

new grace

bulletin

11

Dedication of
REACH
Counselling
Centre @ Shunfu

20

Christmas and
New Year
Greetings

GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD | MICA (P) 036/02/2014

Cultural Renewal

Finally, the 5th renewal is Cultural Renewal.

First of all, what is culture?

“Culture has been defined in a number of ways, but most simply, as the learned and shared behavior of a community of interacting human beings” Useem, J., & Useem, R.

In short, culture is our way of life. It is a system of habit and attitude.

Cultural renewal is about God renewing the culture of the church. We cannot really change the culture of the church, only God can. Cultural renewal will take place when there is a strong personal, relational and missional renewal.

These are the first three renewals that I highlighted. Without a clear renewal in these three areas, it will be very difficult to experience cultural renewal.

But once the first three renewals have happened in the church, God will change the culture.

In other words, the first three renewals eventually become the catalyst to begin the change in our thinking and thus our behavior.

My prayer is that the Lord will continue to do a deeper work in each one of us, bringing about a change from the inside out. There will be a change in our thinking about who we are as a church and then living out as a church wherever we are.

Together, we will live according to God’s ways and that every Gracian will be sent out into the community to live life missionally, as Timothy Keller puts it, “with Christian distinctiveness,” intentionally working out the implications of the gospel in each arena or role in life.

Together we seek to bring transformation by the power of the Holy Spirit to our church, families, communities, nations and then to the world.

Ps Calvin Lee
Senior Pastor

“ I wish every Gracian and family a Blessed Christmas! ”



Clothed with Power

J333 (Dec)

03 Dec

10 Dec - Church Planting
Work in Grace Missions

17 Dec

24 Dec - No J333

31 Dec - No J333

Time: 7:30 - 8:30pm

All at St John's St Margaret's Church

dec: **Reaching Out in Power**

02

Morning Prayer

3 Jan 2015 Sat,

7- 8:30 am GII Chapel

Let's start the new year 2015 with Morning Prayer on 3 Jan at GII chapel from 7 to 8:30am! Let's come and seek God and commit the new year into God's hand!

There will be light breakfast served after the prayer meeting.

The Sprit in Christmas - A Christmas Service

God so loved the world that he sent His only begotten son.....

We have come to know, through the Word, God became man. He is Immanuel God with us.

This Christmas we come in worship remembering the story of the birth of Jesus Christ. Join us as we come in adoration and celebration of the Spirit's work in the story of bringing salvation unto all mankind.

Open the door for those who have yet to hear this story to join us as we retell and recount God's message of grace and love, the hope of all the world.

Date: 25th Dec
Time: 9am, 11.15am
Venue: GII Sanctuary

corporate calendar

**DEC 7 (Sun) Christmas Outreach @ GII
The Gospel People**

19-21 (Fri-Sun) Christmas Caroling

DEC 25 (Thu) Christmas Service @ GII

31 (Thu) Watchnite Service @ GII





GRACE REDEVELOPMENT UPDATES

[AS AT 15 NOVEMBER 2014]

<p>CASH SHORTFALL \$2.7 MILLION</p>	<p>\$18.1 MILLION AMOUNT PAID</p>	<p>\$43.9 MILLION TO BE PAID</p>	<p>\$41.2 MILLION CASH AVAILABLE</p>
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We will be having a special Sacrificial Giving weekend on 20/21 Dec at all services. Let's come prepared to bless the Lord and our church and give towards the Grace Redevelopment Fund!

2-Friday Seminar on End Times with Rev Dr George Westlake

- Will Christians face tribulation? • Significance of end time prophecies
- End Times: Biblical Truth or Story? • How to live in light of the end times

January 9 & 16, 2015
7.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.
Elim Church
1079 Serangoon Road S(328182)

Register at GEndtimesseminar@gmail.com to confirm materials to be printed for the registrants
Call Grace AG at 64100800 for more details of the seminar

Deadline for registration is by 2 January 2015

Rev Dr George Westlake, Jr, is Pastor Emeritus of the Sheffield Family Life Center (Assemblies of God), Kansas City, Missouri. He has ministered on radio and television for over 40 years – hosted a 60-minute call-in question and answer television program, “Living Answers for Today” for 24 years. He has taught Daniel and Revelation Seminars in several countries, and including Bible Schools/Seminaries. His textbook on Daniel and Revelation for the Global University is used by Bible Colleges in over 80 countries and is translated in over 40 different languages.

staff resignations

Ps Leon Lim and Regina Yong

We are sad to announce that Ps Leon Lim and Regina Yong have tendered their resignations from the pastoral staff of Grace. Their last working day is on 31st Dec 2014. We caught up with them to enlighten us more on this move of theirs...

Leon and Regina, how long have you been ministering at Grace? And in what capacity?

Leon: This would be my 7th year serving in the Creative Arts Ministry.

Regina: It's my 11th year with Grace - 2 years in cell ministry, 15 months in mission field, 4 years in R-AGE and 7 years in Creative Arts Ministry

We understand you are moving on from Grace. Could you explain the reason/s and bring us up to speed about your next step?

Leon: I'm currently needing to focus on finishing my doctoral studies for this season. The Lord has particularly put a clear calling to study in the area of worship, and I hope this would lead to fulfilling the plan He has for me to serve Him and people in the

future. As it is not easy to both work and study at this level, we made the decision to trust the Lord and take this step of faith.

Regina: Apart from Leon's studies, we are also led to take time to focus on the family. In view of these, we hope to take this time waiting on the Lord for the days ahead.

We'll certainly miss both of you. Any words you would like to leave with Gracians?

Leon: We will always be praying for the church and hope you'll remember us in your prayers. We desire to see God's vision in bringing the church to be a missional family church. We are sad we won't be directly walking with you all in this process but we will be partnering with you all in faith and prayer. Remember to always put your worship to God at the center of everything.

Regina: Amen to that!



54th ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Dear Members*,

By now you would have received the membership update letter requesting you to update your particulars in preparation for the 54th Annual Business Meeting in March 2015. If you have not received, please proceed to the Church office at Bukit Batok for assistance, or call 64100800, or email cms@grace.org and provide us with the following particulars:

- Your Name
- Your NRIC No.
- Your Address & Telephone Contact No.
- Service that you attend

To submit your completed form, please drop it into any of the boxes labeled "Membership Update Forms" located at the following places:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Grace II: | Main entrances at Level 2
Sanctuary and Level 4 Chapel |
| Furama Riverfront Hotel: | Level 3 Reception Counter |
| My Saviour's Church: | Level 3 Reception Counter |

However, if you have internet access we encourage you to submit online by logging in to the church website at <http://www.graceaog.org/register>

*Members here refer to those who have been baptized in Grace Assembly or have officially transferred their membership to Grace Assembly.

Silver Coins For Sale

(Fundraising - Redevelopment Fund)

The church has received over 300 pieces of silver coins as donation for our Redevelopment Fund.

It is priced at S\$25 per piece (1 oz) of 20 pieces in a tube. Sales are for a tube of 20 pieces and not per piece.

If you are interested to buy, please contact Twinkle Fan at 64100803 or email twinkle.fan@graceaog.org giving your name, contact number and the quantity of tubes required.



Cafe Ministry

Due to year end festive season, please take note that GII Café will be close from 30th Nov 2014 till 4th Jan 2015.

December Weddings

Our heartfelt best wishes to these wedding couples
May the Lord's blessings and goodness
be upon them abundantly.

Date of Wedding	Couples
Friday, 5 Dec	Gaston Chen and Joni Chin
Saturday, 6 Dec	Benson Yeo and Esther Lum
Saturday, 13 Dec	Naduvilaveetil Francis and Pheobe Toh
Saturday, 20 Dec	Benit Tan and Samantha Ng
Saturday, 27 Dec	David Goh and Melody Ong
Wednesday, 31 Dec	Thum Bertrand and Tan Vin Sie

2015 1Q SERMONS:

ORDINARY PEOPLE,
EXTRAORDINARY
POWER

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIVES OF
OLD TESTAMENT SAINTS

"... David had served God's purpose in his own generation ..." Acts 13:36

They were prime ministers, craftsmen, captains, builders and kings – ordinary men transformed to extraordinary leaders through the gifting and power of the Holy Spirit.

Whether it was in administrative or creative work, in prophetic action or words, and in times of peace or war, they depended on the power of the Spirit of God.

How can the stories and journeys of Joseph, Bezalel, Gideon, David, Elisha, Daniel, Zechariah and Solomon, speak to us today? What relevant lessons can we learn

from the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Old Testament characters? Old is gold. Come and be inspired by these timeless tales in the first quarter of 2015 to live the extraordinary life that God has called us to live.

1. Lead with Extraordinary Influence: Joseph, Moses, Joshua – Genesis 41:38-39; Num.11:16-17; Num.27:18
2. Work with Extraordinary Gifting: Bezalel, Oholiab – Ex. 31:3-5; 35:31-35
3. Battle with Extraordinary Courage: Othniel, Gideon, Jephthah – Judges 3:10; 6:34; 11:29-33
4. Defend with Extraordinary Strength: Samson – Judges 13:24-25; 14:6; 15:14
5. Walk with Extraordinary Guidance: David – 1 Samuel 16:13; Ps.51; Ps 143:10;
6. Minister with Extraordinary Power: Elijah, Elisha – 1 Kings 18:12; 2 Kings 2:16
7. Speak with Extraordinary Insight: Balaam, Amasai, Daniel, Ezekiel, Micah – 2 Peter 1:21; Num 24:2; 1 Ch 12:18-19; Daniel 4:9; Eze 2:2; Mic 3:8;
8. Build with Extraordinary Grace: Zechariah – Zec 4:6
9. Live with Extraordinary Wisdom: Solomon – Job 32:8; 2 Kings 3; 4:31

The Holy Spirit is Sent on a Mission to Empower our Mission in Life - Ps David Lim

Many believers see the Holy Spirit as a wonderful experience, a good feeling, a spiritual touch. They miss the big picture. The Father sent Jesus to this earth on a mission. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit as the Paraclete, the one called alongside of us, as our counselor, our teacher, the one who empowers us to fulfill our mission. In John 14-16 the focus is on what the Holy Spirit will do when Jesus returns to the Father. The Holy Spirit is another one called alongside of you, just like Jesus. Just as Jesus did what He saw the Father do, the Holy Spirit is sent on a mission to glorify the Father and the Son. Then, in John 20:21 Jesus says, as the Father has sent me, so send I you. Having said that, he breathed on them and said, receive the Holy Spirit. In Luke 24:49, even after the disciples had seen signs and wonders in their ministry, Jesus commands his disciples to tarry in Jerusalem until they receive power from on high, the promised Holy Spirit.

In Acts 1 & 2 we see the outpouring of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost. The New Testament church was born! The Holy Spirit would thrust forth the disciples to the ends of the earth. They would face every obstacle and still see the gospel spread without hindrance. There is no repetition of the great commission in the book of Acts, but the church fulfilled that commission by taking the gospel as far as Rome and beyond, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

It is important to say that, in the New Testament, the Holy Spirit is a missional Spirit. He is on a mission to equip us for our mission. We are not saved just to get to heaven, we are saved to serve Him and spread the good news of Jesus everywhere we go. He came to equip the church with spiritual gifts, to develop the fruit of the Spirit in the body of Christ, and to lead each believer into God's purpose and inheritance. A truly born again believer is led by the Spirit, lives by the Spirit, sows to the Spirit, develops the fruit of the Spirit, and through the Spirit, reaps eternal life.

When the Holy Spirit touches you, let Him do what He wants to do in your life. He is holy—that means He want to set you apart for service. He wants to cleanse you, help you see the holiness of God, and help you shine brightly for Christ.

I could have accomplished nothing apart from the Holy Spirit. My weaknesses become strengths in His power. I was a rather introvert youth with occasional outbursts of extrovert. I was totally inadequate in Cantonese. Some had been convinced that I was not a leader. I am living testimony that "it is not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord!

The Assemblies of God started 100 years ago humbly in Hot Springs Arkansas with only 300 people. Today, worldwide we number over 67 million, with 2000 Bible schools, and the strongest missionary outreach on planet earth. God can take the nothings of this world and empower them by His Spirit!

Grace Assembly of God started very small some 60+ years ago. Now we have impacted many nations of Asia. The favor of God has been upon us. Soon we will be worshipping in our new facilities on Tanglin Road. Someone once firmly told me, we will never rebuild on Tanglin Road. The Holy Spirit had different plans! To God be all the glory!





I am His

The stars and grey dots in our lives

Books shelved as inspirational should include Max Lucado's children book entitled "You are Special." The main character of the story, Punchinello, is a lanky wooden person carved by a woodcarver called Eli. Each of the wooden people, known as the Wemmicks, is uniquely created by him. It is a daily practice among the Wemmicks to go around the village to give one another stickers. The Wemmicks who are talented and splendid-looking are given a star and those who prove themselves otherwise are given a grey dot. It is a judgemental act that is highly dependent on the perceptions of the other Wemmicks. In the story, Punchinello, has only grey dots and not a single star. Feeling disconsolate, he begins to believe that he is indeed an atrocious Wemmick who is good for nothing. The turning point of the Punchinello's fateful predicament occurs when he meets Lucia who has neither stars nor grey dots. Punchinello discovers that Lucia has seen Eli and since then, no stickers can be stuck on her body. Overpowered by his strong desire to free himself from the grey dots, Punchinello decides to see Eli too. Readers who see the Punchinello in them will be able to resonate with the conversations between Eli and Punchinello:

"Every day I've been hoping you'd come," Eli explained.

"I came because I met someone who had no marks," said Punchinello.

"I know. She told me about you."

"Why don't the stickers stay on her?"

The maker spoke softly. "Because she has decided that what I think is more important than what they think. The stickers only stick if you let them."

At the end of the story, Eli reminds Punchinello that he is special. In his words, "[You] are special because I made you. And I don't make mistakes."

To me, a good story is one in which I am a part of it. It compels me to think with the author. If I were Punchinello, what were the stars I was yearning for? What must I do to deserve the glorious stars? Who would stick the stars on my body? Could I ever remove the grey dots on my body? Would there be a way to hide them? How should I change the way the other Wemmicks see me? It is a story that teaches many lessons – judgement, self-worth, hope, prayer, intercession, sanctification and so forth. We will have different takeaways from the story. At the point of reading the story, it has taught me about my identity in Christ and the privileges that accompany it.



We are God's workmanship

It is not difficult to identify the world of the Wemmicks with the performative and outcome-driven world we live in. Like the Wemmicks, we go about categorizing people and defining ourselves and others by who we are and what we do. Think of how you may react when the person whom you meet in church tells you that he only has a Secondary

2 qualification versus one who has a PhD. How about the school your children go to and where you stay? How do you react if your child has an aggregate score of 190 for PSLE and your neighbour's child has 268? If we do not have a clear-eyed assessment of how God sees us, the worldly values may subtly take over our thought lives and change how we define ourselves.

Who we are in Christ and our self-worth are not dependent exclusively from the stars and grey dots we have accrued in our lives. The bible tells us that God knows us before we are formed in our mother's womb (Jeremiah 1: 5) and we can be assured that God has a plan for us, not any no-brainer plan but one guaranteed of goodness and a future full of hope (Jeremiah 29: 11). The Wemmicks in the story hardly acknowledge Eli's existence as they go about with their daily preoccupation. We don't want to be like them, so obsessed with collecting stars and avoiding grey dots in our daily business that we have forgotten the existence of our Creator who knows precisely what we need, rather than giving us what we think we should have. Our role is to seek out the will of God in our lives because each of us has a predestined plan and purpose specially designed for us by God. Unless we approach God personally and abide in Him, we remain vulnerable in the rat race and susceptible to the whims and fancies of the world that measure us by what we have and what we do. We are not destined to live a life caught up in a rat race. We are God's workmanship, created for His excellence! Let us not forget that.

God's providence

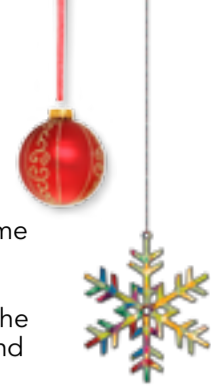
There is never an end to collecting stars. The stars in our lives don't guarantee eternal joy and in fact, the whole act of collecting stars can be detrimental. I work in a specialised field where the minimum qualification expected is a PhD. My colleagues and my worth is determined by the number of scholarships we receive, the publications we produce, the research grants we secure and the impact of work we make in our field. At the beginning of this year, I reached the critical point in my career whereby I felt work was a bondage. Despite the hard and good work I put in, I constantly felt like I was never good enough. I had to do more each year to prove I was worthy of a promotion. The stress was so intolerable that every day, I heard myself repeating the same cry for help, "God, deliver me!" I felt suffocated in the constant craze for perfection and I began to have panic attacks and sleepless nights when work piled up incrementally and office politics became more evident in the competition of getting job security.

If I were a Wemmick, I would have collected a lot of stars. In retrospect, the stars were actually my grey dots. The stars could break me and made me a slave to the world of extrinsic rewards and they did. Like Punchinello, I was broken. I felt like no one understood my need for help. I stopped requesting for prayer support because people invalidated my need. It was as good as them telling me, "You are a highly intelligent person. No problem can knock you down. You can do it!" In the midst of my emotional turbulence, I found solace in my devotional time. The bible gave me the words to pray to God: "When I am overwhelmed, you alone know the way I should turn" (Psalm 142: 3). I met God in His Word: "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it" (Isa 30: 21).

We are never stuck in our situation, whatever it is. God knows us by name because we are His and He knows the way out of our sticky situation. We need to trust in his leadership and timing. Faith in God necessitates an unquestionable belief in His power and impeccable timing (Habakkuk 2:3). After praying for about two years, the constant message I got from God was this: "Wait patiently, for the things you are doing now are preparing you for a higher ground." The turning point in my life finally came when I was offered a tenured academic position in Sydney. It satisfies what I am looking for but it is an answer that requires two years of sorrowful waiting and painful soul searching.

God's Provision

Borrowing the words of C.S. Lewis, "I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time – waking and sleeping. It does not change God – it changes me." God knows what He is doing; when He promises us something, He will do it, whether or not we believe it. If He says it, it will come to past (Psalm 33: 4; Psalm 145: 13). After I accepted the



job offer from Sydney, my life was saturated with signs and wonders. I would be lying to you if I were to tell you that I did not face any obstacle in my relocation. Nevertheless, with each obstacle along my path, God's provision stepped up. It wasn't the first time I saw God's hand pouring a jar of water over my head when I felt distressed to the lowest point. I couldn't understand what it meant till I received God's clarification from Isaiah 44: 3: "For I will pour out water to quench your thirst and to irrigate your parched fields. And I will pour out my Spirit on your descendants, and my blessings on your children." God built up my inner man while meeting my practical needs. He is forever my Jehovah Jireh, the God of all seasons in my life.

The Prince of Peace

This Christmas, we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace. I praise God for His amazing grace. I am ransomed and set free because of what Christ did for me. Like a willow, I may be bent but God will not let me break beyond repair (Psalm 46: 5). Whatever your fear may be this season, release it to God. We belong to the Prince of Peace and let nothing rob His peace away from us. "Let us not worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4: 6 – 7). We have good reasons to celebrate Christmas and who are in Christ this Christmas. Merry Christmas, Gracians! **By Lynde Tan (G1)**

HEART-TO-HEART PARENTING



Family Life @ Grace has invited parents from both English and Chinese congregations to share their parenting joys, struggles, encouragements and thanksgivings. Here are their heartfelt "uncut version" sharings.

As a family we would like to thank God for His protection and provision over the past year. I underwent lumbar spine surgery in Dec 2013 as I was experiencing severe pain in my lower back. The pain was so bad that I could not stand, walk or even lie down. Praise the Lord for a successful surgery and His healing touch upon my life. I have recovered greatly and could go about my daily life normally.

In June 2014, we attended our first

Grace retreat together as a family. Due to work commitments, we were previously unable to attend church camps in June. We are grateful that we were able to take time off from work this year to seek God and enjoy His presence.

感谢主今年依然继续的看顾我们一家人，两个儿子健康成长，我和我的太太也有一份稳定的工作，让我们有足够的金钱，祝福我们全家出国旅游。要特别感恩的就是，主保守我在去年12月的背椎骨的手术一切都顺利，现在背部的问题也复原得七七八八了。阿门！ **By Titus Chua and Esther Ong (G1)**

I have been blessed with 2 children, Isaac and Dawn. Thomas and myself believe that we have to raise them strongly on the Word of God and upon His precepts.

There are uncountable things to thank God for, the one thing I would like to share with parents out there is - to trust that God will reach out to your children in His time.

The turning point for them was when we attended a 5-day camp on Inner-healing and deliverance.

During the camp, we were soaked in God's word and in the evening prayer and ministering time, we witnessed God's love in reaching to others and delivering them out of their bondages.

This experience deepened their relationship with Him.

Since then, their walk with God is different. They have grown closer to God.

They seek the Lord while making decisions and I also noticed that they have a deeper love for the lost.

Today, it delights us to see both Isaac and Dawn are serving God fervently in Grace Kids in GII, they love the children. Always praying for them and trusting God to help them grow. Yes, in His time, God will reach the children in Grace kids too. **By Cynthia Tan (GII)**

I have so much to be thankful for. But, I'm most thankful for the time that we were able to carve out and set aside for family time. In a household of two teenagers (17 & 13), a baby (19 months), a tired mum who juggles houseworks and works from home, and where the hubby works pretty unpredictable hours depending on projects and travel, making time is the single most challenging thing.

Each one has had to make adjustments and say 'no' to projects, opportunities and time with friends so that we could spend time together. We truly value the time together we have. It could be an outing, a picnic or a meal at home. I remember especially in June, sitting on the floor in a hotel room in Malaysia reading the book, Purity Code, and discussing and praying afterwards, while the little one who was recovering from a bad bout of flu crawled about among us. I am also thankful that we have this ritual with our children to talk about sexuality as a family unit. There were times we biked out to dinner nearby, or stayed at home to watch a movie or a TV series, and then laughing and joking about what we saw, or digging out trivia and loopholes about the movie and such. We were also blessed with time shared more intimately between father-and-daughter, father-and-son, mother-and-son, among just girls, or siblings. Also, as a couple, we were blessed to have time to go on little dates, while our older children babysit the little one.

I believe you can't have quality time if you don't have quantity time. You can't suddenly make time and hope for it to be special if you didn't invest minutes and seconds everyday into building bonds with one another.

I am also thankful for each one in the family. I believe my family is exactly the family God has gifted me. My family is my ministry, I am thankful for my family. **By Melissa Wong-Virk (G1)**

我是蒙福的母亲

在女儿佩思小六会考前的6个月里，压力与叛逆成为了好朋友... 每天晚上有说不完又重复的埋怨话题... 我已经努力了还是不会？我有祷告了可是耶稣都不帮我？为什么妹妹可以轻松不用温习，我却要这么辛苦？

我一次又一次的鼓励，安慰，教育她如何信靠耶稣才能得胜，讲到她明白了就一起祷告睡觉。隔天却又有重复埋怨的话题... 日子久了，我跟大女儿也崩溃了，一次又一次的祷告原谅，但是大女儿却无法原谅她，不曾正视看她，佩思的心灵很受伤。我又要安慰佩思说：大姐姐心里还没有主耶稣的爱所以还在生气，还没有原谅你，所以你要为她祷告快点信耶稣。

另一方面又要安慰我的大女儿要原谅妹妹。。。

日过一日，每天的问题同样的发生，又面对自己身体上的病痛，我完全崩溃了！祷告出不了声也无力默祷，内心只能不住的呐喊耶稣 耶稣！

这句 我是一个心苦的母亲 在我的心里一天又一天的压制着，成了苦毒... 直到在一个祷告会里，主的安慰临到我... 主说：祂听到我内心里的呐喊，主要我完全放下交给祂... 我歇斯底里的哭出来！感谢主让我再一次得到了释放，完全放下交给祂！

感谢主的奇妙作为彰显在我的家，佩思改变了！认真面对她的会考，凡事都有祷告，全心仰望依靠主，充满期待应付会考。就在她要会考的第一天早上，我在祷告中看见一个画面... 白云形成的人(耶稣)站在佩思的旁边，一只手搭在她的肩膀看着她写字。我也看到佩思温馨的笑脸低着头在写字... 我感动的流着眼泪一直说：感谢主。感谢主。

经过这次的争战... 让我明白一个功课...

就是，凡懂得依靠祷告完全交给主耶稣的母亲，都是蒙福的母亲。

感谢主耶稣！我是蒙福的母亲。

哈利路亚！荣耀归主！阿们。

主内姐妹，吴尤莉 (G2)

Send in your mails to familylifegrace@gmail.com

Join us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Family-LifeGrace/>

GO FORTH LITTLE ONES!

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." - Matthew 19:14

In October, 2 teams comprising of 24 brave 12-year olds alongside 22 teachers from the Children's Church and the YAYP ministry had taken a step of faith and went to minister to 80 children at Karimun, Riau Islands!

An eye-opening experience awaited them as a mixture of nervousness and excitement followed the young teams. Their task was to minister to the local children through a skit based on The Parable of the Good Samaritan and to help teach the Sunday school lesson. As the van travelled down the dirt path of Karimun, the sight of temples and mosques greeted them and only one church stood out amongst the rest of the worship places. "We were there to spread God's love, to serve others..." said Regina Lai, "Karimun was not a barren place as I pictured it to be, it was filled with the enthusiastic children of the church." With anticipation, our young trippers did a prayer walk in the kampong, town, seaport, wet markets and the homes of the locals.

The poor living conditions of the locals tugged at the heartstrings of our young trippers, especially when they learnt that local Christians are being persecuted. "We are much more blessed in Singapore than Karimun. Even though Karimun children are less fortunate, they are more grateful compared to us," said Vera Lim. Despite the rundown environment and persecution faced, the local children praised and worshipped God with zeal and enthusiasm! That impressed many of our young trippers. "I learnt from the kids at Karimun that it doesn't matter how old you are, how small or big you are, how short or tall you are, you can always worship God with all your heart and mind. Watching the kids sing with all their hearts touched me..." said Wileen Tan.

In the beginning, many of them were discouraged, thinking that they were not going to have fun with the local children because of language constraints. They used different hand gestures and basic words in Bahasa to interact with the local children. Even the Children's Church teachers were surprised by their initiative, how they took the first step to befriend the local children and displaying hospitality to them. It was especially heartwarming to see a joyful young tripper bending down and helping the local toddlers put on their shoes. What humility and a wonderful act of service from a child!

As they went with a mindset to serve and bless, they have been exceedingly blessed through their learning experiences and the challenges that they overcame. From being reluctant and unsure of how to pray out loud, our children became prayer warriors as the days passed. Natalie Ho learnt that we could all pray anytime and anywhere and not just limit our prayers to Sundays because God is always listening to us.



This was one impactful trip for the children as they were exposed to fellow siblings in Christ residing in harsh environments, yet living with joy and contentment in our Lord Jesus Christ. Through this trip, we can witness how our young trippers grew stronger and confident in God. Together with our children, let us step out in faith as a family of Grace!

by Jasmin Low



THE FIELDS ARE RIPE FOR HARVEST

In November, 9 missions teams went forth with Grace Missions, making it at least two teams being out there on the missions field per week! We thank God for your involvement in Grace Missions and we look forward to seeing you go forth into the nations!

When you meet farmers in the missions fields overseas, they will tell you that harvest time is in summer, not now. It is in such setting that Jesus said to his disciples, "Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest." (John 4:35) Though it may not seem like the time is proper, but the fact is, there is never a proper-enough time. If not now, then when?

It is time that we launch out by faith into the missions field. Everywhere I go, I see people worshiping their god(s). We are wired to look for our Creator and the lost are searching. As Christians, we shall not stay stagnant. If we do not reach out to the searching, others will. If we do not reap the harvest, others will. So, how then shall we account to God when the time comes?

On top of our missions trips, we came together as a church and prayed for World Leaders. The scrutiny many world leaders work under can be really demanding, more so for Christians leaders making difficult decisions for a majority who may not share the same faith. It is encouraging to see Gracians praying over them and also praying for our very own ministers. Let us continue to lift them up in prayer.

It is exciting how God is raising up an army of prayer warriors and a generation whose hearts are for the lost. We pray for souls to be added into the Kingdom and for your involvement in missions. Everybody, young and old, can do something for Jesus!

by Matthew Tan

UPCOMING MISSIONS TRIPS:

Please pray with the missions trippers for God's protection to rest on them, and that they would be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading.

CAMBODIA
05/12/2014 to 10/12/2014
Rev Wai Ching and 11 trippers

PEKANBARU
05/12/2014 to 10/12/2014
Bro Ronnie Lee with 5 trippers

KARIMUN
06/12/2014 to 07/12/2014
Rev Peck Yin with 14 adults and 3 children

NEPAL
07/12/2014 to 14/12/2014
Rev Judy Chui and trippers

TG PINANG
13/12/2014 to 14/12/2014
Bro Alex Ngew, Sis Irene Cheah with 9 trippers

YAYP MISSIONS TRIP

Date: 8-15 Mar 2015

Location: East Asia

University Ministry:

3 Days Emotionally Healthy Spirituality Retreat
for University & YA Believers

2 Days of University personal evangelism end
off with Singapore Night Evangelistic Service

Must be able to converse in conversational
Chinese

Register and email to Ps Alvin at
alvin.lim@graceaog.org by 30 Nov 2014.



Hello, I am Ps Bee Ngor. Many people in Grace Assembly call me Ps Bee. I come from a family of six- my parents and three brothers. My brothers are married and I have three lovely nieces.

I entered into full-time ministry in Grace Assembly in 2001. These 14 years in Grace have been a journey of faith undergirded by His divine grace. God has been faithful

to me all this time and He has taught me many things about Himself, about people and about ministry. I enjoy serving God and His people in this church.

It never fails to amaze me every time I recall how God called me to Grace. I left teaching in 1997 to enter bible school. While ending my studies in Tung Ling Bible School in 2000, I received a call from the then Ps Kellie Liew who was my ex-classmate in the bible school. She invited me to come to Grace to serve as a cell pastor. After a couple of interviews, the door was suddenly shut and there was no news from Kellie and the church. One morning while entering into a new year in 2001, I prayed to God that if it was His will for me to serve full-time in Grace, then I would request that He asked Kellie to call me that morning. Within five minutes of my prayer, the phone rang. It was Sis Kellie! Wow, after waiting for four months, I could not believe it could really

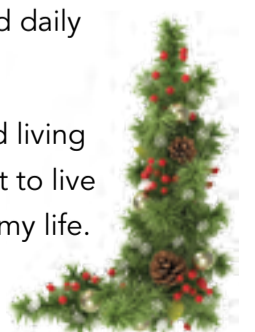
be her! She told me she felt a strong urge to call me that moment! I knew then God had confirmed His call upon my life to serve full-time in Grace and it was that call that has kept me going all these years!

In Grace, my responsibilities include being the community pastor overseeing the Jurong and West Coast areas under Grace Communities, as the Country Director of Myanmar under Grace Missions, as pastor-in-charge of the Support Ministries in Grace II and as the pastor overseeing J333 and the Prayer Room ministry in the church.

Being one who believes in prayer, I have a burning desire to see revival taking place in God's house. I long to see Grace turn into a powerhouse one day! And I know that for that to happen, God's people must seek His face and pray more!

My personal dream is to one day teach the word of God full-time. I have a deep hunger for God and His word. To satisfy that hunger, I spend my free time reading and that has become my favorite pastime. The word of God is indeed sweeter than honey and the honeycomb! It is my personal challenge to be able to live out God's word daily without compromise.

I am a person with simple tastes and I am contented living a simple life. My life goals are simple too. I just want to live out my full potential in God and to honor Him with my life.



A YEAR OF NEW BEGINNINGS AT REACH

2014 has been a year of new beginnings for REACH Community Services Society on many fronts.

In addition to our REACH Family Services Centre at Block 187, Bishan Street 13 we began operation of our REACH Counselling Centre at Block 307 Shunfu Road in November 2014 and we expect to begin operation of our REACH Youth Centre at Block 417 at Bukit Batok West Avenue 4 in December 2014 or latest January 2015. A dedication of the REACH Counselling Centre at Shunfu was recently held on 29 November 2014 presided over by Senior Pastor Calvin Lee.

The 2 additional physical premises are significant as they allow REACH to become a part of 2 new neighbourhoods and to be in the mind space of the 2 new communities on a daily basis. REACH will be undertaking outreach activities in the 2 neighbourhoods in the coming days reaching out to families, students and schools, and working with the grass root leaders, like minded VWOs and other community stakeholders to introduce ourselves and our programs to the communities.

It is our prayer that as the community around Bishan, Shunfu and Bukit Batok West sees the REACH premises and the activities and programs organized by REACH, they will notice the gradual transformation of the neighbourhood; and it will come to pass that they will see the good works of REACH and glorify our Father in Heaven.

2014 also saw a new impetus in the fund raising effort of REACH in conjunction with the Care and Share Program of the government under which every dollar raised by REACH will be matched dollar for dollar by the government up to \$1 million. As REACH embarked on its fund raising efforts in 2014, we saw the mighty hand of God providing for our needs from sources and in ways that we have not seen or imagined. Organizers of commercial seminars adopted REACH as their Charity of Choice for weekend events and collections were made by strangers from strangers to bless the work of REACH in the tens of thousands on single weekends.

REACH organized its first Charity Gala Dinner at the Marina Mandarin Hotel on 3 September 2014 with the Minister for Social and Family Development, Mr. Chan Chun Sing as the guest of honour. A stranger came forward and underwrote the entire costs of the dinner, and we sold over 50 tables to sponsors, supporters and friends of REACH coming together to celebrate the work of REACH. Amazing provision by a God of miracles!

Even as REACH is blessed with new opportunities and provisions from the Lord to serve the community on an enlarged platform as the social ministry arm of Grace Assembly of God, we go forward into 2015 prayerfully and watchfully relying solely on the grace and guidance of our Lord. I seek your partnership and fellowship in this journey to serve the community in 2015.

Lastly, it remains for me to thank all Pastors, members and friends at Grace Assembly of God for your support, participation and prayer for the ministry of REACH. I also wish to specially acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the staff and volunteers of REACH through whom many lives have been blessed in 2014. I wish you all a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sin Lye Kuen
President
REACH COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY



Dedication of Reach Counseling Center @ Shunfu

Another significant milestone for Reach Community Services Society (RCSS), the social mission arm of Grace Assembly

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. Isaiah 11:1-3 (NIV)

On Nov 29, Pastor Calvin Lee led the Management Committee and Staff of RCSS, and several members of the ECB, in the dedication of our new Reach Counseling Center (RC) for the Lord's service.

Counseling is a key service offering of RCSS. Often times, people in dire need are also tangled with all kinds of entwined issues. Exhausted in their effort, and clouded in their minds, they often find themselves at their wits end, lonely and hapless, and not able to see a path out. This is when timely care, concern and the counsel of a competent counsellor will make a big difference helping these to refocus and regain control of their situation and move on.

While Counseling has always been a component of the work at the Reach Family Service Centre (RFSC), more complex and difficult cases that need specialized handling and follow-up are handled by the RC. RFSC and RC have coexisted at the same location for a number of years. Both branches of social work have also grown over the years, and physical space became a constraint limiting growth.

By the grace and divine provision of the Lord, a segment of void deck at Blk 307 Shunfu Road (just a MRT station away from RFSC), was made available to RCSS this year for the development of a counseling center. RC will relocate, and from now on operate from Shunfu, freeing up precious space for further growth in the FSC. While residents in the Bishan, Shunfu, and Thomson areas will directly benefit with RC at their door step, the impact of RC which is not limited by geography and is nationwide.

We thank God for His favour and giving us another contact point with Community.

By Ho Siew Cheong, CE of RCSS

Reflections from Chang Song Eng – Head of Counseling, RCSS

'Jesus, we enthrone you.....'

My heart was filled with thanksgiving and awe as I sang and worshipped at the dedication service. My head raced back to this two-year-in-the-making project. It was nearly aborted. Yet God, in His faithfulness saw it to completion. It was in His timing and by His Spirit (Isa 11:2), as shared by Ps Calvin Lee. On the team's part it was prayer, perseverance and the dogged belief that God will. What is the unyielding task that God has laid upon our heart?

Marriage matters. Start right. Stay strong. Marriage in all its splendour and ugliness, from the remedial to the preventive levels – RC would be a place where marriage gets an airing and listening, teaching and learning and incorporates elements of fun and work. It is hoped that couples do not only use the centre when there is a problem but also for marriage preparation, mentoring and enrichment. They can build a community that is critical to supporting the health of one's marriage.

While focusing on marriage, RC will also render individual and family counselling. Issues may range from parenting to family matters; managing depression to dealing with loss and grief; struggling with one's identity to finding meaning and answers to life. As in marriage this may also encompass enrichment and developmental programmes in future.

Certainly life offers myriad challenges and joys in one's journey. What counts most is encapsulated in RC's tagline of 'Celebrating Love, Embracing Growth'!

We hope to do just that. May we add to your life by our presence!

Reflections from Ng Ai Ling, - Director of Programs/Clinical Services, RCSS

RC was started in 2009, the same year when RCSS celebrated her 10th anniversary of Touching Hearts, Reaching Lives in the community.

Back then, we saw the increasing need for marital counselling beyond the family service that we had been providing through RFSC. There were more and more married couples seeking help for different marital issues ranging from pre-marital difficulties, marital conflicts, extra-marital affairs, separation and divorce. There were counselling centres but none had a specific focus on marital work.

The growth of our services at RCSS has always been guided by the biblical teaching from the Parable of the Good Samaritan. Hence, we were propelled by the pain and cries for help from these hurting couples to respond to the call to nurse and heal their emotional injuries. In doing so, RC was birthed as the specialized counselling centre under RCSS to restore broken marriages and advocate strong marriages for a lifetime.

The relocation to the new premises at Shunfu is another significant milestone in the growth of RCSS. More importantly, it is our testimony of how God has blessed the work of our hands as we follow His call to bring hope and light to the least, the lost and the lonely in our community. May God bless RC to be the safe haven where couples are encouraged to build God-centered and love-filled relationships for themselves and their children.





Introducing REACH Community Services Society (RCSS) new Chief Executive



Left to right
Siew Cheong, Wai Cheng, Chan Keen, Joong Yan, and
Chan Hong

Effective Jan 1, 2015, Bro Ho Siew Cheong, currently a deacon in the Executive Church Board, and a faithful member of Grace, will leave his job and longtime employer, ExxonMobil, to take on a full time role as the Chief Executive of Reach Community Services Society (RCSS). RCSS is our Church's social missions platform. The New Grace Bulletin caught up with Siew Cheong to understand why and what led him to take this next step

NGB – Firstly, can you give us a quick introduction of yourself and your family.

HSC - I first came to Grace Assembly on Aug 10, 1980. Looking back it has been 34 years and the Lord's blessings have never ceased to flow. I met my wife in Grace, and we have been married for 26 years. Together we have been blessed with three wonderful children, now young adults aged 24, 22 and 20 years, all worshipping here and serving in various ministries. My mother and mother-in-law also worship in Grace, at the Cantonese Service.

NGB – We understand you have been with ExxonMobil for quite some time, and was previously holding a senior position there, so why did you choose to leave the organization?

HSC – The Lord blessed me with 27 very good years with ExxonMobil, during this time He has granted me much favor and success in my career. However, there is a question in my mind I frequently asked myself – what is the value of all these of years of training and equipping in one of the world's best run corporation to the kingdom of God?

Last year I turned 55. The Lord willing, I might still have another 10-15 very productive years ahead of me. The question was quickly reframed - "On what, and for whom, should I be spending these precious next 10-15 years?"

Staying put, and continuing with ExxonMobil will be most the comfortable and financially rewarding option. I can continue to contribute as a lay leader in Church, and support her cause financially. When I finally retire at 70, I may then avail myself to ministry, to help in whatever a 70 year old can do.

On the other hand, I could leave my comfort zone now, bringing along with me the skills and abilities I have acquired. I still have a lot of energy to add value to an endeavor of significance in the kingdom of God. After some thought, prayer and consultation with family and some godly men, I opted to leave now.

NGB – So, what made you decide on investing your next 10-15 years in RCSS?

HSC – I have always viewed serving the Lord in whatever capacity as both an honor and a privilege. It is in serving that we actually grow more intimate with the Lord. We are going through a time of unprecedented growth and change in Grace and in Reach. The Church is being led in a new direction of becoming a Missional Family

Church, where engagement of the Church with the Community will be heightened. I see RCSS as a valuable platform for the Church to accomplish that. While there are many Churches in Singapore, just a handful of them have community service platforms to further their social missions, like what Grace has in RCSS.

I have served on the management committee of RCSS since its beginning, and for many of those years as her President. In those 14 years, I have seen the hand of God guide the organization, growing from a staff of 7 in 1997 to 43 today. I have also seen how the Lord has used Reach to turn the lives both young and old around. While I have contributed as a volunteer, I feel I can do more as a staff and working on it full time.

NGB – Are we expecting big changes in RCSS with your coming on board?

HSC – RCSS is progressing to establish and grow a new Elderly Service to enable us better impact a growing segment of our Community. I have also envisioned that sometime in the future we may also add on a social enterprise, partly to help fund future growth, but more importantly to allow us flexibility to help clients with financial challenges regain financial independence with dignity and without excessive dependence on hand-outs.

As for the Church, my vision is that RCSS will be on the minds and hearts of our members. When they think social service, they should immediately think RCSS, and remember that RCSS is part of Grace. Members will not only support the activities of RCSS through giving their money, but more importantly through giving of their time and talent, and be directly involved in her programs and activities.

NGB – Do you have a word of encouragement for brothers and sisters in Grace encountering similar situations like you?

HSC - God has endowed Grace Assembly many members with talents and abilities. Pastor Lee often reminds us – "only 1 life, live well." Pastor Philip Lyn, speaker at Grace Retreat 2014 left us with the challenge, to take up delegated authority. Exercising faith is called boldness. Boldness in the Spirit is spelt as "T.A.K.I.N.G R.I.S.K"

1 Samuel 17 records the story of David defeating Goliath. David was happily shepherding his father's herd. He had no intention to be a soldier, and no intention to go to war. He was simply obedient to his father to take lunch to his brothers at the battle front. There he was shown a need, Goliath, and the army of the Philistines defiling the army of Israel.

David then remembered in the course of his shepherding how the Lord delivered him from the paws of the bear and the lion. In faith, he believed that the Lord could use him to defeat Goliath, and so, apart from seeing the threat, David also saw himself as part of the solution. And in a step of faith, David responded in a similar way that Isaiah did in Isa 6:8 – " Here am I, send me."

Therefore, do not be afraid. The battle is the Lord's.

中文创艺事工进修营

在我四十五岁时，因为婚姻出了问题，心里痛苦彷徨。一天，我带着两个女儿，经过一间正在庆祝圣诞的教堂，喜乐欢庆的歌声从里面传出来。大女儿就说：“妈咪啊！我们进去好吗？”在教堂里我们跟着一起唱诗歌，我好开心，我就这样信了主。有一天，牧师和小组组员们来我家除偶像。在祷告时，奇妙的事情发生了：一位弟兄看到一团黑烟从我头上冒出来，接着我感觉层层白云飘来，从头到脚把我包住。我觉得自己好像站在白云上，并在摇晃中飘了起来。之后，我就倒在地上，开始放声大哭。那时，我感受到主耶稣的爱围绕着我，心中的痛苦和委屈瞬间消失，我得到了释放！

信主后的日子，我确实生活得很开心。然而，自从我所参与的教会搬迁以后，小组也结束了。就这样，我的教会生活停止了，心里也渐渐的远离神。

直到2012年的一天，我在运动时看到一群人开心地在跳舞，一位姐妹邀请我参加她们。感谢主，借着配合诗歌的舞蹈运动操和神的话，我又回到了主的身边。姐妹们的团契感动了我，也让我学习到要把主的爱和福音传送给有需要的人。



重回主的教会，使我更坚信自己的信仰，并于2013年11月，在恩典堂闽南语崇拜聚会中接受洗礼，见证主耶稣是我一生中最美好的祝福。

洪玉英姐妹

Chinese Evangelism Meeting





Grace Golf Fellowship event

Smartly attired and armed with their golfing gears, 104 participants gathered on 31 October at the Sembawang Country Club, raring to go for the Grace Golf Fellowship event. Under the scorching hot sun, every golfer was cheerful and enthusiastic about the event which also had a good cause; to raise funds for our Redevelopment Fund. Our Senior Pastor, Ps. Calvin was among one of the participants on the first flight to tee off.

The golfers teed off with delight but the weather unfortunately turned unfriendly after a rather short game! Heavy downpour persisted and the game had to be called off eventually. Nevertheless, most of the participants stayed back for a good

time of networking, fellowship, dinner and lucky draws.

The event raised \$36,000 for the Redevelopment Fund. We appreciate the contributions and efforts of all participants, organizing committee, Grace staff, SCC staff, sponsors and our Senior Pastor.

We enjoyed the company of many new friends who are not Grace members or are pre-believers. We pray that through the Golf Fellowship, they will be touched by the love of God.

All glory and praises be to God

by Neo Kim Teck





GDP WOMEN OF GRACE BIBLE STUDY

Do you live by the Spirit or do you gratify the desires of the flesh? How do you know that the Spirit of the Lord dwells in you?

In 'Living Beyond Yourself' by Beth Moore, you are led through an in-depth study of the Holy Spirit as presented in the book of Galatians. You will be challenged to develop the fruit of the Spirit by maintaining an intimate relationship with the Spirit of God.

Come experience the freedom of a spirit-filled life and join the Women of Grace in this 11-week study

Registration Dates : 28 December 2014, 4 January 2015
[Furama L3 reception counter and GII L3 office]

Dates of class : 14, 21, 28 Jan;
[Wed] 4, 11 Feb;
4, 11 Mar;
1, 8, 15, 22 Apr 2015
Time : 10am – 12noon
Venue : GII Praise Room [L2]
Cost : \$22

LOVERS for LIFE Marriage Preparation & Discipleship Program 2015

Going steady or planning to get married?

If so, the Marriage Preparation & Discipleship Program (MPDC) is for you. This programme geared to provide you with a Biblical understanding of what constitutes holy matrimony and the practical aspects of building a successful marriage.

MPDP1 – Feb 21, 28 & Mar 7, 14, 21 (Sat)
Closing date: 8 Feb (Sun)

MPDP2 – Apr 11, 18, 25 & May 2, 9 (Sat)
Closing date: 29 Mar (Sun)

MPDP3 – Aug 15, 22, 29 & Sept 5, 12 (Sat)
Closing date: 2 Aug (Sun)

MPDP4 – Nov 14, 21, 28 & Dec 5, 12 (Sat)
Closing date: 25 Oct (Sun)

For more information, please go to <http://www.graceaog.org/mpdp>

For Registration

Please email to jamie_lim@graceaog.org or call her at 64100827.

Please note MPDP is a pre-requisite for all couples who wished to be solemnized in Grace Assembly of God

Grace Party

Calling all new friends of Grace!

If you are new in Grace and started attending our services any time since June this year, you are invited to our Grace Party!

Come for a nite of food * fun * family.

The party is on 27 December, 7:00pm, GII Level 1 Fellowship Area. Please RSVP with Zixuan at zixuan.wang@graceaog.org / 64100835 by 22 December.



Grace Party - Food



Grace Party - Family



Grace Party - Fun

Grace Kids Presents

AN UNFROZEN CHRISTMAS

For children ages 7-12 years old

SUNDAY, 21 DEC 2014
9 am / 11.15 am
LOVE ROOM AT GII

Love can melt a frozen heart! This Christmas, the Children's Church is putting up a Christmas event for children aged 7 to 12 years old. Themed "An Unfrozen Christmas", this evangelistic event is happening on the 21st December at 9am and 11.15am at the Love Room, Level 2 of GII.

So if you know of any pre-believing children, be it your own, your friends' or even your neighbours', do invite them to come and see An Unfrozen Christmas!

100km for Jesus - Fundraising event

A total of 18 runners participated in the 100km for Jesus with 3 runners completed the full 100km distance. The event raised ~\$22K for our Redevelopment Fund. Praise the Lord!

Here are a few testimonies from the runners:

In the midst of organizing the inaugural 100km for Jesus event and attempting the distance, I faced personal challenges of retrenchment, a dry spiritual season, self-doubts and a strained ankle.

God in His grace saw me through the 100km. The miracle of sustaining my strained ankle has further built my faith. The situation taught me to surrender to God, depend on His strength and not my own abilities. He turned what seems like a negative situation to His glory. I learnt about caring for the body of Christ and servant-hood spirit through my fellow runners. I have received and learnt much more than I have contributed. It was a great time of fellowship too!

Thank you to all the people who have prayed for us, my fellow runners, Pastor Alvin, Brother Peter Lim, my parents and importantly all who made a donation! - *Joyce Tan*

While the 100km has been very grueling experience, I can feel the Lord has been walking with me, especially during those challenging moments. There was a time where it felt so painful and tired that I wanted to give up and a fellow runner will come alongside and encouraged me to carry on.

God has shown me that this can apply to our life journey as well. While at times when we or our fellow brothers and sisters are suffering, by sharing a word of encouragement or kind gestures that will bring joy to others. In the midst of whatever difficulties and suffering that we may be going through we have the Grace family with us. - *Steven Chua*

When I first heard of the 100 km for Jesus run, I knew this is the chance for me to step out to serve God because running is my passion. I had only signed up for the 32km run as it was physically grueling but I eventually decided to take on the 100 km.

However, after the first day, I thought of giving up as my body ached and ankle swelled. But God amazingly removed my pain with every step I took and saw me through the 100km. I learnt from this run was to step out by faith, persevere and trust that He will see us through our difficult times. I thank God for His healing and grace.

- *Soon Eng*



Testimony

Women of Grace (Word of God) piloted the Saturday Bible Study (SBS) for the first time a 6-week session and it is a pleasure to share my experience. The timing of the bible study was a great alternative for those who couldn't make it to a weekday day-time gathering. For me I felt I needed to re-energise my efforts to understand God and committing to only 6 Saturday mornings at a time was appealing.

The series was called The Power of Knowing God. Through the weeks we observed the key qualities of God: God as the Creator; God as the Sovereign and Supreme Ruler; God as All Powerful, All Knowing, Everywhere Present All the Time; God is Righteous, Justice and Truth; God is Love; God is Holy.

It was amazing for both mature and new Christians alike that we were able to walk through so many qualities of God in so short a time (without homework!). It was also great to get to know other ladies and support each other in our journey to have a transformed life. Learning about God is such an overwhelming experience – we trembled at every mention of His wrath and judgment, and we rejoiced each time the bible tells of God's everlasting love to all His people.

In short, great way to give your spiritual life a boost, with a hidden bonus that we were blessed with an extremely convenient location! Big thanks to the well prepared facilitators and those who lent us the premises making it all possible.

By Rita Cham



Visit to St Luke's Eldercare

It was a special day for a group of us from Women of Grace, on 29th October 2014.

We were privileged to visit St Luke's Eldercare Centre at Clementi, and spent a blessed morning with some 60 elderly there. The center includes a senior wellness gym, provides eldercare services for families who require assistance to take care of their elderly while they are at work.

When we arrived just after nine, the elder folks were already gathered, looking forward to the day's activity. Several were in their 90's, although a few of them were still spritely you would not have guessed. We began the morning with a seated praise dance segment. Despite a good number of the elderly having limited mobility, they were gamely and tried to follow every move led by the volunteers! A sing-along session followed, featuring a selection of favourites including worship songs. The rowdiest time had to be the game segment though. The Bingo game was everyone's favourite! It was so popular we had to obliged with an "encore". The joy on the

faces of the elderly as they played the games, and their smiles of glee when they won prizes, warmed our hearts.

Sister Myung-duk then shared her testimony of how Christ has transformed her life. It was especially commendable as sister Myung-duk committed to sharing in Mandarin. We also had the honour of celebrating the birthdays for three "October girls". Sister Serene provided the most beautiful birthday cake that invited oohs and ahs from all. The birthday girls sat before their cake with a single lighted candle, as the rest of us sang the birthday song, were a picture of beauty and serenity.

Lunch was served around noon. In what is their daily practice, the elderly prayed together, gave thanks, and sang to the Lord Prayer before their meal. We witness beauty, contentment, faith, that morning. If any of us had the notion of bringing blessing to the folks at St Luke's, we learned that in giving, we receive greater blessing. Praise be to God!

By Geraldine Lai

Alpha Course 2014



The Alpha program is in its third year running, and the latest course had recently concluded on 27 September 2014. The Alpha Course is a foundational Christian Course that runs for 13 weeks. Once again, the Alpha organizing committee (Pastor Alvin Lim, Andy Tan and Peter Lim) and helpers have witnessed and experienced God's hands and blessing upon the programme. We thank God that 6 participants accepted the Lord as their personal Lord and Saviour through Alpha and many had rededicated their lives to Jesus and new believers grew in their knowledge of their faith! It was a great encouragement for all the leaders and helpers to see many lives being transformed.

Like in past years, many had responded to the call for volunteers to run the programme despite their busy schedules. Among them were even familiar faces from previous runs. Some of them had been helpers since the inaugural run, while other past participants touched by the programme had returned as helpers. Of course, there were also the new helpers who joined in the cause this year. God has been faithful in His provision. Truly, from the response and testimonies of the participants, it can only be by the hand of God.

This year's programme started its run on 28 June 2014. Lunch was prepared by the helpers for the participants and helpers who dined together, as a means for everyone to mingle and get to know each other personally over a meal. Then the program consisted of ice-breaking games, song worship, video sermons by Nicky Gumbel and small group discussions. Beyond the schedules and programs, however, lives were touched by the warm reception, bonds were forged through heartfelt sharing and every single activity had its place in the ministry to reach the hearts of the participants so that they may come to experience God personally.

Each week the discussion garnered more activity as the participants opened their lives up to each other more and more with each passing week, sharing with and learning from each other. The groups were blessed with leaders (Kay Wei Shih, Celin Tan, Winnie Au, Scott Tan and Bee Har) and co-leaders who were able to draw out from the participants their desire to know more, and made them feel comfortable about articulating their questions on the Christian faith.

It had truly been encouraging to see these individuals grow at their own pace alongside one another, as they open their hearts and minds to be receptive to what the session had for them each week. We certainly believe that God was doing His work in their lives, and have sown the seeds of the Gospel in them, which will definitely bloom in God's timing, and their lives will be powerfully changed.

During the highlight of the program, the Weekend Away, there were 48 participants and helpers who spent 2 days away from daily distractions

to learn about Holy Spirit. The extended time of worship during this period allowed everyone to dwell in the presence of God, which was different from the schedule-intensive sessions on other weeks.

During the altar call at the Saturday night service at the Weekend Away, participants went forward to receive the infilling of Holy Spirit. Many fell under the power of God as the Lord filled and touched them. We even heard testimonies afterwards about feeling the presence of God as they responded to the altar call. Those who responded said that they had never felt before what they were feeling, but they were able to recognize that as the Holy Spirit, and went on to say that they "felt a strong sense of joy, peace and strength."

This year we also invited Brother Reuben and Brother Philip to help conduct the ministry time for the Alpha Session "Does God Heal Today". We witnessed how God did his miraculous work of healing and increased our faith that God still heals today.

Even as the Alpha program has come to a close this year, you can expect that there will be more exciting days ahead for the next run. We can all look forward to great and mighty things that God will continue to do in our midst, and we most certainly wish that you will be a part of it next year, whether by keeping us in prayer, volunteering to help or bringing a pre-believer to the program. Look out for Alpha Course 2015 that will be starting on 27 June 2015 at GII from 12-3 pm!

Excerpts from testimonies of participants:

Emily Koo: "One of the things I have learned from Alpha is to read the word of God – the Bible. In fact, I'm beginning to enjoy reading the Bible, and have finished reading the four Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, the Book of Acts, and also Ruth in the Old Testament. I didn't know the Bible can be so interesting. I realised it's the Holy Spirit who helps me understand what God is telling me from His word, and He guides me in handling difficult situations in my life in a godly way."

Lois: "[In coming to Alpha,] most importantly of all, is the salvation of my mother-in-law, Linda. Am already inspired to pray and bring more pre-believers to next year's Alpha."

Linda Chua: "When my daughter-in-law, Lois, asked me if I would like to sign up for the 12-week Alpha Course, I agreed just to please her. However, watching Vicar Nicky Gumbel's video makes me feel that I could relate to him, to his talks on experiences before he became a Christian. I felt exactly the same. He is so sincere. And so are all you "senior" members of the Alpha Group."

Richard Phua: "I explained to Brother Reuben my physical condition and told him my greatest difficulty was climbing stairs and walking uphill. After the prayer, they asked how I felt. I said, "I feel good." I was asked to jump and see if there was any pain. I jumped and it did not hurt. I went out of the room and walked up and down the stairs. I then decided to run up and down the stairs. I could do it! And there was no pain! Hallelujah!"

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Alpha teaching and Worship Together



Alpha Meals together



Alpha Group pic

grace services

GRACE I

MY SAVIOUR'S CHURCH: 2 Prince Charles Crescent, Singapore 159011 | Tel: 6474 2823 | www.mysaviours.org

SERVICES: Saturday 5 pm

YOUNG ADULTS & YOUNG PROFESSIONALS (YAYP) SERVICE	JEHOVAH'S SANCTUARY	LEVEL 2
CANTONESE SERVICE	SAVIOUR'S SANCTUARY	LEVEL 3
GRACE KIDS – CHILDREN'S CHURCH	SHELTER ROOM	LEVEL 2
GRACE KIDS – PRE-SCHOOL	PARADISE ROOM	LEVEL 2

FURAMA RIVERFRONT HOTEL: 405 Havelock Rd, Singapore 169633 | Tel: 6333 8898 | www.furama.com/riverfront

SERVICES: Sunday 9 am

ENGLISH SERVICE 2	VENUS I, II, III	LEVEL 3
MANDARIN SERVICE	MERCURY II, III	LEVEL 5
GRACE KIDS – CHILDREN'S CHURCH	JUPITER I, II; MARS II	LEVEL 3; 5
GRACE KIDS – PRE-SCHOOL	JUPITER III	LEVEL 3

Sunday 11.15 am

ENGLISH SERVICE 3	VENUS I, II, III	LEVEL 3
FILIPINO SERVICE	MERCURY I	LEVEL 5
YOUTH SERVICE	MERCURY II, III	LEVEL 5
GRACE KIDS – CHILDREN'S CHURCH	JUPITER I, II; MARS II	LEVEL 3; 5
GRACE KIDS – PRE-SCHOOL	JUPITER III	LEVEL 3

GRACE II: 1 Bukit Batok West Ave 4 Singapore 659125

SERVICES: Saturday 2 pm

YOUTH SERVICE	CHAPEL	LEVEL 4
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SERVICES: Sunday 9 am

ENGLISH SERVICE 1	CHAPEL	LEVEL 4
MANDARIN SERVICE	SANCTUARY	LEVEL 2

SERVICES: Sunday 11.15 am

ENGLISH SERVICE 2	SANCTUARY	LEVEL 2
HOKKIEN SERVICE	CHAPEL	LEVEL 4

SERVICES: Sunday 1.30 pm

FILIPINO SERVICE	CHAPEL	LEVEL 4
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SUNDAY 9AM & 11.15AM

GRACE KIDS		
PRE-SCHOOL	GOODNESS & KINDNESS	LEVEL 4
CHILDREN'S CHURCH	LOVE	LEVEL 2

J333

Every Wednesday, 7.30 pm, GLORY SANCTUARY, LEVEL 3

ST JOHN'S ST MARGARET'S CHURCH: 30 Dover Avenue, Singapore 139790 | Tel: 67770934 | www.sjism.org.sg



Grace Assembly of God

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Website: www.graceaog.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/graceaogsingapore



*Wishing every Gracian
a Blessed Christmas &
a Missional New Year.*

*Pastors, Staff and
Executive Church Board*