

interact

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TOA PAYOH
METHODIST CHURCH

47th
Anniversary
SERVICES

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TOA PAYOH METHODIST CHURCH
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BE SALT AND LIGHT, NOT LIGHTLY SALTED!

By Pastor Eddie Ho

Ask any regular taxi driver who isn't GPS-reliant, or any resident in Toa Payoh, and they will tell you one of the two most recognisable church buildings in the neighbourhood is housed in a corner along Lorong 2. This is no surprise, as Toa Payoh Methodist Church has been part of Toa Payoh for almost half a century.

Just as a town built on a hill cannot be hidden, a community of believers in Christ cannot conceal itself from the public eye. Our calling is to be 100% salt and 100% light. Jesus uses these two metaphors to describe his Church and tell us how we ought to live in our society. He says,

You are the salt of the earth ... You are the light of the world ... Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father, which is in heaven (Matthew 5:13-14, 16).

“

**Influence the world we live in with Godly love!
Be like light that gives visibility and warmth to its recipients!
Be like salt that preserves and enhances foods that it touches!**

”

Hence, in celebrating our 47th anniversary, what better way is there than to bless our neighbours? We reached out to a group where our interaction is usually transactional in nature. On August 19 and 20, about 300 of us delivered love gifts to the hawkers in all the eight lorongs in Toa Payoh, no strings attached.

They season our meals with salt, sugar and spice; through this small gesture we hope to flavour their back-breaking routines with appreciation, friendship and love.

God has gathered us in this neighbourhood for His divine purpose. Let us live His Commandments and build deeper friendships with the people in Toa Payoh as we encounter to love our neighbours as ourselves!



NEWLYWEDS



On 16 July 2017
Lim Dao Min & Ng Li Wen Nathaniel
tied the knot.

On 12 August 2017
James Song & Amanda Aw Yong
tied the knot.



NEW STAFF



Elina Lee (Left)
Angelito Mojico (Centre)
Ellisha Lim (Right)

Q : What were you doing prior to joining Toa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC) office and why did you change jobs?

Angelito: I was working as a business development executive before I joined the church office as a admin staff in May 2011. I had promptings in my heart to serve in the ministry full-time. This year, I joined the pastoral staff team.

Elina : I was in the private sector. I experienced the joy and satisfaction of serving in my previous church and the growing desire to do His works made me want to change job.

Ellisha : I was working in the creative industry before I joined TPMC. Through Angel, I found out about this job and I am enjoying it greatly.

Congratulations!

BAPTISM CANDIDATES & NEW TPMC MEMBERS

27
AUG
2017

BAPTISM CANDIDATES CHILDREN:

Rachel Law Jing Yi
Timothy Seah Yong Zhi

ADULTS:

Ang Kok Hai
Lim Eng Neo Helen
Annabelle Arangel Orpilla
Giesyl Ann Fernando
Wienie Asis Nacinopa
Law Hock Meng Melvyn
Ngin Chor Hong
Pearlyn Lim Bi Er
Matthew Abdullah
Co Wisdom Darryl C
Lim Pei Chia Ellisha
Lin Sheng Qian Jan



RECEPTION OF MEMBERSHIP

Co Wisdom Darryl C
Lim Pei Chia Ellisha
Lin Sheng Qian Jan
Lim Eng Neo Helen
Ho Wai Han
Koo Ling Wah Phyllis
Leong Yin Fong Linda
Loh Hanjin Jemima
Wong Yee Mei Denise
Ong Wei Juen
Lee Lai Hong Cindy



CHILDREN

By Sarah Hoi

“ JOY KIDS COMMITTEE RETREAT ”

The Joy Kids Committee had our first committee retreat in Johor Bahru, Malaysia on 1 and 2 September. The purpose of the retreat was for committee members to bond as well as to plan for the ministry for the coming year. We had much fun, great fellowship and a fruitful time of planning!



“ TEACHERS’ DAY CELEBRATION ”

We showed our gratitude to the 107 teachers and helpers serving in Joy Kids Ministry on Teachers’ Day. Look at their happy faces when they received the appreciation gift!



BIBLE QUIZ

"What is the Greek meaning of Exodus?"
 "What does *El-Shaddai* mean?"
 "How did God introduce himself to Moses?"

These were some questions which the primary school children had to answer when we had the Bible Quiz on 30 July in Joy Kids Ministry. In groups of 8 to 10, the children had to work together within a short time frame to answer questions based primarily on the book of Exodus. This annual Bible Quiz provides an opportunity to deepen their knowledge of God and His word. It also acts as feedback to the teachers as to how much the children have learnt from Sunday School classes. Thankfully, all the groups did well, which means that they have been paying attention!



BBQ

COOK-OUT

By Jay Fong

The Young Adults Ministry had its second event of the year on 29 July. Forty participants came to bond over freshly barbecued steak, sausages, chicken, smoked salmon etc. The occasion was a great time for young adults to gather and mingle. The fellowship provided a chance for newer members to get to know existing members, encouraging them to learn more about our cell group ministry, and to meet their potential cell group mates. In addition to the sumptuous food, we had a team bonding activity where groups set off on a treasure hunt around church and the surrounding areas in Toa Payoh. The event received good feedback and great enthusiasm from all involved. If you are a young adult between the ages of 24-39 years, keep a lookout for our upcoming events!



FUN FELLOWSHIP

By Adrian Lum



MALACCA

The Seniors Ministry's Thursday Fellowship is growing. We are blessed with an average weekly attendance of 32 participants and they have the option to join in activities such as line dancing, playing board games as well as singing karaoke.

The seniors usually go for an outing on a bi-monthly basis. On 27 July, 23 participants visited Jurong East Mall. The objective of these outings is to have a time of fellowship, food (trying out popular dishes), and familiarising ourselves with the various shopping malls in Singapore.

From 3 to 5 August, 40 seniors went to Malacca to indulge in local cuisine and shopping. It was a memorable time and the seniors look forward to these events.

GYM Evangelistic Service and High Tea was held on 16 September at Bedok Methodist Church. We went to Bedok Mall and Bedok Hawker Centre before heading to Bedok Methodist Church. After the service and high tea, we went to explore and try more food in the area, this time at Bedok Food Centre, a popular eating place.

We gladly welcome the seniors in the church to join us for our activities.



LINE DANCE



TOA PAYOH
METHODIST CHURCH

47th *Anniversary* **SERVICES**

By Poh Wee Koon

It wasn't about the 1,000 balloons that rained down on our congregation. Neither was it about starting the service with a cute video and funny pictures of used-to-be-cute people. Nor was it about having a trans-generational worship team, with one of our church's earliest worship leaders gracing the stage once more.

Our 47th anniversary celebrations was about the same thing TPMC has been about for the past 47 years – God's faithfulness in our community, our church, and our personal lives.



In planning the anniversary service, the team took an effort to be a little more daring in our expression, while staying rooted to our purpose. The 1,000 balloons were planned as a way to foster interaction across generations (share your pictures, people!); the video was made to thread us through the constants of the church's progression (so many of our leaders were once youths here!); the worship session was planned to celebrate God's faithfulness across the decades (the songs may sound different, but it is the same love).

Personally, one of the most encouraging aspects of planning the service was standing at the door of the sanctuary – some of the seniors were proudly showing off the torches they brought along. For me, this is a wonderful reminder that the church is family, and no matter what is requested, a family loves first.

Even when the kids are acting a little weird. 😊



ANNIVERSARY PROJECT

By Isaiah Tee

Remembering and giving thanks for God's providence in Toa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC) took a heartening turn for our 47th anniversary. This year, instead of the usual indoor celebrations, the Toa Payoh community got to experience the festivities and God's love through our worshippers!

Keeping with TPMC's vision, Encounter To Love, we held a special blessings project to demonstrate God's love to hawker stalls and cafés in Toa Payoh this anniversary. Over the course of two days (19 and 20 August), 300 volunteers rallied together to go out to the hawker centres and cafés in Toa Payoh, blessing them with blessing bags containing medicinal plasters and neck towels, and thanking them for tirelessly serving the Toa Payoh community with good food and service. God truly watched over our volunteers on their journey, blessing them with clear skies and safe roads for delivering the blessing bags. We were heartened to see our church members from different services and of different ages come together for this project.

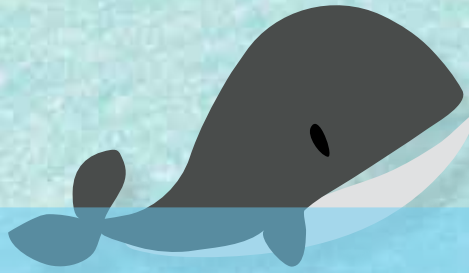
God never fails to surprise. In the three weeks leading up to the distribution, we exceeded our expected volunteer numbers and donations! Also, some hawkers thanked the church for the bags via social media platforms like Facebook, which was both surprising and heartwarming. Just as how the hawkers and café owners were blessed, we too were also blessed by this exchange both spiritually and physically – our volunteers had a great time of fellowship when the deed was done!

We want to give thanks for God's provision and His boundless love which allowed us to simply go into the community and be a blessing in return. For we are the salt and light of the earth, may we (in the words of Pastor Eddie) never be "lightly salted", and may our light within shine bright for all Toa Payoh to see. Glory be to God, Amen.



JONAH

By William Ho & Shirin Wun



Here at church in September we are
Presenting the book of Jonah
Preaching the book of Jonah
Teaching the book of Jonah

Jonah is most famous for being
Swallowed by a big big fish
Stuck in a big big fish
Spat out by a big big fish

Many came forward to help tell the tale
To cut and paint and paste and sew
To put on and perform a "see-worthy" show
Where Scripture will glow and the Spirit will flow

God sent a storm and a fish because
Jonah ran away from Him
You can't run away from God
He won't let you run away from Him

We will as one church of many members
Grow in God's word together
Follow God's word together
Know God's word together

So thank and trust and obey our Lord
He is full of mercy and grace
His salvation all can embrace
His abundant love nothing can ever replace

— Shirin Wun





Good sermons come and go. To help the congregation remember certain books from the Bible better, a few of us worked with the pastoral team to present the Book of Ruth with some creative performances in 2016. This year, we embarked on the Book of Jonah with the same purpose – using the digital illustrations, the acoustic Stompers and the dancers. Our prayer is that the congregation will be able to recall these performances and help them to have a better understanding of the wonders of The Word hidden in these Books!

– William Ho





BOYS' BRIGADE

By Jonathan Jebasingh

When we informed the Junior Boys from 76th J, Singapore Company we were bringing them to Universal Studios Singapore (USS), they were overjoyed.

It was a marvellous event where boys from different backgrounds came together to forge bonds while having tremendous fun during the rides. Even waiting in the queue was a "ride" for them!

The children were extremely energetic, and screaming with delight from all the fun.

We were surprised and heartened to see a full attendance for the outing. We would like to thank the Church for sponsoring the budget; for many boys, it was their first time entering USS!

We believe it was a memorable experience the boys would keep for a lifetime. Hopefully, as they trudge towards their futures, they will keep the memories of

their time together in the Boys' Brigade and as brothers as well.

On a final note, it was an eye opener for us adults once again to understand the teaching of Jesus first hand:

“Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.

- Mark 9:37

”

GIRLS' BRIGADE

By Koh Mui Leng



“Bingo!” shrieked Debbie as her elderly partner had all her numbers in a row called out. It was 2 June 2017 and the Girls' Brigade 16P Company, First Toa Payoh Primary School were at the United Medicare Centre, Toa Payoh. They were armed with a Bingo set, prizes, sewing cards, a peg game and jigsaw puzzles to play with 30 of the residents. This

was the third time the girls have served at the Centre. They had a fulfilling engagement with the residents. Some girls expressed sadness to see the residents in their condition and having to live away from family. All were happy, though, that they were able to bring some cheer to them. They look forward to returning next year to visit their new-found friends.



ALPHA

By Grace Koh



When the age old question rings in the heart of many: Is there a God? I believe that is the motivation for the 32 participants who picked up their pens and registered for the Alpha course, which spanned over a period of 3 months from May to July.

Every week was structured, consisting of a video of the weekly topic, and then small group discussions. As a participant, I reflected on a few things about the course:

1 Welfare

Every week without fail, there was lunch catered for participants to tuck into. Beverages such as coffee and tea were available at the back of the room as well, for participants who needed that little perk-me-up on a sunny afternoon. Although a simple gesture, this act made me feel comfortable and I believe this would have been the thought of others as well.



2 Small group discussions

Breaking into smaller groups allowed for more raw discussions on God among the participants, and a greater liberty to be open with their views as well. It offered a common place for those with a spark of interest in Christianity to gather and talk about their perspectives. I believe that this helped to create diversity in the conversations.



3 Facilitators

With their open hearts and listening ears, the facilitators were an important part of the discussion. Their honest sharing, well-thought questions and patience were ingredients to a fruitful discussion.



All in all, Alpha was a good starting point to get to know about Jesus, for those who have not yet believed, and for those who believe, a way to reignite and grow in our relationships with Christ and revisit the foundations of our faith.

MISSIONS: CAMBODIA

By Cheryl Wee

This September, Toa Payoh Methodist Church sent a team of six to the COSI Children's Village and Emmaus Women's Centre. Focusing on the grade 6-9s and the Emmaus women, we helped them discover their spiritual gifts and identity in Christ through a series of engaging workshops and teaching sessions that also centred on the parables. Though it was a short trip, each one of us enjoyed it with the great company and unity in the team, the delicious meals prepared by the Emmaus staff, and the new friendships formed. We have all been blessed by the joy and love they showed us. May God continue his good work at COSI and Emmaus.



“ This was my first time to COSI and Emmaus and the trip has been filled with learning. The most touching part was to see the kids put their full heart into worshipping God. ”
- Julia Oh



“ With no expectations, I came with an open heart and was amazed at God's work in the lives of all of them. Especially by those kids that grew up in COSI and have now come back to serve and be a blessing to others. ”
- Cindy He

“ God used this trip to prepare me for my new role working with youths. It has definitely been an enriching experience. ”
- Allan Ben



LOCAL CHURCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (LCEC) 2017/2018



<i>Pastor-in-Charge</i>	Rev Reuben Ng
<i>Assistant Pastor</i>	Pastor Eddie Ho
<i>PPRSC Chair</i>	Mr Johnson Lee
<i>LCEC Chair</i>	Mr Kenny Yeo
<i>LCEC Vice-Chair</i>	Dr Gabriel Ong
<i>Secretaries</i>	Mr Jerome Sim Ms Rachel Khoo
<i>Lay Leader</i>	Mr Kenneth Yeo
<i>Associate Lay Leaders</i>	Ms Agnes Goh Ms Miacarla Ng Mr Winston Wong
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mrs Wan Suyin
<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	Mr Walter Yeo

Age Group Coordinators

<i>Children</i>	Mrs Sherry Yeo
<i>Youth</i>	Mr Isaiah Tee
<i>Young Adults</i>	Mr Jay Fong
<i>Adults</i>	Mr Matthew Ling
<i>Seniors</i>	Mr Adrian Lum

Chairpersons of Committees

<i>Church Governance</i>	Mr Low Kay San
<i>Communications & Media</i>	Ms Kristal Chan
<i>Finance</i>	Mr Francis Cheang
<i>Property Management</i>	Mr Peter Khoo

Chairpersons of Ministries

<i>Cell Group</i>	Mr Wayne Kok
<i>Discipleship & Nurture</i>	Ms Agnes Goh
<i>Joy Kids</i>	Mr Tan Kee Heng
<i>Missions</i>	Ms Audrey Ong
<i>Outreach & Social Concerns</i>	Mr Panneer Selvam
<i>Witness & Evangelism</i>	Ms Alice Low
<i>Worship & Music</i>	Dr Gabriel Ong
<i>Youth Fusion</i>	Mr Isaiah Tee

Stewards

<i>Discipleship & Nurture</i>	Ms Betty Lim
<i>Governance</i>	Ms Grace Ng
<i>Age Group (Adults)</i>	Mrs Roslyn Sim
<i>Finance</i>	Mr William Ho

COMPETITION

Fill in the blanks and stand a chance to win a prize!

We have Popular vouchers for 20 readers. Answers are all found inside this issue.

Email answers to commsmedia@tpmc.org.sg (put "Interact Wordsearch Competition" in subject line).

1. In September, a team of six went on a Missions trip to Cambodia and visited the COSI Children's Village and the _____ Women's Centre.
2. The Bible Quiz held by the Joy Kids Ministry was based on questions mainly from the book of _____.
3. For the Anniversary Giving Project, blessing bags containing medicinal _____ and neck towels were handed out to hawkers in Toa Payoh.
4. The Seniors Ministry's weekly Fellowship takes place every _____.
5. At the Young Adults BBQ, groups set off on a _____ hunt for a team bonding activity.

G	N	H	P	T	C	V	K	E	S
C	Z	X	H	B	U	J	S	V	R
P	N	I	R	W	N	S	A	Y	E
N	R	O	W	N	E	O	A	U	T
Z	Q	X	O	N	R	D	L	Z	S
E	E	E	T	L	S	G	X	L	A
X	H	I	M	R	L	A	S	J	L
O	A	H	U	M	Z	A	P	K	P
D	Z	H	L	V	A	F	B	F	Y
U	T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E	L
S	D	T	X	H	T	Z	S	H	F

BOOK REVIEW

By Allan Goh

Congratulations!

Winners of the Interact Crossword Competition:

- Ho Chui Foong
- Liaw Su Laine
- Lim Kim Wha Rosalind
- Amanda Ang
- Darren Teo

Please collect your prize from the Information Counter.



The Essential Bible Reference is a series of 12 books that introduces readers to the stories, books, people and world of the Bible. Written clearly and simply by historian Dr Tim Dowley, and filled with maps, tables, charts and beautiful illustrations, the series makes for easy reading.

Each book in the series has 32 pages, and can be read in a single sitting. I managed to finish reading the book "Life in Bible Times" in 30 minutes. The book looks at living in biblical times, and provides interesting insights into work and food, amongst other things. Understanding how the Israelites work and eat helps to provide a context for the teachings of Jesus and the setting for His ministry. All in all, the books are a light and interesting read, and a catalyst to exploring the Word of God.



FREE
FOOD & GAMES

X'MAS CARNIVAL



16 DEC 2017 • 1 PM - 6 PM
TOA PAYOH CENTRAL AMPHITHEATRE



FREE ADMISSION
A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION



Light
of
Christmas²⁰¹⁷

