



BEING TRANSFORMED AS WE SERVE ONE ANOTHER

DISCIPLESHIP & NURTURE

SERVE ONE ANOTHER

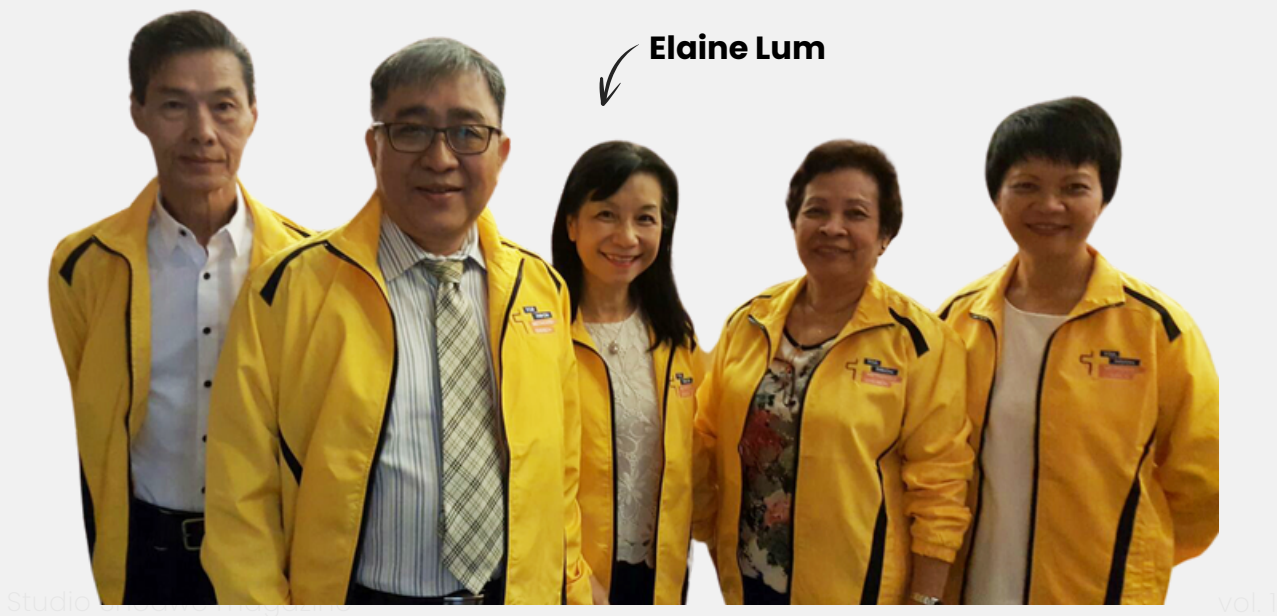


What comes to your mind when you think of serving one another? Is serving a blessing or a chore? Do you feel transformed or frustrated when you serve? Is it easier to work in a group or alone?

If we were to examine the life of Christ, servanthood will be among the top in the list of His traits. Christ, though the Son of God, took the form of man, humbled himself, and was obedient unto death on the cross, in order to accomplish man's redemption (Philippians 2:6-8).

→ **Jesus stated in Matthew 20:26-28 His earthly ministry was not about coming to be served, but to serve.** ✦

As a disciple of Christ, our service grows out of genuine love for the Saviour, and love and concern for those whom He leads and places in our circles of influence.



Being A Disciple Of Christ

“I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”



EVANGELISE

As His disciples, we want to follow His example by serving one another. To be a disciple of Christ, we focus on why we serve and how we do it. Jesus wants us to give to others, and serve with a cheerful heart, rather than grudgingly.

On Sundays, Elaine Lum arrives in church before 8am, puts on her bright yellow usher jacket, attends the pre-service briefing, prays with the usher team, and gets ready to welcome the congregation for the 8.30am Traditional Service. She serves under the church’s ***Evangelise Huddle*** which focuses on creating platforms and opportunities for all to encounter God when we gather in church.

Elaine is always full of smiles, and always thoughtfully looking for ways to serve members in wheelchairs, or putting a cushion on the seat for a senior’s comfort, and gently ushering the congregation to their seats.



Over her last 20 years of service in the church, Elaine has served in various capacities, including helping the Beacon Children's Ministry, singing in the choir, and as a dancer. She made adjustments in her capacity to serve when there were family demands. She now needs to take care of her grandson on Saturdays so she serves as an usher on Sundays, instead of other ministries that need her to serve on Saturdays.

Hospitality is not merely a gesture of politeness; it mirrors Christ's love for all.

We are called to open our hearts and to show kindness and care to strangers and guests; welcoming all who enter our midst, with love.

When asked for the reason she serves in church, Elaine's response converges to follow Jesus who "did not come to be served, but to serve" (Mark 10:45). She gives thanks for the opportunities to serve as they deepen her relationship with God.

Serve One Another





Loving As A Disciple Of Christ

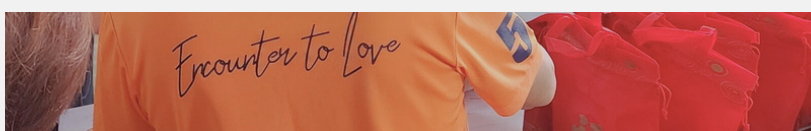
**“My command is this:
Love each other
as I have loved you.”**

– John 15:12

Jeffrey Toh is the chairperson leading the Outreach & Social Concerns Ministry (OSC) under the church’s **Extend Huddle**, seeking to extend God’s kingdom by sharing God’s love in our Toa Payoh community.

OSC looks to the needs of the disadvantaged and underprivileged within TPMC and the community. It assists them through block blessings, short-term financial assistance for less-fortunate households to cope with daily needs, blood donation drive and other similar programmes.

Jeffrey leads a team that befriends disadvantaged families and rough sleepers. In the planning and implementation of programmes to engage and bless residents, Jeffrey shared the need for dependence on God for such engagements. There were several instances when he faced a shortage of those available to serve, or there were personal health concerns or his own busy work schedule, but God provided the resources even in seemingly impossible situations. Jesus is indeed God of the “i-m-possible”.



Jeffrey and his OSC team can truly proclaim: "God provides! He leads, and moves through our weaknesses!"

They just needed to trust, obey and serve. God has the power to move hearts and change situations. Relying on God is also the key to growing our faith. We need to abide in God who uses difficulties to work out his plan which is beyond us.

In the process of serving and not giving up, we trust God to mould us into the likeness of Christ. When things look like they are not going according to plan, we trust that God is a God of the present situation who is still in control.

Many of the befrienders have shared that, as they bless the residents staying around the church, they themselves are blessed as they encounter love (Proverbs 11:25).



Speak in *Love*



Alison Koh



**ALISON KOH, WHO SERVES
ALONGSIDE JEFFREY,
TESTIFIES OF THIS.**

"I serve in OSC as I heard they were really desperately short of manpower", she says. "On one of the days when we were distributing bread, I was wowed and very surprised by the way the team reached out to the residents of the block. They speak in love and from the heart! They are one in Christ and I can see the fruit of the Spirit in them. After that event, the phrase "speak in love" kept popping in my mind and I am encouraged to practice it."

THE APOSTLE PAUL WROTE:

**"Never be lacking in zeal,
but keep your spiritual
fervour, serving the
Lord" (Romans 12:11).
It's inspiring to see this
zeal in the OSC team
as their service reveals
God's agape love.**

Growing as a Disciple of Christ

“Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.”

-2 Peter 1:4-7

Through serving, we grow as disciples of Jesus. As we serve, we build up the church and ourselves.





EDIFY

Maisie Lim

Alan Goh and Maisie Lim are Connect Group (CG) leaders under the church's **Edify Huddle** which seeks to build the church in love, through care and nurture of our people, so that they may grow in Christlikeness.



Alan stepped up in faith to assist in leading the CG a year ago. He highlighted that being a CG leader is more than keeping up with your to-do list. He also shared that one of the responsibilities of a CG leader is to pray for the CG members. He has also developed his prayer life as he serves in his CG.

As an assistant CG leader, Maisie leads her CG in discussing the sermons preached by the pastors. To fulfil the roles and responsibilities, she equipped herself by committing 34 weeks to the Disciple 1 Bible Study programme. As she established a disciplined pattern of bible study, she guides, encourages and builds up her CG members in faith and love.



Alan Goh



Currently, she is doing an eight-week Emotionally Healthy Spiritually (EHS) discipleship course offered by the church. Maisie models for her team the importance of personal time, presence, and intentionality to be with God; and to serve from His source to experience deep communal fruitfulness.



When asked about the challenges of serving one another, Alan and Maisie saw them as opportunities to make disciples, and to grow in Christlikeness.

We can choose our attitude when things get challenging. We can either approach our frustrations in the ministry with a self-centred attitude based on our opinions and preferences, or choose "your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5).



Dealing with issues without being rooted in a deep personal relationship with God can easily lead to divisiveness.

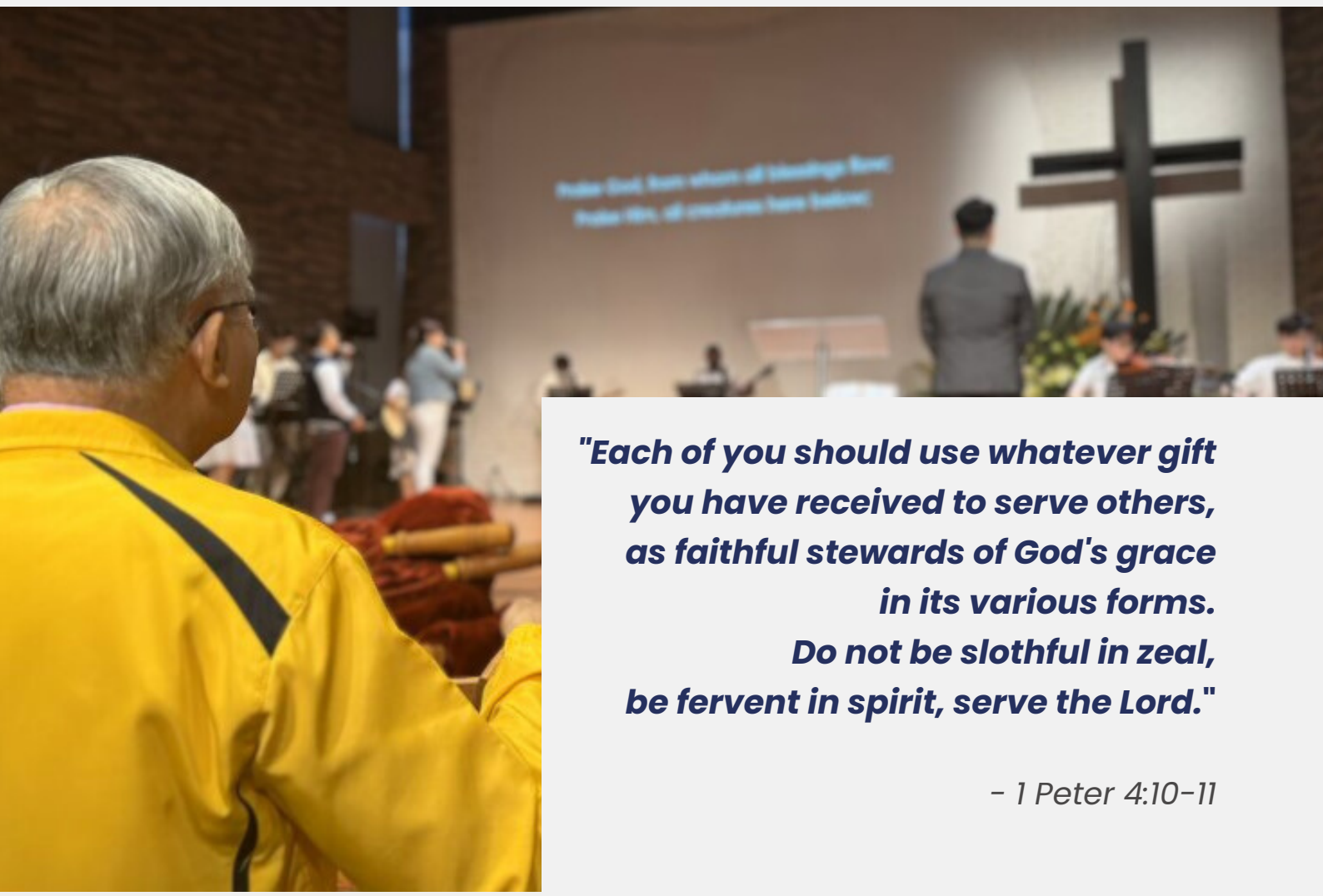


Let's Serve unto the Lord

Our sense of self may be caught up in our personal opinion of others.

When we abide in Jesus as our vine, He will nourish us with His wisdom to be truly fruitful. Serving one another provides us the opportunity to know more about ourselves, our giftings, what we can do well and what we cannot. God fills in the picture for us. We learn best by serving; not by giving up when conflict arises.

Serving one another in CG, Maisie and Alan shared that they are surrounded by other members who encourage and strengthen their walk with Christ together.



"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord."

- 1 Peter 4:10-11



The zeal for Christ comes from an ever-growing relationship with Him. The more we serve, the more we learn about Jesus and follow His example, we will grow in Christlikeness.

Many in TPMC serve in multiple ministries faithfully. Alan shared he started serving in the Security Ministry during TPMC's Light of Christmas event.

The **Energise Huddle**, includes the Security Ministry, Communications & Media Ministry, and areas that relate to administration and logistic

seeking to reinforce the other three Huddles and enable them to function well. Many laity in the Energise Huddle serve in a team supporting the other functions of the church. Serving in teams emphasise the unity and cooperation found in the Body of Christ.

As we recognise the unique roles each of us plays in different ministries in TPMC, we come closer to fulfilling the ultimate goal - glorifying God in all we do.

BY DR SEOW BEE LENG
DISCIPLESHIP AND NURTURE

Dr Seow Bee Leng is passionate about serving with love and joy, and empowering others to do the same. As a facili-trainer, Dr Seow creates joyful learning, and safe spaces where learners thrive and grow. She has been attending TPMC since 2010 and serves in the Discipleship & Nurture Ministry. Dr Seow also serves as a board member with Our Daily Bread Ministries – Singapore.

