

FOCUS



CHURCH *of* CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Sunday Morning Worship



19 September 2021

Cross at God

By Simon Goh
Livestream @ 11am
ppcoc.org/live-stream

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" While hanging in agony on the cross, humiliated, dehydrated, and exposed to the elements, our Lord Jesus cried out these painful words. Here was the Son of God, the Firstborn over all creation, left to suffer all alone.

Don't we also have these moments in our lives? We get mad at God for making us carry a burdensome cross. We wonder why God is silent when we need Him the most. We shake our fists at heaven and we conjure thoughts in our hearts that we would never voice on Sunday.

Yet that is the mystery of Christ. He knows exactly how we feel when we are cross at God. He joins us in our suffering so that we might become more like Him. Out of the hurt, we find strength to love, trust, and obey God once more, whatever the cross we have to bear.

COVID-19 Guidelines

On 12 September, one of our members who attended worship, later tested positive for COVID-19. Out of an abundance of precaution, all in-person activities on 19 and 26 September will be suspended. All Bible Classes and worship services will be conducted online.

Please continue to monitor your health and perform ART self-tests where necessary. If you attended in-person worship on 12 September and test positive, please notify any of the ministers so that we can inform the relevant authorities.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to keep everyone safe and healthy. We look forward to the day that we can assemble as one body of Christ again.

Giving

Last week's contribution: **\$7,559**



General Fund
S76SS0008AGFD



Missions Fund
S76SS0008AMFD



Building Fund
S76SS0008ABFD

Upcoming Events



Monday, 20 Sept | Zoom @ 8pm

PP '22 Dialogue - GEMS

ID: 822 3488 8306

Password: Theme2022



Wednesday, 22 Sept | Livestream @ 7:30pm

Wednesday Bible Class

"Reserved for Judgment" (2 Peter 3:1-7)

By John Lim



Saturday, 25 Sept | Zoom @ 2pm

PP '22 Dialogue - GEMS

ID: 822 3488 8306

Password: Theme2022



Sunday, 26 Sept | Livestream @ 11am

"Cross Over"

By Terry Harrison

Upcoming Events



Sunday, 26 Sept | 9:30am

Adult Bible Class

"Dealing with Our Brother"

Joshua 22

By Lim Cher Yam

GEMS Bible Class (Nursery)

Contact Agnes Lim

(9858 5935)

Youth Bible Class

"Living Smartphone Smart"

*12 Ways Your Smartphone Is
Changing You*

Contact John Lim (8689 2008)

GEMS Bible Class (Kinderkids)

"Namaan is Healed"

2 Kings 5:1-19

Contact Josephine Seow (9170 4343)

FFF Bible Class

"How Should We Pray?"

Let's Pray About It

Contact Dorothy Tay (9363 1260)

GEMS Bible Class (P123)

"Jesus is Crucified, Buried & Guarded"

Matthew 27:32-66; John 19:17-42

Contact Eunice Chen (9176 1667)

GEMS Bible Class (Cradle Roll)

Contact Audrey Lee

(9855 4957)

GEMS Bible Class (P456)

"The Israelites Ask for a King"

1 Sam 8-9

Contact Rosalind Lee (9621 9006)

GEMS Bible Class (Toddlers)

Contact Koo Hwee Yee

(9173 2365)

Family News



PP '22 Dialogues | Monday & Saturday

In this week's Dialogue sessions, we will be focusing on the GEMS ministry that grooms the next generation of Jesus followers. We invite teachers, assistants, parents, and even GEMS children to be a part of these uplifting and forward-looking sessions. You can also attend if you simply have an interest in the lives of our children.

We will meet on Zoom on Monday at 8pm and Saturday at 2pm. You are welcome to attend either session or both.

We will be asking questions such as:

- How has God been working in your life this year?
- What do you hope for our children to become?
- How do you see the GEMS ministry as a place for that nurturing?
- How would you like to participate in GEMS?



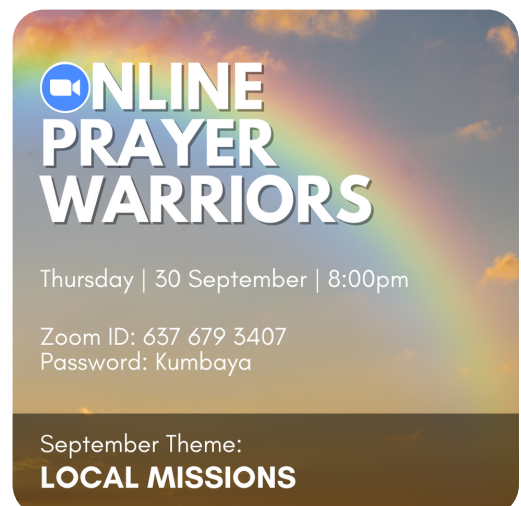
Zoom ID:
822 3488 8306

Password:
Theme2022



Online Prayer Warriors September Session

We're focusing on local missions in the build-up to our October Missions Month. Let us pray for God to lead us to become a community that loves those at our own doorstep.



Family News



Young Adults Event

Today is the last day to register for this event. Sign up today to secure your spot!

Join us for
Stand Up Paddling

2 Oct (Sat)
9.30am to 12pm

Cost: \$45/pax

Meeting point:
Sembawang Park Carpark 1

Limited to 40 pax only!

For more info, contact
Clarence (90613524) or
YangGin (86483905)

Sign up via
the QR code:

Register by
19 Sept



Ministry Opportunity | Gladiolus Place

Gladiolus Place (GP) is a residential home for vulnerable teenage girls between 12-20. For the last few years, PPCOC has been blessed to partner with GP in ministering to these girls with the love of Jesus.

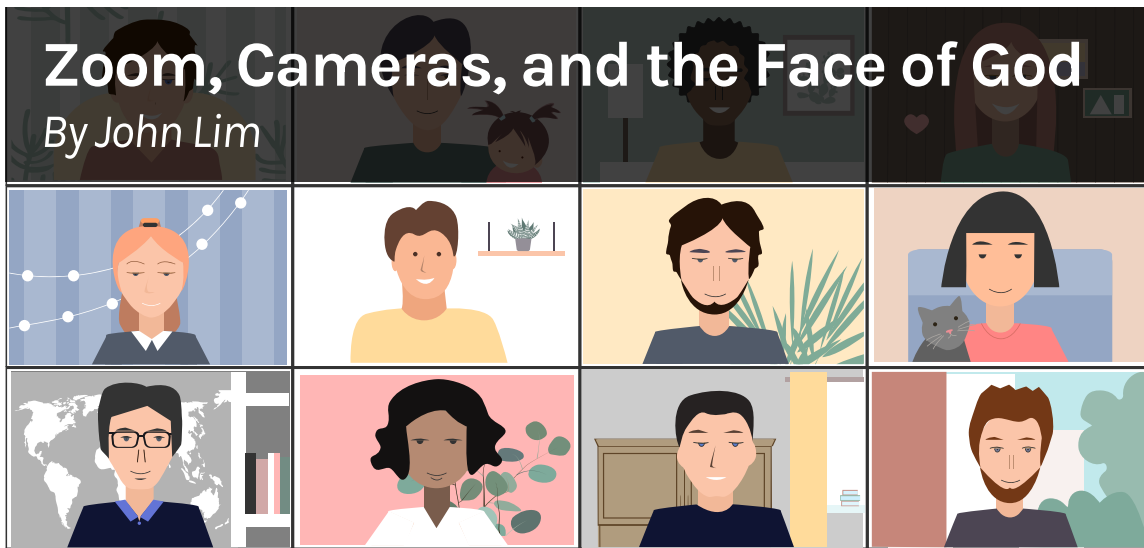


We currently have a team that organises fortnightly devotionals, Bible courses, holiday celebrations (e.g. Christmas and CNY) and sponsors them for various needs.

We are looking for female mentors to be part of a Family Care Team for a 3-6 month period. Each week, mentors will spend 6-12 in-person hours with the girls. Specialised training and courses will be provided where appropriate.

Please see sister Lucy Kwan (9838 3131) for more details.

A Minister's Musings



Skype. FaceTime. Video conferencing. Zoom. Less than two years ago, these technologies were novelties. Today, they are necessities.

Today, we've perfected the art of Zoom "etiquette". We know to look sharp from the waist up because no one sees the lower half, saving time and laundry. We've learned to "unmute" ourselves before speaking, and also to "mute" ourselves again before we say something better left unheard!

At most of my Zoom meetings though, unless it's a one-on-one meeting or we're all close friends, about half of the group turns off their video. I always thought that Zoom was meant to preserve as much of that face-to-face element as possible, but it seems that most of us prefer not to show our faces unless we absolutely have to.

Granted, we usually have our reasons for keeping our videos off. But how does our video choice affect others in the virtual room? It sends the message that:

A Minister's Musings



Zoom, Cameras, and the Face of God (cont)

- “I’m not (don’t want to be) fully present in this conversation.”
- “I’m not comfortable enough to let you see my face.”
- “I’m okay to be included, but don’t expect me to be highly involved since I’ll probably be doing other things that I don’t want you to see.”

Keeping our videos turned off enables us to be present, but in the least way possible. I suppose that is why some organisations specifically require that people turn on their videos during meetings - “We need to see your face to know that you are here with us.”

As it turns out, that is part of the Christian story. In the beginning, man and woman walked with God in the Garden of Eden, face-to-face in perfect relationship. When they sinned, that perfect relationship was broken and they hid themselves from God in shame (Gen. 3:8). God withdrew His face from them because His Holiness was too great for them to bear (Ex. 33:20).

But in Jesus, God has shown us His face. John 1:14 says that “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, full of grace and truth.”

God could have saved us with a snap of His fingers. He could have parted the heavens in a blaze of light and spoken with a thunderous voice. He could have rescued us from a far distance, never needing to contaminate His Holy self with our sinful world.

And yet He chose to save us by becoming Emmanuel, God-With-Us. He crossed the impossible distance from divinity to humanity. He became so fully present that He would eat and drink with us, laugh

A Minister's Musings



Zoom, Cameras, and the Face of God (cont)

with children and weep at deathbeds, and finally suffer and die for us. There was no part of our humanity that Christ did not experience.

By being so fully present, Jesus said to us:

- I am with you always, even to the end of the age.
- Look at my face and see in my eyes how much I love you.
- I love you so much that I will share the whole of your broken human condition and overcome it.

Our God was willing to go through death itself to show up for us. How can we show up for other people with the presence of Christ?

Here's a wild idea. Perhaps it's as simple as turning on your video at your next Zoom call. Put on a proper shirt. Comb your hair or do your makeup a little more. Turn on your video and show that you are fully present for that meeting. And who knows if someone else will see in your face the presence of Jesus?



Connect With Us

Prayer Requests/ Feedback



<http://bit.ly/35FTEyp>



Meet Our People

Elders

Simon Goh	8833 0899
Peter Lim	9274 5457
Lim Swee Aun	9335 9955
Terry Wan	9845 2878

Deacons

Dennis Law	9681 1068
Lim Kok Hin	9679 6027
Vincent Lim	9451 7382

Ministers

Tan Beng Chuan	9639 3008
Patrick Ong	8200 5250
John Lim	8689 2008

Pledge and Building Fund Committee

Peter Lim	9274 5457
Jim Kawi	9825 8792
Grace Mariaraja	9060 7585