

FOCUS



CHURCH of CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Sunday Morning Worship



The Promise of Love | 22 December 2024

Most “Christmas” songs we hear these days are often about love. There’s the classics of “All I Want For Christmas Is You” or “Last Christmas”, more modern tunes like “Mistletoe” and “Santa Tell Me”, or my (John’s) personal favourite, Owl City’s “Kiss Me Babe, It’s Christmas Time”.

Perhaps Christians have an opportunity here to redeem the season. We know that human love, beautiful as it is, comes from an even higher and more beautiful capital-L “Love”, and that’s what we ought to be celebrating. Love is more than romance and presents, but about an Almighty God offering Himself as a fragile human baby. Love is when the holy and immortal takes on dirt and mortality so that we might become all that He is.

Now that’s good news!

Sunday Morning Worship

Order of Worship

Welcome and Greeting

Let Us Worship

Days of Elijah

Family News

Scripture Reading: Psalm 80:1-7

Prayer

The Love of God

Faithful Love

Sermon

The Greatest Commands

Communion

Giving

Shepherd's Blessing

O Come All Ye Faithful

Giving

Last Sunday's Giving (GF): **\$18,994 / \$13,500**



General Fund
S76SS0008AGFD



Missions Fund
S76SS0008AMFD



Building Fund
S76SS0008ABFD

Upcoming Events

22 December | 9:30am

Combined Bible Class (Room 201)
Singspiration: Magnum Opus

GEMS - Kinderkids (Room 307)
GEMS Celebration Practice

GEMS - Cradle Roll (Room 206)
Baby Jesus

GEMS - P12 (Room 303)
GEMS Celebration Practice

GEMS - Toddlers (Room 305)
Jesus' Death and Resurrection

GEMS - P34 (Room 303)
GEMS Celebration Practice

GEMS - Nursery (Room 304)
Dorcas
(Acts 9:36-42)

GEMS - P56 (Room 303)
GEMS Celebration Practice

20-23 Dec

Youth Camp 2024
Contact John Lim

22 Dec | 1:00pm

Nicholas and Monica's Wedding Rehearsal
Rooms 201, 301

26 Dec | 8am

Seniors Ministry: Walking Interest Group
Contact Catherine Leow

26 Dec | All Day

Church Building Closure

28 Dec | 8:00am

Nicholas and Monica's Wedding
Rooms 102, 201, 202, 203, 205, 301

Family News



Focus Day (1 January 2025)



PPCOC FOCUS DAY 2025

DISCERNING GOD'S VISION TOGETHER

1 JAN 2025 | 9:30AM - 12PM



Breakfast
provided from
9:00-9:30am!

REGISTER NOW!

[BIT.LY/PPFOCUSDAY25](https://bit.ly/ppfocusday25)



PPCOC meets on the first day of every year for a morning of worship, prayer, and conversation about what the new year has in store for us! This year, we are excited to embark on a journey where we discern the Vision that God has for our church family.

Mark your calendars for this important kickstart to 2025! Breakfast will be provided on request at 9am, and the program itself will begin at 9:30am. Register via the QR Code provided or through the bitly link above. Please sign up by 24 December!



Q1 Bible Classes

PPCOC
Q1 BIBLE CLASS
2025

Walking in Wisdom
A STUDY IN PROVERBS

Facilitated by Irvin Wan and Team
For Men, Ladies, FFF, Deaf
(Separate classes)

Rhythms of Grace
ENCOUNTERING GOD IN
SUNDAY WORSHIP

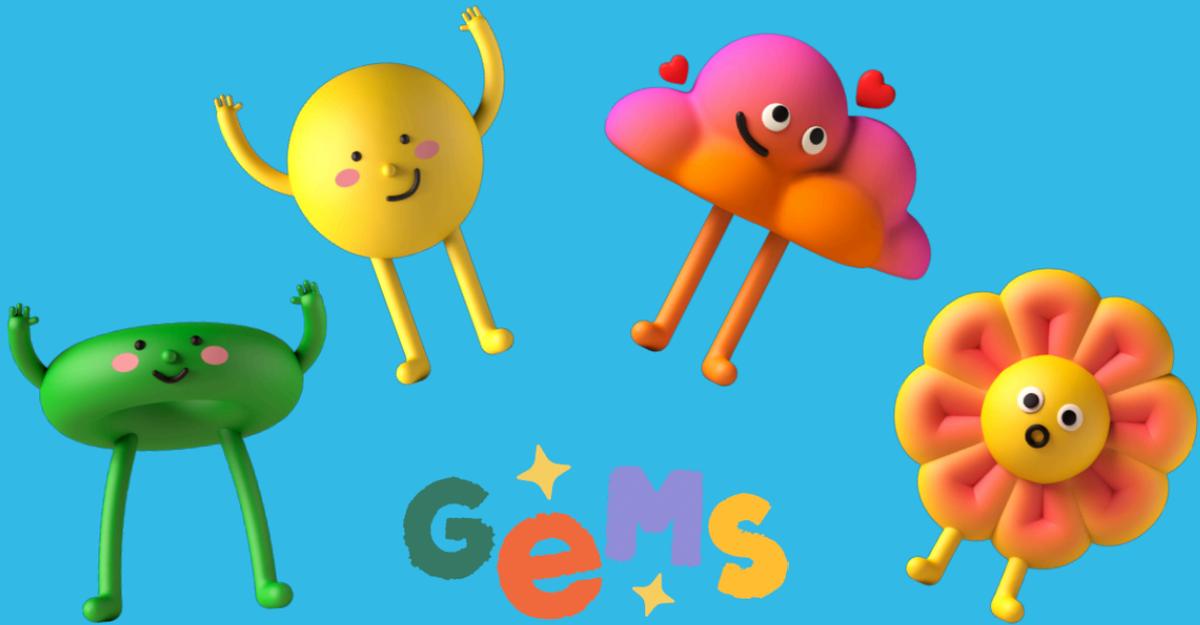
Facilitated by John Lim
For Youth

Sacred Rhythms
EXPERIENCING THE
SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Facilitated by Kyle Hooper
Approach Kyle if interested
*Has readings and assignments

As we look forward to the new year, we're also excited to announce our curriculum for Bible Classes for the first quarter! We will be having multiple classes again for different segments of our church family, including:

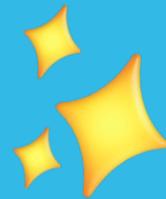
- **Walking in Wisdom: A Study in Proverbs.** Irvin and his team will facilitate separate classes for Men, Ladies, FFF, and Deaf members.
- **Rhythms of Grace: Encountering God in Sunday Worship.** This class will be facilitated by John and is targeted at Youth.
- **Sacred Rhythms: Experiencing Spiritual Disciplines.** This will be facilitated by Kyle and is by sign-up only. Please note that there are readings and assignments in this class.



GEMS CELEBRATION 2024



**SUNDAY, 29 DECEMBER
9.30AM - 10.30AM
AUDITORIUM (LEVEL 2)**



**COME AND JOIN OUR CHILDREN AS THEY
CELEBRATE GOD'S GOODNESS
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!**





Condolences: Family of Tan Woon Ching

*"I have made the Lord my dwelling place. With long life, the Lord has satisfied me.
He has given me my salvation" Psalm 91:9-16*

Departed peacefully on Thursday, 19th December 2024.
Dearly missed by loved ones.



LEONG YAU

1st July 1936 - 19th December 2024

Wake Visiting

Thursday 19th December, 1.00pm - 10.00pm.

Friday 20th December, 9.00am - 10.00pm.

Saturday, 21st December, 9.00am - 1.00pm.

Wake Location

Church of Christ, Pasir Panjang, Singapore (PPCOC),
347 Pasir Panjang Rd, Singapore 118688.

Song Service

Thursday, 19th December commencing at 8:00pm.

Friday, 20th December commencing at 8:00pm.

Cremation

Cortege leaves on Saturday, 21st December 2024,

at 1.00pm for cremation at

Mandai Crematorium Hall 4,

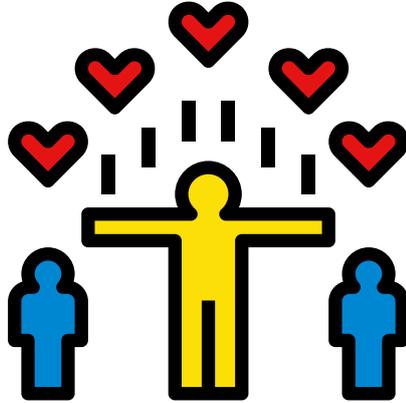
No.300 Mandai Road, Singapore 779393 at 2.05pm.



TRINITY CASKET
Your Right Choice
+65 64514496 | www.trinitycasket.com

We mourn with sisters Woon Ching and Woon Hoe on the passing of their mother. The wake was held in the PP building from Thursday, 19 December. She was cremated on Saturday, 21 December. May God show mercy and comfort during this season of grief, and may we surround sisters Woon Ching and Woon Hoe and their families with love and compassion.

In Loving Memory of Brother William Wong

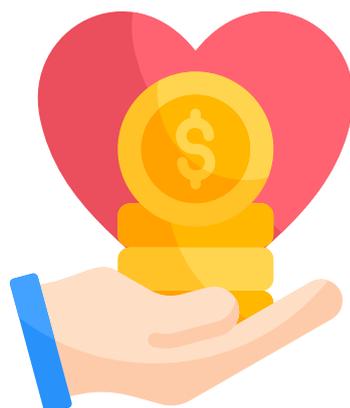


The Elders and leadership of the church wish to acknowledge that the late brother William Wong has made a generous bequest to the Pasir Panjang Church of Christ.

William's gift is a testament to his faith and commitment to the church community. We are grateful for his kindness and generosity.

In accordance with his wishes, the bequest will be used to support the church building's long term needs by way of a sinking fund, and members in financial need. We are thankful for William's trust in the church and its mission.

We give glory to God as we honor William's memory and give thanks for his generosity.



Connect With Us

Meet Our People

Elders

Simon Goh (8833 0899)

Peter Lim (9274 5457)

Lim Swee Aun (9335 9955)

Pang Tee Liang (9618 1862)

Deacons

Lim Kok Hin

Frederick Yu

Romaine Jackson

Staff

Irvin Wan

Kyle Hooper

John Lim

Liesl Low

Josephine Seah

Pledge and Building Fund Committee

Peter Lim

Jim Kawi

Grace Mariaraja



Facility Stewardship (FAST) Team

Peter Lim

Jason Mok

Donald Siew

Irvin Wan

Josephine Seah



TUAO 24



CHURCH of CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Youth Mission Experience

“Focus on God!” - Team Skit

For the first time since 2019, PPCOC organised a Youth Mission team to go to Tuao, Philippines, to partner with our mission partners brother Jhun Ma and sister Babes in the work of the kingdom. Ministers Kyle Hooper and John Lim co-led a team of seven youth, accompanied by three adult chaperones, to experience preparing for the mission field and serving on the ground. It was the first time that most of the team had ever been to Tuao, which made for an unforgettable experience.

An Unexpected Adventure

Just as we arrived in Tuao on Monday, heavy rains began to pour, causing schools to be closed for several days. For the first few days, our plans to visit schools to conduct Vacation Bible School (VBS) and mingle with students were cancelled, forcing us to find other ways to engage with the community.

Just when we thought the rain would keep schools cancelled for the entire week, God opened doors for us on Friday. We shifted into high gear, visiting schools in quick succession and walking through mud and rain to encourage households with songs and prayers.



Team at TVTS, the high school where brother Jhun Ma teaches and leads a monthly devotional

Tuao Team Reflections

The Gift of Presence

We spent perhaps the most time visiting people. We found ourselves at birthday parties, gravesites, homes of the very old and the very young, of the physically sick and spiritually distant. Most often, we would offer a song and a prayer to bless the family, get hosted to some snacks, and then leave.



John offers a prayer for a local family, surrounded by the rest of the team.

At other times, we found ourselves sitting in the church waiting for the rain to pass. Other locals were there waiting with us, both adults and children, and we would pass the time talking, singing, and simply resting together.

In these moments, our team realised a powerful truth. We serve others best, not simply when we are doing a lot of things, but when we take time to simply sit with them. No agenda, no schedule, not even a plan. To be present with others is to share the non-anxious presence of Jesus.

It was also this restfulness that allowed us to venture into God's creation and allow ourselves to be in awe and wonder of nature. While we were not able to actually climb a mountain as in previous years, we got to experience several beautiful mountaintop views.



The team joins brother Jhun Ma, sister Babes, and several of the young adults from the church for a photo at a beautiful lookout point.

Tuao Team Reflections

“Make Way for Singaporeans!”

Simply being from Singapore gave us access to more channels of influence than we could have planned. The team went on an FM radio show hosted weekly by brother Jhun Ma, reaching to the residents of the whole Cagayan Valley region. We each had a chance to share a short thought about what the “blessed life” means to Christians.



Cameron Lim being interviewed by brother Jhun Ma on his weekly FM radio talk show, with Rui Ding waiting in the wings

But little did we know that this was just the beginning. Who should meet us at the entrance of the radio studio than the Mayor of Tuao and his wife, who was also organising a Christmas market for the entire region? Within minutes, we were slated to be the opening performance for the opening ceremony of the Christmas market happening that same evening, attended by provincial and national leaders as well as thousands of people.

When evening came, in the afterglow of fireworks, spotlights, and blaring sound systems, our team sang “Goodness of God” to the gathered crowds, many of whom also knew the song and sang along with us.

What did we do to deserve any of this? We were not professionals - we were just a group of young people offering what we had to bless the people around us. But that night, God multiplied what we had beyond our wildest imaginations.



The team poses with the Mayor of Tuao and his wife. God opened many doors on this trip to interact with people in positions of influence!

Tuao Team Reflections



Danzel Mariaraja

Team Member | 15 years old

The youth mission trip was truly an eye-opening experience, taking us out of our comfort zones in Singapore and bringing us to distant lands.

We encountered new cultures and met our beloved brothers and sisters in Christ. Witnessing the generosity and hospitality of the Filipinos, who, despite having so little, live lives of abundant joy, was deeply moving. Their unwavering faith and selflessness challenged us to reflect: though we possess so much, are we as willing to give and serve as they are?

One of the most impactful moments was when we visited the homes of the locals, bringing nothing but our presence. To our surprise, they were deeply touched simply by our willingness to step into their lives, listen to their stories, and share moments of fellowship. Their gratitude reminded us that sometimes, the greatest gift we can offer is simply showing up and being there for others.

Their Christ-like love and humility deeply touched my heart, inspiring me to become more like Christ Himself, who gave of Himself freely and fully. May this journey transform not only our actions but also our hearts, as we strive to reflect His love in our daily lives.

Tuao Team Reflections



Tristan Lim

Team Member | 13 years old

(Red shirt) On this trip, I started to notice how God was working through everyday activities. I saw God in a simple meal, in how Brother Jhun Ma and Sister Babes spread a table for us.

I saw God in how generously the locals gave of whatever they had.

I saw God in how singing can move peoples' hearts. In fact, one of the moments that stood out to me the most was when we were singing "Still" in the home of a church member, and even the dog that had been barking at us as we walked to the house became still.

I saw God in the friendships we formed with the locals.

God has used this trip to open my eyes, to make me more aware of Him, and I give thanks for that.



Zhang Rui Ying

Team Member | 14 years old

(Right-most in photo) Throughout this mission trip to Tuao, I've seen my self grow both in gratitude and faithfulness, through God who showed me just what I was missing.

I noticed many things there, from their cheerful and humble spirits to their simple yet fulfilling ways of lives. With their happiness in everything, they showed me that God works in different ways and that He is always there. God worked through us, helped us work with His people, and at the same time, helped us take away a lot more.

Tuao Team Reflections



Zoe Yu

Team Member | 13 years old

(Top) Something I noticed throughout this trip is to not worry, and that everything is part of God's plan. On most of the days, it rained and we had to cancel a few of our plans.

On one day, it rained heavily in the morning, and we thought that we would not be able to do anything, but after praying about it, the sun came out! We went to the mountains to look at the scenery and a rainbow appeared, symbolising God's promise, and that everything is part of his plan and we have to trust in him.



Lim E Lin

Team Chaperone

I did not quite expect that our youths would become instant internet sensations. Whenever we visited a place with high school students, our youths would be inundated with requests for wefies!

These wefies would then find themselves on Facebook in a matter of hours. Our youths were celebrities! Except they weren't. They were ordinary youths, but they were set apart and distinct by virtue of the fact that they were from Singapore. The experience was as unreal as it was humbling.

As children of God, we receive unmerited grace every minute of every day. This is bestowed upon us because of our identity as His sons and daughters. Who am I to be set apart and distinct from the world? I am wholly undeserving of His favour.

Tuao Team Reflections



Deacon Fred Yu

Team Chaperone

As I returned from our mission trip to the Philippines, I am still overwhelmed with gratitude. Our Filipino brethren's hospitality and love touched my heart deeply. Their selfless generosity and joyful spirits were beautiful reflection of Christ's love.

I was also deeply impressed by our youth team's willingness to step out of their comfort zone and bear the fruit of the Spirit. It was a privilege to witness their growth and passion for discipleship. This mission trip was a powerful reminder of the Bible's teachings on discipleship and living as a new creation. I was humbled by the opportunity to put these principles into practice, I am also grateful for the experience.

As I reflect on our time in the Philippines, I'm reminded of 2 Corinthians 5:17 - 'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!' May we continue to live out the new creation in Christ, carrying out the Great Commission and sharing His love with the world." To God be the Glory!



Grace Mariaraja

Team Chaperone

The language of love is universal and the ministry of presence is powerful.



INDIA 24



CHURCH *of* CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Bangalore

The India mission trip brought together a team including Brother Beng Chuan, Sister Foon Yoong, Sister Wendy, and Brother John Then. They visited our mission partner Kiran from Guntur, as well as Prashanth Alam, a minister working with churches in Bangalore who focuses on training disciple makers to reach unreached people groups (UPGs). Despite significant challenges, including Beng Chuan's recent cardiac procedure and other health issues, and Foon Yoong's initial hesitation about travel conditions, the trip proved deeply meaningful. The team focused on building cross-cultural relationships and supporting local evangelists, particularly encouraged by witnessing new graduate preachers establishing churches in villages. While a cyclone disrupted one planned village visit, the team experienced good weather overall. They worked alongside local brethren, leaders, and elders to empower evangelists in their mission work. For all participants, the journey strengthened their faith and demonstrated that age need not be a barrier to cross-cultural mission work.

For more information (including pictures and videos) about the work, please scan the QR code.



The team at a pre-trip planning session.

Mission Partners

Beng Chuan

Team Member

As I look back on my recent mission trip to India, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude and awe. Despite facing numerous health challenges, the experience left me feeling incredibly blessed and inspired.

My journey has been marked by significant struggles. I have a weak cornea, discovered potentially cancerous lung cysts three years ago, and suffered a heart attack due to significant blockages and irregular heartbeats, which left my left leg stiff and immobile. Additionally, I underwent a heart procedure (cardiac ablation) just ten days before my trip. Despite all these trials, I have felt God's unwavering love and care throughout. I was given a second chance after my heart attack, received exceptional medical care that saved my life, and was continually supported by my loved ones and community.

I embarked on this mission trip with a deep desire to encourage John and Wendy, who selflessly serve the unreached, and to grow as a Barnabas, supporting those with a heart for their people. In India, I witnessed the incredible power of unity and love. The brethren, leaders, and elders worked together to empower their evangelists, and our team's care and support deeply touched my heart.

This experience has taught me valuable lessons. I have learned to trust in God's sovereignty and provision, to find strength in community and love, and to embrace challenges as opportunities for growth. I am humbled by the blessings I have received, and I hope my story can inspire others to trust in God's goodness and serve with courage.

Mission Partners

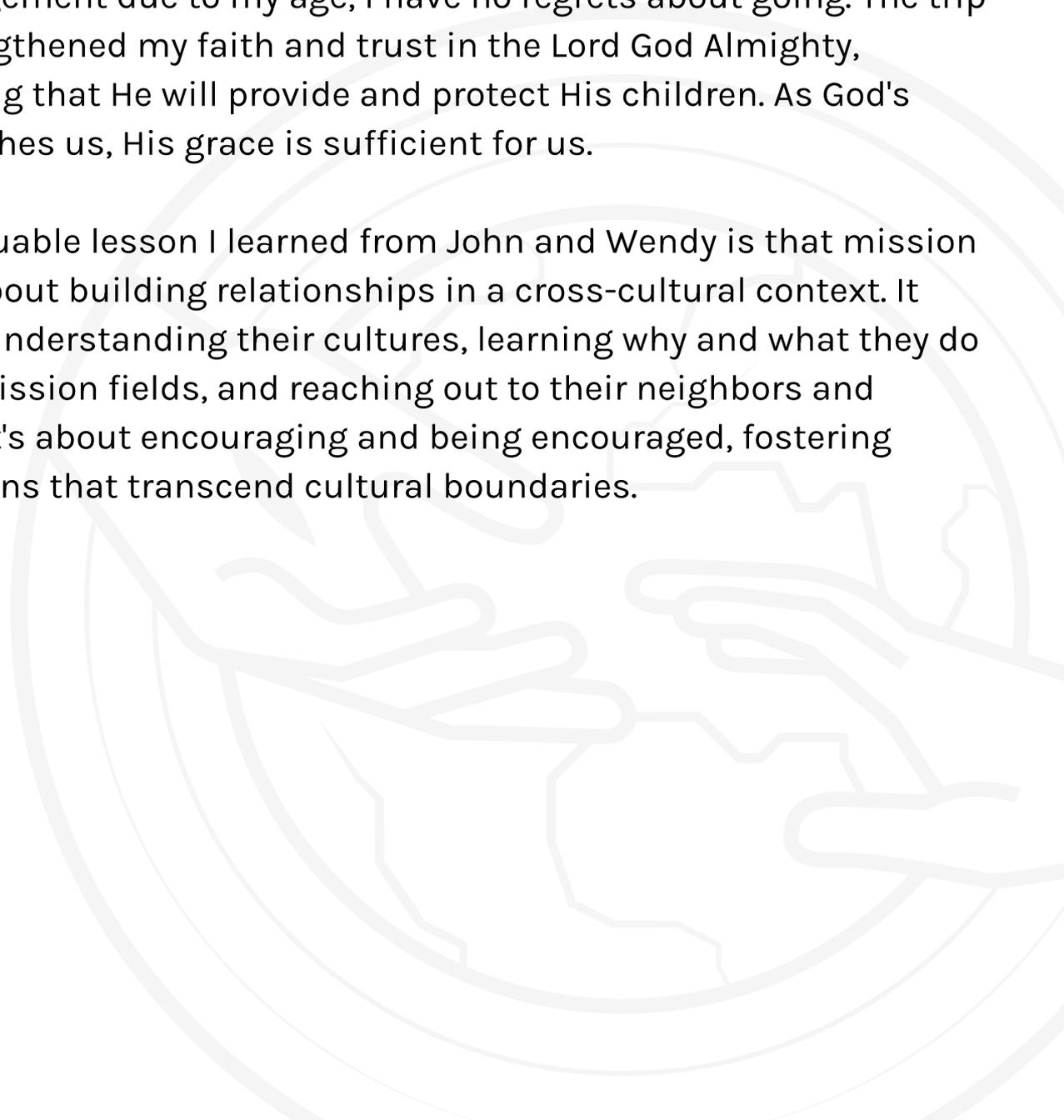
Foon Yoong

Team Member

This India mission trip holds a special place in my heart, as I felt a strong sense of God's calling. Initially, I had no plans to go, but when John and Wendy Then invited me, I reconsidered. My nurse manager, who is also a Christian, supported me and granted my leave, which was crucial. She knew about my involvement in church work and was glad to support my mission.

Despite concerns about safety and hygiene in India, and discouragement due to my age, I have no regrets about going. The trip has strengthened my faith and trust in the Lord God Almighty, reaffirming that He will provide and protect His children. As God's word teaches us, His grace is sufficient for us.

One invaluable lesson I learned from John and Wendy is that mission work is about building relationships in a cross-cultural context. It involves understanding their cultures, learning why and what they do in their mission fields, and reaching out to their neighbors and villages. It's about encouraging and being encouraged, fostering connections that transcend cultural boundaries.



Mission Partners

Wendy Hong

Team Member

One thing that stands out for me from this trip is the passion and love of the new graduate preachers who go to the villages to start new churches. It's a profound encouragement to witness their dedication, knowing that the gospel of Christ will be spread to every corner of the earth. As the Scripture says, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). Their commitment is a testament to the enduring power of faith and the promise that "the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea" (Habakkuk 2:14).

Thank God for His protection, especially since we are an elderly team. Despite a cyclone in another part of the country that canceled one of our day trips to a village, we had good weather overall. As Psalm 46:1 says, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

John Then

Team Member

Traveling with like-minded individuals who are older than me has been a wonderful experience. It demonstrates that anyone can embark on a cross-cultural mission. The key is to trust and obey. Recently, I was asked what habit one should develop to stay relevant in mission work, whether at home or abroad. My answer is to continually ask God questions. Read the Word daily and keep asking questions. By doing this daily, you will discern God's mission. I keep asking questions, and He directed Brother Beng Chuan and Sister Foon Yoong to join in this fruitful mission. You might even hear God's mission from someone close to Him.

Useful Links



Facility Request Form

Need a room for your ministry event or private function? Click or scan this QR code to request a room in the church building, and we will follow up with you within three working days!



Family News Request

Want to share news about an upcoming event or initiative with the church family? Click or scan this code to request a slot in our Focus Newsletter or Sunday Family News!



WhatsApp Broadcast

Want to stay in touch with all the latest happenings in our church family? Subscribe to our WhatsApp channel and never miss an update!