

# interact

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**02**

**PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

Encounter to  
Love One More

**12**

**YOUTH CAMP 2020**

Get Out

**19**

**TPMC GIVES**

Blood Donation

**20**

**HOW TO REACH YOUR  
FAMILY FOR CHRIST:**

Understanding the  
Asian Mindset



# CONTENTS

ISSUE 01/2021

02	<b>PASTOR'S MESSAGE</b> Encounter to Love One More
03	<b>WELCOME, PASTOR BEN</b>
05	<b>BAPTISM &amp; MEMBERSHIP</b> (DECEMBER 2020)
06	<b>MEET OUR NEW MEMBER</b> Interview with Christopher Tsoi
07	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE AND</b> <b>CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES</b>
08	<b>WATCHNIGHT SERVICE</b>
09	<b>UNITED PRAYER</b>
10	<b>LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS 2020</b>
12	<b>YOUTH CAMP 2020</b> Get Out
14	<b>GIRLS' BRIGADE YEAR-END</b> <b>MEET CUM AWARDS CEREMONY</b>
18	<b>TPMC GIVES</b> — Kilos of Love
19	<b>TPMC GIVES</b> — Blood Donation
20	<b>HOW TO REACH YOUR FAMILY</b> <b>FOR CHRIST:</b> Understanding the Asian Mindset

## Editorial Team

Rev Benjamin Lee	Ellisha Lim
Rev Ming Feong Ching	Elaine Chng
Rev Poh Zhi-Hui	Kristal Chan
Alan Goh	Linus Ang
Dinah Ng	Nicole Ho

## Contributors

Angeline Lai	Jasmine Jeevan
Agnes Goh	Sharon Leong
Christopher Tsoi	Stephen Fong
Dr Goh Kar Cheng	Theophilus Tan
Elsie Goh	Wendy Poon
Fu Li Hwa	Winston Wong



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## PASTOR'S MESSAGE — ENCOUNTER TO LOVE ONE MORE

By Reverend Benjamin Lee

### The State of Methodist Churches in the United Kingdom

Some years back, our current Trinity Annual Conference President, Reverend (Rev) Stanley Chua, shared that he went to the United Kingdom about 15 years ago and visited several Methodist Churches there. During his visit, he was saddened to see that these once-vibrant churches were physically dilapidated, and most had less than 50 members each.

More importantly, Rev Stanley observed that the programmes and activities of most of the churches did not contain any form of outreach. Although their current state cannot be directly or fully attributed to the lack of outreach, there surely is some correlation.

### Having the Form of Religion but without the Power

Rev Stanley's observations remind me of something that John Wesley (the founder of Methodism) said near the end of his life:

*"I am not afraid that the people called Methodists should ever cease to exist ... But I am afraid lest they should only exist as a dead sect, having the form of religion without the power."*

Will our local churches similarly end up only existing, having the form of religion but without the power? The pertinent question then is this: How do we allow God to demonstrate His power to and through us?

I think that one of the most profound ways is to allow God to do what He has promised, that is, to build His Church (Matthew 16:18) through us. As we submit to Him, we will begin to see His power at work.





#### Church Theme for the Year

Therefore, our church theme this year is One More. Combine this with our church vision, Encounter to Love, we want to **Encounter to Love One More**. As we encounter God's power at work in our lives to love One More, the Lord builds His church in our midst.

Who are the One More? They are the loved ones, friends, colleagues, and neighbours in **our Spheres of Influence, that is, our Relations (our immediate and extended family members), our Vocations (where we work), our Recreations (where we play) and our Locations (where we stay)**. If we pray and ask God to show us the One

More to whom He wants to display His love and power, I believe that He will lead us to the person.

Through the leading of the Holy Spirit, we will then **love, bless, and make a difference** to their lives, by **Developing Friendships** with them, **Discovering their Stories** and **Discerning the Next Steps to take**.

We pray that by doing all these, the Lord will manifest His love and power in and through us, so that His church will be built up, and many will come to the saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing (UMH 57)

Will not it be wonderful, if we all do our part to allow God to work His power in and through us, that at the end of this year,

another Thousand Tongues will sing of our great Redeemer, praising the glory of our God and King, and the triumph of His grace!



# WELCOME, PASTOR BEN

*By Reverend Benjamin Lee*

#### WHY DID YOU BECOME A PASTOR?

**Pastor Ben:** I became a Pastor in obedience to God's call, really. Years before I became a Pastor, my small group leader asked us, "If there is something you feel you can give your life for, what would that be?"

In my then-innocent mind, I thought, "There are only two things that last forever, the Word of God, and the souls of men. Hence, it would be most meaningful to give my life for them."

I suppose the Lord took that innocent thought of mine seriously, and gave me the call in 2001. But it would only be in 2009 (after working in Hewlett-Packard's consulting division for nine years) that I entered Trinity Theological College and subsequently became a Pastor in 2012.

#### WHAT EXCITES YOU ABOUT COMING TO TOA PAYOH METHODIST CHURCH (TPMC)?

**Pastor Ben:** What excites me most is being able to serve together with the people here. I have attended a number of events at TPMC (e.g. Global Leadership Summit, Pastor's Fellowship), and noticed how the members of TPMC are always eager to serve, take pride in providing the best hospitality, and how God is honoured by the way they relate to guests and one another.

I hope to be a part of this family – a family who truly loves God and loves each and every member, a family who has encountered Him and now desires, through love, for others to also encounter Him. I am now a part of this family, and what a blessing and privilege God has given me. #thankful #loved





### IF YOU CAN PICK ONLY THREE FOODS TO EAT FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE, WHAT WOULD THEY BE?

**Pastor Ben:** The first is definitely durian. I believe there is a swimming pool full of durian mousse in heaven for all durian lovers. Hopefully, God will put me in that part of heaven when my day comes. Beef noodles is another, but there are three things in beef noodles that must come together nicely. The beef must be tender, the soup tasty, and the chilli spicy! The final food has to be cheesecake. And I mean thick creamy cheesecake, not the light-tasting Japanese type, but the New York kind, complete with fresh crunchy biscuit crust. Yummy!

### DESCRIBE YOURSELF IN FIVE WORDS.

**Pastor Ben:** God loves me, I know.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE BIBLE VERSE AND WHY?

**Pastor Ben:** I am not sure if this is my favourite verse, but Romans 12:2 is certainly the verse that I often quote.

*“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is — His good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

This is because I believe that God has a good, pleasing, and perfect will for every one of us. If we can see it, grasp it, and allow Him to work in us to bring His will to fruition, then we will find that we can lead meaningful, purposeful and fulfilled lives.

Hence, my hope is for everyone to encounter God, who can help us to see His will. And having encountered God in such an intimate way, we can begin to love God and one another, and live according to His good, pleasing, and perfect will.

# BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP

## CHILD BAPTISM BY SPRINKLING

NO.	NAME	PARENTS
1.	Hannah Yeo Hui En	Walter Yeo & Ngeng Shu Wen
2.	Ng Ying Hui Verene	Ng Zhenfa & Wang Zhijun
3.	Ng Ying Heng Jaylen	

## BAPTISM BY SPRINKLING

NO.	NAME
1.	Fung Si Ming
2.	Goh Wing Sun
3.	Lim Swek Peng Doris
4.	Ng Siew Leng Josephine
5.	Ngeng Shu Wen
6.	Nicklaus Koh Zhi-Ming
7.	Sabrina Sim Xin Huey

## RECEPTION OF MEMBERSHIP

NO.	NAME
1.	Chek Khai Juat
2.	Choo Chuan Chye Dave
3.	Goh Wing Sun
4.	Lee Sheng Wei Daniel
5.	Ngeng Shu Wen
6.	Teo Jee Ba
7.	Tsoi Christopher Foon Sing







# MEET OUR MEMBER

## INTERVIEW WITH CHRISTOPHER TSOI



### Tell us more about yourself.

Chris (C): Hi everyone, I'm Chris from Hong Kong. I moved to Singapore in 2016 and have since been attending Toa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC)!

### In which ministries do you serve?

C: I mainly serve in Worship & Music Ministry (WMM). You may have seen me on the drums. I've also served as a trainer for our new WMM recruits, at Light of Christmas as well as in the Alpha Course.

### I understand that you like to read. What type of books interest you?

C: (Laughter) Where did you get that from? I like reading but do so much less than I wish. I like science fiction books, and books about honour, respect and family values. It would be great if the books have to do with sports (like the Chip Hilton series of sports novels).

### What other hobbies or leisure activities do you have?

C: I'm a sports fanatic (both playing and watching), and especially love football (Glory Glory Man United), basketball, and cycling. I also like music a lot. I can play the piano, guitar, flute, and drums. I enjoy cooking too.

### What is your favourite food?

C: This is a difficult question because I have too many favourites. One of my favourite dishes is lobster and vermicelli in claypot. This would have to be accompanied by a striploin (cooked medium rare), some vegetables and a large bowl of rice!



### How did you come to know about Jesus? Who invited you to Toa Payoh TPMC?

C: My parents introduced me to Him, and I've gotten to know Him more as I've grown up :). I kind of invited myself to TPMC. My previous landlord goes to TPMC, so I just tagged along. The rest, as they say, is history.

### How has knowing Jesus changed your life? Do you have any words of encouragement for your brothers and sisters in Christ?

C: My life is infinitely (literally) better because I know Jesus. I have a purpose in life and my identity can be found in Him. Get to know Him more — what are you waiting for?!

# CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES

By Alan Goh

As in previous years, Toa Payoh Methodist Church held services on both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to commemorate and celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. We were glad that, in addition to our online services, we could hold in-person services, two on Christmas Eve and three on Christmas Day. Especially heartening was how worshippers pulled together to make the third Christmas Day in-person service possible, after seeing the overwhelming number of registrations for the initial two services. Below are some highlights that we captured on both days.





# WATCHNIGHT SERVICE

By Alan Goh

2020 was a challenging year for Singapore. Numerous activities, economic and social, had to be halted or restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Religious activities were not spared. Services at Toa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC) had to be moved online as tighter measures were introduced by the government to curb the spread of COVID-19. Thankfully, the situation gradually improved, and in-person services resumed, albeit with a limited capacity and safe distancing measures. TPMC was thus able to organise a Watchnight Service on 31 December.

The service started at 11pm with a recorded video of musical worship leading the praise and worship of God in our hearts (as live singing was still not allowed). This was followed by a sermon from Reverend Ming Feong Ching who reminded us of our calling by God to be a priesthood and holy nation (1 Pet 2:9). In trying times, this was a fitting reminder that God had called us out of darkness into His light and we have access to Him.

After the sermon, TPMC renewed her covenant with God, reaffirming her commitment to God in both good and bad times. When the clock struck twelve, 2021 was ushered in with the resounding ringing of handbells. Reverend Reuben Ng then led TPMC's first Holy Communion of the year with that being his final act as Pastor-in-charge, before moving to his new appointment at Faith Methodist Church.

Many activities for TPMC's jubilee year had to be cancelled or curtailed due to the pandemic. Nonetheless, we are grateful to God for helping us to adapt and seeing us through the year. God has also enabled us to continue spreading His love and serving the community through a blood donation drive and various avenues of giving. Let us then continue to strengthen our relationship with God and spread His Word and blessings to those who have yet to hear or experience them.



## UNITED PRAYER



By Reverend Ming Feong Ching

2020 saw the world come to a standstill. COVID-19 not only crippled the economies of the world, but changed how we live, eat, fellowship and worship. Even with a vaccine, 2021 still holds many uncertainties.

If there is a time that we need to pray, it is now. If there is a time that we need to seek God's face, it is now. If there is a time that we need to trust God completely, it is now. Acts 12:1-17 shows us just how powerful it is when believers gather in united prayer. The power of united prayer brings deliverance. As the church prays (Acts 12:5), iron chains will fall off.

In Acts 12, we read that Herod had just killed James the brother of John, and this pleased the Jews. Because the Jews were delighted, he decided to arrest Peter with the intention of killing him after the Jewish Festival of Unleavened Bread.

Peter was locked up, bound in chains, and slept between two soldiers with sentries standing guard at the entrance to the prison. It seemed like a hopeless situation for him. However, the Bible also says the church was praying earnestly to God for him. The saints

gathered to pray, believing that God could intervene. They might not know how God would deliver, but they believed that God would prevail. So, here they were praying, and there the angel of the Lord woke Peter up, released him from his chains, and brought him out of the prison.

Friends, prayer knows no distance. As we unite in prayer here and now, iron chains will be broken from someone's life in another part of the nation or the world. Sometimes in life it seems that we are faced with a hopeless situation where, like Peter, there is no way out. Yet, the power of a church united in prayer brings deliverance, changing hopelessness to hope.

When God's people come together in prayer, extraordinary things will take place. We came together in the Corporate Prayer service to begin the year. Let us press on and continue to come together in prayer on Sundays, in our Connect Groups, in our families, and see the chains fall off, and the people delivered from darkness to light.

Amen.





# LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS 2020

*By Winston Wong, Co-Chairperson (Light of Christmas 2020 Organising Committee)*

Since 2015, Toa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC) has organised the Light of Christmas (LOC) in the form of Christmas carnivals or markets. However, it was not possible to hold a live event in 2020 due to COVID-19. Nevertheless, this has not deterred us from sharing the Christmas joy with our neighbours. To do that, the LOC organising committee decided to give out Christmas packs to all households living in rental flats in Toa Payoh. Each Christmas pack came with four specially designed LOC masks, a battery-operated lit-up star, an activity booklet and a box of colour pencils for children, Christmas memorabilia and snacks. The items were packed in a LOC tote bag imprinted with a beautiful background of the Toa Payoh estate.

About 450 TPMC worshippers stepped forward to pack and distribute the Christmas packs from 11 to 13 December 2020. From young children to seniors, it was a wonderful sight to see TPMC working together to bless the households. It was also very encouraging to know that many residents appreciated our efforts. In total, about 4,200 Christmas packs were distributed. Besides the Toa Payoh residents, packs were given to the children of Chen Su Lan Methodist Children's Home, Marymount Centre, PCF kindergartens in Toa Payoh and Toa Payoh Methodist Preschool.

In conjunction with TPMC's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we had the privilege of President Halimah Yacob to give out the Christmas packs and vouchers to 30 students under the Toa Payoh Central Community Club Bursary Programme at our premises on 19 December 2020. The event was also graced by Defence Minister Dr Ng Eng Hen and Mr Saktiandi Supaat, both Members of Parliament for Bishan-Toa Payoh GRC, and Bishop Dr Gordon Wong.

Finally, let us not forget why we celebrate Christmas. The beautiful blue background, three wise men and Star of Bethlehem that lit up the church's façade in the evenings from 1 to 25 December 2020 reminds us of God's love for the world through the birth of Jesus Christ. Indeed, Christmas is a great opportunity for us to share God's love and blessings with the Toa Payoh community. We give thanks to God that we are still able to do so as a church during this challenging period.





# YOUTH CAMP 2020 – GET OUT

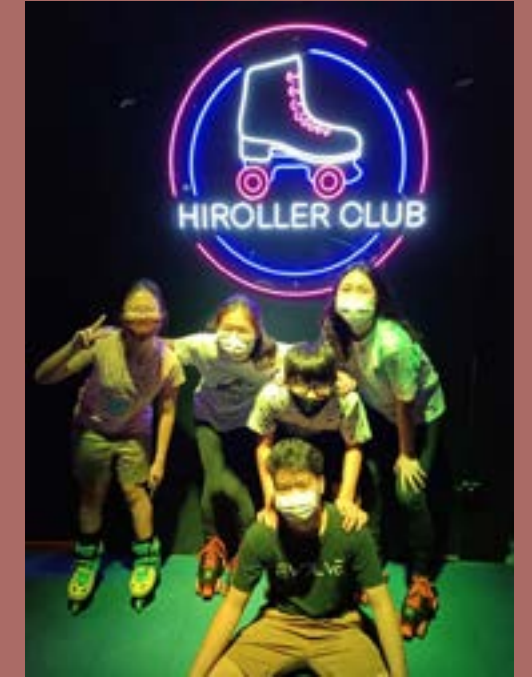
By Nicole Ho

From 28 to 31 December 2020, the Youth Ministry gathered in church for our annual Youth Camp! We were pleased to have 97 campers join us for a time of worship and fellowship and we thanked God for His faithfulness and presence throughout.

COVID-19 made a HUGE difference to the conduct of our camp. To comply with restrictions on group sizes, campers were divided into two halls. The size of each camp group was also reduced from 10 to 5 campers. However, having restrictions did not mean that we could not have fun! Over the three days, campers enjoyed themselves through activities such as an Amazing Race, ice skating and rock climbing, and for the first time, a night walk where we covered 20 kilometres from the church premises to East Coast Park! While the walk was long and tiring, it was a good bonding opportunity as we sought to encourage one another to go the distance!

The theme for *Get Out* was to challenge campers to get out of their comfort zones, spread the Gospel and live as disciples of Christ. Inspired by Mark 16:15 ("And then He told them, go into all the world and preach the good news to everyone."), we hope that every camper can truly GO into the world and spread God's wonderful message to others. We were blessed to have Ms Elaine Teo from Youth With A Mission Singapore share on how youths can go out and evangelise. Her message resulted in many youths answering the call to share God's Word.

As the Camp Chairperson for *Get Out*, I was blessed to have a resilient committee, who understood the need for the restrictions, and put in much effort to plan compliant activities. I was also heartened to see how God worked through the committee during our time together. We pray that as each camper goes out into the world, he or she will share his or her testimony, and that God will continue to guide our youths to glorify Him.







# GIRLS' BRIGADE YEAR-END MEET CUM AWARDS CEREMONY

By Dr Goh Kar Cheng, Jasmine Jeevan, Sharon Leong, Elsie Goh

The Girls' Brigade (GB) 16P Company held a Year-end Meet cum Awards Ceremony on 21 November 2020. It was an event that brought together many GB girls, alumni, helpers and officers, both past and present. A few who attended the event shared their thoughts and feelings about the event and as a GB girl and/or helper over the years.

## DR GOH KAR CHENG



I was surprised to be invited to the GB 16P Company's Year-end Meet cum Awards Ceremony. After all, I had not been active in GB since 2018 due to a change in my work schedule. I soon realised that I was to receive a medal of appreciation for my stint from 2014 to 2018.

As the memories came flooding back, I remembered that there was a call from the pulpit for volunteers to sign up as helpers for the GB 16P company in 2014. I felt a strange nudge from within and found myself going to the GB booth after the service ended.

Indeed, it was by divine appointment that I was called to bridge a gap at a time when GB activities at First Toa Payoh Primary School were moved from Saturdays to Friday mornings. Due to the change, most of the volunteers could not help due to work. It was not easy managing the weekly sessions. At times, I had to handle everything from buying snacks to conducting lessons. Hence, I made a call for more volunteers. Five ladies responded and they have been serving since, with one of them commissioned at the ceremony as a GB officer. How amazingly God uses us as His instruments.

Watching the young girls receive various awards at the ceremony also brought back fond memories of my interactions with the GB girls that I had the privilege to work with. Two of them were present to help with the ceremony and it was comforting to be remembered and warmly greeted. Most heartening, however, was to see that they had grown in the Lord and matured in the faith. From the planting of the seed of faith

to the watering and nurturing of the young shoot to its maturity, everyone can play a small but important role when we respond to God's gentle nudge. I am glad that I did not

shy away when I felt that nudge, even though I had trepidations then about working with many girls simultaneously. Because when God calls, He will equip you.

## JASMINE JEEVAN



GB 16P Company's Year-end Meet cum Awards Ceremony was a nice ending to a challenging year. I am grateful to God for enabling all of us to work together in peace and harmony. Though organising the ceremony was hard, time-consuming, and stressful at times, it was well worth the effort.

"Non-GB workers" also played a part, both big and small, in the ceremony. Mr Tan (Mrs Tan Li Hwa's husband) operated the audio-video equipment, while their son Daniel played the GB Vesper. My brothers Jabez and Jonathan "supplied" the laptop and designed the presentation slides respectively. There were many others who helped in one way or another, and their contributions are much appreciated.

I believe that everyone who attended the event felt very blessed. Everyone was acknowledged for her service and commitment. No one was left out. Personally, I think this differentiates GB 16P Company from other GB units.

Surprising moments that made the day extra special was Pastor Poh Zhi-Hui's sharing session which I pray would plant the seed of faith in the girls' hearts, and Mrs Tan's clever idea to display Ms Elsie Goh's gift of

photobooks in an art gallery style. After the ceremony, some of us looked through them and indulged in the nostalgia.

Yong Wei, Theresa (my fellow alumni) and I also reminisced about our times in GB. We concurred that most GB girls would agree that even if they give up on GB, GB will never give up on them. Personally, as a GB girl-turned-Warrant Officer, I would phrase it differently:

"Even if you give up on yourself, GB will not give up on you".

I am thankful to God for working through Mrs Tan Li Hwa and Ms Elsie Goh, who along with many others kept the company from folding in 2009. If that had happened, my time as a GB girl would be limited to just a year. And I would never have been a true GB girl!

I am also deeply grateful to them for believing in a shy and quiet girl like me. They gave me a platform to grow, mentoring and nurturing me along the way. I am thankful to them for not giving up on me and helping me return to GB. I have much to learn but with God as my Helper, I am not afraid. I am also thankful for the sisterhood in the greater GB family. To God be all the honour, glory and praise.



*“You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you”. John 15:16*

May Jesus’ loving words to His disciples encourage you!



SHARON LEONG

ELSIE GOH

The event was meaningful and touching, especially the testimonies from the GB girls, which brought me to tears. Their progress and achievements over the years were amazing! I remembered when I first joined as a GB helper years ago, the girls’ behaviour and attitude were indifferent. I am so glad that the girls have matured tremendously over the years and the programmes serve to fulfil GB’s mission of

*“Developing each Girl and Officer to her fullest potential by Equipping, Empowering and Enabling: Every Girl a Leader, Every Officer a Servant Leader”*

I was also very honoured to be commissioned as an officer of GB and be part of its mission. I pray that God will continue to grant me the ability to carry out the commission entrusted to me. Amen.

*“Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour” Romans 13:7 (KJV)*

The unprecedented pandemic caused a standstill to our lives and activities. I was thankful that, together with Mrs Tan, our GB Captain, we managed to hold a mini-Award Recognition Ceremony to show our appreciation to the GB helpers who had served tirelessly. The ceremony also served to acknowledge our GB girls’ contributions and active participation. Our Chaplain, Pastor Poh Zhi-Hui, presented the trophies to the recipients. It was indeed a joy to see everyone receiving their due recognition and honour.



## AFTERWORD BY PASTOR POH ZHI-HUI, CHAPLAIN, GB 16P COMPANY

The Year-end Meet cum Awards Ceremony of GB 16P Company was organised to bring the girls of the Company together after a long year of suspension of their regular activities and meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The motivation behind the event can be summed up in the word “encourage”. In previous years, the various awards that the girls had put in effort to achieve were presented to them at different GB gatherings in the course of the year. The same could not be done in 2020 because of the pandemic. Other ways of distributing the awards to the girls were considered by the officers, including going to their homes to present the awards.

However, the officers concluded that the efforts of the girls would be best recognised and encouraged in the setting of a gathering where their reception of their awards can be witnessed by and celebrated with others. Such things go a long way in building up the confidence of young lives

and communicating Christ’s care to them. The gathering also served to encourage the Primary 6 girls who would be transiting to a whole new environment and season in secondary school in 2021. Finally, the gathering served to encourage and show appreciation to the officers and helpers of the company who have served tirelessly over the years to sow the seeds of love, leadership and selfless service into the lives of the girls.

Hence, when the situation in Singapore improved and controlled gatherings were permitted later in the year, the officers took pains to organise the event with all the safety measures in place in order to encourage the girls. I thank God for the officers and helpers of GB 16P Company for their “work produced by faith, labour prompted by love and endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thess 1:3). May the girls remember this event held in a special way and come to know the God whose love for them compelled it.







## TPMC GIVES



*By Theophilus Tan*

Kilos of Love is a new initiative under TPMC Gives, where our worshippers Collect their Kilos of Love bags, Complete the bags by filling them with groceries, and Connect with the families they are blessing. This Chinese New Year, we blessed 100 underprivileged families in Toa Payoh by providing them with a set of groceries each. The process of shopping for groceries and delivering them is akin to the care and concern we have for our own families. This is the heart of Kilos of Love where we view beneficiaries as family and extend the same love to them.

As a first-time participant, it was an interesting experience to shop for the family that I was blessing. The process felt like I was crafting a special hamper for a loved one. As part of the planning team, I was also greatly encouraged to see first-hand the

generosity of our TPMC family. The initiative was oversubscribed, and we had to close registration early. In fact, we had to ask the Care Corner Senior Activity Centre for 2 more households to bless, for a total of 102 families.

We had many positive testimonies as the beneficiaries thanked our worshippers for blessing them with the daily necessities. For worshippers who were unable to connect with the beneficiaries due to various reasons, do not be dismayed! Continue to be a blessing as you have been blessed by God.

We wish to thank everyone for your work of faith, labour of love and steadfastness of hope as you bring the light of Jesus Christ to the disadvantaged families in Toa Payoh. See you again at the next TPMC Gives event!



## TPMC GIVES – BLOOD DONATION

*By Wendy Poon*

What comes to mind when you think of Easter? Repentance, redemption and resurrection? Before Jesus' crucifixion, he had a last meal with his disciples. During that Passover feast, Jesus told his disciples that the bread symbolised His body, which would be broken, and the wine, His blood, which would be poured out for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:17-30).

This Easter, as a continuation of the TPMC Gives events last year, we decided to remember Jesus' sacrifice by partnering with the Singapore Red Cross again to hold another blood donation drive. We were honoured to be able to help boost Singapore's blood bank's supply for a second consecutive year.

Having been told that Toa Payoh is a "hard ground" for blood donations as it is an estate with many seniors, we were pleasantly surprised and heartened that many TPMC members and walk-ins from the community came forward to donate blood. On a sunny

Saturday (for the most part), 136 people turned up, and we collected 111 packs of blood! Praise God!

We were also encouraged that, in the spirit of TPMC's "One More" campaign, many brought one more family member or friend to participate in the blood donation drive. Perhaps the Easter blood donation drive can become a TPMC tradition where we give blood and remind ourselves of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, and express our love for our neighbours.

As a closing reflection, when my former Connect Group leader, Grace, asked if I could help with church activities, I never imagine that saying "yes" would lead me to being involved in a blood donation drive. Being a part of the organising committee and seeing what goes on behind the scenes of running the event, I now better appreciate the background work for every church event and how more help from volunteers is always needed!





# HOW TO REACH YOUR FAMILY FOR CHRIST:

## UNDERSTANDING THE ASIAN MINDSET

By Agnes Goh

As we embark on evangelism and outreach this year, the Discipleship & Nurture Ministry has planned various teaching and equipping sessions related to this commission that Jesus has given us.

The Chinese New Year is a period where we meet up with family members and presents one of many opportunities we have to engage and share Christ with them. However, we often use a “Westernised” approach of sharing the Gospel which does not necessarily consider the Asian culture. We also often lack an adequate understanding of the Asian mindset.

To address these issues, the Discipleship & Nurture Ministry organised “How to Reach Your Family for Christ: Understanding the Asian Mindset” on 28 January 2021. The teaching session helped participants understand the presuppositions, belief systems, mindsets, and traditions of Asians – their worldview – so that they can share the Gospel in the local context. The speaker Ms Chow Lili conveyed ideas of how we can be relevant and versatile, especially when sharing the Gospel with the elderly through casual conversations. Contextualization is the key for our communication of the Gospel to make sense to people in their cultural settings. Ms Chow also presented various scenarios from her experience.

For Asians, respect for elders and honouring family roots must be part of the process when presenting the Gospel. Most of all, we were reminded that sharing our faith is not a formula but a lifestyle.

*“I came from a non-Christian family background. I have been praying for the salvation of my loved ones. The teaching session equipped and prepared me to be always mindful, observant, and respectful when we create conversations with family members to share the Gospel.”*

*If we are longing for our loved ones to find salvation, do not give up HOPE. By God’s grace through faith in Christ Jesus, pray without ceasing and our Heavenly Father will soften a hardened heart for our families’ salvation.”*  
– Evelyn Chua

# Family Day

12 Jun 2021 • 9am - 2pm

Think you know Singapore really well?  
Think you're good at "Finding Wally?"

Form teams of 5!  
Invite your "One More"!

Stand to win a  
1 night stay at Marina Bay Sand,  
a private yacht trip,  
a flight experience  
at iFly Singapore,  
and many more!

**WIN  
AMAZING  
PRIZES**



**SAVE THE DATE 10-12 JUN 2021 (THU-SAT)**

**FAMILY DAY ON 12 JUN 2021**

