



CHURCH of CHRIST

PASIR PANJANG



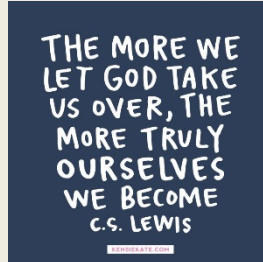
19 Jan 2020

2020 Year Theme:

Be Strong and Courageous! Joshua 1:9

Worship Theme: Share God's promises of grace

Today's scripture texts: Isaiah 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Psalm 122



Praise be to the LORD, who has given rest to his people Israel just as He promised. 1 Kings 8:56

Religious cults have often attempted to predict the date of the end of the world. These prophetic claims are not a recent phenomenon. The Essenes, one strict, ascetic sect of Jews, predicted the world would end with their revolt against Rome in A.D. 66 to 70. No one, of course, can predict end-times events with any accuracy. Jesus Himself said He did not know the date the Father had set for the world's end (see Matt. 24:36).

While we have fewer specifics than we would like about the future that awaits us as God's people, the writings of the Prophets enable us to see a glorious vision of our future home. Often, the Prophets described the future by returning to images familiar in Israel's history: the Garden of Eden and the temple, as two primary examples.

In the first part of the book of Isaiah, the prophet is writing for Judah in the years leading up to Babylonian exile. In this passage, while the temple has not yet been destroyed, Isaiah envisions a temple greater than Solomon's temple (and greater than the second temple, which the Jews rebuilt after their return from exile). This future temple is different from the first and second temples because it is not a centre exclusively dedicated to Jewish worship. Rather, "all nations will stream to it" (Isa 2:2). Furthermore, this temple will require no priestly caste to offer sacrifices and mediate between God and humanity. The teaching of God's Law will be done by God Himself. Finally, this temple represents the rest that God has promised to give to His people. Warfare will end; the weapons of war will become farming implements.

When Solomon dedicated his temple, proclaiming that God had given rest to his people, he knew only the partial fulfilment of that promise. Isaiah foresaw its final completion.

APPLY THE WORD : Rest is central to the divine promise of home. Jesus promised His followers a yoke of "rest" (see Matt. 11:28, 29). What could it look like for you to rest from trying to win God's approval? To rest from having to secure the good opinions of others? To rest from mindless busyness? To rest from fear and worry? God is inviting you into His rest today.

- by **Today in the Word Devotion**



19 Jan (Sun)

8.00 am & 11.00 am
Benny Tabulujan
Isaiah 2:1-5
9.30 am Bible Classes
6.00 pm
Ezra Valdez (SIBI)
1 Peter 1:6-9

19 Jan (Sun)

10:45 am - 12.15 pm
GEMS Hour

22 Jan (Wed)

7.30 pm
Wed Bible Class
Ecclesiastes
Kuek Lee Hock

20-31 Jan (SIBI Class)

Mon - Fri
9.00 am - 3.30 pm
Gospel of John
Teacher: Keith Gant



My Testimony

By Chew May

On 2 Dec 2019, Sis Hong Ngee encouraged me to write my testimony. Again, on 11th of Dec, through Sis HN, Bro Patrick asked if I would like to make a testimony speech. I was stunned on both occasions. Firstly, I am not good in speaking; secondly, I have no confidence and am shy to speak in front of so many people. So, I rejected Sis HN's request to make a testimony speech.

However, God is always with us, He has all the plans for us.

On the evening of 11th Dec, the daily verse I read was John 8:12.

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

I always believe that God communicates with me through the scripture.

Jesus says in John 8:47,

"Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

Here's my journey to becoming a Christian:

On 22 Apr 2019 - I attended Story of Redemption (a three-day seminar at Moulmein COC). At the end of the seminar, Basil offered to share and study the Bible with me. The Story of Redemption gave me a chance to know more about God. This is what God has planned for me. God knocked on my door, and changed my life, even before I believed in Him. I don't deserve it, but God loves me and saves me.

On 18 May 2019, I began to develop my faith in our faithful God, and through Sis HN I knew about the Church Camp. Although it was a very last-minute decision, with God's gracious provision, Joey and I were given the opportunity to join the Church Camp. God surrounded me with many brothers & sisters in Christ— Jocelyn, Basil, Sis Hong Ngee, Bro Winston, Retta, Sis Lai Fun, Sis Mee Geok, and Sis Catherine who encouraged, comforted and helped me.

On 21 Jun 2019, I was baptized at the Church Camp. I know, all this is God's Will.

After the church camp or instead, I should say after my baptism, I was tested. Of course, this is because living a Christian life does not mean we are perfect. Neither does it mean there is no suffering, no sickness, no evil, no temptation. We still have to go through all the hard times. However, I came to know that my friends, tenants, ex-colleagues who were once believers doubted God because their faith wavered. I shared about my experience and encouraged them to come back to God. I am thankful that I was given the chance to share with them. I am joyful every time I share with others about God.

Many events in the past few months have helped my faith to grow. I pray every day and hope that one day I can serve God and His people. My desire stressed me,

but my Care Team members encouraged me by saying that I should not be too stressed by this, and I should start by serving my little girl, Joey and my Mum who are nonbelievers. I have learned to love them God's way. Thank you, Sis Michelle, Sis Su Yuen, Sis HN and Sis Audrey.

As a new believer, I know that I need to:

- Submit myself to Jesus, let Jesus take control of all areas of my life.
- Pray throughout the day, let God know my heart's desires.
- Read the Bible, be ready to hear God's message through the Scripture.
- Worship with a church where God's Word is preached.

"When the time is right,
I, the Lord, will
make it happen."
- Isaiah 60:22

I am glad that I have been saved and loved by God, I am thankful for my salvation. I thank Jesus who died for my sins, so that I am forgiven even though I am unworthy.

Since Oct 2019, Joey and I took turns to fall ill. In addition, I had an extra workload. I did not manage to attend the worship in PP. Many of you are worried about me. But I am fine, as I have not lost my faith, and I hope I will never lose my faith. I seek God's mercy as I want to worship Him. So, I pray every day and found a church near my home. I struggled and asked myself, can I attend this church? I prayed to God for guidance, and I attended several worship sessions at the church. Everything is fine, and recently, I was offered a chance to serve God and His people. I will never forget the law of God is all about LOVE: Matthew 22:37, 39.

"Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'

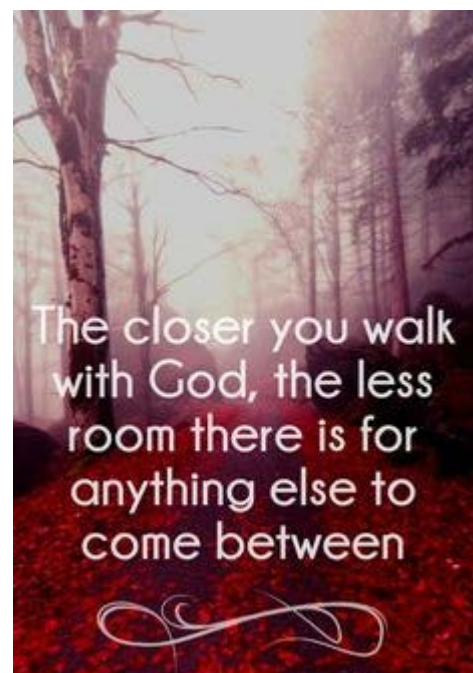
And the second is : 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'"

So, we must love one another. The Bible says,

1John 4:21

"And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister."

Thank you, Father, for His love, for His presence and for His Word.



PPCOC Rebuilding Project Update

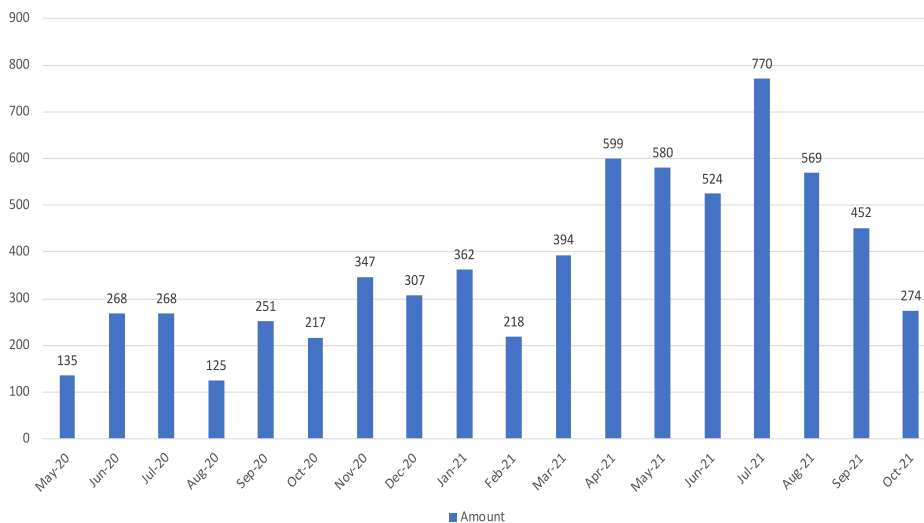
As the rebuilding project gathers momentum with plans to open for tender in the coming months and start the re-construction during the May/June period, we are encouraging members to start fulfilling their pledges so that the required payments can be made promptly.

Shown below is the projected schedule of payment for the reconstruction (less the relocation, consultancy, permit and other costs), assuming the reconstruction starts in May/June 2020. The additional costs is estimated to be another \$1m for the first 12 months.

Based on the payment schedule, the first 12 months total is expected to be \$3,494,392 and the subsequent 6 months \$3,170,608, making it a total estimated construction cost of \$6,665,000.

Total collection as of 12 Jan 2020 is \$3,312,211 (Pledges fulfilled and Ad-Hoc Donations). The total pledged amount (donations and loans) and ad-hoc giving is \$6,937,067. There is still a shortfall of \$1,762,933 to make \$8.7m.

Construction Cost Payment Schedule (in \$1,000)



We ask that members prayerfully consider the following:

1. Those with pledged donations (lump sum) – To fulfill by **March 2020**
2. Those with pledged donations (instalments) - Consider converting to lump sum when able or complete the instalments by **June 2021**
3. Those who are waiting to donate - Plan to give by **March 2020**
4. To consider increasing their giving when able

The BF committee will continue to look at various ways to raise funds and this will be made known when the plans are in place.

We thank God for your prayers and sacrificial giving and look forward to the day when the new building can be utilized to further the growth of God's Kingdom.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SING is held every **Saturday** afternoon from 2pm to 4pm at the church auditorium. Contact: Terilee or Dennis Law.

Prayer Warriors (PW) is held every **2nd & 4th Monday** of each month. Contact: Lim Lian Chye.

8 Feb (Sat)
Elders' CNY Open House

27 Mar (Fri)
Ladies' Day

28 Mar – 2 May
Parenting Workshop

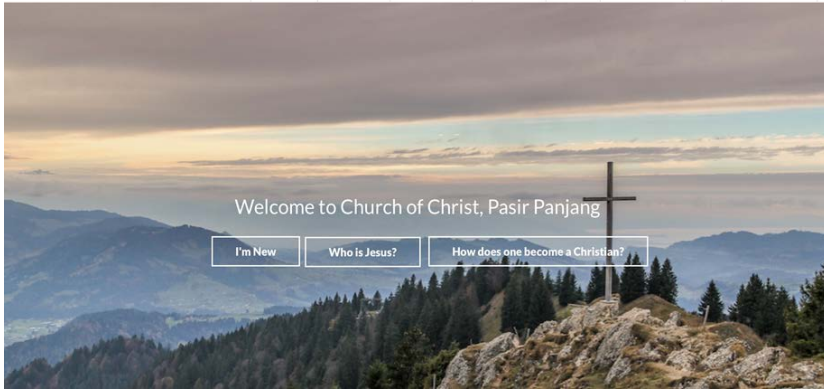
10 Apr (Fri)
Annual Advance
9 am – 12 pm



FEEDBACK on Church Matters



<http://bit.ly/2WjVL8x>



Website 2.020

The revamped website will be rolled out in phases starting Monday 20th Jan 2020! A BIG Thank You to all members who have contributed during this long journey from planning, researching, designing, writing, web mastering, fact checking.... it's a long checklist :)

Moving forward, we are asking for more volunteers to join us in the next phase of this exciting ministry. We will be meeting after CNY (15th Feb) to conduct training on uploading content onto the web.

In the meantime, do visit the site and let the team know your comments.

If you're keen to join, please look for Dennis Law.

FAMILY NEWS & CONCERNS



Wai Leng – Thank God that we have had a successful VBS with more than 160 children, some from Hindu families and two baptisms.

Simon Goh – Thank you for your prayers as I got to preach this morning at the assembly that meets in Kiran's house.

Patrick Ong - Pray for God's favour for the India Mission team for their safety, protection and good health for all.

CHURCH DIRECTORY IS OUT TODAY!

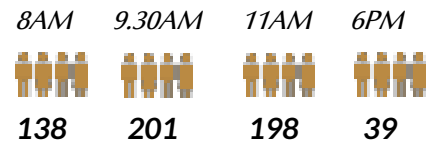
Member is entitled to collect only 1 copy from the lobby before leaving church premises (please do not collect for others).



LAST SUNDAY



FACTS FIGURES



GF	\$8,702
MF YTD	\$117,999

GEMS HOUR

SUNDAY | JAN 19 | 10.45AM | CHURCH LOBBY

- Ice Breaker
- Songs
- Opening Prayer
- Lesson: Why Read the Bible?
- Closing Prayer
- Craft Stations
- Refreshments

G E M S
C L U B

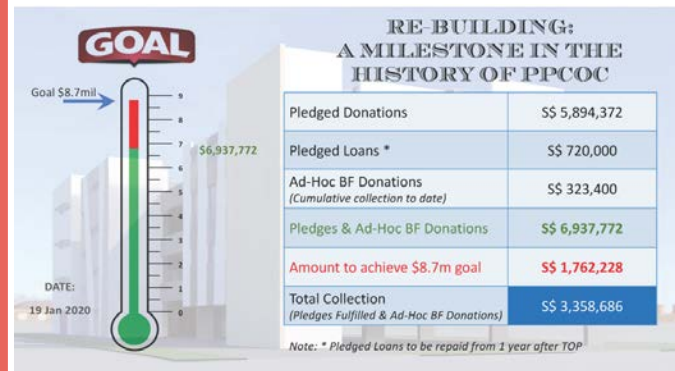


SEE WHAT GREAT LOVE THE FATHER HAS LAVISHED ON US, THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD AND THAT IS WHAT WE ARE!



1 JOHN 3:1

GEMS Hour caters to GEMS kids & teens. Please register your interest with GEMS Parents Chatgroup to facilitate arrangements for Craft & Refreshments.



Send this FOCUS QR Code to an absent member



<https://bit.ly/2rxopUz>

Pledge & Building Fund Committee
Peter Lim
Jim Kawi
Grace Mariaraja

Elders
Simon Goh
Peter Lim
Lim Swee Aun
Ooi Boo Chye
Terry Wan

Deacons
Dennis Law
Lim Kok Hin
Vincent Lim

Ministers
Patrick Ong 82005250
eMail: patrickong@ppcoc.org
Beng Chuan 96393008
eMail: tanbengchuan@ppcoc.org

Go to Internet browser link <http://welcome.ppcoc.org> via the Church WIFI to record your attendance