

# FOCUS



CHURCH of CHRIST  
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

## Sunday Morning Worship

4 September 2022



**THE  
KINGDOM**  
IT'S BIGGER THAN YOU THINK

**It's For Me, and For  
Others Not Like Me**

By Irvin Wan

CHURCH of CHRIST  
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

How are you different from your family members? In my family, everyone but my dad likes mala (medium spice); the guys and girls have different ideas of "a good holiday" (nature versus a shopping extravaganza); and I am often picked on for having a boring fashion sense (what's wrong with wearing plain clothes!).

But what matters is we're family. We may not be identical, but we love one another. And that's what the kingdom of God is meant to be, dialled all the way up. According to Jesus, people in the kingdom don't even speak the same language; they come from strange and even questionable backgrounds; and they behave in ways that may seem offensive to others.

That's part of the beauty of the kingdom of God. EVERYONE belongs. Yes, even you and me, despite our strange quirks and our doubts that we belong at all. Jesus invites us to come and join this strange kingdom where no one is a stranger.

# Sunday Morning Worship

## Order of Worship

Hallelujah Praise Jehovah

Opening

Seek Ye First

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Scripture: Psalm 89:1-8

Prayer

Come To The Table

Communion & Giving

Come People Of The Risen King

Scripture: Matthew 8:5-13

Sermon

Come To The Table

Announcements

Shepherd's Prayer

Just A Little Talk With Jesus

## Devotional Questions (Matt 8:5-13)

- 1 Why was it 'upside down' for the Roman centurion to come to Jesus for help?
- 2 List 1-3 ways in which you can 'come to the table' with others who are not like you in your community.
- 3 Why do you think God designed His kingdom to be filled with people who are different from one another?



# Upcoming Events



**4 Sept | 9:30am**

## **Adult Bible Class**

"Apostolic Applications"

Acts 1:12-26

By Kuek Lee Hock

## **GEMS Bible Class (Nursery)**

Contact Agnes Lim

(9858 5935)

## **Youth Bible Class**

"Theology: Introduction"

*Theology For Teens*

By John Lim

## **GEMS Bible Class (Kinderkids)**

"Jesus Has Power Over Demons"

Matthew 8:28-34

Contact Josephine Seow (9170 4343)

## **GEMS Bible Class (Cradle Roll)**

Contact Audrey Lee

(9855 4957)

## **GEMS Bible Class (P123)**

"Water From The Rock"

Numbers 20

Contact Joanne Foo (9683 8266)

## **GEMS Bible Class (Toddlers)**

Contact Koo Hwee Yee

(9173 2365)

## **GEMS Bible Class (P456)**

"David Was Made King of Judah"

1 Samuel 1-2

Contact Rosalind Lee (9621 9006)



**4 Sept | 1:00pm**

## **FFF Luncheon**

BBQ @ West Coast Park



**7 Sept | 7:30pm**

## **Wednesday Bible Class**

"The Saviour Of The World" (John 4:27-42)

# Giving

Last Week's Giving: **\$12,084**



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.

## Family News



### Church Directory Photo Taking



The Church plans to publish a fresh pictorial edition of our membership directory in early 2023. If you would like to update your directory picture, we will set up a space where you can take your photo on Sunday.

Brother Larry Lim will be taking photos from 10:30am to 11:00am, and sister Veronica Lim will be taking photos from 12:15pm to 12:45pm. This will last the whole month of September starting today and ending on 28 September.

If you already have a headshot that you would like to use, please email it to minister John Lim ([johnlim@ppcoc.org](mailto:johnlim@ppcoc.org)).



**SATURDAY 24 SEPTEMBER  
11AM TO 3PM**

# SENIORS GATHERING

**50 YEARS AND ABOVE**

**LUNCH  
SHARING  
DEVOTION**



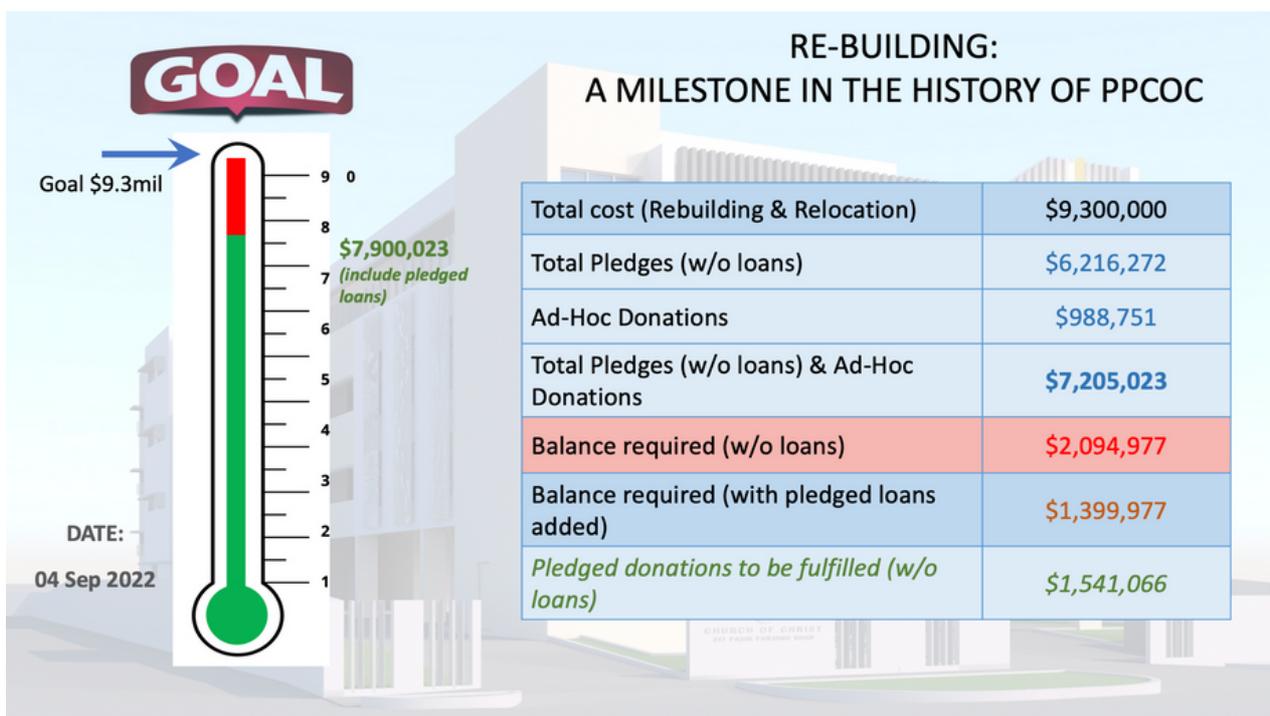
**LIMITED TO  
FIRST 40  
SIGN-UPS**



**SHERWOOD TOWERS FUNCTION ROOM  
3 JALAN ANAK BUKIT (LEVEL 5)**



# Rebuilding Update

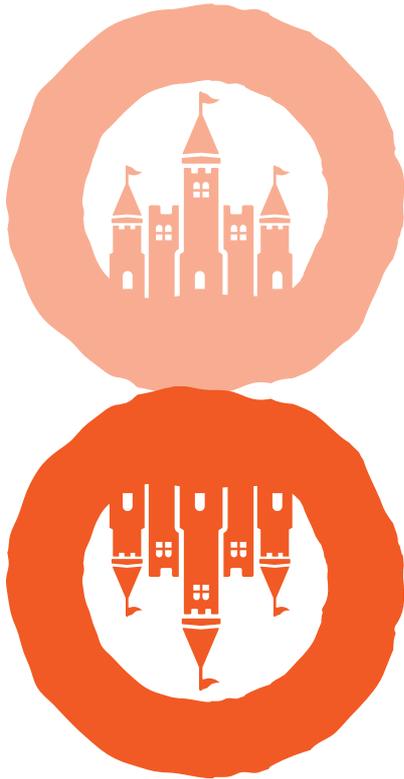


As announced previously, in line with the church's effort to go paperless and to reduce administrative work, receipts will no longer be issued for Missions and Building Fund donations via Bank Transfer, PayNow and cheque. Your bank will keep electronic records that you can access online. However, you may still request for a physical receipt if you wish to.

Please direct all queries and requests regarding the Pledge and Building Fund to the committee members - Peter Lim, Jim Kawi and Grace Mariaraja.

(Pictured below: Pile Cap Works (Left) & Excavation & Backfill Test (right))





## *Upside Down*

*“These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also ... saying that there is another king, Jesus.” Acts 17:6-7 (ESV)*

Jesus’ ministry turned the world upside down. His teaching attracted huge crowds. Disciples were following him. It was a successful ministry. Yet Jesus often went off to lonely places for solitude and prayer. In a world filled with frantic action, chaos, and busyness, Jesus demonstrated what life looked like in the upside-down Kingdom.

So, slow down. Be silent. Be alone. Pray. What would life look like, if our decisions were born out of this kind of God-given peace, rather than the chaos of this world? Our lives would be flipped upside-down too.

The worldly kingdom tells us time is money. But in the upside-down kingdom God tells us that time is life, that is, eternal life! God’s people are filled by a remarkable reversal of values. The things that the world prize dearly are not the drivers or motivation for God’s people.

For kingdom folks, time is life! In God’s upside-down kingdom, we treasure the future and the eternal more than the temporary things of the present. We are not controlled or conditioned by power, success, comfort, or recognition.

Be alert to how the world’s values can take control of how we live and behave! We have to be constantly mindful of how the values of this world can lure and ruin our relationship with our King. As Christians living in the upside-down kingdom, we are freed from these worldly lures of life.

We must place our priority with the King and let Him reorder our lives. This protects us from the lures of the world. These lures don’t drive or control us anymore. We can choose to take them or leave them. That is the mark of someone who lives in the upside-down kingdom!

## **Lesson #1 –The Spiritual Kingdom is ruled by the Spirit of God**

Jesus contrasted the outward hypocritical manifestations of religious rituals with the inner change in life that yields spiritual fruit. The kingdom of God is present today as God's Spirit rules in the lives of believers.

## **Lesson #2 – Social realities point us to mundane concerns**

Our social realities comprise houses, friends, salary, status, recreation, and our need for love, creativity, and happy relationships. Although the spiritual is not totally independent of the social reality, the two realities belong to separate worlds. This split between spiritual and social leads to a filtered understanding of the Scripture. It tempts us to turn Jesus' message into merely a motivational speech which dilutes the truth of the atoning death of Jesus. We also overlook the point that Jesus modelled for us a new way of living.

## **Lesson #3 – Spiritual realities can be clearly seen in the life of Christ**

God entered into the social and economic structures of human affairs. Jesus came in human flesh to reveal to us the very nature and spiritual realm of God. The Incarnation of Christ made the spiritual realm real in the upside-down spiritual kingdom on earth. Words and deeds blended into a single reality in Emmanuel (God with us). God spoke to us not through 'languages' but through a Son—living as one of us (Heb. 1:2).

### **Questions:**

- 1.“Am I living a life in which I'm controlled by what the world says, or am I living a life like Christ?”
2. What does the kingdom of God look like to you? Will God be comfortable in 'your' kingdom?
- 3.We are to seek ye first the Kingdom of God? How would you go about living this out?

### **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, may the world see us and catch a glimpse of the glorious spiritual blessings that flow down to us like a funnel from above. Help us make the same choice that the apostles did, such that they were even willing to give their earthly life in exchange for eternal life. Lord, as we walk in the Spirit, grant us the spiritual strength and will to live our lives for Your glory. 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

Irvin Wan

Kyle Hooper

John Lim

### Pledge and Building Fund Committee

Peter Lim

Jim Kawi

Grace Mariaraja

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