



CHURCH of CHRIST
— PASIR PANJANG —



7 June 2020

2020 Year Theme:
Be Strong and Courageous! Joshua 1:9

Worship Theme:
Call to be transformed into a true follower of Christ
Today's scripture texts: John 21:15-19; Acts 9:1-6; Psalms 30

Calling is, perhaps, the word that most clearly reflects what the Scriptures seek to tell us this week – Saul's conversion and call to be a follower (ultimately apostle) of Jesus, the psalmist's rescue and commitment (calling) to live as a worshipper and Peter, forgiven for his denial, restored to leadership of the apostles, and called to follow Christ even to his death. In response to this, the Scriptures invite us to discern the voice of God, i.e. to hear the call which comes to us and our communities in Christ's name – the call to worship, the call to be transformed into true followers of Jesus, and the call to minister to others in this disruptive time, the covid-19 crisis.

THE UNEXPECTED

William Shakespeare, in *Cymbeline*, wrote,
Fortune brings in some boats that are not steered.

Covid-19 arrived on our shores unannounced and uninvited and is certainly not regarded as a guest. The virus had already infected many countries, but we did not expect to have the nation so quickly shut down with virtually everyone told to stay at home! The unexpected always catches us by surprise. Not a nice feeling because we like to know what's going on, what's in the pipeline. We like to be in control.

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 9:1-19

Ananias did not expect to be told to help the feared persecutor, Paul of Tarsus and Paul's conversion was the most unexpected gift for the first Christian communities. How could they expect someone who had a warrant to arrest and kill the followers of Jesus, and who had earlier watched and approved the stoning of the deacon, Stephen [Acts 7:55-8:1], to be accepted as a friend?

These first Christians had to overcome quite justifiable fear, suspicion, even perhaps hatred, in order to embrace Paul. How different our story would have been had they not done so! Consider today's scripture passages and return to them during the week.

- Are there groups or individuals in your own life that you avoid or find difficult in any way?
- Do you ever find yourself saying or thinking, *How could I be expected to forgive such a person/insult/rejection/abuse...?*
- How prepared are you to expect the unexpected?

EVENTS

Online Bible Class & Worship **7 June**

9.30 am Bible Class
The Parable of the Wheat and Tares
Teacher: Lim Cher Yam

11.00 am Worship
Call to be Transformed into a True Follower of Christ
Preacher: Romaine Jackson

Wed Online Bible Class **10 June**

7.30 pm
Study on the book of Daniel
Teacher: Lim Lian Chye

Zoom Prayer Warriors

8.00 pm
Every 2nd & 4th Tue
Lim Lian Chye

5 July Youth for Christ (Youth Day)



Use this QR code to access Online Worship



SINGAPORE'S COVID-19 CIRCUIT BREAKER ENDED ON JUNE 1. RESTRICTIONS WILL BE PROGRESSIVELY EASED IN THREE PHASES. AT THIS PHASE ONE (SAFE RE-OPENING), IN-PERSON CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES ARE STILL NOT ALLOWED. AS SUCH, THE ONLINE WORSHIP AND BIBLE CLASSES WILL CONTINUE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

YOU can join us in worship by going to www.ppcoc.org and click on our Online Worship under Resources tab or Quick Links. You can also check the Donate tab on how to make bank transfers to the church for tithes and offerings.

Perspective:

7 June 2020

Never in the same Boat! So please have some empathy.

After listening to some pretty harsh comments and arguing over reopening or completely shutting down the economy for another two weeks, someone in his right mind wrote this:

WE ARE NOT IN THE SAME BOAT

I heard that we are all in the same boat, but it's not like that. We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat. Your ship could be shipwrecked and mine might not be. Or vice versa.

For some, quarantine is optimal. A moment of reflection, of re-connection, easy in flip flops, with a cocktail or coffee. For others, this is a desperate financial and family crisis.

For some that live alone, they're facing endless loneliness. While for others, it is peace, rest and time with their mother, father, sons and daughters.

With the weekly increase in unemployment, some are bringing in more money to their households than they were working. Others are working more hours for less money due to pay cuts or loss in sales.

For some not getting on with family, domestic abuse is rife...we never know what goes on behind closed doors.

Some are concerned about getting a certain candy for celebration while others are concerned if there would be enough bread, milk and eggs for the weekend.

Some want to go back to work because they don't qualify for unemployment and are running out of money. Others want to kill those who break the quarantine.

Some are home, spending 2-3 hours a day helping their children with online schooling while others are spending 2-3 hours a day to educate their children on top of a 10-12 hours workday.

Some have experienced the near death of the virus.

Some have already lost someone from it and some are not sure if their loved ones are going to make it. Others don't believe this is a big deal.

Some have faith in God and expect miracles during this 2020. Others say the worst is yet to come.

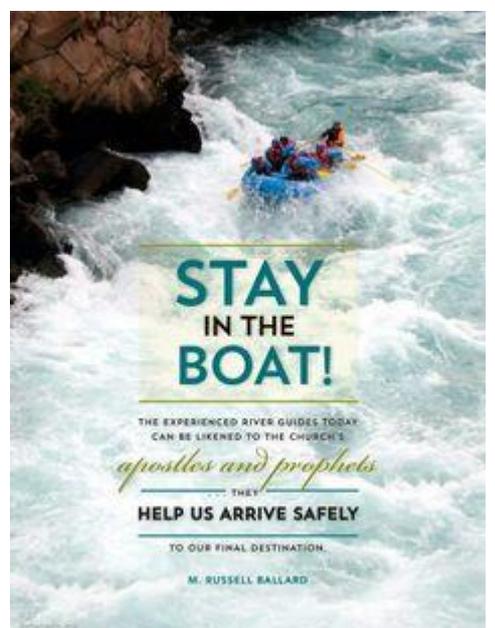
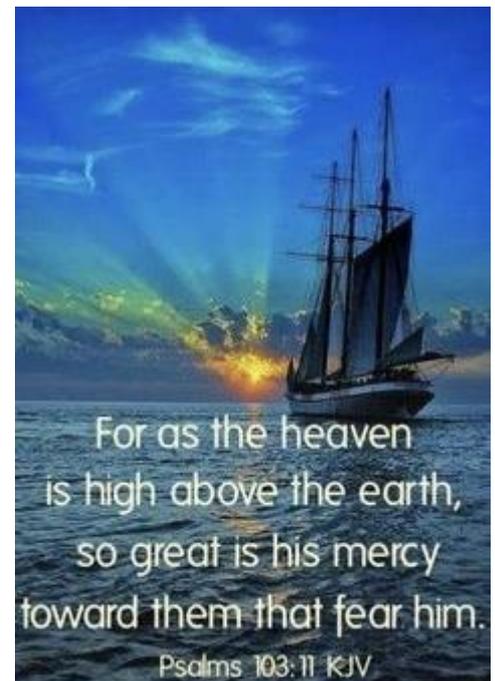
So, friends, we are not in the same boat. We are going through a time when our perceptions and needs are completely different.

Each of us will emerge, in our own way, from this storm. It is very important to see beyond what is seen at first glance. Not just looking, actually seeing.

We are all on different ships during this storm, experiencing a very different journey.

Realize that and be kind.

Unknown author



Food Aid – Give A Little, Help A Lot.

Update on Food Aid Relief for Hmawbi Church of Christ, Myanmar

On 30 May, we distributed food to 35 families at the church building – Bro. Sam Thang, minister.



Food Aid Relief for Indonesia

Bro. Herbin Simanjuntak of Batam COC says: Our brethren are very happy to receive your gifts. Praise and glory be to our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!



UNEXPECTED CHANGES

The tourist, hospitality and travel industries – as seen from the virtual collapse of international airlines – are among the most at-risk groups struggling to avoid loss of livelihoods in the face of this worldwide health crisis. Many SME businesses and professional services fear they may never be able to reopen for business.

This more than suggests that vast numbers of people have been living in the future, planning ahead, making advanced bookings, expecting nothing to get in the way of what they intend to do, where they intend to go. There are, of course, practical reasons for such preparation, but maybe we have been taking life too much for granted, convinced we are the ones in control! Even as we realise how little control we have in these times of unexpected changes, let us have the confidence that the God we believe in *is* in control, and that He will guide us through the uncertainties!

This Sunday, please pray for the physical and spiritual well-being of those

- whose livelihoods are threatened by the pandemic
- who have never had to worry about filling time
- who have planned holidays or business trips in the next few months
- who have taken life and tomorrow for granted
- who find change difficult
- who like to be sure and to be in control

THIS UNEXPECTED TIME (Anonymous)

This unexpected time
when silence comes to stay
not only in the night but all through the day
footsteps can't be heard
for there are no feet about
no engine noise to irritate
or annoying human shout
the lockdown shuts away all else
but the silence from the sounds we make
from dawn to dusk without a break
then on into the night
yet in this silence now we hear
sounds of nature crystal clear
bird song gifting endless celebration
wind and trees in loving conversation
let ears refresh with rediscovered sound
and welcome it within our own surround
and be less concerned with yours and mine

SUNDAY GIVING



FACTS FIGURES

31 May - \$18,668.22

WAYS TO GIVE

(A) CHEQUE

- Please address the cheque to “Church of Christ, Pasir Panjang”
- Please write the following at the back of the cheque
 - Account number you wish to give to
 - Your name, contact number and address
- Please **deposit your cheques** at POSB or DBS branches. Please do not mail the cheques to the church office as our staff are working from home.

(B) Donate via BANK TRANSFER

ACCOUNT NUMBERS

1. **General Fund** bank account number: 063-001497-4
 - No further action is required
2. **Mission Fund** bank account number: 063-001495-8
 - Please inform Sis Annie (receipt given)
3. **Building Fund** bank account number: 063-007311-3
 - Please inform Pledge/BF Committee (Peter, Jim or Grace) (receipt given)

(C) Donate via PayNow (QRCode)

1. Scan the QR code using your mobile banking app
2. Verify that it shows: Church of Christ PPG, S76SS0008AGFD
3. Indicate your name in the “Reference No.” (optional)
4. Enter the amount you wish to contribute
5. Click next, verify the details and confirm.



General Fund
UEN: S76SS0008AGFD



Missions Fund
UEN: S76SS0008AMFD



Building Fund
UEN: S76SS0008ABFD

FEEDBACK on
Church Matters



Pledge & Building Fund Committee
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Jim Kawi
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