

FOCUS



CHURCH of CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Sunday Morning Worship



31 July 2022

Biblical Leadership At PPCOC

By John Lim
Live @ 11am

Today is special because it's the eve of a special milestone in PPCOC's journey. Tomorrow, 1 August, will be the official first day for our two new ministers, Kyle and Irvin! (More about their on-boarding on page 4-5).

So it is fitting that today we also conclude our series on biblical leadership with a glimpse into what the future of leadership at PPCOC will look like. In the past few weeks, we explored the key qualities of some of the most effective biblical leaders like Moses and Hezekiah, as well as those of New Testament elders and deacons.

When we put all those insights together and apply them at PPCOC, what do we get? Perhaps more importantly, after we identify and empower those leaders, what's next? Where are we going to be led? That's what today is about, and it has everything to do with becoming a church that proclaims the glory of God.

Sunday Morning Worship

Order of Worship

In the Morning of Joy

Opening

Salvation Belongs To Our God

Behold Our God

Scripture: Psalm 121

Prayer

In Christ Alone

Communion And Giving

Build Your Kingdom Here

Sermon

We Will Stand

Prayer of Commission for Kyle & Irvin

Announcements

Shepherd's Prayer

Shine Jesus Shine

Giving

Last Week's Giving: **\$7,557**



General Fund
S76SS0008AGFD



Missions Fund
S76SS0008AMFD



Building Fund
S76SS0008ABFD

If you plan to make a contribution via cheque, please make sure it is made payable to "**Church of Christ, Pasir Panjang, Singapore**". Please ensure that you write the full name so that the cheque can be processed smoothly.

Upcoming Events



31 July | 9:30am

Adult Bible Class

Thankful Obedience

Deuteronomy 16-28

By Isaac Tay

GEMS Bible Class (Nursery)

Contact Agnes Lim

(9858 5935)

Youth Bible Class

"The Enemy Gets It"

The Gospel of Mark

By John Lim

GEMS Bible Class (Kinderkids)

"The Boy Jesus In The Temple"

Luke 2:40-52

Contact Josephine Seow (9170 4343)

GEMS Bible Class (Cradle Roll)

Contact Audrey Lee

(9855 4957)

GEMS Bible Class (P123)

"The Transfiguration"

Matthew 17:1-13

Contact Joanne Foo (9683 8266)

GEMS Bible Class (Toddlers)

Contact Koo Hwee Yee

(9173 2365)

GEMS Bible Class (P456)

"Paul was Shipwrecked"

Acts 27

Contact Rosalind Lee (9621 9006)



3 Aug | 7:30pm

Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom @ 8pm)

"New Birth Part 2"

Zoom ID: 852 6167 8088

Password: Logos



6 Aug | 7:30pm

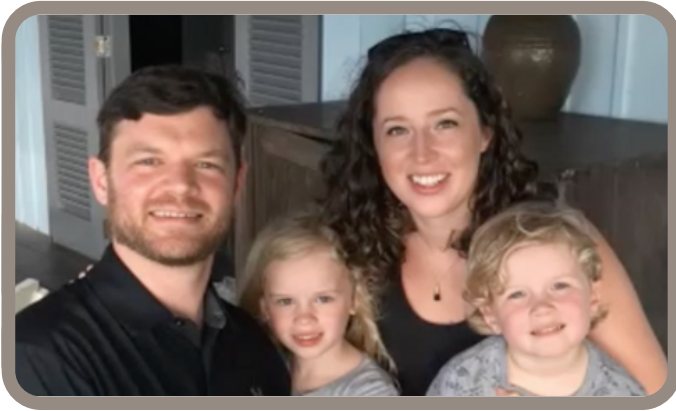
Youth Huddle

Contact John Lim (8689 2008)

Family News



Welcome Kyle!



We welcome Kyle Hooper to our full-time ministry staff starting on Monday, 1 August! We also welcome his family - Rebecca and children Emma (8) and Korban (5) - to our PP family!

It has been an incredible journey for them coming to PP, so here's a glimpse into their story!

Kyle and Rebecca both grew up in missionary families that served away from the US, and they in turn did the same. They call themselves "Third Culture Kids" - people who spend a significant part of their developmental years outside the parents' culture. There is a sense of feeling rootless and restless where home is "everywhere and nowhere." While this uncommon lifestyle has its unique challenges, they felt that they also became more open to God's call.

After doing mission work in Phnom Penh, Cambodia for about eight years, circumstances aligned and conversations started happening to bring the Hoopers to Singapore. That was over a year and a half ago, and ever since they've been transitioning out of Cambodia and spending time with family in the US. Now they are here and raring to go, and what a time to begin!

As they begin life here, let us pray for the Hoopers in these areas:

PRAY

- For their transition to a new country and culture, that God's Spirit may dwell with them as they begin new work and ministry.
- That the new PPCOC ministry team may have a Spirit-led vision that calls the congregation to deeper levels of discipleship as Jesus followers.
- That as ministers, we put our trust in what God is doing for His mission, letting go for times of sabbath rest and soul care to avoid burnout, and spurring the saints forward to impact the world around them for the sake of the Kingdom.



Welcome Irvin!



Many have known this family for a long time; you've probably known Irvin since he was a small boy! Now we are delighted to welcome brother Irvin Wan and his family - Xin Tian and children Joshua and Jonathan into the life of full-time ministry! Irvin, like Kyle, starts work on Monday, 1 August.

When Irvin first told others that he was going to leave Ministry of Education to work for the church, the most common response was, "ARE YOU SERIOUS?!" It was, of course, an unusual career choice, but as Irvin and Xin Tian sought the Lord's wisdom, it became clearer and clearer that this was not so much a choice as much as it was their purpose and calling.

God had shaped both their lives to lead up to this critical point. Irvin had actually thought of full-time ministry many years ago, but circumstances did not allow it then. In retrospect, he feels that the years were not an interruption but God's way of preparing his heart and mind for the role. Xin Tian also met many friends who entered full-time ministry in their own congregations, which shaped her mindset as well!

As they begin this new chapter of life, let us pray for the Wans in these areas:

PRAY

- Thank God for graciously calling and enabling them to enter a season of full-time ministry at PP.
- That God may lead, sanctify and bless them in the ministry, and that they may in turn bless many others (especially those in the PP family).
- That God will bless and prepare the way for our staff team, and the other leaders to work well together, and to come together in unity of purpose and passion.

Family News

Congratulations Valmond & Ainsley



We celebrate with brother Valmond who married Ainsley on Saturday, 16 July!

May God's blessing be upon you both as you begin this exciting new chapter of life together;

May the love of Christ bind you always together;

And may the Spirit bring forth the fruit of love, joy and peace so that you may bless the world as one!

Combined Youth & YA Event



For the first time in a long while, the Youth and Young Adult Ministries will come together for a combined event! It will be an Amazing Race that will see our young people working hard and playing hard, and building relationships for eternity!

Feel free to reach out to Joel Yeo (9154 8155) or Xinyi (9172 4931) with questions, concerns or affirmations.

Stay tuned for more details!

Family News



Adults Morning Walk



It's not just the young people who are having all the fun! Adults, mark your calendars for Saturday, 27 August, dust off those walking shoes, and invite a friend along for this outdoor activity!

We will be going on a relaxing 5km walk beginning at Labrador MRT. The route will take us through little-known gems like Berlayer Creek, Bukit Chermin Boardwalk and Keppel Island. We will conclude our walk with a delightful brunch at Seah Im Food Centre! A fantastic opportunity to catch up with brothers and sisters!



OPW Prayers

THEMES

Worship Ministry - maturing Sunday worship, capable worship leaders and everyone to return in-person

Ministry Staff - Beng Chuan, Annie, Barnabas, Irvin, Kyle, John

UPDATES

Joan Lee - wisdom to manage St Andrew's Nursing Home's COVID & Staffing situation

Alice Tan - no growth in tumour

Mimi Ng - recovery from fractured ankles

Eileen Lim - recovery from cataract surgery

Vera Lee - recovery from fever

Jane Foo - physio for neck and back aches

Lillian Loh's husband - seeking diagnosis for jawbone pain

NEW REQUESTS

Joanne Wong - Son Zi Hao's career and salvation

Nicole Cheng - furthering studies in Perth

Pearl Mayor - Nursing exam (3/8)

Newlyweds - Petras & Cheryl and Valmond & Ainsley

New Baptisms - Jadon Cheng & Desmond Kwok

Bereavement of Lim Peng Hui

Jerry & Judith Chen's relocation to Boston

Faith of Timothy and Rachel Lim

Vincent Lim's health

Beng Chuan's lunch surgery

COVID - thanksgiving for recoveries and prayers for ongoing cases

Health of William Wong, Lian Chye, Michael M & helper

Philippines earthquake victims

Thank you to all our prayer warriors who joined us on Thursday evening to pray for our church family! Our next session will be on Thursday, 25 Aug, where we will be praying specially for small groups and foreign residents.



Godly Team *Leadership*

We read from the Scriptures that God values, honours, and establishes team leadership. Moses' leadership embodies this principle. He shared the primary leadership of God's people with his brother Aaron, who was the spokesperson for the nation (Ex. 4:10-14). He shared decision-making and problem-solving responsibilities with others.

Under God's leadership, Moses raised up 70 elders to lead and care for the Israelites, so that he would not be overwhelmed with responsibilities (Num. 11:16-26). On his father-in-law's advice, (Ex. 18:15-26), he chose capable men from Israel to serve as judges, leaders, and as teachers for the people.

Likewise, when Jesus sent people out in ministry, he sent them out in twos. He did not expect them to minister alone. He Himself chose twelve disciples with whom to do ministry (Mk 3:13-15; 6:7). Jesus knew the importance of teamwork, and they worked together to build the Kingdom of God.

Paul also did not overlook his co-workers in the gospel. His letters, together with the book of Acts, introduce us to over a hundred of these co-workers. In Acts 24, he has seven named people who were part of his ministry team. He brought others along, not only to train them, but also to keep him encouraged. He raised up younger leaders for the benefit of the church, including Timothy, Titus, and Epaphroditus.

Paul's letters revealed his heart for team ministry, "Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother..." (Col. 1:1).

The qualifications of leadership as mentioned in Titus and 1 Timothy may be categorised into qualifications of character and competence.

Weekly Nugget | Kuek Lee Hock

Character: godly, blameless, faithful in marriage, not overbearing, patient, not greedy for dishonest gain, hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, disciplined.

Competence for church leadership: able to handle the Word of Truth, able to teach sound doctrine and refute falsehood, able to manage one's own household well—administratively and pastorally competent!

You may have inherited a ministry team where some do not meet the requirements of character. Or they might not be competent for the role. You can't have a godly book-keeper who can't count, or a preacher who does not know how to preach! These people may have to leave the team for the sake of the growth of the congregation.

There is also a third 'C' after Character and Competency. And that is the "Culturally fit". We need to ask: How can one fit with the team's overall culture?

After years of observing leaders working with paid staff and unpaid volunteers, it seems more challenging to take a volunteer off a team in a church, especially when there really is a 'wrong fit' that is hindering the development of the ministry. How do you 'refit the team'?

Note: keep praying for their welfare and good after they leave—these are all signs of the leader's character, heart, and Christ-likeness. We owe each one in Christ a debt of love, whether or not they fit our team. Often there is hurt, disappointment, even grief and anger when one is asked to leave the team.

If you are the one who was told to leave, do not give in to negativity! Do not let the Evil One plant seeds of bitterness in you. Instead continue to love one another for love overcomes a multitude of sins. Sacrificial love prepares one to be a team leader for another of God's team. You will overcome and demonstrate the grace, generosity, and love of God to all.

Part of the job of team leaders is to lead people who are not yet on your team, but who might one day fit in. Leadership needs to be nurtured from an early age and consistently through to adulthood. We train children in the way in which they are to go, and when they are an adult, they will not depart from it.

We want young people to place their confidence in God's Word and so know their way through life, keep their ways pure, and see wonderful things in God's law (Ps. 119:9-18).

If you struggle to find the right people to join your team when you need them, then it is probably a result of team leaders not leading well or not nurturing the next generation of leaders. People can change given the opportunity and nourishment by spiritual leaders.

I am encouraged by the story of John Mark in Acts 15. He was part of Paul's team, but Paul would not keep him on the team because he deserted the team at Pamphylia. But Barnabas thought Mark was still worthy to be coached.

At the end of 2 Timothy, Paul insisted that Timothy get Mark to join him, because he was 'helpful to me in my ministry'. What a turnaround! Let's foster a team spirit of belonging, community, and purpose at PP.

Reflection, Prayer, and Meditation

1. Does your team have a declared purpose that is clear, relevant, significant, shared, urgent and motivational?
2. If you asked your team members what the purpose of the team was, do they all give the same answer? Does the answer represent an agreed, common and shared view or are there gaps? Is it aligned to God's will and purpose?
4. Is all your team involved in developing the strategies and plans to achieve the purpose?
5. Is each team member's commitment to achievement demonstrated by high levels of cooperation for God's purpose?

Prayer:

Eternal Father, grant us as leaders strength, so that we do not grow weary in our leadership role. When tasks seem overwhelming and exhausting, may we recognise that we are assigned to do Your will. Remind us that at the right time, we will reap the reward if we do not give up. Lord, we rely on Your divine strength, not on ourselves, but on You.

Your Word declares that we will not be afraid nor dismayed because You are our God. We pray for leadership guidance for every leader as we exercise our faith, knowing that You will strengthen and help us. You, Lord, will uphold with Your righteous hand and keep us from serving selfishly, from serving for personal ambition or vain conceit.

We realise that leading requires humility and sacrificial service. Raise up servant leaders in Jesus' name, O Lord! Help us to work in humility. Make us Your chosen priesthood. In Christ's name, we pray, Amen.

Connect With Us

Prayer Requests/ Feedback



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



Meet Our People

Elders

Simon Goh

Peter Lim

Lim Swee Aun

Deacons

Dennis Law

Lim Kok Hin

Vincent Lim

Ministers

Tan Beng Chuan

John Lim

Pledge and Building Fund Committee

Peter Lim

Jim Kawi

Grace Mariaraja

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