

interact

MCI (P) 100/03/2019 | **A publication of TPMC** | **Issue 2** | **September 2019**

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PREPARING FOR THAT GLORIOUS DAY!

In the Book of Revelation, the church is referred to as the bride of Christ. During its time in this world until Christ returns to “wed” His bride, the church is exhorted to make itself ready for that joyous day (Revelation 19:6-8).

On 18 August 2019, we celebrated the 49th anniversary of our founding as Toa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC). Praise God for His faithfulness in working in and through us, His people, over these 49 years, helping many to encounter Him and pouring out His love through His Son Jesus Christ!

Now let us not only look back and celebrate, but also press on in growing as Christ’s church and looking forward to the coming of our Lord, so that we may be found ready and rejoice as His bride when He returns!

The marks of a church ready for Christ’s return include:

1. Standing firm in its belief in Jesus Christ as the only Son of God who was sent by God into the world to save it.
2. Loving and serving one another as Jesus loves and serves us.
3. Bearing witness of Jesus and the kingdom of God to all generations and to the ends of the earth.

In this issue of Interact, you will read of various ways through which we are seeking to make ourselves ready for Christ’s return. May God bless our desires and efforts, so that we may rejoice together on that glorious day!



Rev Poh Zhi-Hui
Assistant Pastor





WELCOME AGNES!

TPMC welcomes Ms Agnes Goh, a long-time church member, to the pastoral team.

Tell us more about yourself

TPMC is the church where I grew up. My parents brought me to church in my early years. And I have been here since my days in Sunday School and then in Youth Fellowship (YF). I met my husband, Wayne, in YF and we have served together all this time. We are blessed with two children who are in their teens.

What were you working as prior to joining the pastoral team at TPMC?

I was working as a content strategist at a local Christian charity championing family life. While there, I received God's call to equip myself in a bible school. I enrolled in East Asia School of Theology.

Why did you decide to enter full-time Christian ministry?

I believe God led me to full-time Christian ministry when I was at the Christian charity. I saw the needs of people, and it stirred my heart to serve Him. I decided to enter a bible school first when I received His direction at a silent retreat. I took that step of faith in obedience to His will, trusting that He would lead me to where He wanted me to serve. I joined TPMC as a full-time staff in obedience to His leading.

Which Bible verse most encourages you and why?

Ephesians 1:17-18. This is my prayer to God for myself. It has been a source of encouragement to me. It is my desire for God to reveal Himself to me, and to know Him more deeply day by day. He is the one who lifts me up and assures me that I have a hope, a calling, and an inheritance.

What leisure activities do you and your family have?

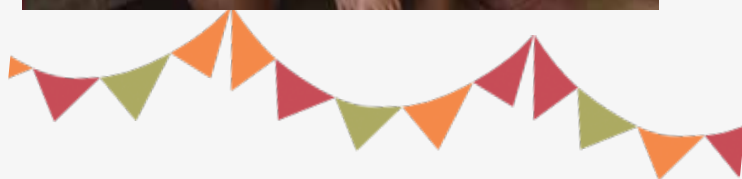
I like visiting museums and the library because they are quiet and calming places. When I do have time, I like to sketch and paint.

As a family, we enjoy going to the movies together, especially the recent series of Marvel movies. After each movie, my husband and I would discuss the storyline and theories with our kids. We also love to eat out at our favourite places for ramen and kway chap.

NEWBORNS



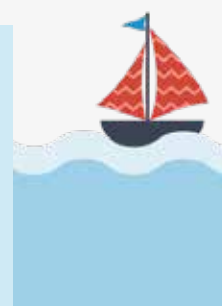
On **3 July 2019**,
Alvin Tham & Josephine Low
were blessed with
their second child,
Zachary Tham Zhi En.



On **21 July 2019**,
Nick Tan & Michelle Wan
were blessed with
their second child,
Elijah Tan Youen.



On **4 September 2019**,
Loh Yao Sheng & Chang Ee Lin
were blessed with
the arrival of their first child,
Charlotte Loh.



BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP



BAPTISM

Child:

Seah Yu Qi Sarah

Adults:

Chik Xiao Si Faye
Chu Guang Yan

Lim Hwee Hua
Tan Pang Yeow Eddie

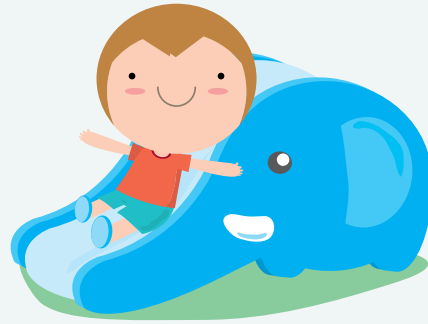


RECEPTION & TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

Chai Kiat Ming Jonathan
Chen Qiuyan Sarah
Chin Siat Boon Sharon
Choo Ee Kheng
Foo Yat Ley Felicia
Koh Mary @ Sally Tan
Lim Hwee Hua

Loh Sue Lyn
Sun Hwee Chein
Tan Siong Jou Josephine
Woo Hwee Lee Diana

CUTIE CRAWLERS



Meet our TPMC Crawlers! What is a Crawler, you may ask? Well, a Crawler is a child aged 8 to 14 months and the newest age-group addition to the Joy Kids Ministry. The ministry's programme intends to engage Crawlers with activities like Bible story time, singalongs and even snack time!



We spoke to Sarah, pastoral staff for the Children's Ministry, to find out more about the Crawlers Ministry before its launch.

How did the idea for Crawlers Ministry come up?

The objective of Crawlers Ministry is to help toddlers grow in their relationship with Jesus from a young age and enable parents to worship God freely without distractions.

Who is in charge of the Crawlers Ministry?

I will be overseeing the Crawlers Ministry.

How many volunteers does Crawlers Ministry currently have?

As of now, there are 24 volunteers.

How many Crawlers are we expecting?

We are expecting 5 to 8 Crawlers each week.

As the ministry prepares for its launch in September, let us pray and ask the Lord for wisdom, discernment and caring hands for all volunteers as they begin their work with the Crawlers. More hands are also welcomed for this ministry and we invite your participation. Please contact Sarah at sarah.lim@tpmc.org.sg to enquire or express your interest.

HELLO RICHARD!

Tell us more about yourself.

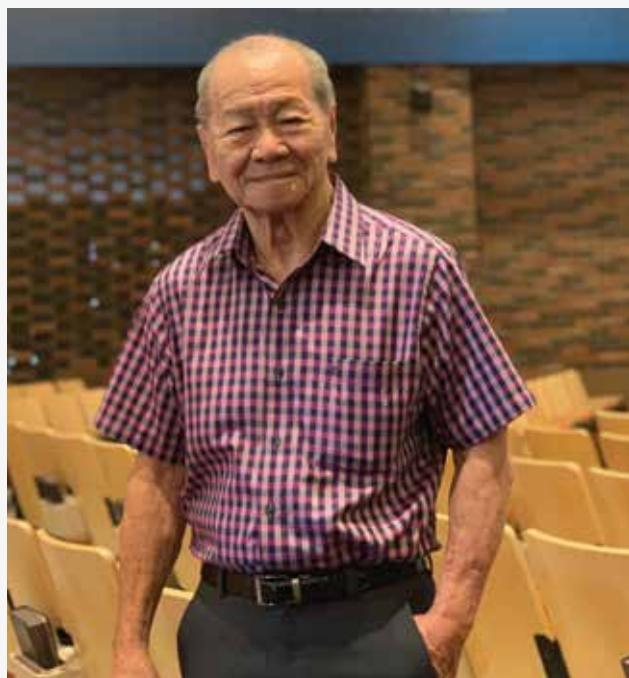
I am Richard. My wife is Nancy and we have a son and a daughter. We are also the proud and loving grandparents to our granddaughter.

I am a retiree. I started working at the age of 17 in the import/export business. Subsequently, I moved to the shipping line where I worked for 45 years until my retirement.

What are your hobbies or leisure activities?

I like to keep fit by exercising. I have been interested in bodybuilding since my teens and I still have a few pieces of simple equipment to work out at home. (Yes, Mr Tay still has a relatively slim and toned physique).

I also enjoy socialising with my friends. I often meet them early in the morning to have coffee, chit chat and to find out how they are getting on. Late mornings and afternoons are often spent reading the Bible, watching television, napping and exercising.



Do you have any words to encourage your brothers and sisters in Christ?

I deepen my relationship with Jesus by reading the Bible daily, a few chapters at a time. This will help me know more about Him and His Word, and grow in my walk with Him.



Richard with his wife, Nancy

What is your favourite food?

I love local delights such as laksa and char kway teow. However, I eat them moderately now due to health reasons.

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

My daughter, Linda, brought me to the Christmas service in 2015. I accepted Christ that day and since then I have been attending the 8.30am service. Subsequently, I was baptised by Reverend Reuben Ng on 14 April 2019.

How has knowing Jesus changed your life?

I believe that Jesus helped me to quit smoking smoothly after 65 years without any severe withdrawal symptoms. I also thank Him for being with me during a recent operation to remove a lump in my back. His support throughout my walk with Him has strengthened my faith in His healing and provision.



JOURNEY

By Felicia Foo

“Alpha? Isn’t that just for pre-believers?” was my first thought. At TPMC, the Alpha Course is more inclusive where it is extended to members who have come into her fold, have not been mentored before or have the desire to cement their foundation by going through the basics again.

My Alpha journey started as I was curious after hearing about it. As the opportunity presented itself, I signed up in 2018. The participants came from various backgrounds. After the initial apprehension, a more relaxed environment developed. I love the weekly videos by Nicky Gumbel, developer of the Alpha course, who is clear and precise in his delivery of the various topics. Every video was followed by a small group discussion, where facilitators would prod participants with questions. After the sharing, doubts were clarified, and faith was elevated.

A special session was the Saturday Alpha Weekend. Three videos on the Holy Spirit were covered, with time for discussion, ministry and prayer. During ministry time, we were given the

opportunity to encounter the Holy Spirit. Each of us has the Holy Spirit when we believe but we may not be filled with the Holy Spirit. To be filled is to be gifted for ministry or to encounter Him again when He ministers specifically in our midst. It was an unforgettable time for those who desired for His presence.

After my involvement in 2018 as a participant, I readily agreed to be trained as a facilitator this year. After my training, I took up the mantle to serve and was guided by an experienced facilitator. Opportunities were given to me to facilitate and my guide was always around to untangle me from unknowingly being entrapped. Most have benefited from the course in one form or another. I marvel at the powerful presence of God all over the world, changing lives through Alpha.

So, if you have friends who are wondering about Christianity, feel free to invite them to attend Alpha. Once they start, they will enjoy following through the entire 13 weeks as friendships are forged in this non-threatening environment.





VISIT TO

CHAI 3:16

By Yap Pow Look

From 1 to 4 July 2019, a team from TPMC visited the Chai Café in Bangalore, India. Better known as Chai 3:16, the café is a vision of Dr Benny Prasad who started the mission to reach out to college students in India. India is widely known to have a high student suicide rate, and Bangalore is often identified as the country's suicide capital! Dr Prasad shared this message when he visited TPMC in 2015 and 2018, and I was intrigued to visit the cafe to find out more.



Chai, a common word for tea in India, is also the Hebrew word for "Life". So Chai 3:16 effectively refers to John 3:16 and not tea, even though most visitors think that it is a tea café, which makes it a good attraction. Anyone can visit the café and enjoy several varieties of tea for free. They are served in special teacups which are not available elsewhere and not for sale. The cafe staff are always there to engage visitors and build relationships. This relationship building allows Christ's message of hope, love and grace to be brought into discussion.





The visitors are mainly students from a nearby college. Many are frequent visitors who come to enjoy a cup of tea and converse with the staff (and volunteers like us). When we were there, new students were dropping by every day. Quite a number were non-believers who still enjoyed visiting the centre while knowing that it is Christian-based. When we asked them why they keep coming back, they said the centre is a quiet and calming place (perhaps away from the frenzied activities in the college). These students are well-educated and appear well and normal on the outside. However, as the staff got to know them better, the students shared their fears and anxieties. The staff shared with us that some had even entertained suicidal thoughts. One had planned to throw himself in front of a train. He said that God directed him to go to Chai 3:16, and the staff managed to talk him out of his intent.



Chai 3:16 uses a very different outreach model from what we are accustomed to. The cafe is almost like a spiritual discipline retreat with specific schedules and duties that need to be followed. At the same time, it is an outreach in which volunteers have a chance to work alongside local cafe staff when they interact with visitors. Instead of going out to organise games and community outreach activities, Chai 3:16 invites the community to engage them at the cafe. There is little activity but a lot of listening and talking. It was a worthwhile time for TPMC members to be involved with the work at Chai 3:16. It is meaningful to know that you can impact lives by listening and talking, even if it is only for a few days.

CELEBRATION OF HOPE

By Angelito Mojico and Melissa Foo

Celebration of Hope (COH) was an evangelistic event held at the National Stadium from 17 to 19 May 2019. It rallied Christians in Singapore to share Jesus Christ with friends and relatives. The shared message is Jesus Christ as the one and only name in whom everyone can have a secure hope of salvation and an abundant life. COH's vision is personal evangelism on a mass scale, culminating in Gospel rallies in different languages for all at the National Stadium. Two members from TPMC share with us their experiences from the event.

✚ ENGLISH-FILIPINO RALLY ✚

"There is HOPE for everyone!" was the all-encompassing call for all six rallies of the COH event. Indeed, there is hope for everyone and this hope is found only in Jesus Christ. Coming together as one people in unity to celebrate this one true Hope of the world was what the English-Filipino rally of the COH was all about.

"Joy of Hope" was the theme of the English-Filipino rally that was held on the morning of 19 May 2019. The theme was aimed at bringing the joy of the Lord to all who attended the rally. Artists from the Philippines and talents from Filipino churches and performance groups in Singapore made the event extraordinarily distinct from other rallies. While the event was for everyone, the focus was to bless Filipinos and other migrants in the land.

Members from our Filipino Ministry were among the estimated 12,000 who attended this phenomenal event. We were amazed and blessed with wonderful performances, touching testimonies, and preaching of the Word of God. Finally, when the preacher invited attendees to come down from the stands to be prayed for, a total of 1,309 people responded. They streamed down excited and joyful to receive the promised hope of God.

This amazing rally was made possible by the efforts of the Network of Filipino Churches (NetFil) in Singapore, support from St. Andrew's Cathedral, and God's grace.



+ ENGLISH RALLY +

"Held over 3 days from 17 to 19 May 2019...with more than 100,000 attendees...streamed live and watched from places as distant as Mongolia..." The COH 2019 is about Christians in Singapore rallying together and reaching out to share Jesus Christ with relatives, friends and colleagues.

I attended the final English session titled "The Reality of Hope" on 19 May 2019 at 7.30pm. Although I was initially taken aback by the long snaking queues and large crowds, it was an amazing event that moved me deeply. There were powerful testimonies, worship songs and preaching. Canon John Ioannou, an international evangelist better known as J. John, was the last speaker for the event. He said:

"You do not prove God. You experience God. Look up to God. Look in (and examine ourselves). Look back. Look around. Look forward. And ask God to fix me. Fix my breakages."

Living in a broken world, I could not agree more.



At the end of the event, it was heartening to see so many people streaming down to the pitch to affirm their dedication to God. It was also inspiring to witness the many others who accompanied their relatives, friends and colleagues to encourage and support them. Kudos too to those who volunteered their time for the event, be it to counsel, organise, pray or usher. Amen.

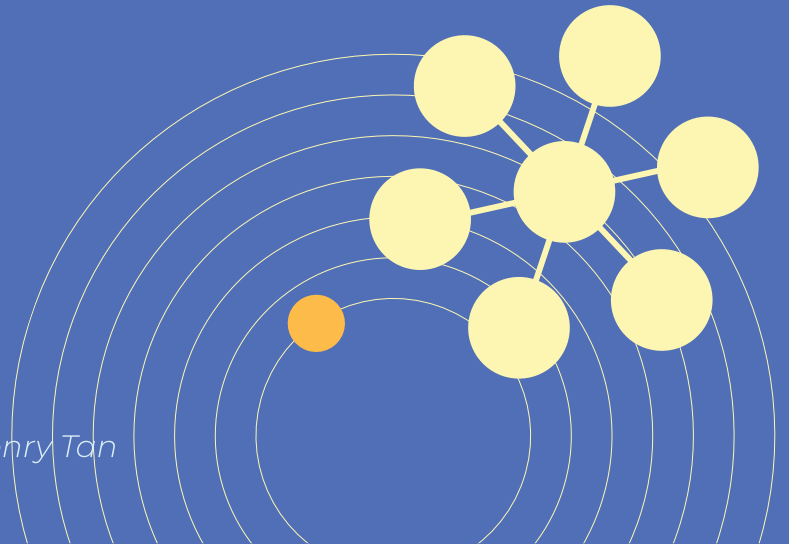
The event was touching, heart-warming, and emotional for me. I was greatly inspired and encouraged in my journey with God.



Photo credit: Celebration of Hope/ Facebook

LOVING, LEARNING, LIVING

By Carol Tia, Sim Hock Hua and Henry Tan



CAROL TIA, HALLELUJAH CONNECT GROUP

Joining a church is more than just attending Sunday services. Discipleship is more than just listening to sermons. Becoming a Christian is about showing love in Christ, learning God's Word together, and living out His calling to us to be disciples. A Connect Group (CG) aims to accomplish this by intentionally gathering a small community of God's people to love, learn and live in Christ.

Over the years, many have benefited and grown spiritually by being in a CG. Three are featured here: Carol Tia from the Hallelujah (Adult/Seniors) CG, Sim Hock Hua from the N.E.W (Family) CG and Henry Tan, who is the leader of the Synapse (Adult) CG.



Why did you decide to join a CG?

Joining a CG gives me a sense of identity with a group that I can belong, and enables me to get to know people and grow spiritually.

What is one thing that you look forward to when going for CG meetings?

I enjoy meeting up with like-minded Christians over a light meal. We bless each other with testimonies of God's goodness, have a time of worship, and study and share God's word.

How has CG helped you grow as a disciple of Christ?

CG helps me to be transformed daily through applying what I have learnt. The ActNow materials where we cover topics on prayer, the Holy Spirit, discipleship and spiritual gifts are very useful to my deeper understanding of the Bible and spiritual growth.

Why do you think CG is important?

It is important because we get to pray, study and support one another. I benefit from the collective strength, wisdom, encouragement and support of the group. We are better together.

SIM HOCK HUA, NURTURING, ENCOURAGING & WELCOMING (N.E.W) CONNECT GROUP



Hock Hua (first from left) with his CG

How have you experienced love and support in your Connect Group?

When my family and I returned to Singapore after being overseas for more than 17 years, we were quite lost. However, we were very blessed to be assigned a CG very soon after joining TPMC. My CG helped us assimilate into our new home church, provided a listening ear when we faced difficulties at work or in our personal lives, and prayed with us.

Can you give an example?

In 2017, when I was having some difficulties at work, my CG, especially my CG leader, spent time listening to me, provided sound advice and prayed for my family and me. These acts strengthened me mentally and spiritually, as well as helped me weather through that rough patch of my life.

Other than CG time, do you meet for social gatherings? What are some examples?

Besides our bi-weekly meetings, our CG gathers together socially from time to time. Our last gathering was at the Marina Barrage, where we flew kites, played football and had dinner under the night sky. We have also been to the Botanic Gardens for a picnic, organised BBQs at our CG leader's place and gone for morning jogs at MacRitchie Reservoir. And of course, our biweekly CG meetings always end with makan.

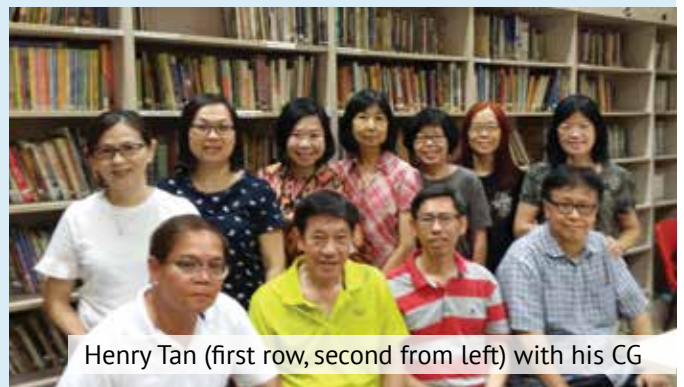
HENRY TAN, CONNECT GROUP LEADER OF SYNAPSE

Why did you agree to be a Connect Group Leader (CGL)?

As our parent CG had grown in size and needed to multiply into 2 groups, I was approached to lead the new group. I prayed about it and felt God's peace. Hence I decided to trust and obey, and take up the CGL role. I also received support and encouragement from my CG brothers and sisters who assured me of my decision.

What has been most rewarding from being a CGL or in your CG?

Family. Being in a CG draws me closer and strengthens my relationship with God. What has been most rewarding is the members' sharing of their personal encounters with God and what God has done in their lives. Besides learning a lot more as a CGL during the course of facilitating CG sessions, I felt encouraged and motivated when the members share the workload, support one another in prayer and serve one another. I am also enriched from the spontaneous prayers by our members for those among us who are in need.



Henry Tan (first row, second from left) with his CG

How have the CG members grown in fellowship with one another and in discipleship?

The fellowship among members has extended to a weekly kopitime, setting up of a prayer chain to regularly pray for one another, various outings as a family as well as coordinating the Seniors Sunday event, in support of the Seniors ministry. In discipleship, it warms my heart to see increasing zeal and interest among members in reading the Word and serving in various church ministries.



49TH ANNIVERSARY

By Alan Goh

In a simple but significant service, TPMC celebrated her 49th anniversary on 18 August 2019. The service started with a dance offering from the Joy Kids Ministry. The children practised hard for the item, and they cheerfully and excitedly gave of their best in dancing to the Lord, leading the congregation into a joyful time of worship. The children were a reminder of God's faithfulness and blessings in preserving us as His community over the years.



Reverend (Rev) Dr Chiang Ming Shun, District Superintendent, was the guest speaker for the anniversary service. In his message, Rev Dr Chiang urged us not to rest on our laurels and be contented with what has been achieved. Instead, we must continue to enlarge our tents and reinforce them by strengthening our relationship with God, building up our people, and growing the community. To do so, we must not only be concerned with ourselves, but also those in our community.



Following Rev Dr Chiang's message, a mini choir of six (including founding pastor Rev Michael Wong at the 8.30 am service), representing the different generations at TPMC, joined together in an offertory song to thank God for His faithfulness throughout the years. This was followed by the cutting of the anniversary cake by the pastors and leaders of TPMC. Trinity Annual Conference President, Rev Dr Gordon Wong, who also graced the occasion at the same service, joined in the ceremony. For our anniversary gift, each member of the congregation received a thermos tumbler, with a reminder to play our part in preserving God's creation by reducing the use of disposable cups.



The anniversary service closed with Rev Dr Gordon Wong leading in the beautiful Aaronic blessing (Numbers 6:24-26). In keeping with Rev Dr Chiang's message for us to build up our people, strengthen our community and be a blessing to the people around us, he led the congregation in pronouncing the blessing on one another.

Let us then continue to remember God's faithfulness. Let us take to heart Rev Dr Chiang's message to expand our tents and build a loving community. Onwards to our Golden Jubilee in 2020.



LET'S HUDDLE

By Jerome Sim

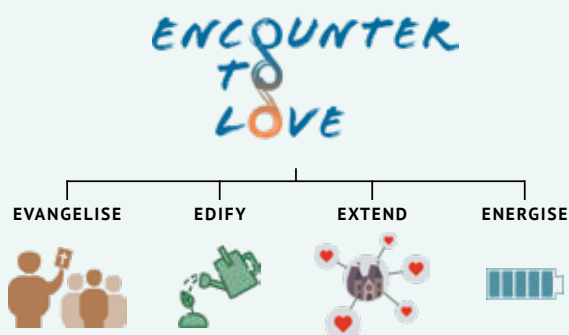
In conjunction with the launch of the church vision—Encounter to Love in 2016, TPMC reorganised all our ministries and committees into four Huddles called the 4Es—**EVANGELISE**, **EDIFY**, **EXTEND** and **ENERGISE**. By grouping related ministries and committees under a common Huddle, they will optimise resources, maximise efforts and achieve synergy as they come together to strategise and plan how to best achieve the aim of the Huddle, as represented by their “E”.

EVANGELISE

This Huddle involves ministries related to Sunday services such as Worship & Music, Audio-visual Technical, Hospitality as well as the Creative Arts and Dance teams. The EVANGELISE Huddle seeks to create opportunities for an encounter with God and to remind us that Sunday services are not about us, but to proclaim Jesus Christ for all to encounter Him.

EDIFY

This Huddle includes ministries such as Connect Groups, Discipleship & Nurture, Prayer & Healing as well as the Seniors and Young Adults Groups. The EDIFY Huddle seeks to build TPMC in love, through the care and nurture of our people so that they may grow to be like Christ.



EXTEND

This Huddle comprises ministries such as Missions, Outreach & Social Concerns, Witness & Evangelism, Children's Ministry and the Boys' & Girls' Brigades. The EXTEND Huddle seeks to extend God's kingdom by spreading God's love to our communities and other nations.

ENERGISE

This Huddle involves ministries related to administration, communication and logistics, such as Communications & Media, Property Management, Finance and Governance. The ENERGISE Huddle seeks to energise the other three Huddles to enable them to function effectively.

MINISTRY FAIR

In line with the sermon series on Stewardship, TPMC held a ministry recruitment fair over two Sundays on 21 and 28 July 2019. The fair showcased the different ministries under the four Huddles, where worshippers can volunteer, and steward the gifts and abilities that God had blessed us with.

At the end of the fair, 93 persons stepped up to volunteer in the various ministries. That said, there is always room for more volunteers to participate and serve. If you are not already serving in a ministry, you can sign up via the following link <https://tinyurl.com/IWantToServeinTPMC>



ENCOUNTERING DEATH: SOME PRACTICAL ADVICE

By Pamela Pan



With faith in Jesus Christ, we know that Christ has defeated death and we no longer have to fear it. We can face death with peace and hope because in Christ, we have God's promise of resurrection and eternal life. Still, when encountering death, whether that of our own or a loved one, it is natural to be filled with sadness, knowing that we will no longer have his or her physical company. This sadness is not to be discouraged as it stems from a genuine love for one another. After the death of a loved one, it is also natural for a period of mourning and grief. Nevertheless, Jesus continues to be with us and provides us with hope, and the church rallies around as a family in Christ to comfort and help us in our time of need.

At the same time, the death of a loved one can often give rise to confusion and anxiety over practical matters for those who remain, especially family members. Below is some practical advice on how we may help our loved ones and one another in such times of grief.

LEAVING WITH CARE FOR LOVED ONES

It is good to get one's concerns in order instead of waiting till one is terminally ill and unable to make decisions. Consider doing the following:

a Establish a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) to designate a trusted and competent person to attend to one's financial and legal matters

To facilitate the person entrusted with the LPA, financial documents (e.g. bank passbooks and statements, insurance policies) should be properly organised and kept.

b Draft a will

A will ensures that one's assets are properly distributed according to one's wishes when one passes on. This helps to provide for one's aged spouse, children, etc. Drafting a will also helps to communicate clearly one's plan on how one wishes to apportion the assets left behind. It also facilitates the legal process for one's desired inheritors to receive what one has intended for them.

c Plan for one's wake or funeral service

Pastors of the church are always available to plan with and guide the family members through these services. However, there may be some finer details which are particular to one or his/her family and some families have found it helpful when the loved one has indicated as such.

Some things to consider include the duration of the wake, photograph to be used, and clothes to be worn. Favourite biblical verses and hymns/songs can also be communicated so that they can be displayed and played at the wake. It is also helpful to make known one's preference between burial or cremation, and the resting place of one's remains.

Setting out these arrangements helps one's loved ones to be of a single mind regarding them. If one does not have a preference, a clear designation of the person who would be entrusted with the decisions or a simple instruction like "Let the pastor decide on the service" will go a long way in helping loved ones know that they are complying with one's last wishes.

WHEN DEATH OCCURS ¹

There are four main things to do when a loved one passes on. Doing the following in the given sequence helps to facilitate the funeral arrangements. Nevertheless, you may also simply contact the church office (Tel: 62598644 during office hours) or a pastor and they will be with you and guide you through the process.

a

Obtain a Certificate of Cause of Death (CCOD) ²

A CCOD is required before any funeral arrangements can be carried out.

- If the death occurs in a hospital: A doctor at the hospital will follow up to arrange for the CCOD. The family can obtain the CCOD from the ward nurse with the identity card of the deceased.
- If the death occurs at home:
 - i. Contact the family doctor who has been attending to the deceased. If one is unavailable, contact a neighbourhood doctor who is able to make a house-call. The doctor will assist in the issuance of the certificate of death.
 - ii. If a doctor cannot be found, contact the police who will provide assistance.

b

Inform the Church

Contact the church office or one of our pastors if their contact numbers are on hand, and inform them of the death. They will be with you and guide you in the arrangement of the wake and/or funeral services. This also enables the leaders of the church to pray for the family in its time of need.

c

Engage a Funeral Director

Engage a funeral director to attend to the preparation of the body for the wake and/or cremation or burial. This includes collection of the body from the home/hospital, embalming and delivery to the location of the wake. They will also assist in the logistics of setting up the venue for the wake and subsequent cremation or burial arrangements.

If the deceased had earlier indicated his/her wishes, these may be conveyed to the funeral director. If not, discuss the location and duration of the wake with the other family members of the deceased as the funeral director will require the information.

Consider contacting (available 24 hours) any of the following companies:

1. Shalom Funeral Services: Telephone: 6475 6070 / 9766 9888 / 9199 1929
2. Hosanna Bereavement Service: Telephone: 6352 7797
3. Amazing Grace Bereavement Care: 1800 777 2422

If the wake is to be located at a public void deck or community pavilion, or along a public road, the family will need to apply for the necessary permit from HDB or LTA. The funeral director will guide you in the process.

¹ Reference: "When a Loved One Passes Away: A Guide on What to Do When Death Occurs," an information booklet produced by the National Environment Agency and The Association of Funeral Directors in Singapore, 8th Edition, April 2017. More information and helpful links can be found at <https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/after-death/post-death-matters>.

² The steps provided here assume a natural cause of death. In cases where the cause of death cannot be determined as natural, it is required by law to refer the death to the police. It may take a few more days before the body of the deceased can be released for funeral arrangements.

d**Place an obituary**

Besides informing relatives and friends, the family of the deceased may consider placing an obituary with the local newspapers as a memorial and to notify others (e.g. friends of the deceased) who have not been contacted.

e**Register the death (This can be done at the same time as steps (b) or (c))**

The family of the deceased has to register his/her death with the police or at the Registry of Births & Deaths in ICA. The CCOD and NRIC/Passport/Certificate of Birth of the deceased will be required for the registration.

AFTER THE FUNERAL

After the funeral, some administrative matters may need to be done.³

a**Safekeep important documents**

Documents such as the death certificate, marriage certificate (as proof of marriage), birth certificate (as proof of parent-child relationship) should be safely kept as they are needed to be tendered to the court. Financial documents should be properly maintained to facilitate estate administration. With increasing use of the Internet and online services, it may be necessary to close or transfer online accounts of the deceased to prevent misuse.

b**Manage the deceased's estate**

The family may consider engaging a lawyer or the Public Trustee (if the deceased's estate is less than \$50,000) to assist in the estate administration.



ASSISTANCE

If you need assistance from TPMC Pastoral Care, please call the church office at 62598644.

Leaflets with the above information are now available at the Foyer and Information Counter.



³ More details can be found at <https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/after-death/post-death-matters/useful-links-for-the-bereaved>.

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