staff



I feel truly blessed to serve the Lord in the church. When I was young, my Christian aunt introduced me to Sunday school, which fostered my love for worship and praise through Christian stories.

As I grew older, I drifted away from God because of college and work commitments. However, after moving to Singapore, I started attending church again, although my irregular work hours made it challenging.

God's plan unfolded perfectly. After the pandemic, I found a job with more stable hours, which opened up new opportunities. It was then that Bro Wei Seng invited me to the Church of Singapore's Hokkien Service. He introduced me to the warm and welcoming community there, and I discovered a new sense of joy in worshipping through Hokkien songs.



During one service, I felt God speaking to me, which led to my decision to accept the Lord. On 5th March 2023, I was baptized. I now attend church on a regular basis and am part of a life group.

God's grace continued when I was offered a full-time position at the church through the encouragement of the elder at the Hokkien Service. Though I felt unqualified, I accepted, trusting in God's will.

All glory to the Lord!

Kelvin Lam
Hokkien Service Pastoral Staff