

interact

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The Meek Shall Inherit The Earth

We are coming to the end of our series on the Beatitudes. Whether it was preached on the mount along the Sea of Galilee or in a building in Toa Payoh, Jesus' *Kingdom Manifesto* remains the same. It is not a legalistic code of restricted behaviour, but a living covenant with a promise of blessings.

Yet Jesus' teachings stand in sharp contrast to prevailing world values.

Pope John Paul II once tried to explain what it means to be a Christian to a group of teens. He said,

“

Modern culture says, 'Blessed are the proud.'
Jesus said, '**Blessed are the poor in spirit.**'
Culture says, 'Blessed are the pitiless.'
Jesus said, '**Blessed are the merciful.**'
Culture says, 'Blessed are the devious.'
Jesus said, '**Blessed are the pure in heart.**'
Culture says, 'Blessed are those who fight.'
Jesus said, '**Blessed are the peacemakers.**'
Culture says, 'Blessed are the prosecutors.'
Jesus said, '**Blessed are the persecuted.**'

”



The Pope was right; the words of Jesus may be ancient, but they possess divine authority and wisdom, and still apply to humanity in the 21st century. These are radical truths that allow the Holy Spirit to work and transform us when we embrace them.

The transformation is not an outward change (like the extreme makeover shows we see on TV) but a transformation of heart, soul and mind from the inside out. The process may be long, but one that God will lead us through as we experience new life in Him.

So friends, let us open our hearts to encounter Him in His Word. Let us open our hearts and let His Spirit transform us. Let us open our hearts and encounter to love!

Rev Ming Feong Ching
Pastor

NEW STAFF



Jonathan Choy
Pastoral Staff — Youth & Young Adult

1. What were you doing prior to joining the TPMC church office?

I graduated from Trinity Theological College in 2014 and was serving in Covenant Community Methodist Church as their Youth and Young Adults staff.

2. What excites you most about working in TPMC?

I used to play with some of the young adults in our younger days, so...coming back to work with familiar people.

3. Describe yourself in 5 words.

Fun, food lover, Father follower.

4. If you could pick only 3 types of food to eat for the rest of your life, what would they be?

Fried chicken, beef steak, steamed fish.

5. Do you have a hobby or special skill that you can share?

I love reading, watching movies/shows, and working out in the gym.

— NEWLYWEDS —



*Chloe Goh Ruiqi &
Joshua Tang Yongming*
tied the knot on
1 | SEP | 2018

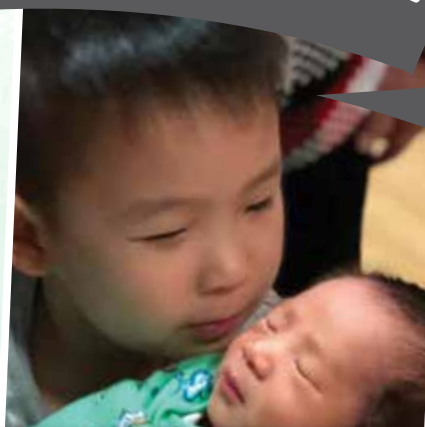


*Darryl C Co Wisdom &
Alyssa Ch'ng Sin Ying*
tied the knot on
29 | SEP | 2018

— NEWBORNS —



On **24 Jul 2018**, Ivan and Yu Ping
were blessed with the arrival of
Charlotte Seow Le Qi.



On **16 Oct 2018**, Shawn and Joyce
were blessed with the arrival of
Julien Yeo.



On **2 Nov 2018**, Tai Yu and Andreana
were blessed with the arrival of
Christian Chia Zhong Huan.

Congratulations!

BAPTISM CANDIDATES & NEW TPMC MEMBERS

26
AUG
2018



BAPTISM CANDIDATES

CHILDREN:

Jessica Ho Jia En
Teo Lingen Timothy

ADULTS:

Goh Kangwei
Hong Fun Kim Serene
Kwek Swee Hong
Seet Swee Guay Rebecca
Shobhana Rajasagaran
Toh Kok Ngee Jeffrey

RECEPTION OF MEMBERSHIP

Chan Chee Heeng Denise
Chew Hui Ting Adeline
Chia Li Fei Karen
Choe Kok Fai Patrick
Foo Hui Hsien Melissa
Ho See Kiam Madeline
Hong Fun Kim Serene
Kam Bee Im

Kwek Swee Hong
Lim Bee Leng Helen
Low Guangwen Daniel
Oh Guat Hwee Julia
Tan Buk Kui Victor
Tan Kee Guan Peggy
Teo Kim Leng
Toh Kok Ngee Jeffrey

3 Tans of Fun

Victor Tan was baptised with his baby daughter Natalie (aka Nelly) here at Toa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC) in March 2018. His wife Cheryl is a member who grew up in TPMC.



Victor Tan = V
Cheryl Tan = C

1. Tell us more about yourselves.

V: Hi, I am Victor. I am married to Cheryl and we have a one-year old daughter, Natalie (Nelly), God's gift to us. I attend the 10.30am service with my wife. I have been at TPMC for about four to five years.

C: I am Cheryl. I have been attending TPMC since birth and the church has been my family. My parents worship here. I also have a close circle of friends at TPMC, with whom I grew up together. Over the years, I have experienced their love, care and support. I currently serve as a keyboardist in the Worship & Music Ministry.

2. What hobbies or leisure activities do you have?

V: Cheryl and I used to run and swim together. Having Nelly brings us to a new phase of life. Now, we spend most of our free time with her.

C: We play with Nelly and bring her around, to indoor playgrounds and swimming pools. We brought her to the zoo on her birthday.

V: Nonetheless, we still find time to catch up with our friends, find out how they are doing, and support them where we can.

3. What is your favourite food?

V: We like all kinds of food. The Serangoon Gardens area, in particular, has numerous F&B establishments, and we can have our choice of food from the hawker centres, franchise eateries, hipster cafes and fine restaurants there.

C: We also take note to go to places which are more environmentally conducive to young children.

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

V: Do not underestimate the power of faith in God. Nothing is impossible for everyone who has faith in Him. As Jesus said, one can move mountains (i.e. doing the seemingly impossible) with faith as small as a mustard seed (Matthew 17:20).

C: Yes, having faith in God is essential for individual and corporate spiritual growth. Employing our gifts to serve in church and supporting our brothers and sisters in Christ also help to build up our cell groups, the church community and the Body of Christ.

MEET CAROL ONG ▶

Carol being recognised for her contributions to the Methodist School of Cambodia during its 20th anniversary celebrations, seen here with Bishop Dr Chong Chin Chung.



1. How many years have you been serving in the field? Which countries?

I started serving in Cambodia in 1999, so it has been 19 years.

2. How did you become a missionary? How did God call you into missions?

Back in 1989, I was trying to discover God's will for my life. During a prayer meeting, God gave a vision of me speaking before a group of people from a different culture. I prayed for a confirmation of God's call. In the meantime, I went for mission trips to learn more and acquaint myself with what being a missionary entails, as well as serving in different ministries

in church. Two years later, God confirmed the call: "Missions! It shall be your number one priority." I made this known to church leaders and the pastors, and was then sent for theological training in order to be equipped to fulfil God's call in my life. Through it all, God has shown Himself to be faithful and His faithfulness strengthens and encourages me to continue.

3. What are you doing now?

I am on the verge of starting a new ministry in an area called Oudem, reaching out to factory girls as well as the community there. Both Li Diang (a fellow missionary) and myself will be teaming up with staff and girls formerly from the Emmaus Women's Centre (EWC) to start a "business with a mission", i.e. they will run

a coffee shop while Li Diang and I will station ourselves there for outreach. This would be a refreshing change in approach to outreach and evangelism and for me, it comes about after two years of English teaching, seven years in COSI children's home, and ten years in EWC.

4. As a person, how have you changed over the years?

Hmmm...become wiser, I hope!



5. What were your best and worst experiences as a missionary?

Best: Overcoming doubts about myself and my abilities, and trusting in the Lord's guidance and empowerment. Going forth to do the things God wants me to do (whether it be sharing the Word or just sharing resources), showing the love of God, and knowing that by these acts, however small they may be, I have made a difference for others...these have been my best experiences as a missionary.

Worst: When I have been so preoccupied that I failed to seek God in prayer and depend on Him. Going in my own strength and then seeing whatever I do just fall flat: not getting through to the people, failing to bless the people, failing to be a good example, and then regretting it all...in my view, these have been the worst experiences.

I've come to realise the difference: God is present in one, and absent in the other.

6. What advice would you give someone thinking about becoming a missionary?

- Get the prayer support and backing of your church.
- Go for Bible training or some form of equipping before setting off. You need to be equipped and know how to feed yourself spiritually when your home church is not physically there with you.
- Make an effort to learn the language of the people; it does mean a lot to them when you care enough to learn their language and speak to them in it.
- Don't go with a superior attitude thinking that you have all the answers and you're going there to change them; don't exasperate them and don't talk down to them. I am speaking from the angle of the Cambodian people who were once under the French and then later under the Pol Pot regime...they don't need another regime.
- Do a favour for the gospel; walk the talk.
- Don't go to either extremes of living poorly or being extravagant. They don't understand why anyone would want to lower their status when they themselves want to progress and climb up the social ladder. Neither does an extravagant lifestyle sync with the gospel. Live moderately and modestly.
- Guard your Sabbath, don't let yourself be so caught up with busyness that you disconnect from God and let yourself run dry. Being a missionary is a long-term affair; you must know how to take care of yourself so that you don't burn out before your time is up.



REDEVELOPMENT

By Peter Khoo

Here's a quick update on the progress of the Redevelopment Project (from information available at time of writing). Since the start of the project in July 2018, the following works have been carried out:

- Demolition of the Upper Room (completed)
- Construction of new pedestrian gate next to carpark gantry (completed)
- Upgrade of Level 1 common toilets (to be completed by end November)
- Construction of two new lift cores (on-going)
- Extension of Hall 1 (on-going)

FUNDRAISING

By Agnes Goh

Early in the year, we planned for three *Mission I'mPossible* challenges for the Redevelopment Fundraising with a target of \$60,000.

1) Vertical Challenge (July 2018):

More than 40 children and youths bravely climbed up the stairs of a 40-storey block of flats in Toa Payoh. They completed the challenge with much gusto, enthusiasm and speed!

2) Fitness Challenge (September 2018):

The congregation sponsored 8 pairs of church members and staff to carry out a series of exercises — the more funds raised, the more repetitions to complete. Because of the generous contributions, participants had to complete 72 D-ball throws, 144 burpees, and 864 single skips on a skipping rope!

From these two challenges, we exceeded the target and raised a total of \$62,158.95. Therefore, the final challenge was not needed. We praise God for your generous donations.

The redevelopment is estimated to cost \$2 million. Hence, other initiatives for fundraising will continue. How else can you give? Every second Sunday of the month, contributions from the second offering bag go to the redevelopment fund. If you would like to give directly to the church, please indicate church redevelopment when you transfer your contribution to DBS Autosave 005-011970-7.



We thank God that the initial challenges in obtaining the authorities' approval for structural works were overcome with no significant impact to the original designs. Moving forward, we expect the following works to start:

- Construction of the new office and rooms on Level 4
- Re-sizing of Hall 3
- Upgrading of Level 2 common toilets
- Renovation of Level 2 Children's Ministry rooms

Do pray with us for the following:

- Safety of the construction workers, church staff, and members (especially the kindergarten children) within the church compound
- Smooth and timely progress for the overall project

VERTICAL CHALLENGE



FITNESS CHALLENGE





LOCAL CHURCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (LCEC) 2018/2019

Pastor-in-Charge
Pastor
Assistant Pastor
PPRSC Chair
LCEC Chair
Recording Secretary
Lay Leader
Associate Lay
Leaders

Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer

Rev Reuben Ng
Rev Ming Feong Ching
Pastor Eddie Ho
Mr Johnson Lee
Dr Gabriel Ong
Mr Jerome Sim
Mr Kenneth Yeo
Ms Agnes Goh
Mr Francis Cheang
Mr Winston Wong
Ms Susan Seah
Mr Walter Yeo

Age Group Coordinators

Children	Ms Serene Er
Youth	Mr Isaiah Tee
Young Adults	Mr Jay Fong
Adults	Mr Matthew Ling
Seniors	Mr Adrian Lum

Chairpersons of Committees

<i>Church Governance</i>	Mr Choy Kum Yuen
<i>Communications & Media</i>	Ms Kristal Chan
<i>Finance</i>	Mr Low Kay San
<i>Hospitality</i>	Mrs Roslyn Sim
<i>Property Management</i>	Mr Peter Khoo

Chairpersons of Ministries

<i>Cell Group</i>	Mr Wayne Kok
<i>Children</i>	Mr Tan Kee Heng
<i>Discipleship & Nurture</i>	Ms Agnes Goh
<i>Missions</i>	Ms Betty Lim
<i>Outreach & Social Concerns</i>	Mr Panneer Selvam
<i>Witness & Evangelism</i>	Ms Alice Low
<i>Worship & Music</i>	Mr Alan Tay
<i>Youth Fusion</i>	Mr Isaiah Tee

Stewards

<i>Children</i>	Ms Connie Goh
<i>Communications & Media</i>	Ms Miacarla Ng
<i>Finance</i>	Mr William Ho
	Mr Joseph Tan
<i>Governance</i>	Ms Grace Ng

YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT

By Shirin Wun

I greatly admire the Local Church Executive Committee (LCEC) members listed on the preceding page. They seem to me to be living examples of what biblical passages teach about serving. That led me to the Bible (...okay, the internet...) to search for verses on how to serve.

Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.

John 13:14

Our Lord is awe-inspiring and mighty, but He is also personal and humble. I should love my neighbour as myself; this verse shows me how. Not literally, of course; I don't think Jesus meant for us to wash one another's feet all the time. Rather, it demonstrates the position I should take towards fellow humans. Paul puts it this way: **in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others** (Philippians 2:1-6). In other words, to **serve one another humbly in love** (Galatians 5:13).

This humility must be sincere. I should not perform grand gestures to gain worldly recognition or reward. Jesus warns of the hypocritical scribes and Pharisees: **Everything they do is done for people to see...they love the place of honor at banquets...they love to be greeted with respect...But...The greatest among you will be your servant.** (Matthew 23:1-12).

Jesus was entitled to ask His disciples to wash His feet; instead He bent down to wash theirs. So I need to put self-interest aside and look to serve others, as He taught and led by example.

Testimony Of

See Kim Lian

2010 was an eventful year for me. I discovered that I had multiple myeloma, a type of blood cancer. This is my testimony of how it brought me closer to God.

Testing and trusting

It all started when my doctor put me through several tests to find the cause of excessive protein in my urine, a condition I had had for a couple of years. A bone marrow test confirmed that I was suffering from multiple myeloma.

That night, as I was reading the Bible, God gave me 2 verses:

“

*I will fight for you;
you need only to be still*

Exodus 14:14

I am the LORD who heals you.

Exodus 15:26

”

I meditated on them and realised that I needed to trust God. He would provide the people to treat me.

Six cycles of chemotherapy

I had to undergo six cycles of chemotherapy. The medication weakened my immune system and caused me discomfort. Nonetheless, the side effects were minimal. The doctor gave me a book written by a local pastor who had the same illness. The book was his testimony of God's healing. I finished the book within a few days and was greatly encouraged.

At the end of the second cycle, tests revealed that my kidneys had returned to normal and were no longer leaking protein. Hallelujah! By the fifth cycle, my *kappa lambda* ratio was within an acceptable range. Isaiah 53:5...**by His stripes we are healed**. Praise the Lord. At the end of the sixth cycle, tests showed no myeloma cells in my bone marrow. God had fought for me and now I just needed to be still to receive His restoration.

Years go by

As the years rolled on, the drugs that I had been taking began to lose their efficacy as my body adapted to them. I was told to undergo an Autologous Stem Cells Transplant (ASCT), but I was gripped by fear at the thought of it. I prayed and asked God whether it was His will that I had to go through it.

I waited for His answer. Then God's message came to me to remain faithful and committed. I initially interpreted this to mean that I would not have to go through the transplant. However, a few days later, God's message was "Even if you have to go through fire, I will be with you". I was confused and asked Him to confirm His message through someone else. He did. I was to go ahead with the transplant. That night, I prayed and told God that I would act according to His will.

I was admitted into hospital. While I was there, I felt God protecting me. On 22 December 2017, stem cells harvested in 2015 were transfused into my blood system.

Long road to recovery

I got well enough to be discharged after three weeks in hospital, though I was housebound. Christian brothers and sisters encouraged and prayed for me. I am indeed very blessed!

As time passed, I recovered enough to go out grocery shopping and to meet friends. My hair also started to grow back. I am still on the road to recovery, but I know that God loves and protects His children. To Him be all glory!



I'm carried in everlasting arms
You'll never let me go through it all

48th Anniversary

REMEMBER OUR FIRST LOVE





Healthy Rainbow Salad

Angeline Lum is an active member of our Seniors Ministry. She loves cooking and this is one of her signature dishes. Let's try it out!

Recipe

- A** 15g of agar agar strips
Soak in tap water for 45 mins to soften.
Squeeze dry and cut into short strips.
Toss in 3 tbsp of yuzu pon sauce.
Keep in fridge till ready to serve.

Note: can do a day earlier; best to store in a bottle, not a plastic container

- B** 3 hard-boiled eggs
Dice.

- C** 10 cherry tomatoes
Cut into halves.

- D** Green veggies (organic)
Buy a box of organic green salad veggies ready from the supermarket.

- E** Other veggies
½ small purple cabbage
½ small cabbage
1 red capsicum
1 yellow capsicum
1 green capsicum
1 big carrot
Shred or cut all thinly.

- F** 200g turkey ham or honey baked ham
Cut into fine strips.

- G** Pine nuts, walnuts, macadamia nuts, and golden raisins
Use as topping. Sprinkle a handful of each.

- H** Dragon fruit yogurt dressing or goma dare sesame sauce
Make your own!
Take half a pink or white dragon fruit.
Mash or blend it.
Mix with 2 tbsp of mirin and 250 ml tub of low fat yogurt (eg meiji brand)

Or serve with goma dare sesame sauce (eg mizkan brand); 2 tbsp for taste.

Arrangement:

Take a big plate.
Place ingredients from B to F.
Top with A and G.
Serve with H.

Illustration By Esther Chng

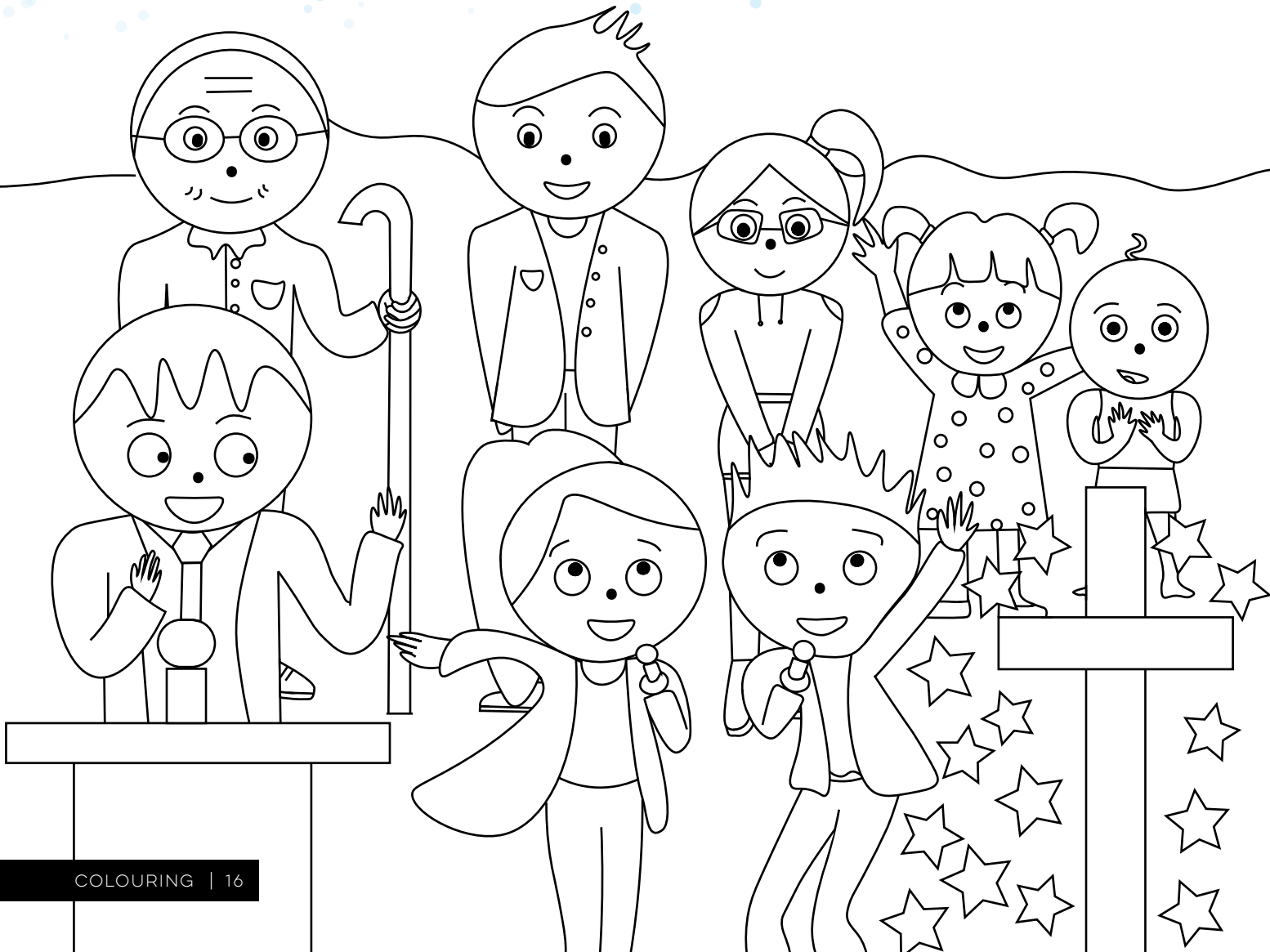
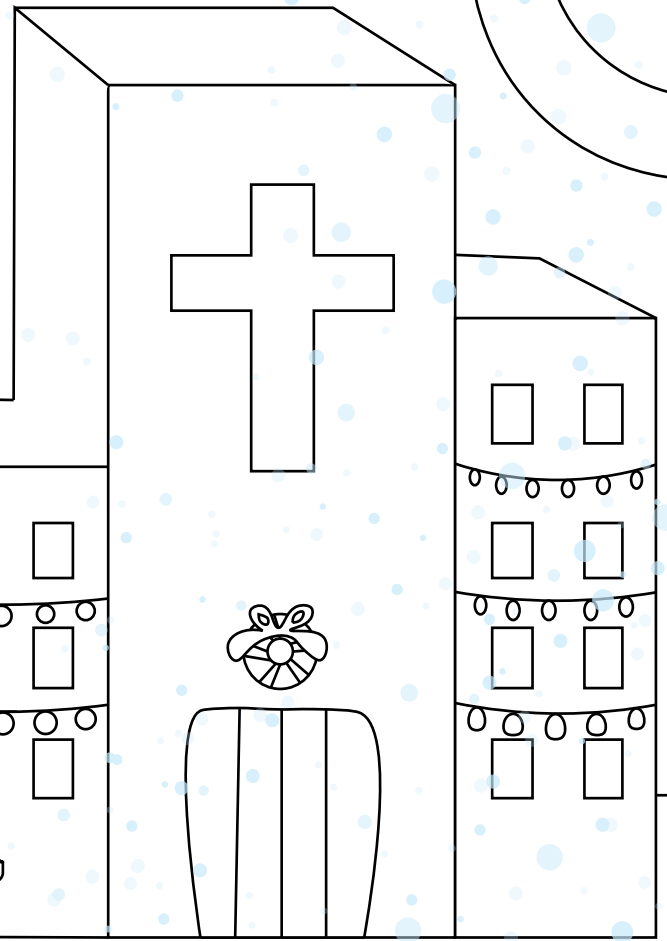
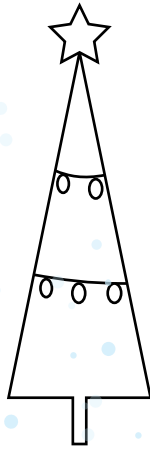
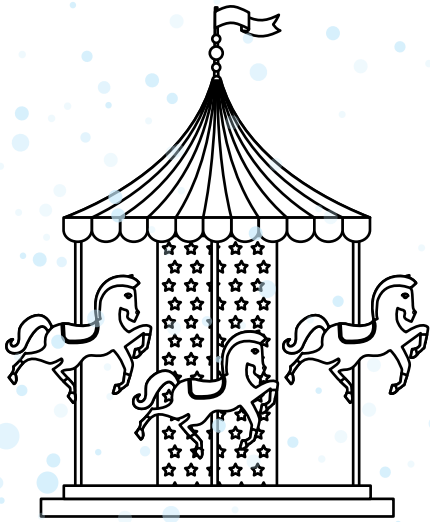
Christmas Market

CHRISTMAS AT YOUR DOORSTEP

Presented by



Light of Christmas 2018



EVOLVE

YOUTH CAMP 2018

26 to 29
DECEMBER

See you @ Harris Waterfront, Batam

follow us:
@TPMCYOUTHFUSION

Christmas Market

CHRISTMAS AT YOUR DOORSTEP

22 SAT - 23 SUN

DEC 2018

5.00PM - 9.30PM

TOA PAYOH CENTRAL
AMPHITHEATRE



Light
of
2018
Christmas

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