

# FOCUS

For the Week of 28th December 2008



## O Come, O Ye Faithful...

End 2008 in a splendid way by returning tonight at 6pm to give thanks to God at our annual Thanksgiving Service.

If the Lord has blessed you, *"let the redeemed of the Lord say so"* Psalms 107:2. Dinner will be served.

Then on Thursday, 1st January 2009, start the new year right at the church annual Planning Day. This session has been upgraded to an extraordinary meeting (EOM) for the church where the church budget will be announced.

Ah Beng's famous breakfast will be served from 8am onwards. The session is scheduled to end at 12:30pm with light noodle lunch. Isn't it great to know, that whatever happens around us, that *"he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever"* 1 John 2:17.

## Eldership: The Process

### 3. Would you share some thoughts on the selection of deacon Winston to eldership in relationship to his age, experience, ability and faith?

In my opinion, Winston is one of those people gifted with natural leadership abilities. He thinks ahead of the crowd and his thinking is always directed at a solution. I have been in enough meetings with him to make this observation. He is both spiritual and practical. He is old enough to be made wise by experiences with people in the business world and with his brethren. He is a quick student. He has a firm understanding of the gospel, and avoids extremes. Nothing that I see in Timothy/Titus or elsewhere in the N.T. disqualifies him from serving as an elder at PP.

From Elder Adrian Teo:



## Eldership: The Call

The way that PP has worked in the past 20 years (since I have been added to the church) is for aspiring members to step forward to serve - as "men to serve", initially in roles such as communion assistant or usher; then prayer leader, Bible class teacher, preacher or Care team coordinator. When elected at the AGM into the ROS (Registry of Societies) they meet regularly with the elders and deacons in order to "be of one mind". We do all these to get to the sheep at PP, to serve their needs and guide them in their spiritual growth.

Involvement in teaching and preaching, and even experience as an elder or deacon in another congregation helps a great deal but the key to shepherding is to know the sheep here at PP, pray with them, cry with them, bear up with their peculiarities, exhort them, discipline them and be with them in times of celebrations and crisis.

In other words, we like to install a deacon or an elder who is already doing the work of being a servant in this role. Thus the installation is only a formality. Remember it is not a "position" of authority but a "function" of service - recognized by members who already have seen him serving in that role over a period of time.

As one of PP's elders, I am delighted to consider anyone who aspires to be a deacon or elder to step forward to work with us for a period of time - to share the burdens of the church and watching over the flock. The opportunity is always open - there is no need to wait till nomination time. Come in to help us even now, everyone will be considered.



Also placing membership with PP is the Ting family - **Yen Peng, Ann Loo** and their daughters **Yang Lin and Yang Gin** who have been attending for several months.

There will be no Bible classes at 9:30am next Sunday. Instead all members will meet at the auditorium for the annual **'Welcome New Members'** session. Light snacks will be served after the half-hour event.

**Please collect your 2009 PP Membership Directory** at the annual church Planning Day on 1st January 2009.

**A cappella singing** will resume in March 2009. The January Singing class will proceed on the 11th as scheduled.

**Coming to SPC in 2009:** Our Wednesday Bible study at 7:30pm will start off the new year with a 11-week series on "Leadership, Jesus' Style" by brother Charles Cook on 7th January.

# PP FAMILY NEWS

**Elder Simon Goh** will share with us his annual end-of-year message, "The Seed Line" at our morning services.

At 9:30am, **our Junior Bible classes** will showcase their year's work and receive awards from their teachers. Many thanks to **sister Florence** for providing the abundant refreshments.

Come back at 6pm for the final Lord's Day service in 2008 at the **annual thanksgiving service**, followed by a dinner together. Last year, over 160 were present to say 'thank you' to the Lord.

We welcome **brother Brian Soh** into family of God last Sunday. Also placing membership at PP are his parents brother Victor and sister Bee Suan.



## MEN to SERVE for this Week and the Next

Worship Service	Today (28th December)	Next Week
<b>8am</b> Call to Worship: Scripture Text:	Elder Adrian Teo Psalm 36:5-7	Henry Kong Psalm 37:5-6
<b>11am</b> Call to Worship: SR/OP: S. Leader: Communion: Preacher: Shepherd's Prayer: i/c Auditorium i/c Balcony	Elder Adrian Teo Kenneth Koh Jason Ng Vincent Lim <b>Elder Simon Goh</b> Elder William Wong  HI Team	Henry Kong Peter Lim Deacon Paul Lim Lam Chern Woon <b>Elder Adrian Teo</b> Elder Beng Chuan Ivan Kuek HI Team
<b>6pm</b> Call to Worship: Scripture Text: SR/OP: S. Leader: Communion: Preacher: Closing Prayer:	Elder Adrian Teo Psalm 95:1-7 Deacon Li Chhoan Deacon Paul Lim Patrick Ong <b>Thanksgiving Assembly</b> Elder William Wong	Henry Kong Psalm 37:7-9 Ban Haw Leong Charles Pang Elder William Wong <b>Brian McCumsey</b> Elder Beng Chuan

# CALENDAR of events

## Sunday, 28th December 2008

- 7:30am Shuttle Bus Service  
8:00am Morning Worship  
Speaker: Elder Simon Goh
- 9:30am Bible Classes for all ages
- 11am Morning Worship
- 6pm Thanksgiving Assembly  
led by deacon Winston/KC/  
Swee Aun

*Cover our missionary to China, elder Eric  
and his family trip to Shenzhen*

## Wednesday, 7th January 2009

- 10:00am SIBI Open Bible Study  
with brother Charles Cook
- 7:30pm Leadership, Jesus Style  
lesson 1 by brother  
Charles Cook

## Sunday, 4th January 2009

- 7:30am Shuttle Bus Service  
8:00am Morning Worship  
Speaker: Elder Adrian Teo
- 9:30am Welcome New Members'  
session
- 11am Morning Worship
- 6pm Evening Worship  
Speaker: Brian McCumsey

# FAMILY CONCERNS

### **Please pray for:**

Brother Edward and his family as he rededicated himself - Maribel  
Peace, mercy and comfort to be with my grandma - Hong Ngee  
God to be with me in making the right decision - Amanda Kiang

### **Thank God for:**

Brother Paul Quek's sermon - Soo Lang,  
Fook Weng, William Chong  
Brother Henry's sermon - Pat  
His mercy and grace for my family in Philippines - Maribel  
Brian Soh's baptism. May God help him to grow like Jesus - Henry  
The well being of my wife and me - Fook Weng  
All His blessings and guidance for my life, family and friends - Amparo  
His protection and providence in 2008 - Kian Hwee, Annie  
This year 2008 - Geoffrey Kiang  
His bountiful blessings and seeing me through in my job, health and everything in 2008 - Sharon Goh

***For your prayer support. Please note that every prayer request will be petitioned before the throne of Grace by our elders in their weekly prayer sessions on Sundays at 5pm. If you want your request to be mentioned at our assemblies, please hand it to our minister before the start of the service.***

## FACTS & FIGURES

8am Worship	121
11am Worship	244
6pm Worship	<u>45</u>
Total:	<b>410</b>

Morning Giving	\$ 9432
Evening Giving	\$ <u>901</u>
Total Contribution	<b>\$ 10333</b>

*Gifts  
of Love*

## Receipt No. Donor Amount

3RsF 1203 Anonymous \$650.00



## Singapore International Bible Institute

Date:

January 9 - 25, 2009

Fridays: 7pm - 10pm

Saturdays & Sundays: 2pm-5pm

Course Fee: \$20

Venue:

Church of Christ,  
347 Pasir Panjang Road,  
Singapore 118688

To pre-register contact Tom Goracke,  
email: [sibi@ppcoc.org](mailto:sibi@ppcoc.org)

# Life of Christ

Taught by: Nat Cooper

9-25 Jan 2009 (weekend schedule)



Dr. Nat Cooper, a native of Ireland, is Vice President of International Affairs and Director of the Center for Character Development at Lubbock Christian University,

Lubbock, TX. Dr. Cooper has been an educator for nearly three decades. He has conducted over 440 workshops on character education and business ethics and has consulted various institutions in 86 nations. He was an instructor in Bible and Missions at Sunset International Bible Institute, Lubbock, TX. for twenty years.

*Q&A with Charles Cook:*

## Eldership: The Process

### **1. How do our brotherhood churches in USA select their first batch of elders/deacons?**

In most cases they conduct a series on the subject for the whole congregation, or they might teach a series on it in a Bible class. Then they begin to ask for names the members feel would be qualified and willing to serve. (In most cases, those already somewhat doing the work of shepherding are the one selected.) Perhaps a committee might be formed to expedite the process. After interviews and gathering feedback, the names of those the members feel good about are put before the congregation and anyone with a scriptural objection is invited to come forward. After a reasonable time the men recommended are recognized as elders. In most cases (like Paul) the preacher/evangelist serves as a guiding force to this whole process. Ultimately, if the Bible is respected, the Holy Spirit is the one who selects our elders for us.

### **2. How do they add new elders and deacons?**

In my experience, and likely in most cases, those serving already as elders recommend that certain ones be considered for the eldership, but again, the congregation is given a chance to agree or scripturally object.



*Continued in the front page*