

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

**Worship Theme:**  
**Same Mind and Same Purpose**

Today's scripture texts: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 ; Matthew 4:12-23; Psalm 27:1, 4-9

This Sunday, the common thread that ties the three texts is "Light shining in darkness". In times of distress – internal strife and divisions in the Corinthian church, John the Baptist's arrest and imprisonment – we need light to guide our feet, to give us sight, and to warn and protect us. Psalm 27 calls the Lord "my light".

"I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose."

1 Corinthians 1:10 (NLT)

In 1 Corinthians 1, Paul exhorted the congregation and realized their disunity had inhibited them. He urged them to share the same mind and same purpose in Christ – being the light shining in darkness. This same mindset should encourage us to be unified in mission and action.

And like the disciples in the gospel of Matthew, we seek to answer Jesus' call to make disciples because the light of God calls people to rejoice and unite in mission and action.

Finally, the light is also the note on which the psalm opens with declaration, "The Lord is My Light and My Salvation!"



## EVENTS

**Oct 18**

**Mission Sunday (Mission Workshop by Winston Chong at 9.30 AM)**

**Oct 25**

**PP 56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Online Bible Class & Worship**  
**11 October**

9.30 am Bible Class  
The Parable of the Prodigal Son by Lim Cher Yam

11.00 am Worship  
Same Mind and Same Purpose by Terry Wan

**Online Wed Bible Class**  
**14 October**

7.30 pm  
The Book of Psalms  
Teacher: Lim Cher Yam

**Zoom Prayer Warriors**

8.00 pm  
Every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tue  
Lim Lian Chye

**Gladiolus Place Devotions**

7.30 pm  
Every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mon

Use this QR code to access  
Online Worship



In-person Congregational Worship Service continues today (up to 50 persons maximum). Members who intend to worship in the church premises on Sunday are to register and submit the online form on the PPCOC website each week. You may also use the QR code on Page 4 of the FOCUS Newsletter.

You can join us in worship by going to [www.ppcoc.org](http://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.

## HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN – A BREAKTHROUGH IN THE SOLO COC CHURCH EXPANSION AND EMPOWERMENT AMID COVID 19



Life is really unsettling and horrific for everyone because of Covid-19. However, when I flew from Batam to Central Java Solo CoC two months ago, I found that the women in this church continue to be faithful and are studying and searching the truth of God, even with inconveniences like mask wearing and maintaining social distancing. We discussed Roman 16: 1-16, in which Paul talked about the women who were struggling and working with him to spread the Gospel, and helping the churches in the first century. I shared this passage with them and highlighted the impact of women in assisting the growth of the church and the spread of the Gospel. I hope they realize that the church today will also grow if women are active in church work.



The problem is that no female leader is there to guide the women and facilitate group discussions all this while. A low level of education is one reason but most lack an understanding of the Word of God. With this in mind, I began to prepare a spiritual woman to become a leader or facilitator so that group discussions can continue in the future.

These women have good hearts but most are shy about speaking publicly. Please pray for them to be faithful and for the church to continue growing

By: Forlandya Simanjuntak

# **LADIES OUTREACH AND DEVELOPMENT AMID THE PANDEMIC**

**SOLO CHURCH OF CHRIST, CENTRAL JAVA 2020**

**By: Forlandya Simanjuntak S.Th**



## **Prayer request from Herbin on behalf of missions in Indonesia:**

1. The COVID-19 cases are increasing rapidly in Batam. We pray for God's protection.
2. Extending permit of the school in Jakarta.
3. Our work mission in Duri, Pekanbaru, Solo, Pontianak and Manokwari Papua - growing and faithful.
4. The stability of our economy
5. The recovery of Darlina (Herbin's wife).



Forlandya is a missionary who teaches and develops women of the churches in Indonesia. On July 21<sup>st</sup>, she bravely travelled to Solo Church of Christ, Central Java, to continue her work of sharing the Word of God with the women there.

Upon arriving safely, she was required to be quarantined at home for fourteen days. She stayed with Radius's family. Radius is the minister of the church.

After the quarantine, Forlandya started to speak to the ladies. She met with Melanie and shared the Gospel from Roman 1: 16 with her. The text is about the power of God in saving people. Melanie had many questions to ask, given her Lutheran background and the fact that she seldom reads the Bible. They had a fruitful discussion from the sharing, but will still need to continue these discussions to enable Melanie to open her mind to the way of salvation.

Forlandya and Melanie plan to meet every Saturday for Bible discussions. Please pray for her.

Another highlight was visiting other ladies in their homes. Forlandya encouraged them using 1 Peter 3: 13 to firmly establish and strengthen their faith and hope in Christ amid the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been four months since staying at home, and this has impacted their economy and living cost. They have been praying to encourage one another and have been having fellowship in love.

Heartiest congratulations to Ting Jwee and Li Mei on the wedding of their daughter.

Here's wishing Magdalene and Wang Wei (who tied the nuptial knot on 3 October 2020) a lifetime of joy and happiness!



## SUNDAY GIVING

FACTS  FIGURES

4 October - \$13,817

## WAYS TO GIVE

(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

### Church of Christ Pasir Panjang Sunday Worship Attendance

**In-person Congregational Worship Service on 18 October** (up to 100 persons max). Members who intend to worship in the church premises must register before Friday noon for successful balloting.

Registration is open from **Monday** and the cut-off date/time for submission will be **Friday, 12 noon**, for the coming Sunday Worship Service.



<http://bit.ly/2Wk8Qg8>

The Incident at Antioch  
**Galatians 2:11-14**

**But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood self-condemned;**



### Paul Opposes Cephas

by Lee Hock

As human beings, we tend to lock people into a past timeframe. We remember mistakes people make & hardly grant them the opportunity to change.

There are so many moments in Peter's life when God could have "locked" him in time, but God never did. Peter, the impulsive, famously denied Christ in John 18:15-27, only to be restored later. In Jn 21:15-19, he also contributed to racial divisions within the church. The issue arose when Peter (also called Cephas) had separated himself from the Gentiles (Galatians 2:11-12). The Jews who arrived insisted that circumcision was required for believers in Christ, so Peter began avoiding the uncircumcised Gentiles. After Paul's bold confrontation, the issue was resolved. Peter went on to serve God in the loving spirit of unity as God had intended for us too. None of us needs to remain 'locked in our worst past moments of wrongs'. We are all striving to be more Christlike daily. God will help us as long as we are humble & willing.

FEEDBACK on Church Matters



<http://bit.ly/38KH8wK>

**Pledge & Building Fund Committee**  
Peter Lim  
Jim Kawi  
Grace Mariaraja

**Elders**  
Simon Goh  
Peter Lim  
Lim Swee Aun  
Terry Wan

**Deacons**  
Dennis Law  
Lim Kok Hin  
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## PPCoC Gardening Ministry - Update 3

In Aug 2020, our church leaders approved the formation of this Gardening Ministry and the allocation of 2 car-park lots for our Church Nursery.

### 3-Fold Objectives of Gardening Ministry

- 1) To foster fellowship among church members with a common interest in learning to grow edible plants at home.
- 2) As an Outreach Platform to invite friends and neighbours to join our regular meetings or field trips, and to share knowledge and the “fruits” of our labour with the eventual goal of inviting them to church and teaching them the gospel of Christ.
- 3) To promote interest in, preparation for, and maintenance of the future Edible Garden for the new Church Building.

Our Gardening Ministry currently has 16 members. To-date, we have conducted 4 zoom meetings and held 2 field trips. Our second zoom meeting was held together with NPark Horticulture and Community Gardening Division to establish contact and seek advice on growing Edible Gardens. Since then, members have collectively bought soil, collected styrofoam boxes and started growing vegetables from seeds received from NPark. In our WhatsApp chat group, we also exchanged gardening tips and shared our joy of seeing our seedlings grow. Other than growing at members’ homes, we also decided to grow vegetables in a larger scale at the Church grounds and 2 members’ gardens. The vegetables that we have started growing are Kai Lan, Chye Sim, Kang Kong, Ladies Fingers, Chilli, Tomato etc.

Our first field trip, on 19 Sep 2020, was at Hort Park, Alexandra. We separated into two groups of five persons led by Joanne and Ronald. The beautiful garden reminded us of God’s creation. It was peaceful and yet full of life.



We saw different types of vegetables such as kang kong, yam, ladies fingers, etc. There are fruit trees like bananas, papayas, roselle etc. We spent hours chatting (with the masks on), learning about the different kinds of plants and the environments suitable for them. We realised that God was the first physical gardener on earth and He is also our spiritual vine if we were to bear fruit. Wisdom from God is what we need most in our lives and our gardening endeavours.



On 3 Oct 2020, we made a trip to Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve near Kranji, and the local farms along Neo Tiew Crescent. This Wetland Reserve is Singapore's 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Heritage Park. We observed some wildlife such as eagles, monitor lizards, crocodiles, snakes and bats in their natural habitats. We saw a camp of bats nestled underneath the pitch roof and a crocodile swimming leisurely. We also saw our familiar Kang Kong vegetable growing in the wild. In the farm, we saw climbers like passion fruit growing on trellis that formed a beautiful shelter. This is the trellis that we are dreaming of in our new Church Building's roof terrace - with fruits and vegetables hanging from its roof.



With the help of our SIBI students and Ronald, our Church Nursery is slowly taking shape at our church grounds. We will continue to experience and learn about God's creation – the Edible Garden. Other field trips in the pipeline include Sembawang Hot Spring, Pulau Ubin etc.

We invite you to join this ministry to experience the joy of growing and eating your very own plants and vegetables. Please contact Sis Joanne Wong or Sis Kelly Leong for more details.

- Joanne Wong