

FOCUS



CHURCH of CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Sunday Morning Worship



26 December 2021

Filled with All the Fullness of God

By John Lim
Live @ 11am

We're finally here at the end of another eventful year. Anticipation is in the air, and we're probably making plans, New Year Resolutions, and praying for God's blessing on the new year.

That said, what are we praying for? We naturally want to pray that our careers will go well, that the kids will be well behaved and do well in school, and we'll be able to travel again. But as we'll explore today, those prayers are too small. When the apostle Paul prayed for the church he loved, he prayed that they would be "filled with all the fullness of God." Maybe we could learn a thing or two from him

This week, as we prepare to enter 2022, let's pray earnestly that we will be filled with all the fullness of God, and that the new year will be a season of seeking first the kingdom of God and all His fullness. For there is no higher thing that we can pray for.

COVID-19 Guidelines

We have resumed in-person worship services and Bible Classes. Please take note of the following:

- You must be fully vaccinated to come to church.
- Unvaccinated children under 12 years old are allowed to attend.
- Adults, Youth and GEMS Bible Classes have resumed in-person. FFF will remain online until further notice.
- We are allowed to sit in zones of 100 and in groups of up to 5.

Giving

Last Week's Giving: **\$12,102.75**



General Fund
S76SS0008AGFD



Missions Fund
S76SS0008AMFD



Building Fund
S76SS0008ABFD

Upcoming Events



26 Dec | GEMS Celebration & Teachers Appreciation

In place of 9:30 Bible Classes, everyone is invited to join the church-wide celebration that will be livestreamed from the auditorium.



27 Dec

Gladiolus Place Christmas Lunch

By Lucy Kwan & Catherine Leow



29 Dec | 7:30pm

Wednesday Bible Class

"Walk Worthy of Your Calling"

Ephesians 4:1-3

By Lim Lian Chye

Our GP team is looking for volunteers to join their Christmas lunch and have fellowship with the girls. If you can organise games, share a devotion, or simply be present, please let them know!



1 Jan 2022 | 7:30pm

Church Focus Day

10am - 12pm via Zoom





PPCOC FOCUS DAY Start 2022 Together

1 January 2022 | 10am-12pm | Zoom

The new year approaches fast! As we begin a season of many exciting changes, it is good that we come together as a church family to share our visions, hopes, and plans for 2022. It is a great chance to be aligned and move forward together as one united church!

This year's Focus Day will be held via Zoom on Saturday, 1 January, from 10am to 12pm. We will be covering aspects such as our theme, worship and discipleship ministries, service opportunities, and Rebuilding and Relocation plans. Mark your calendars and we hope to see you there!



Welcome Baby Abigail Goh!



We celebrate with new parents John Goh and Deanna Poon and grandparents Wai Chin and Allan Poon on the birth of Abigail Goh! Let us join the family as they celebrate their new bundle of joy! May God bless Abigail and her family with all His fullness, love, and wisdom!



Rebuilding: Recruitment of Resident Technical Officer (RTO)

The Rebuilding Program will commence from the first quarter of 2022 and is estimated to be completed in about 18 months. The church is looking for a full time Resident Technical Officer (RTO) for the project. Interested applicants may find the job scope, required experience and qualifications by scanning the QR code below.

Interested applicants are to submit their CV and working experience by 31 Jan 2022 to:

Church of Christ, Pasir Panjang,
Singapore
347 Pasir Panjang Road
Singapore 118688
c/o Church Rebuilding Committee

Email admin@ppcoc.org and
cc tanbengchuan@ppcoc.org



Update on Donations to Sister Mary Jane

A few weeks ago, we put out a call for donations for the family of sister Mary Jane, one of our FFF members, whose mother is facing high medical bills. We thank members who have contributed a total of \$330 on top of \$300 given by the Financial Assistance Committee.



Donations for the Philippines



As you may have already read from the news, Philippines have recently been hit by a typhoon that resulted in widespread destruction of properties and hardship to the people. Many places experienced power disruptions, homes were either destroyed or lost their roofs and there were mass gatherings seeking aid with little regard for safe distancing measures.

Our brethren, bro. Joemar (Pacao Church of Christ) and bro. Chito (MARCH for Christ) have appealed for financial aid to support the relief and rebuilding efforts. Besides food, the funds will primarily be used to purchase generators and repair works in the case of bro. Joemar whereas bro. Chito will consolidate and re-distribute the funds to the affected regions, most likely for repair works as well.

PPCOC will send immediate funds of \$1k each to bro. Joemar and bro. Chito. Members who wish to partner in this support can send their contributions to the Mission Fund (to indicate “Phil Relief” in your donations). The closing date for the donations is 2 Jan 2022.

Thank you for your generous donations and do continue to pray for those affected and the relief and rebuilding efforts.

2021 Reflections



Introduction

As we prepare to move forward into a new year, it is also important to look back and consider the ways that God has worked in our lives. Through trial and triumph, successes and struggles, we confess the faithfulness of God.

We've collected these stories as a snapshot of those confessions. Some are long, some are short. Some contributors are veterans of faith, others are just starting on their faith journey. We have stories of prayer, learning, parenthood and full-time ministry. We hope that these they will encourage and inspire you towards a more meaningful 2022!



Magdalene Lim | Parents To Be

After seeing the pregnancy test kit come back positive, I found myself immersed in a world that was known but foreign - the world of parenting. Besides hearing stories by friends, my social media feed was a stream of influencers posting about the products they use, their newborn routines or tips on raising one's kids and targeted ads by baby brands because algorithms

sometimes know me better than I know myself. There are books on how to bring up your child, what to expect when you're expecting and baby books to "read" to your child, long before they can read.

And then there are also the plethora of things you could buy that might benefit your child and/or make life possibly easier as new parents - swaddles that use zips, nasal aspirators to suck mucus when your kid is sick, electric nail files that could rival those you find at a nail salon,



2021 Reflections

baby clothes made of the softest material, bottles that prevent colic and are modular, UV sterilisers, and cots that can "grow" with your baby's needs. Insurance and cord blood banking options, strollers, pacifiers, carriers... the list goes on.

What I am trying to say, is that there is a huge market out there for people who are very willing to spend money on their babies, read to educate themselves on how to be better parents, pick up tips from fellow new parents, monitor their diets to ensure their unborn babies are getting the right nutrition and take leave to go for regular medical checkups.

All this money, time and energy spent on babies who have not been born - babies who have done nothing to deserve what their parents do.

"Children contrast with the rich man simply because there is no question of their having yet been able to merit anything. Jesus' point is, there is simply nothing that any of us can do to inherit the kingdom. We must simply receive it like little children. And little children have nothing... Children are our model because they have no claim on heaven. If they are close to God, it is because they are incompetent, not because they are innocent. If they receive anything, it can only be as a gift."

(Brennan Manning, The Ragamuffin Gospel)

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast." Eph 2:8-9

The excerpt struck a cord, as I reflected on my then life stage, when I saw my husband fighting tiredness to set up a nursery for our unborn child, and running errands to prepare for his arrival. The baby had done nothing to deserve it, beyond simply being of us. We do not deserve God's love and grace; we are simply His children.

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Rudy Lim | A Blessed Infection

I was 50 years old in 2019 and I was looking forward to having a full body check up. As I grow old, my body will feel pain as my work needs me to do a lot of carrying for MPH Bookstores. Like our cars, we need to do servicing now and then.

As I reflect on what happened to me (my throat operation) in November 2021, I thank God that through this hospitalisation, the doctors were able to perform all the X-rays and CT scans, which was basically a full body check up.

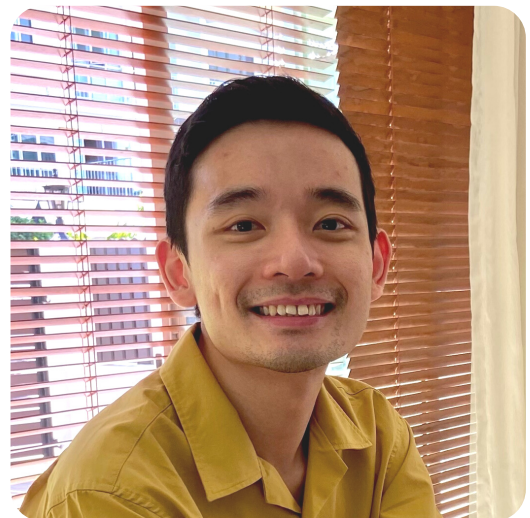
I have 3 more medical appointments which are not related to my throat operation. In a way, this (the November ordeal) was a blessing in disguise. God is good all the time and His timing is always right.



Kenneth Kuek | A Prayer For Peace

2021 has been another challenging year for most of us, but I am thankful to God for providing for us physically as well as keeping the body of Christ here worshipful and centred in His Word.

My prayer for 2022 is for us that we might have the peace of God, despite what the world might throw at us with the uncertainties that lie ahead. May we have faith to believe that He is present in every situation we face to make things work according to His will.



2021 Reflections



Dorothy Tay | Lifelong Learning

2021 seems to have gone by in the blink of an eye! Reflecting on the second year of the Covid-19 pandemic, it has been, for me, a year of solace and quiet study of God's word. I'm thankful for the Lord's enabling and empowering me on new ventures.



In the Filipino Ministry I'm thankful that the Zoom technology has kept us intact and connected for our weekly Sunday Bible study and fellowship, sharing our concerns, and praying for one another. I'm thankful for the two baptisms that took place this year, namely Khristina Balag-ey on 25 July and Imelda Fedelicio on 14 November. Glory be to God!

Learning how to use Zoom has also allowed me to facilitate the fortnightly Bible study and prayer sessions with my Care Team. Never would I have imagined that I could be an 'expert' in some way in the use of the Zoom technology!

In this period of being home-bound, I'm thankful for my family: my 98-year-old mum, my brothers, sister and their families, for the bonds we keep as a close-knit family. Visits of loved ones come in twos and now fives as the times permit.

My prayers for 2022 is for the Lord to bring the Church Rebuilding plans to fruition and facilitate our plans for continual congregational worship and study of His word. May the Lord also help us to cope with the endemic times of Covid-19 and for our economy to bounce back! Amen.

2021 Reflections



Patrick Ong | 1984-2021

I want to thank God for His faithfulness to me and my family at PPCOC.

In 1984, the good Lord God Almighty called me to be a minister to the deaf congregation that began to worship at the premises of the Tanglin Halt Road church building, courtesy of the Pasir Panjang Church of Christ then.



We are thankful to the Pasir Panjang brethren as they supported us financially and spiritually to pursue the deaf ministry to the deaf community. It was a learning process; we organised many outreach activities and workshops. God blessed us with many souls and volunteer hearing workers. We have many fond memories of the outings around Singapore.

By the grace of God and Pasir Panjang brethren, the deaf work moved to the present location at 347 Pasir Panjang Road in August 1983. I was employed to serve as their minister in January 1984. While there are many devoted and capable members, much of the deaf work falls into the hands of a few hearing godly men and ladies.

There were pioneers like Darren Tan, a devoted Christian worker who has given his whole hearted attention to the deaf ministry and community. Several other professionals such as Tony Goh, Atsushi Kanai, and Mak Kok Meng are also devoted hearing workers to the deaf. We are indebted to them and many other brothers and sisters who contributed to the growth and addition of the deaf ministry.

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Presently, our hearing workers are Mak & Evelyn, Vincent & Doreen Lim, Jim & Farida Kawi, William & Hedy Wong, Rudy Lim and Eileen Lim. Truly, God has blessed the deaf ministry, not only to reach out to save souls, but also to bring many blessings to all who have served in the deaf ministry.

We attribute the success of the deaf ministry to the remnant of godly men and ladies who have supported the work in countless ways. The good Lord always calls and blesses “new blood” to join the rank and file of these present servant-leaders. This will bring the deaf ministry to another level for God’s glory and honor.

Working with the deaf requires a great deal of love, patience and commitment. We are grateful to many early workers like Nancy Lee, Jenny Kwa, Ng Ee Kai, Foo Sek San, James Lim, Ivy Lee as well as the current workers who reach out to these precious souls in the deaf community.

We praise the LORD for His faithfulness and abundant blessings. We covet your prayers and continued support for the deaf ministry. To God be the glory! Amen!

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Lim Lian Chye | The Evolution of OPW

In Dec 2020, there was a declining interest in praying together. Only elder Swee Aun and myself were prepared to come together weekly to pray. As we thought about why this was so, sister Lai Fun created a survey to gather feedback about how we could revive our prayer community. Thus, the Online Prayer Warriors were born.



We allowed the ladies to pray instead of just men praying and ladies listening in. Interest for our sessions gradually picked up. When sister Catherine joined us, she introduced our current format of Scripture reading, update of past prayers, new prayer requests, prayer themes for various church ministries, and breakout groups for men and ladies.

John joined us in July 2021 and we standardised the format with photos of people we are praying for inserted. We use Google Drive to synchronise our preparation (editor's note: yes, even the older members learned very well!). We had a core team to coordinate prayer requests and worked out a rotation of people to create the PowerPoint slides each month.

I want to thank God for the many brothers and sisters who helped in one way or another for OPW to evolve in 2021. This is a communal platform for the whole church to access and pray together, even in the middle of a pandemic. We praise God for His blessings, especially the healing of many through our prayers.

2021 Reflections



Chia Mei Xi | A New Chapter

in many ways, 2021 seemed to be a repeat of the year before: the same online schedule, the wearing of masks, online church, and the list goes on.

Yet it was by no means a year lost, contrary to what some might say. For one, the past year has allowed me to grow closer to my family.

Maybe it was because we were so often cooped up at home, but it made us treasure all the more each opportunity to go out together, making each experience so much the richer. For whatever reason, the same held true for friendships as well. For this, I am thankful.

On a personal level, the past year has seen me grow, or so I feel. I am far from perfect, but I feel like the past year has seen me take a tiny step towards this unattainable, godly goal.

So far, my reflection appears to have made no reference to God. But the truth is that amidst all this, He was everywhere, watching over every little moment, be it happy, sad or otherwise. It was His presence that presented and shaped every experience. My experiences and all may be unique to myself, but it is this same knowledge that ties us Christians together.

In many ways, the past year was like the last few lines of a chapter. For me, it was the last year of secondary school, and with that, the parting with friends, teachers, subjects. But one of my beliefs is that life is a journey, that growth is a lifelong process of experiencing and learning.



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With this in mind, I pray that I will keep learning new things, triumphing through obstacles and learning things from whatever gets thrown in my way, that God will help me, and others, maintain a resilient, positive state of mind: one calm and happy even amidst school work, exams and other commitments.

I pray that the pandemic situation will alleviate, that things will move on to a new normal, and that people will remain safe. I pray that humankind will progress, be it in the direction of slowing climate change, closing inequality gaps. I've heard people say that no things are too big for God, and I hope it is true: that God will give us the courage and resolve to alter our ways for the better.

I pray that religion may be used for good, that gone will be headlines of religion-based prosecution. For centuries, such an occurrence has been far from being uncommon. Can it - will it - not change in the near future?

Here's to the beginning of a new chapter: one just as fulfilling, just as meaningful as the last.

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