

MCI (P) 087/03/2024 | A Publication of TPMC |

Issue 2 Sep 2024

04 UNITED IN GRATITUDE NATIONAL DAY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

06 HAVE A MEAL ON US RETURNS

08 CELEBRATING 54 YEARS OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

10 UNITED IN SERVICE CONNECT GROUPS **ON MISSIONS** 



**f** toapayohmc

(O) tpmcofficial

# CONTENTS

ISSUE 02/2024

PASTOR'S MESSAGE 01 Serve One Another **REFLECTIONS FROM THE ENCOUNTER RETREAT** 02 Beina UNITED IN GRATITUDE 04 National Day Thanksgiving Service **HEARTFELT THANKS** 05 **TPMC** Cares For Our Caregivers 06 HAVE A MEAL ON US RETURNS STARTING YOUNG 07 Church Cleaning Day 08 **CELEBRATING 54 YEARS OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS** UNITED IN SERVICE 10 Connect Groups On Missions 15 **EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY SPIRITUALITY TPMC GIVES** 16 OSC Lunch 2024 18 LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS 2024 TPMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS 19 October to December 2024 BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND RECEPTION INTO 20

#### **Editorial Team**

Rev Benjamin Lee Frankie Chee Rev Ming Feong Ching Hu Huimei Rev Poh Zhi-Hui Alan Goh Ellisha Lim

MEMBERSHIP

#### Contributors

Agnes Goh Alan Goh Audrey Ong Cha Biyu Christopher Tsoi

Kathryn Tan Ruth Perry Sarah Lim Xu Wenshan

**INTERACT** is a publication by Toa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC). All views expressed in Interact are solely those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Church, the Editorial Team or the Methodist Church in Singapore. An online copy is also available at tpmc.org.sg

Pastor's Message SERVE ONE ANOTHER

he focus of our church in 2024 has been "Serve One Another". This is anchored upon Mark 10:45, which reminds us that "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many".

If we are to become disciples of Jesus Christ more and more, and desire to be more Christlike each day, then we must follow Christ's example. He came not to be served, but to serve. In His service, Christ ultimately went to the cross. Not many of us will be called to give of our lives for others, but we are called to be willing to get out of our comfort zone and to give of ourselves for others in service. Through serving, we become more like Christ, and we inspire one another to grow as disciples of Christ.

In this issue of Interact, be inspired by the many examples of our church members who have served and continue to serve, from our families (caregivers), within our church walls (church anniversary, Encounter Retreat, church cleaning by our children), in the community (Outreach & Social Concerns, Light of Christmas, Have a Meal On Us), and to our nation (Worship Team and TPMC Ringers serving at the National Day Thanksgiving Service organised by National Council of Churches of Singapore) and beyond (missions trips).

These are all examples of the brothers and sisters in our midst who have grown in Christlikeness this year as they Serve One Another. Through their service, not only have they encountered the love of Christ working in them, but through them, others have encountered Christ's love for themselves. This fulfils God's Vision - which is "Encounter to Love" - for our church. We who have encountered God's love for ourselves, in serving, help others to encounter God's love for them.

So, as you read through the many articles in this issue of Interact, please take some time to:

а.

b.

Thank the Lord for all these brothers and sisters who have Served One Another this year;

Pray for many more to be touched by the love of Christ as we Serve One Another; and

If you have not begun to serve yet, pray for God to show you where с. you can begin to Serve One Another, so that you may grow as a disciple of Christ, and help others "Encounter to Love" through vour service.

May we all grow as disciples of Christ as we Serve One Another!

Serving with you,

**Rev Benjamin Lee** Pastor-in-Charge



## REFLECTIONS FROM THE ENCOUNTER RETREAT: BEING

By Agnes Goh, Ruth Perry and Kathryn Tan

Silence, solitude and prayer are spiritual disciplines that we learn and model after Jesus Christ, from how

He regularly withdrew to a quiet place to spend time with His Father. Toa Payoh Methodist Church organised a 2-day, 1-night spiritual retreat, called Encounter Retreat, for participants to also spend time with God. The theme of this year's retreat was Being – being a child of God, being in love with God, and being loved by Him. Held at the idyllic LifeSprings Canossian Spirituality Centre, retreatants put away their mobile phones for two whole days and spent time worshipping God. They learnt from Reverend Vincent Goh, who was the Spiritual Director, to reflect individually (during quiet time) and share in small groups.

Let's hear from a few retreatants about their experiences.

## 66

I always knew that the quality of my quiet time spent with God needs improvement. However, there are just too many distractions from the daily grind of life. This retreat seemed to provide an opportunity. I did not know what to expect at first, but it turned out positively. The environment was quiet and simple. Distractions were minimised. The abstinence from using the handphone, and keeping silent, taught me to be slow to speak and quick to listen. I went away from the retreat with a calm and quiet heart. Silence has prepared me to hear God intentionally. I now know that unless I keep practicing silence in my heart, I will lose it. It is a spiritual discipline which helps me rely on God's help.

Kathryn Tan

## 66

As a teacher and leader responsible for guiding Christian student leaders, I found myself constantly engaged in various responsibilities, both professionally and spiritually. While I was committed to my duties in the Kingdom, I realised that my focus had become imbalanced. I was perpetually giving of myself without replenishing my spirit. It became apparent that I was not resting in Him as often as I needed, and the demands of my role began to take a toll on my spiritual wellbeing. This realisation led me to sign up for the Encounter Retreat at LifeSprings Canossian Spirituality Centre. I needed to be rejuvenated, seek Him and His voice, and become a vessel for His work, rather than relying solely on my own strength.

The retreat provided a sanctuary of rest and rejuvenation. One of the most immediate blessings was the opportunity to rest and sleep, which felt like a divine gift. Initially, I was anxious about being without my phone — a common source of anxiety for many our age, including myself. I was worried about missing important instructions and messages. However, during the retreat, God spoke to me about this anxiety and revealed that my focus should be on Him rather than the distractions of the world.

A profound aspect of the retreat was participating in labyrinth walks, which became a sacred time for deep communion with God. These walks allowed me to converse with Him in greater intimacy, and He revealed surprising insights about our relationship. It was a transformative experience, helping me see my spiritual journey from a new perspective.

The Encounter Retreat profoundly impacted my spiritual growth by unveiling the tangible presence of God and His desire for a personal relationship with each of us. It taught me the importance of listening to His voice, an essential aspect of our relationship with Him. I also gained practical skills in meditation and soaking



in His word, tools I intend to share with my student leaders who, like me, face busy lives and spiritual exhaustion.

Speaking with the spiritual director was another pivotal moment in the retreat. The director helped me focus on God and confront issues I was struggling with, including anger towards God that led to spiritual dryness. Through these conversations, I learned to release my burdens and invite His healing presence into my life.

My key takeaway from the retreat is the importance of prioritising time with God and learning to hear His voice. This experience has shifted my focus, enabling me to centre my life around Him and reduce the anxiety that once dominated my days. I am now committed to incorporating retreats into my life more regularly, as they help me realign my priorities and maintain a God-centred and grateful heart.

The retreat at LifeSprings Canossian Spirituality Centre has been a cornerstone in the improvement of my spiritual journey, providing clarity and direction. It has reinforced the truth that we are vessels of His love and grace, meant to be filled and replenished by His presence before we can genuinely serve others. As I return to my role as a teacher and leader, I carry with me the lessons learned and the peace that comes from resting in Him.

**Ruth Perry** 

**UNITED IN GRATITUDE:** 

National Day THANKSGIVING SERVIC

By Christopher Tsoi

he National Day Thanksgiving Service gathers Christians from churches in Singapore for an evening of worship, prayer and thanksgiving, to seek the Lord together for Singapore during the month of her birthday.



The Toa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC) Contemporary Worship Team and TPMC Ringers were honoured to have been invited by the National Council of Churches in Singapore to lead worship and present music offerings using handbells during this year's service at St Andrew's Cathedral on 15 August 2024.

This was a unique opportunity to serve God and the Church in Singapore. It was a fun and fulfilling experience to be involved in an external event uniting Christians from different Christian communities. Our service is a testament to God's blessing of excellent musicians in our community, as we were recommended to the organisers by Bishop Dr Gordon Wong.

We praise God that we were able to join our hearts with Christians from many other churches to celebrate Singapore's National Day, express gratitude to God for His blessings to the nation, and bless God by lifting His name as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.



Heartfelt Thanks

### **TPMC CARES FOR OUR CARAEGIVERS**

n Genesis 21:17-20, the angel of God called to Hagar:

6 Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation.

When God opened Hagar's eyes, she saw a well of water and was able to fill the waterskin and carry it to the boy, her son Ishmael. Both mother and son survived the wilderness, and God eventually made their descendants into a great nation. This is a story of God's comfort and providence for those of us who are entrusted with a caregiver role. It is also one of faith and hope for the future for us and the people we care.

As households become smaller, the responsibility of caregiving falls on a smaller pool of individuals. Caregivers navigate a demanding journey, balancing personal life and work responsibilities, with the care of loved ones who may be elderly, disabled or have special needs. The constant strain of providing physical, emotional and, sometimes, financial support, can lead to significant stress and exhaustion. Despite their dedication, caregivers may reach a breaking point where the accumulated pressure becomes overwhelming. As a church, what can we do to support the caregivers in our midst who also need to receive care, encouragement, and love?

On 14 July 2024, Toa Payoh Methodist Church's (TPMC's) Family Life Ministry organised an appreciation lunch that was attended by eight caregivers and their loved ones. We started with a sumptuous lunch, followed by discussions facilitated by Family Life members. During our conversations, we learnt about the different caregiver roles in our congregation, challenges that our caregivers face, the support they hope to receive, and their desire to stay connected to the church as a community.

We thank God for the fruitful session as the sharing was open, honest, and generous. We were touched and inspired by the quiet resilience, patience, and incredibly selfless love that our caregivers demonstrated to their loved ones. Our caregivers also gave us many good ideas on how we can step up as a church to support them. Most of all, we hope that the caregivers who came to the session know that TPMC listens and cares for them. Let us continue to pray and act individually and as a church for the caregivers in our midst.









# **HAVE A MEAL ON US RETURNS**

By Sarah Lim

oa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC) is celebrating her 54th anniversary this year. As part of the celebration, the church is running its "Have a Meal on Us" programme for the third time, from August 16 to September 15. The programme aims to demonstrate God's goodness and generosity by offering free meals to anyone who needs it, no questions asked. Anyone in the community can go to any of about 50 participating stalls in Toa Payoh to have a free meal, until the meals are fully redeemed.



A common question that we face whenever we run this programme is: "Aren't you afraid that some people may take advantage of it?" The church believes that, even if a few people misuse the programme, many others in need will genuinely benefit from it. The improper intent of a few should not stop us from doing good in the community.



Since our first run of the programme in 2020, this initiative has garnered positive responses from beneficiaries who expressed gratitude for the support they received. We also want to thank those who have contributed effort and/or money to the successful organisation of the programme. Their generous donations have enabled TPMC to reach the target of \$25,000 before the end of June 2024. As TPMC remembers God's faithfulness and love, our hope is to continue being a beacon of hope in the Toa Payoh community, committed to making a tangible difference in the lives of individuals. Let us remember to love One More, bless One More, and make One More difference to those around us.



In line with our church's focus to "Serve One Another" this year, the Children's Ministry organised a "Church Cleaning Day" for primary school children on 30 June 2024. This initiative was designed to demonstrate that service to God has no age limits. A Sunday before the Cleaning Day, the children learnt that even young ones can serve God effectively, drawing inspiration from the biblical character Samuel who served under Eli in the house of the Lord from a young age.

On the Cleaning Day itself, the children eagerly rolled up their sleeves and took to various cleaning tasks around the church with great enthusiasm, teamwork and joy. They scrubbed windows, cleaned tables and chairs, and peeled off obsolete markings. Teachers serving in the Children's Ministry were present to support and guide the children, ensuring the tasks were completed efficiently and safely.

It is heartening to witness the children serving God and their church community through a hands-on activity. This event not only helped maintain the church premises, but also reinforced the important lesson that serving others is a fulfilling and valuable practice, regardless of one's age.



STARTING YOUNG – CHURCH CLEANING DAY • PAGE 7

**CELEBRATING 54 YEARS OF** 

God's Faithfulness By Alan Goh



oa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC) celebrated her 54th anniversary on 18th August 2024. From a journey that began in a shophouse in 1970, we continue to express our gratitude to God for His faithfulness in numerous ways over the years. God has helped us to grow the congregation, reach out to the Toa Payoh community, and transform lives.

Psalm 127:1 captures this truth: "Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labour in vain." Without God's guiding hand and provision, all our efforts amount to nothing.

Every milestone, success, and blessing we have experienced is a testament to His work in our lives. It is by His grace that our labour has borne fruit, and it is in His strength that we find purpose and direction.

The promise of God's faithfulness is the message delivered by Reverend Dr Isaac Lim - pastor, preacher, and former President of the Trinity Annual Conference – at the service to commemorate TPMC's anniversary. He shared that the promise of God's faithfulness is anchored on the foundation of His person and character (as the sovereign and holy

Lord), entrenched in His plans (which are for our welfare), and realised when we align our thoughts and plans with His.

The occasion is marked by the ceremonial cutting of the anniversary birthday cake by founding pastor Rev Michael Wong, pastors, and church leaders. Following the end of the service, worshippers were invited to the courtyard for a delightful buffet of local dishes such as laksa, chicken rice, satay and pulut hitam. Worshippers could also take photographs to remember the event at the wall mural or play marbles at the station set



up by the Creative Arts Ministry.

As we sat down to appreciate the food, reconnect, share stories, and enjoy one another's company in a warm and festive atmosphere, we must not forget God's generosity and grace. May this time of celebration be a testament of His goodness, a reflection of our shared journey, and a reminder of the divine blessings that continue to flow through our church and lives.

To God be the glory.

# **UNITED IN SERVICE:** Connect Groups on Missions

By Audrey Ong and Various Connect Groups

GO

In this article, we feature members of Connect Groups (CGs) who have gone on missions trips this year. Going with your CG members gives you an opportunity to serve, grow and gain shared experiences together. Members help one another grow as everyone is challenged to step out of their comfort zones and see God at work in another individual's life and the missions fields. Many who have participated with their fellow CG members return having been blessed, and looking forward to the next opportunity to serve together.

If you would like to find out more about upcoming missions trips, go to

https://tpmc.org.sg/ trips-2024/

You can Go, Give and Pray, with your CG.

#### TRIPS FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2024

(CORRECT AS OF 4 SEPT 2024)

ВАТАМ	21 – 22 Sept 30 Nov – 1 Dec	Share God's love with the children at children's home, or seniors at a nursing home and the local community.
CAMBODIA	13 – 17 Dec	Serve with Third Place Ministry in a Christmas outreach to the Odem community (comprising children and adults)
JAPAN	5 – 11 Nov	Serve with Saikyo Hope church as its members befriend the neighbours of the church.
THAILAND	4 – 11 Dec	This trip is for youths who are between 12 and 16 years old. Serve with Florence and Angela, our missionaries to the Shan people in Northern Thailand. Get to know their ministries and learn how you can be a blessing to them.
	8 – 13 Dec	This trip is for all age groups. Share the joy of Christmas and serve alongside Florence in the Shan communities of Northern Thailand. You may be helping the local teams prepare for their Christmas outreach.
	12 – 17 Dec	Join Mittaphab Methodist Church in her Christmas outreach to the Shan people living in Chiang Mai.
GIVE		

If you would like to contribute to Missions, you can give via PayNow to TPMC (Please indicate "MissionsFund" under Reference). Thank you for giving. It is because you gave that we have been able to love One More, bless One More and make a difference to One More.

#### PRAY

If you would like to pray for Missions and the outreach ministries of TPMC, subscribe at

https://tpmc.org.sg/one-moreprayer/

For more information on missions trips, email audrey.ong@tpmc.org.sg.

### **MISSIONS TRIP**





WHO?



A team of 13, including members of Dunamis Connect Group (CG). This is the first time that the CG, many of whom are also first-time missions trippers, has served in the missions field together.

### WHAT?

The team served with GMI Gratia Jemaat Batam, the Methodist church in Batam, which focuses on reaching out to the Chinese community. Residents of the community are mostly conversant in Bahasa Indonesia, Mandarin and Chinese dialects such as Hokkien, Teochew and Hakka. This is where God has placed Ibu Rosmiaty and her husband, Pastor Soon, to minister and share His love.

Partnering Ibu Rosmiaty and Pastor Soon, the team spent Saturday morning with the residents at a nursing home. Activities included elderly-friendly exercises and a colouring activity which allowed us to share God's love and promises, through pictures of Noah's Ark, with the residents. We ended the programme with food, and prayed with the residents. Praise God that through this short period of interaction, one elderly gentleman came to accept Jesus as his Lord and Saviour. May the Lord continue to work within him, and assure him of his new life in Christ.

In the afternoon, the team organised a karaoke session at the shophouse where GMI Gratia Jemaat Batam is currently located. Although the attendance was small, we thank God for a great time of interaction, and supporting the local church in her efforts to befriend and share God's love with the community.

#### ENCOUNTER

It was an eye-opening experience for many in the team. They were sensorily shocked at the poor living conditions of the residents of the nursing home. Thank God for His leadership in helping the team members overcome barriers and step out of their comfort zones to be channels of blessings and vessels of His grace and mercy to the people in Batam.

It was also a good time for the CG to bond through serving together in the missions field. Many have been blessed through this experience, and look forward to serving in the missions field together again.

WHERE?

Batam, Indonesia



### WHERE?

14 – 19 June 2024

Northern Thailand

MISSIONS TRIP Thailand

#### WHO?

A team of seven, three of whom are from Grace Anatomy CG. Members of Grace Anatomy CG had served over a weekend in Batam in early 2023, during TPMC's year-long "One More Nation to Love" campaign.

#### WHAT?

The team worked with Florence Leow, a TPMC missionary with more than 20 years' experience in the missions field serving among the Shan people of Northern Thailand.

The team visited the churches which Florence had planted in several districts in Northern Thailand. The team taught English to Shan youths and children, using songs, games and Bible storytelling through video. A day was spent with church members, sharing Christian discipleship from the Bible. We also attended a Sunday service and conducted a programme for Sunday school at Wiang Haeng Light of Love church.





### ENCOUNTER

We thank God for the opportunity to visit Florence and see the fruits of her many years of faithful service among the Shan people. Even as Florence plans for her retirement, we continue to support and encourage her local ministry team as we serve alongside them.

## WHEN? 7 – 10 June 2024 WHERE?

The province of Bohol is next to Cebu. Both are popular snorkeling and diving destinations, with lovely beach resorts. There are an estimated 1.3 million locals in Bohol, who speak mainly native Cebuano as well as Tagalog and basic English.

#### WHO?

Members of Oikos 2 CG. They first visited Bohol in June 2023 as part of TPMC's "One More Nation to Love" campaign. What started as a faith journey by Pastor Kim and his wife five years ago, has since blossomed into a thriving labour of love. With a shepherd's heart, they sowed the seeds and planted the Bohol International Fellowship Church. The young church has doubled her size to about 70 worshippers since we last visited a year ago, with a healthy mix of children, youths and adults.

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched, this we proclaim concerning the Word of Life.

#### WHAT?

Pastor Joseph Kim and his wife, Hannah Park, are members of TPMC. They came to Singapore several years back as missionaries under the Korean Campus Crusade for Christ. They joined our CG while preparing for their overseas mission stint. They were subsequently sent, under Korea Campus Crusade for Christ, first to India, and now the Philippines.

We mainly visited the villagers to whom Pastor Joseph preached God's Word, prayed, and encouraged to come to church. We also conducted Alpha Course ministry training for the leadership team comprising 15 adult and youth leaders.







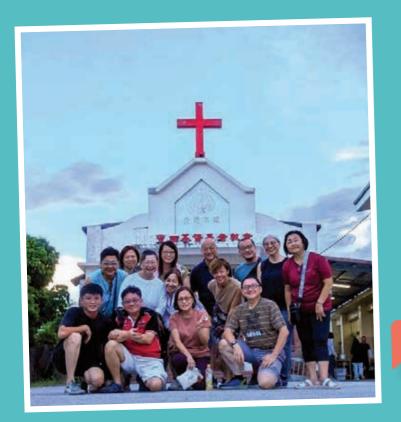


1 John 1:1

#### WHAT'S NEXT?

We hope to organise a dental/medical missions for our next trip (possibly in July 2025), as well as spend time reading with the young and teaching the youths English, Mathematics and Science. We also plan to extend our outreach to nearby villages.

This article has been contributed by Yap Pow Look, Joan Tay, and Tay Hock Guan.



### **MISSIONS TRIP**





#### WHO?

A team of 14, including members of Huios CG. Last year, as part of TPMC's "One More Nation to Love" campaign, the CG went on a short trip to bless the children and elderly of Batam.

#### WHAT?

Following that trip, the CG decided to go on another one, this time to Taiwan. The team served with two churches in Hualien and Keelung to bless the children in the community, most of whom come from disadvantaged backgrounds. Their parents are separated, incarcerated or working in the big cities. Some of the children are currently under the care of their grandparents or fostered. Some may even have experienced ill-treatment from their relatives or foster families. Most of the children are of aboriginal or mixed heritage.

The team organised four sessions of children's programme focusing on the nature of God -Jesus calms the storm, Jesus cares for us, God is with us. We thank God for the opportunity to work with the churches in Hualien and Keelung, and to interact and share God's love with the children.

### ENCOUNTER

What resonated with the team was the Father's love. During one of the outreach evenings at Hualien, one of the leaders from the Taiwan team shared her testimony of how she was neglected and ill-treated when she was young and how she came to experience God's love and forgiveness. Many of the children could identify with her suffering and were ministered. God was indeed at work through the team to communicate His love.

We have also been blessed through our interactions with the local churches who took very good care of us. Throughout this trip, particularly at Hualien, we saw that a lot of the work in the church falls on the Pastor and his wife, as most church members are either elderly or young children. There are only a handful of middle-aged adults who serve with the Pastor on Sunday services. We continue to pray that the Lord will lead and guide the churches in Hualien.



# **EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY** SPIRITUALITY

By Alan Goh and Cha Biyu

Emotionally Healthy Spiritually (EHS) is a Toa Payoh Methodist Church conducted a run of the EHS course with about 30 participants thoughtful book by Pastor Peter Scazzero who pastored a multi-ethnic church in New from March to April 2024. We hear from one of the participants, Biyu, about how she York for over 20 years. First published in 2006, benefited from the course. the book has become influential in blending emotional well-being with spiritual growth. It offers practical advice for individuals and 66 church communities seeking a deeper and more balanced approach to their faith.

A course based on the book was subsequently developed as Pastor Scazzero and his team sought to adapt the concepts from the book into a structured programme for churches and small groups. The course explores themes such as understanding our emotional backgrounds, healing from past hurts, and merging Christian practices - like prayer and scripture reading - with strategies for emotional health. It also emphasizes the importance of fostering Christ-centred relationships through better emotional understanding and communication, helping participants deepen their connection and develop an authentic relationship with God.

Participating in the EHS course was unexpectedly enriching. It allowed me to explore my emotions and personal spirituality in a meaningful way. The shared experiences with my Connect Group were especially valuable, fostering both personal bonding and spiritual growth. The course introduced me to helpful practices, like setting life guidelines and incorporating daily rhythms and Sabbath practices, which have significantly enhanced my emotional and spiritual well-being. I wholeheartedly recommend the EHS course to anyone looking to refresh their faith, reassess their spiritual journey, or simply integrate emotional health with their spirituality.

# TPMC GIVES OSC Lunch



I he Outreach and Social Concerns Ministry (OSC) of Toa Payoh Methodist Church (TPMC) organised a lunch (TPMC Gives – Lunch Event) on 1 June 2024 for various groups of people, bringing them together for an afternoon of fellowship, fun, & connection. Residents of Block 150 (a block of rental flats located beside the church building), beneficiaries of TPMC's financial assistance programme, rough sleepers from Night Missions and occupants of TPMC Shelters, were invited for the lunch.

In the weeks leading to the event, those

serving with OSC meticulously prepared for it, from planning the menu (including ensuring that dietary needs were met) and arranging activities & games, to assembling bookmarks for guests to know about TPMC and praying for God's guidance. Individual invitation cards were also prepared and delivered by hand to the guests.

On the day of the lunch, those helping arrived early to set up the Courtyard and Welcome Lounge for the event. They were assigned to each table to host the guests and ensure



everyone felt welcome and comfortable. As the guests arrived, they were greeted with cheerful smiles. Vouchers and other gifts were given to them in an attractive bread bag. friends could capture this memorable day by taking pictures with their loved ones at the photo booth in the Welcome Lounge.

There was a palpable sense of fulfillment At noon, Pastor-in-Charge Reverend as everyone watched the guests depart Benjamin Lee welcomed the guests and with smiles and gifts. The lunch was more gave thanks to God for the event and food. than just a meal. It was a giving to the community, and an expression of God's love As the guests tucked into the buffet spread, for us. Through interactions, shared meals they connected with those at the same table and around them. Youths from The Youth and joyous activities, TPMC demonstrated Project helped to liven the atmosphere with her commitment to serving others and embodying the love of God, inviting guests to games that enabled the guests to work together, know more about one another, encounter Him through acts of kindness and and be acquainted with the history of Toa fellowship. Payoh. Recipients of TPMC's Character Award Programme (for students) collected their awards from Rev Ming.

As the event drew to a close, guests were treated to delicious ice cream. Families and







1 John 4:19

TPMC GIVES – OSC LUNCH 2024 · PAGE 17

**LIGHT OF** Christmas 2024

By Reverend Zhi-Hui

In Genesis 3, we see sin cursed not just humanity, but all of creation. Instead of fruit for man's flourishing, the ground will now produce thorns and thistles, bringing to man painful toil.

The season of Christmas following Advent testifies that, just as Christ had come to save us from our sin, Christ will come again and make all things new. In Revelation 21-22, salvation in Christ culminates in a joyous reuniting with God in a creation made new and fruitful. No more will sin's curse be found on humanity and creation.

With new lives in Christ called to live out the hope we have in the Gospel, we are called to live in renewed relationships with God, with one another, and with creation. Caring for God's creation, instead of depleting or polluting it, is expressed in reducing consumerism, reusing old items, and recycling materials.

This year's Light of Christmas invites all to have a greener Christmas - to proclaim in word and deeds the Gospel of Jesus and its hope for all peoples and creation!

#### Let's all do our part!



#### **OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2024**

#### OCTOBER

12 Oct (Sat)	Decoding Our Youth talk
13 Oct (Sun)	Laity Sunday
19 Oct (Sat)	TPMC Gives

#### NOVEMBER

2 Nov (Sat)	The Youth Project Parents
5–11 Nov	Missions trip to Japan
9 Nov (Sat)	Talk: Understanding and I Social Media on Our Child
15 Nov (Fri)	Corporate Prayer Service
30 Nov – 1 Dec	Missions trip (Christmas o

#### DECEMBER

4 – 11 Dec	P6S4 Missions trip to Chiar
8 – 13 Dec	Missions trip (Christmas ou
12 – 17 Dec	Missions trip (Christmas ou
13 – 17 Dec	Missions trip (Christmas ou
21 Dec (Sat)	Light of Christmas 2024
26 – 28 Dec	Generations 2024: Young A
26 – 29 Dec	Generations 2024: Youth C
28 – 29 Dec	Generations 2024: Youth C

# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Project Parents' Talk

standing and Managing the Impact of a on Our Children

p (Christmas outreach) to Batam (Indonesia)

ng Mai

utreach) to Chiang Mai (Thailand)

utreach) to Chiang Mai (Thailand)

utreach) to Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

Adults Retreat

Camp

Camp (For Parents)

TPMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS · PAGE 19

# BAPTISM, **CONFIRMATION & RECEPTION INTO MEMBERSHIP**



#### **BAPTISM BY** SPRINKLING

Rachel Cheng Shu En Tan Kah Bok

#### **RECEPTION OF MEMBERSHIP**

Alene Ang Cheryl Chan Poh Ling Eugene Tan Jie Ming Gan Soh Yean Diana Jennifer Bilaya Garibay Koh Teng Boey Alice Kok Kai Jie Sean Lee Jun Quan Ivan Oh Eu Leong Rachel Cheng Shu En Tan Kah Bok Wan Ching Ee Joyce Yim Pui Fun Yong Lai Foong Yvonne

#### **BAPTISM BY** IMMERSION

Belda Lim En Qi Chervl Chan Poh Ling Kok Kai Jie Sean Lee Jun Quan Ivan Luke Lim Kah Khun Oh Eu Leong Reagan Lim Kai En Yong Lai Foong Yvonne

#### **RECEPTION OF** MEMBERSHIP (TRANSFER FROM **METHODIST** CHURCH)

J Marcus Pravin Lim Juat Buay Peggy Stephanie Alexandria Raja Toh Ah Hock Wee Pek Ling

#### CONFIRMATION **OF FAITH**

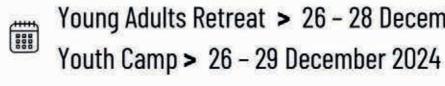
茶

Alene Ang Eugene Tan Jie Ming Gan Soh Yean Diana Jennifer Bilaya Garibay Wan Ching Ee Joyce Yim Pui Fun

#### **RECEPTION OF** MEMBERSHIP **(TRANSFER FROM NON-METHODIST** CHURCH)

Brenda Leong Chong Mui Sim Mei Geok Shirley Tam Chee Wah Tan Chek Wei Tan Jia Ming (Jeffrey) Tan Poh Siang (Pauline) Tan Siew Pheng (Joyce) Teo Yizhen Sue-Lynn Wong Xin Quan Glen





Harmoni One Hotel & Convention Centre, Batam, Indonesia

## SIGN UP ON TPMC.ORG.SG TODAY!

PAGE 20 · BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND RECEPTION INTO MEMBERSHIP



Young Adults Retreat > 26 - 28 December 2024



hristmas

21 Dec (Sat) @2-8pm

Toa Payoh Methodist Church

int



With a strange

TISI800

ate change

Find out more here.



All all