

FOCUS

For the Week of 2nd November 2008

Elder Eric Begins Full-Time Missionary Work



Starting 1st November 2008, elder Eric will begin his 2-year full-time missionary effort in China. PP will be his overseeing congregation. A committee headed by our minister will supervise his work. Members of this committee are elder Beng Chuan, deacons KC and Li Chhoan, brother Vincent Lim and sisters Belinda, Alice and Doreen Lim. Our staff, brother Patrick and sister Annie will sit in as ex officio members.

Elder Eric will leave on the 6th November for a 2-month fund raising trip. He will speak at various congregations and workshops around the Houston, Texas area. Elder Eric's salary, housing and working expenses will be sponsored by our American partners. PP will pay for his travel expenses and teams that we will send to assist him in the work. To date, more than half the amount has already been raised.

In January 2009, elder Eric will be working in China. When he is in Singapore, he will be work-

ing with our China tentmakers in preparing and equipping them for the ministry. Future teams will be selected by the committee; if you would like to serve with elder Eric in China, please approach our minister or any of the committee. There will be no more sign-up posters.

PP is fortunate to have a person who is schooled in Chinese and has devoted the past 8 years in leading and making 50 trips to China. We thank God for his passion to bring the gospel to China and his supportive family pictured above.

It is our minister's observation that we could continue to lead teams to China for another 8 years and still make very little impact. But with elder Eric full-time in China, with partnership from our American brethren, we can explore new areas of work that may be executed through training our network of Christians to fulfil elder Eric's dream project to 'disciple a whole nation' (DAWN) of China.



From Our Minister's Desk:

The Man in the Gap

Last Sunday, deacon Winston delivered a timely and powerful lesson, 'the Man in the Gap'. The lesson brought me back down memory lane on my decision to go into full-time ministry.

At that time, there was a crying need for members who would step forward to serve a fast growing church. At the same time there was no promise of support nor funds available. But the decision was not difficult as "the harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few" (Luke 10:2).

Today, we issue the call for men and women to stand in the gap - "I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none" (Ezekiel 22:30).

The Lord needs men and women who are willing to surrender their will for His; put aside their personal agenda and dream His dreams and see His visions. People who will model the way by stepping out in faith and taking the leap that will inspire others to follow.

Churches whose members and leaders stay securely within the comfort zone, serving and giving only when it is convenient to do so will not have the fervour to grow nor strength to keep the next generation challenged.

More than ever, we need to challenge our members, model the way and call for men and women to stand in the gap. For starters, here are some ways to step forward:

- Youths taking a few months to be immersed in SIBI's full-time discipleship course which will be starting soon
- Adults devoting a year or two to serve in a mission field like elder Eric has done.

PP FAMILY NEWS

As usual, **the Missions Sunday gifts** are publicly released today to provide accountability in an open and transparent manner. We thank God for each one who has given freely as God has enabled.

Elder Adrian will speak on the subject of "I Resolve" at the morning services today. Come back for evening service tonight at 6pm to hear **brother Kenneth Koh** speaks on the subject of "Who is Jesus?" It is a joy to have the family of Kenneth at our worships. Kenneth is active with our youth and missions programmes.

Join brother Daniel and his family in the monthly **a cappella singing today** at 1:30pm. Collect your lunch box from sister Betty at the lobby after 11am service today.

Our young adults will meet today at 1pm at the the function room of the Seah Siow Hwees' condominium (Gold Coast, 366 Pasir Panjang Road) for lunch, devotion, games and fellowship. Members who wish to explore your personal colours with sister Denise, may do so for a nominal fee.

Wangsa Maju mission team members will be collecting used clothing and toys for refugee children from Myanmar today and throughout the month of November. Contact sister Bernice at 81882708 for more information.

Bring your friends to the **Open Bible Study** with brother Charles Cook this Wednesday from 10-11am at the Chinese worship hall.

The SPC series on "Relationship Responsibilities" with **brother Tom** continues this Wednesday at 7:30pm.

2 more weeks to go before the **Couple's Fellowship** on 20-22 November in JB. See sister Hong Ngee if you haven't signed up yet.

SIBI's 3-Sunday Equipping course by brother Tom Goracke starts next week from 1:30-3:30pm. Please give your name to brother Chen Yi if you need a packaged lunch.

“Ye shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and unto the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8



Thank You PP for having a heart for Missions

Receipt Donor Amount

MF 0577	Anonymous	\$300.00
MF 0578	Maribel Cammayo	\$20.00
MF 0579	Amelyn & Lolita	\$20.00
MF 0580	Emilia Longayan	\$10.00
MF 0581	Milagros Aquino	\$10.00
MF 0583	Anonymous	\$50.00
MF 0584	Linda Kho	\$500.00
MF 0584	Kim Teo	\$200.00
MF 0585	Mary Wee	\$30.00
MF 0686	Anonymous	\$100.00
MF 0587	Anonymous	\$120.00
MF 0588	P5s	\$175.00
MF 0589	Tan See Mui	\$20.00
MF 0590	Richard Wee	\$12.00
MF 0591	Yap Kian Hwee	\$700.00
MF 0592	Phuay Siew Hua	\$2,000.00
MF 0593	Anonymous	\$10,000.00
MF 0594	Anonymous	\$3,000.00
MF 0595	Anonymous	\$10,000.00
MF 0596	Anonymous	\$6,000.00
MF 0597	Anonymous	\$5,050.00
MF 0598	Anonymous	\$5,000.00
MF 0599	Anonymous	\$3,800.00
MF 0600	Anonymous	\$3,000.00
MF 0601	Anonymous	\$2,500.00
MF 0602	Anonymous	\$2,000.00
MF 0603	Anonymous	\$2,000.00
MF 0604	Anonymous	\$2,000.00
MF 0605	Anonymous	\$2,000.00
MF 0606	Anonymous	\$1,000.00
MF 0607	Anonymous	\$1,000.00
MF 0608	Anonymous	\$1,000.00
MF 0609	Anonymous	\$1,000.00
MF 0610	Anonymous	\$1,000.00
MF 0611	Anonymous	\$832.00
MF 0612	Anonymous	\$600.00
MF 0613	Anonymous	\$500.00
MF 0614	Anonymous	\$300.00
MF 0615	Anonymous	\$200.00
MF 0616	Anonymous	\$200.00
MF 0617	Anonymous	\$90.00
MF 0618	Anonymous	\$1,200.00
MF 0619	Anonymous	\$1,150.00

Receipt Donor Amount

MF 0620	Anonymous	\$512.00
MF 0621	Anonymous	\$400.00
MF 0622	Anonymous	\$400.00
MF 0623	Anonymous	\$230.00
MF 0624	Anonymous	\$150.00
MF 0625	Anonymous	\$50.00
MF 0626	Anonymous	\$50.00
MF 0627	Anonymous	\$50.00
MF 0628	Anonymous	\$50.00
MF 0629	Anonymous	\$20.00
MF 0630	Anonymous	\$10.00
MF 0631	Anonymous	\$10.00
MF 0632	Anonymous	\$5.00
MF 0633	Joann Ang	\$10,000.00
MF 0634	Simon Goh Family	\$4,000.00
MF 0635	Kuek Lee Hock Family	\$3,000.00
MF 0636	Chew Chong Lins	\$2,500.00
MF 0637	Richard Leow Family	\$2,000.00
MF 0638	Ooi Boo Chyes	\$2,000.00
MF 0639	Doreen Lum	\$2,000.00
MF 0640	Henry Kongs	\$2,000.00
MF 0641	Pang Tee Liangs	\$2,000.00
MF 0642	Lynda Wee	\$2,000.00
MF 0643	Lim Li Chhoans	\$1,200.00
MF 0644	Ken McCumseys	\$1,150.00
MF 0645	Nicolette Teo	\$1,000.00
MF 0646	Tan Beng Chuans	\$1,000.00
MF 0647	Tan KG	\$1,000.00
MF 0648	Patrick Ongs	\$1,000.00
MF 0649	Tan Yiu Huats	\$700.00
MF 0650	Tan Wee Mengs	\$500.00
MF 0651	Ronald Leow Family	\$500.00
MF 0652	Leng Fong & Shu Ern	\$200.00
MF 0653	Chew Siew Hoon	\$150.00
MF 0654	Mike Mariaraja	\$120.00
MF 0655	Pang Foon Yoong	\$1,100.00
MF 0656	Freddy Yus	\$500.00
MF 0657	Kelvin Koos	\$300.00
MF 0658	Edward Lees	\$300.00
MF 0659	Eric Tans	\$300.00
MF 0660	Charles Cooks	\$200.00
MF 0661	Ivy Tan	\$200.00
MF 0662	Linda Kho	\$200.00



The October 2008 team made up of elder Eric, Foon Yoong, Doreen Lum and myself. Amidst our preparation for this mission trip, I noticed there seems to be many obstacles, unexpected last minute changes to our planning and team members had their fair share of personal setbacks and challenges to deal with. At the same time, we were burdened with news about the health of brothers Robert Reagan (Thailand), Bryan Shelley (USA) and elder Eric (S'pore).

Even as early as in July, elder Eric had already planned the seminar topic to be "The Church That Christ Built" and informed the Nanshan church in SZ. He also sent emails to Christians from other parts of China, inviting them to participate in the October 2008 Seminar in SZ. (The first week of October in China is known as the National Day Golden Week, one of two annual 7-days of public holiday.)

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Receipt	Donor	Amount	Receipt	Donor	Amount
MF 0663	Nancy Sng	\$200.00	MF 0692	Austin Tan	\$6.00
MF 0664	Keisha George	\$100.00	MF 0693	Chen Ting	\$6.00
MF 0665	Josephine Seow	\$100.00	MF 0694	Heng Min	\$5.00
MF 0666	Mabel Koh	\$100.00	MF 0695	Daniel Ong	\$5.00
MF 0667	P3s, P4s JBC	\$100.00	MF 0696	Jenny Boquiren	\$5.00
MF 0668	Mimi Ng	\$50.00	MF 0697	Maribel Cammayo	\$5.00
MF 0669	Maria Velano	\$50.00	MF 0698	Derek	\$5.00
MF 0670	Stephanie Kiang	\$50.00	MF 0699	Christine Lim	\$2.00
MF 0671	John Lim	\$50.00	MF 0700	Anonymous	\$2,000.00
MF 0672	Eunice Ong	\$30.00	MF 0701	Lee Yoke Chois	\$2,000.00
MF 0673	Benjamin Foo	\$30.00	MF 0702	Anonymous	\$2,000.00
MF 0674	Basil Chong	\$20.00	MF 0703	Ng Ee Kais	\$1,000.00
MF 0675	Jason Mok	\$20.00	MF 0704	Ng Siew Kee	\$500.00
MF 0676	Cynthia Gonzales	\$20.00	MF 0705	Anonymous	\$300.00
MF 0677	Toh Yock	\$20.00	MF 0706	Anonymous	\$500.00
MF 0678	Jeremy Tng	\$12.00	MF 0707	Barbara Dai	\$500.00
MF 0679	Sarah	\$12.00	MF 0708	Anonymous	\$500.00
MF 0680	Andrea Li	\$10.00	MF 0709	Shan & Molly	\$300.00
MF 0681	Sarah Choong	\$10.00	MF 0710	Anonymous	\$300.00
MF 0682	Clarence	\$10.00	MF 0711	Michael Booker	\$250.00
MF 0683	Judith	\$10.00	MF 0712	Geraldine Lim	\$200.00
MF 0684	Amparo Tabbeg	\$10.00	MF 0713	Jo-Ann Lim Siok Hui	\$100.00
MF 0685	Nancy Tang	\$10.00	MF 0714	Leong Woon Hoe	\$100.00
MF 0686	Zenaida Gonzales	\$10.00	MF 0715	Anonymous	\$100.00
MF 0687	Tricia Kiang	\$10.00	MF 0716	Anonymous	\$100.00
MF 0688	Ivan Kuek	\$10.00	MF 0717	Karen Cammayo	\$30.00
MF 0689	Milagros Aquino	\$10.00	MF 0718	Daniel Ong	\$50.00
MF 0690	Gladys Foo	\$9.10	MF 0719	Clarita Simon	\$12.00
MF 0691	Natalie Foo	\$6.11	MF 0720	Anonymous	\$12.00

Despite the unfavourable circumstances at that time, I was very encouraged that Foon Yoong and Doreen readily acknowledged that we needed much prayers before the team launched forth. Hence, in addition to the monthly meetings and praying together with elder Eric in preparation for our trip, the 3 of us got together every week to pray fervently after our Wednesday morning Bible class.

At the seminar in SZ, besides Christians and visitors from the Nanshan and Lohu church, we met Christians visiting from Zhuhai, Guilin, Xi'an, Wuhan, Hangzhou and Xuzhou. Elder Eric taught all the lessons that he had prepared for this Seminar and took the opportunity to promote SIBI. He spent time separately with those who needed counselling on relationships and marriage. He also baptised a Mr Wang, whom he met about a year ago and who was taught the salvation message by a Nanshan member. Foon Yoong, Doreen and I were tasked with different supportive functions.

In this report, the 3 of us will share our experience of this trip from our personal perspective...

Belinda's Reflection...

During the preparation stage, there was a special request to bring some children Bible story books (preferably Chinese) for distribution to David Fang & Ya Li from Xi'an. I volunteered to source them from PP members instead of buying new ones. So glad that several PP sisters responded to my call to recycle such books. David Fang could not make it to the seminar at the last minute. Paul Wang, also from Xi'an, graciously agreed to pass on the books that I brought for the couple. Several books were also distributed to Heidi Li, a young single mother from Guilin, Guangxi.

Heidi was converted in Penang while she was a student, during the time when brother Lau Kin Fatt & sister Chrissy were serving the Penang church. She recalled hearing about a VBS team from PP when she was a visitor. By God's plan, Foon Yoong and I shared a room with Heidi. Through our regular interaction with her during those few days, in devotion and prayers too, the Lord did some marvellous things for Heidi – she overcame her low self-esteem and grew stronger in spirit. I understand that Heidi also volunteered to type all the lessons prepared by elder Eric into Chinese which will be compiled into a book.

"Praying for China" was specially incorporated for the first time in the Seminar Program. The participants were divided into 2 groups of men and ladies. The ladies moved into a separate room to pray amongst themselves. Doreen led the chain prayer in Chinese for the China Nationals. It was such a wonderful spiritual experience for me to hear our Chinese sisters



poured their hearts to our God for His mercy for their Nation. After that, I took the opportunity to encourage them (through an ice breaker and a short lesson on Relationship) that God could use each one of them to reach out to the unsaved in China.

It was very exciting to see members of the Nanshan church bringing their children and neighbour with them to the seminar from Day 2. The children were very enthusiastic to study under Foon Yoong. Their parents were able to attend the lessons conducted by elder Eric uninterrupted. (You can read more below about the children's session as reported by FY.)

The experience that I have gained on each mission trip is very different. On reflection, I feel that this trip was by far the most difficult and humbling, yet our prayers were answered. God is amazing! He worked things out for the team and guided us to work well together. It was truly wonderful to see how God had used each of us at the seminar and the rewards He gave to our labour.

Foon Yoong's Reflection...

I have been on a number of mission trips since 2001. My observation is that every member of the team does play an important role - be it the leader of the team, normally a brother who, besides teaching and preaching, oversees the welfare of the local mission team as

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well as the brethren from China who attend the seminar. The other team members contribute whatever they have to good use and none can say "there is nothing to do." Some form of works like sharing one's Christian life experience, teaching non-believers the plan of salvation, conduct Bible class for the children, serving drinks, mopping the floor, praying together, interacting and encouraging one another etc, etc. are what the Lord would like us to do.

I first taught bible class in 1965 and am still enjoying it but not without preparation and prayers. For my recent mission trip to SZ, I taught the children's class. I must give credit to sister Josephine Seow who supported me with individually packed Bible stories and lesson notes, craftwork, games and props. Also, I am grateful to my good neighbour, Wong Lan Ying, who helped me to translate the Bible stories into "hanyu pinyin" (Mandarin) so that I could conduct my lessons in Mandarin and English.

I met six children on this trip. They are Si Qi, Sunny, Vivian, Ge Ge, Number One and Minhao. Three children came to class on Friday and Saturday and four on Sunday. I met Cherry's daughter Si Qi, nicknamed Miao Miao, now aged 3-1/2, the first time on this trip. She is a darling, very lovable, talkative and intelligent and was not shy to sing Bible songs in English along with the older children. Michael and Sandra Zhang's daughter, Vivian, has just turned 7 years old on October 1st. She is intelligent, very attentive and truly enjoyed learning new songs and memory verses in English and certainly this does her parents proud. I find Vivian a precocious and gentle child, a far cry from the first time I met her in 2003 when she was a toddler. Sunny, 10 years old, daughter of Lucy and another girl, Ge Ge, 9 years old, a neighbour friend of Vivian also enjoyed the Bible class and activities. Yangye's son, nicknamed Number One, also 9 years

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*For the full month's listing, look up the Notice Board
For up to the whole year's listing, log in at ppcoc.org/men.htm*

MEN to SERVE at All Services for this Week and the Next

Please call the church office by Wednesday if you cannot serve

Worship Service

8am

Scripture Text:

11am

Call to Worship:

SR/Prayer of Praise:

S. Leader:

Communion:

Preacher:

Shepherd's Prayer:

Ushers i/c

Balcony

6pm

Call to Worship:

Scripture Text:

SR/Prayer of Praise:

Song Leader:

Communion:

Preacher:

Prayer of Petition:

Today (2nd November)

Henry Kong
Psalm 23:1-4

Henry Kong
Peter Lim
Shawn Li
Ken McCumsey

Elder Adrian Teo
Elder Tan Beng Chuan

Andy Wee
HI Team

Henry Kong
Psalm 23:5-6
Nehemiah Tan
Deacon Paul Lim
Deacon Li Chhoan

Kenneth Koh
Elder Tan Beng Chuan

Next Week

Elder Adrian Teo
Psalm 24:3-6

Elder Adrian Teo
Deacon Terry Wan
Shawn Li
Peter Lim
Seah Siow Hwee
Elder Simon Goh

Kenneth Kuek
HI Team

Elder Adrian Teo
Psalm 24:7-10
Ban Haw Leong
Edward Lee
Tom Goracke
Deacon Li Chhoan
Elder Simon Goh

CALENDAR of events

Sunday, 2nd November 2008

- 7:30am Shuttle Bus Service
- 8:00am Morning Worship
Speaker: Elder Adrian
- 9:30am Bible Classes for all ages
- 11am Morning Worship
- 12:30pm Free Bus for Seniors
- 1-4pm Young Adults fellowship at Gold Coast Condo function room (366 Pasir Panjang Rd)
- 1:30pm A cappella singing
- 6pm Evening Worship
Speaker: Kenneth Koh

Monday, 3rd November 2008

- 10:00am SIBI Evangelism Course @ Tom's SIBI Office

Wednesday, 5th November 2008

- 10:00am SIBI Open Bible Study with brother Charles Cook
- 7:30pm SPC series on "Relationship Responsibilities" by Tom Goracke

Sunday, 9th November 2008

- 1:30pm SIBI Equipping Course For Youth and Young Adults with Tom Goracke

FAMILY CONCERNS

Please pray for:

My mother's salvation - Ron Tong
 Salvation for my family in Philippines - Amparo
 Boldness to share the gospel of salvation with my family in Philippines - Lolita
 Me to be able to encourage Shan and Ivan to attend worship regularly - Molly Ponnusamy
 Travel mercy through Lilian Kok's extensive travels - Hedy Wong, Annie, Henry and Nat
 Ee Kai to get well from dengue - Florence, Patrick, Henry and Nat
 Johnston Seah's well-being in Australia for military training - Alvin Tjipto, Joanne Seah
 Travel mercy for elder Eric's trip to USA for missions fund raising - Edward Lee, Annie, Patrick, Henry and Nat

Thank God for:

Deacon Winston's sermon - William Chong, Edward Lee, Patrick, elder Eric, Henry Kong
 Nehemiah's sermon - Henry and Nat Kong
 Blessing me with an apartment - Keisha
 Travel mercy and providence in my life - Lilian Kok
 My employer - Maribel
 Tamara Cook's ability to walk all the way to the church building from her apartment by herself - Henry Kong
 All the people who help me to be a disciple of Christ - Amelyn
 Helping me to overcome my burden and bring me back to worship Him again - Gina
 Peter Soh's discharge from hospital without any adverse results - Henry Kong

FACTS & FIGURES

8am Worship	128
11am Worship	173
6pm Worship	<u>60</u>
Total:	361
Morning Giving	\$7720
Evening Giving	<u>\$1282</u>
Total Contribution	\$9002

Gifts of Love to our 3Rs Fund*

Receipt No. Donor Amount

3RsF 1190	Anonymous	\$600
3RsF 1191	Anonymous	\$100
3RsF 1192	Anonymous	\$600

* Renovation, Repair and Relocation Fund



old, seemed rather shy and reserved initially but soon warmed up to Belinda's coaxing and friendliness when she sought his help to read a passage from the bible on the good Samaritan in Chinese, a lesson that I taught that morning. Yangye's nephew, Minhao, 4 years old, came along with Number One on Sunday but he was passive, preferring just to observe.

Doreen's Reflection...

By far, I found this tent-making trip the most enriching yet most challenging one for me. In the midst of ongoing work involvements with timeline to meet as well as home front priorities, I actually wanted to pull out from joining the October team. Thinking back, I am glad that God had indeed given me the extra strength to march on despite all the obstacles and setbacks that I faced. Here, I would like to thank both Belinda and Foon Yoong for their fervent prayers and encouragement.

In total, 35 people attended this Seminar from differ-



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ent parts of China. What I felt most beneficial is the lessons taught by elder Eric. He used God's Love and His words as "fundamentals" to every of his lessons. What inspired me most is the fact that we must use our inner heart to sing, through our mouth to bring out the real voices in gratitude and praises to our dear God. There is no need to use musical instruments as cited in the Old Testament. Through the discussions on the lessons taught, I was able to hear and receive answers to some of the questions/doubts raised by the China brethren, of which were also my concerns; such as... can a woman preach? Can Christians eat food offered to idols? etc. I was even able to give my testimony on the importance of water baptism which I did not acknowledge earlier on. It was through reading the Bible and getting a deeper understanding of the Scripture that I was eventually convinced to obey the Lord by immersion in water.



A very salient point that elder Eric had pointed out during one of the devotions is that God will use "prepared people" to work for Him. In order to be a vessel of God, one must be ready for God's works. "Blessed are those who hunger & thirst for God's righteousness and they shall be filled" as found in Matthew 5:6.

In conclusion, the keynote brought up by elder Eric at the Seminar on the success of a church does not only depend on the unity of the Christians around but also the strong and continued faith in God that we ourselves must have as well as other brothers & sisters in Christ.

**Reported by
Belinda, Foon Yoong and
Doreen Lum**