# THE HOLY SPIRIT AND SPIRIT OF PROPHECY



HOLY BIBLE

VISI விஷன் பத்திரிக்கை 愿景 Official Newsletter of the Seventh-day Adventist Church (Peninsular Malaysia)



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#### **Vision Statement**

soon return & with united spirit

#### **Mission Statement**

by ministering to their physical,

#### Values

Matthew 25:14-30

#### I WILL GO

#### Peninsular Malaysia Mission of Seventh-day Adventists

\*Whenever suitable, the abbreviation of "PEM" will be used in place of the full text of "Peninsular Malaysia Mission".

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#### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

# The Holy Spirit & the Spirit of Biophecy

by Tan Meng Cheng, President, Peninsular Malaysia Mission

We, the Seventh-day Adventists, should be grateful to God for providing guidance through His Word and the Holy Spirit as our Teacher to show us the way in the uncertain paths of life in the end times. The Word of God, especially in Revelation chapters 12-14, gives us the special message to preach in order to prepare a peculiar people who will respond to His final call and go through the last tribulation before Jesus' Second Coming.

#### The Spirit of Prophecy as a Perpetual Gift to the End-Time Church

The Bible was completed almost two centuries ago, and we believe that no further writings have been added to it. It is the supreme standard of teaching and functions as the ultimate guide in all our relationships and experiences. We uphold the Sola Scriptura principle. What we believe should be bible-based and not human-oriented. Nevertheless, a good Bible student will also recognize that God will still communicate with His people, through the Holy Spirit, after the closing of the Bible canon (cf. John 14:16-17, 26; 16:13-14). Ephesians 4:8 states clearly that when Jesus ascends to heaven, He will give gifts (cf. 4:11; I Cor. 12:4-11), which include prophets or the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy to guide His church until He comes again (Revelation 19:10).

We acknowledge that God reveals Himself by the Holy Spirit in and through the Word of the Bible, and He also reveals Himself to His beloved church through the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Both methods of communication are fully divine and equally important for the spiritual growth and development of a believer. As a church, we accept the teaching of the ministry of the Holy Spirit's gifts as an integral part of the inspired Word of God. They are not contradictory but complementary to the Bible, preparing God's people to withstand the last trial and be able to discern the last deception of the end times.

It is my desire and hope to see that God's people will take seriously the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy as God's mercy and grace to His people, especially as we approach the end times and wait for Jesus' soon coming. Those who neglect it and abandon the precious aift of the Spirit of Prophecy will eventually depart from the way of truth. We must hold fast to the gift of the Spirit and be better prepared for the last spiritual battle. The partial fulfillment of Joel's prophecy in Acts 2:16-18 will reach its culmination in the last days soon. The latter rain will fall only on those who have experienced the former rain, to enable them to proclaim the last warning message with power, in the finishing of the work of God. Are you willing to obey? Are you ready to proclaim the everlasting gospel?

"The work will be similar to that of the day of Pentecost...The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its opening." (Great Controversy, page 611). I hope we are on the right path, with the right spirit, and right with God!

# Roh Kudus <sup>dan</sup>Roh Nubuatan

oleh Tan Meng Cheng, Presiden, Peninsular Malaysia Mission

Kita, umat Seventh-day Adventist, harus bersyukur kepada Tuhan kerana memberikan panduan melalui Firman-Nya dan Roh Kudus sebagai Guru untuk menunjukkan kepada kita jalan yang benar dalam kehidupan yang tidak menentu pada akhir zaman ini. Firman Tuhan, terutamanya dalam buku Wahyu 12-14, memberikan mesej khas kepada kita untuk menginjil bagi mempersiapkan umat-Nya yang akan menyahut panggilan terakhir-Nya dan mengharungi tribulasi terakhir sebelum Yesus datang pada kali kedua.

#### Roh Nubuatan sebagai Hadiah yang Kekal kepada Gereja Akhir Zaman

Kita percaya bahawa tiada penambahan yang dilakukan ke atas Alkitab yang telah dilengkapkan semenjak dua abad yang lalu. Ia adalah standard pengajaran tertinggi dan berfungsi sebagai panduan utama dalam segala hal termasuklah hubungan sesama manusia dan pengalaman dalam kehidupan kita. Kita menegakkan prinsip Sola Scriptura di mana apa yang kita percaya haruslah berdasarkan Alkitab dan bukan berorientasikan manusia. Walau bagaimanapun, pelajar Alkitab yang baik dapat mengenali bahawa Tuhan masih berkomunikasi

dengan umat-Nya, melalui Roh Kudus, walaupun penutupan kanonisasi Alkitab telah berlaku (rujuk Yohanes 14:16-17, 26;16:14-14). Efesus 4:8 menyatakan dengan jelas sekali bahawa apabila Yesus naik ke syurga, Dia akan memberikan kurnia-kurnia kepada umat-Nya (Efesus 4:11; 1 Korintus 12:4-11), yang merangkumi para nabi atau tulisan Roh Nubuatan untuk memimpin gereja-Nya sehingga Dia datang lagi (Wahyu 19:10).

Kita mengakui bahawa Tuhan, melalui Roh Kudus, mendedahkan diri-Nya menerusi Firman Alkitab. Melalui Roh yang sama, Dia juga mendedahkan diri-Nya kepada gereja tercinta-Nya. Keduadua mod komunikasi ini adalah ilahi dan penting untuk pertumbuhan dan perkembangan rohani seseorang yang beriman. Sebagai gereja, kita menerima ajaran kurniaan Roh Kudus sebagai sebahagian Firman Tuhan yang penting dan diilhamkan. Aiaran tersebut tidak bercanggah tetapi saling melengkapi. menyediakan umat Tuhan menghadapi cabaran dan dapat membezakan penipuan-penipuan di akhir zaman ini.

Hasrat dan harapan saya adalah untuk melihat umat Tuhan menerima Roh Nubuatan sebagai tanda rahmat dan belas kasihan-Nya terhadap mereka. Mereka yang mengabaikan kurnia Roh Nubuatan akan berpaling dari ialan kebenaran. Kita harus berpegang teguh kepada kurnia Roh Nubuatan dan mempersiapkan diri untuk pertempuran rohani vang terakhir. Tidak lama lagi, sebahagian daripada ramalan Yoel (Kisah 2:16-18) akan mencapai kemuncaknya. Hujan akhir musim hanya akan jatuh ke atas mereka yang telah mengalami hujan awal musim untuk menyelesaikan pekerjaan Tuhan melalui seruan mesej amaran terakhir dengan penuh kuasa. Adakah anda sanggup mematuhi Tuhan? Adakah anda bersedia untuk menyebarka injil kepada dunia?

"Pekerjaan ini akan semirip seperti pada hari Pentakosta...Pekerjaan penginjilan tidak akan berakhir dengan manifestasi kuasa Tuhan yang kurang dari semenjak penginjilan dimulakan." (Kontroversi Besar, muka surat 611). Saya berharap kita semua berada di jalan yang benar, dengan roh yang betul, dan benar bersama Tuhan.

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

### பரிசுத்த ஆவியும் தீர்க்கதரிசனத்தின் ஆவியும் டான் மெங் செங் தலைவர், தீபகற்ப <mark>மலேசியா மிஷ</mark>ன்

Tan Meng Cheng, தலைவர் தீபகர்ப மலேசியா மிஷன்

ஏழாம் நாள் அட்வந்து மக்களரகிய நாம், இறுதிக் காலத்தில், வாழ்க்கையின் நிச்சயமற்ற பாதைகளில் நமக்கு வழியைக் காட்ட, அவருடைய வார்த்தை ஆவியானவர் மற்றும் பரிசுத்த மூலமாக வழிகாட்டுதலை வழங்கியதற்காக கடவுளுக்கு இருக்க நன்றியுள்ளவர்களாக வேண்டும். கடவுளுடைய வார்க்கை, குறிப்பாக வெளிப்படுத்துதல் 12-14 அதிகாரங்களில், அவருடைய இறுதி அழைப்புக்கு பதிலளிக்கும் மற்றும் இயேசுவின் இரண்டாம் வருகைக்கு முன் கடைசி உபத்திரவத்தை கடந்து செல்லும் ஒரு விசித்திரமான மக்களை தயார்படுத்துவதற்காக பிரசங்கிப்பதற்கான சிறப்பு செய்தியை நமக்கு வழங்குகிறது.

வேதம் ஏறக்குறைய இரண்டு நூற்றாண்டுகளுக்கு முடிக்கப்பட்டது, மேலும் அதில் முன்பு எந்த எழுத்துகளும் சேர்க்கப்படவில்லை என்று நாங்கள் நம்புகிறோம். இது கற்பித்தலின் மிக உயர்ந்த தரமாகும் மற்றும் நமது உறவுகள் மற்றும் அனுபவங்கள் அனைத்திலும் இறுதி வழிகாட்டியாக செயல்படுகிறது. நாங்கள் சோலா ஸ்கிரிப்டுரா (வேதாகமம் மட்டும்) கொள்கையை ஆதரிக்கிறோம். நாம் நம்புவது வேதாகம அடிப்படையிலானதாக இருக்க வேண்டும், மனித நேயம் சார்ந்ததாக இருக்கக்கூடாது. ஆயினும்கூட, வேதாகம நியதியை முடித்த பிறகும், பரிசுத்த ஆவியின் மூலம் கடவுள் தம் மக்களுடன் தொடர்புகொள்வார் என்பதை ஒரு நல்ல வேதாகம மாணாக்கரும் அறிவார்.

வேத வார்த்தையின் மூலமாகவும், பரிசுத்த ஆவியின் மூலமாகவும் கடவுள் தம்மை வெளிப்படுத்துகிறார் என்பதை நாங்கள் ஒப்புக்கொள்கிறோம், மேலும் அவர் பரிசுத்த ஆவியின் வரங்கள் மூலம் தம் அன்பான ஆலயத்திற்கு தன்னை வெளிப்படுத்துகிறார். இரண்டு தொடர்பு முறைகள்: ககவல் முற்றிலும் தெய்வீகமானது மற்றும் ஒரு விசுவாசியின் ஆன்மீக வளர்ச்சிக்கு சமமாக முக்கியமானது. ஒரு ஆலயமாக, கடவுளின் ஏவப்பட்ட வார்த்தையாக பரிசுத்த ஆவியின் பரிசுகளின் ஊழியத்தின் போதனையை நாங்கள் ஏற்றுக்கொள்கிறோம். அவை முரண்பாடானவை அல்ல, ஆனால் வேததிற்க்கு துணையானவை, கடைசி சோதனையைத் தாங்குவதற்கு கடவுளின் மக்களை

தயார்படுத்துகின்றன மற்றும் கடைசி காலத்தின் கடைசி ஏமாற்றத்தை அறிய முடியும்.

தீர்க்கதரிசன ஆவியின் எழுத்துக்களை கடவுளின் இரக்கமாகவும், அவருடைய மக்களுக்கு அருளாகவும் கருதுவார்கள். குறிப்பாக நாம் இறுதிக் காலத்தை நெருங்கி,

இயேசுவின் சீக்கிர வருகைகுக் காத்திருப்பதைக் காண வேண்டும் என்பதே எனது விருப்பமும் நம்பிக்கையும் ஆகும். அதை புறக்கணித்து, தீர்க்கதரிசன ஆவியின் விலைமதிப்பற்ற பரிசை கைவிடுபவர்கள் இறுதியில் சத்தியத்தின் வழியை விட்டு விலகுவார்கள். நாம் ஆவியின் வரத்தை உறுதியாகப் பிடித்து, கடைசி ஆன்மீகப் போருக்குத் தயாராக இருக்க வேண்டும். 2:16-18-ல் உள்ள அப்போஸ்கலர் யோவேலின் தீர்க்கதரிசனத்தின் பகுதியளவு நிறைவேற்றம், கடைசி நாட்களில் அதன் உச்சத்தை விரைவில் அடையும். முன்மாறியை அனுபவித்தவர்களுக்கு மட்டுமே பின்மாறியின் மழை பெய்யும், கடைசி எச்சரிக்கையின் செய்கியை வல்லமையுடன் கடைசி நாட்களில் அறிவிக்க முடியும். நீங்கள் கீழ்ப்படிய தயாராக இருக்கிறீர்களா? நித்திய நற்செய்தியை அறிவிக்க நீங்கள் தயாரா?

"இந்த வேலை பெந்தெகொஸ்தே நாட்களின் வேலையைப் போலஒே இருக்கும் ... நற்செய்தியின் பெரிய வேலை, அதன் தொடக்கத்தைக் குறிக்கும் கடவுளின் சக்தியின் குறைவான வெளிப்பாட்டுடன் முடியடைவது அல்ல." (பெரிய சர்ச்சை, பக்கம் 611). நாம் சரியான பாதையில், சரியான ஆவியுடன், கடவுளுடன் சரியாக இருக்கிறோம் என்று நம்புகிறேன்!

陈明祯, 马来西亚半岛区会会长

我们,身为基督复临安息日会的信徒,应该感恩上帝通过祂的话语和圣灵作为我们的导师,在这飘忽不定的末世人生道路上为我们指明道路。 上帝的话语,特别是在启示录第 12 至14章中,是要我们去传扬的特别 信息,以准备一群特殊的子民,来响 应上帝最后的呼召,并在耶稣第二次 降临之前经历最后的灾难。

预言之灵作为对末世教会的永久礼物

圣经大约在两个世纪以前就完成了, 我们相信之后再没有其它著作被添加 到其中。 它是教学的最高标准,是 我们所有关系和经验的终极指南。我 们坚持唯独圣经原则。我们认为应该 以圣经为基础,而不是以人为本。然 而,一个优秀的圣经学生也会认识 到,在圣经正典确定之后,上帝仍然 会通过圣灵与祂的子民相交(参见约 輸福音 14:16-17, 26; 16:13-14)。 以 弗所书 4章8节明确指出,当耶稣升天 时,祂将赐下各样的恩赐(参见 4:11 ; 林前 12:4-11),其中包括先知或预 言之灵的著作来引导祂的教会,直到 祂再来(启示录 19:10)。

我们晓得上帝通过圣灵在圣经的话语 中启示祂自己, 而祂也是藉着圣灵的 恩赐向祂心爱的教会启示自己。这两 种沟通方式都是源自上帝的, 对于信 徒的属灵成长和发展同样重要。作为 一个教会, 我们接受圣灵恩赐事工的 教导, 为上帝所默示的话语不可分割 的一部分。它们并不矛盾, 而是与圣 经相辅相成, 使上帝的子民准备好经 受最后的考验, 并能够辨别末世最后 的欺骗。

我渴望并希望看到上帝的子民认真对 待预言之灵的著作,作为上帝对祂子 民的怜悯和恩典,尤其是在我们接近 末世并等待耶稣快来的时候。那些忽 视并放弃预言之灵这宝贵恩赐的人, 最终将偏离真理之道。我们必须紧紧 抓住圣灵的恩赐,为最后的属灵争战 做更好的准备。先知约珥在使徒行传 2章16至18节中预言的应验,很快将 在末世完全应验。晚雨只会降在那些 经历过早雨的人身上,使他们有能力 去宣讲最后的警告信息,完成上帝的 工作。你愿意服从吗?你准备好去传 扬这永恒的福音了吗?

"这工作将要象五旬节的工作一 样……在福音大工结束时,上帝能 力的显现并不逊于福音开始宣传的 时候"(善恶之争 第38章)。我希望 我们走在正确的道路上,拥有正确 的精神,并与上帝同在!



# Elevate Your Spiritual Experience with the Spirit of Prophecy

by Olivia James, Editorial Board

God's end-time people are characterized to be those who, as written in Revelation 12:17, "keep the commandments of God" and have the "testimony of Jesus Christ." Seven chapters later, John revealed that the "testimony of Jesus Christ" is none other than the "spirit of prophecy." (Revelation 19:10).

Fellow Adventists know that the spirit of prophecy refers to prophecies received by the prophets across time, including our modern-day prophetess; Ellen G White.

Through the writings of Mrs. White, the desire of God pertaining to our salvation in these modern times is clearly evident. Since the very beginning, our faithful God has been using individuals to deliver words of love, comfort, hope, instruction, and warning, just so that we could be led home to Him. The Spirit of Prophecy is the "gospel made practical" because He knew from the start that sinners like us would need extra help to go through the challenges of sincere and practical Bible living.

An analogy by Mrs. S. M. I. Henry can help us understand the beautiful relationship between the Spirit of Prophecy and the Bible. She shared that the Spirit of Prophecy is likened to a telescope while precious Bible truths are likened to the stars. The Spirit of Prophecy is given by God so that we can understand and appreciate the Bible even more. The prophecies – the testimony of Jesus, should lead us to the Bible!

Let's not forget that the Spirit who inspired the Bible authors is the same Spirit who inspired Mrs. White in all of her writings. It is this same Spirit who is more than willing to help us live according to God's Word.

If you have not been reading The Spirit of Prophecy, I would like to personally encourage you to do so, and you may begin with Steps to Christ; it's easy, short (only 80 pages long) and speaks to the heart. This is the first EGW book I read and I highly recommend to read it as you begin (or revive) your Spirit of Prophecy reading journey.

May you allow the Holy Spirit to touch you as you read the testimony of Jesus. May every page lead you closer to Him.

# The Holy Spirit and the Magnificent Gift: **The Spirit of Prophecy**

by Renie Ubara, Ministerial Association

There is a quote that says, "Your spiritual gifts were not given for your own benefit but for the benefit of others, just as other people were given gifts for your benefit." (Warren, 2014). This is true when God gifted the Spirit of Prophecy to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This precious gift comes with a great missiological responsibility: to heed the Great Commission and to share the gospel in its purest form to the world. The pen of inspiration says, "Above the distractions of the earth God sits enthroned. All things are open to His divine survey, and from His great and calm eternity He orders that which His providence sees best." (White, 1904). It is my hope and prayer that Adventists can understand this message from the Spirit of Prophecy clearly.

The beginning of the Christian era was marked by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the days of the early apostles, combined with the manifestation of the various spiritual gifts; this includes the gift of prophecy (White, 1922). Study the following statement – raised and approved during the General Conference session of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 2010:

We, the delegates to the 2010 General Conference Session in Atlanta, Georgia, acknowledge with gratitude the continuing contribution to the Seventh-day Adventist Church found in the writings and ministry of Ellen G White. We are witnesses to how the Church has been blessed and guided by God through the inspired counsel of His messenger. Her counsels exalt the Bible as the Word of God, lift up

#### **INSPIRATIONAL**

Jesus as Creator and Redeemer of the world, and encourage a life of service and sacrifice. Her ministry has directly aided in the preservation of unity in the Church and its expanding global outreach. The gift of prophecy, like the other spiritual gifts, is to bring about unity, equip God's people for the work of ministry, build up the body of Christ, protect it from being deceived by false doctrine, and foster individual and collective spiritual growth (Ephesians 4:11-15). We recognize in Ellen G White the gift of prophecy, and affirm that as this gift is valued and its instruction heeded, the Church prospers. Consequently, we express our gratitude to God for His gracious gift in the prophetic ministry of Ellen G White. We call upon Seventh-day Adventists everywhere to prayerfully study her messages and benefit from the inspiration and instruction found there. We encourage the teachers and administrators of our educational institutions and the leaders of our health-care facilities and publishing houses to review her counsels for their areas of service. We urge pastors to make use of these writings in their sermon preparation and in their planning with the members for the mission of their churches. We appeal to Church administrators at every level to exert their influence in affirming the importance of these writings for the Church and to continue efforts to make these writings available to church members at affordable cost. And we affirm our commitment to "believe His prophets" (2 Chronicles 20:20), that we may prosper in fulfilling our mission to the world and thus hasten the coming of Jesus. (Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2010).

The statement and resolution above affirm our belief in the Spirit of Prophecy. If you are new or interested in revising on this topic, you may ask - what is the Spirit of Prophecy? Read the following passages shared by Ted Wilson, the president of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, to help your understanding:

According to Revelation 19:10, the "testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." The "testimony of Jesus" is His prophetic messages to His people given through His prophets. We see the spirit of prophecy working throughout the Old Testament. God declared in Numbers 12:6, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream." Of course, we know that during the Old Testament period God sent many prophets to speak for Him to His people. In the New Testament the Spirit of Prophecy continued to be manifested through various individuals such as Anna (Luke 1:36), Zacharias (Luke 1:67), John the Baptist (Matt. 11:14), Barnabas and others (Acts 13:1), and John the Revelator (Rev. 1:1-3).

In his very helpful article, "The Gift of Prophecy: Another Facet of God's Care For His Church," Dr. Gerhard Pfandl points out that "Paul wrote to the Ephesians that the gift of prophecy would remain in the church 'till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God' (Eph. 4:13). In the book of Revelation, therefore, the remnant church in the time of the end is said to have 'the testimony of Jesus' (12:17), which according to Revelation 19:10 is 'the spirit of prophecy'...

"For the early Christians the 'spirit of prophecy' was a reference to the Holy Spirit, who imparts the prophetic gift to God's messengers. This also becomes evident when we compare Revelation 19:10 with Revelation 22:8, 9." The fact that the testimony of Jesus or "Spirit of prophecy" is mentioned in connection with God's end time remnant church (Rev. 12:17) indicates that Jesus would speak in a special way to His people for these last days. That's why we often refer to the writings of Ellen G. White, God's messenger to His last day remnant church, by the phrase "The Spirit of Prophecy." This is the same Spirit who inspired God's earlier prophets with messages for His people.

A compact and inspiring thought indeed. Our president also encourages Adventists around the world in the following:

How important it is to remember how the Lord has led us in the past, and how He has taught us His mighty truths found in Scripture, and this specially designated day is designed to help us remember our Adventist heritage and the gift of the Spirit of Prophecy... What a timely and important gift this is, and yet we are warned that "The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God..." (2SM 78). We know, of course, that the Spirit of Prophecy is not the



Bible, nor is it equal to the Bible. As Ellen White indicates, the Spirit of Prophecy is to lead us to the Bible. However, the important point to understand is that the Spirit of Prophecy is inspired by the same heavenly inspiration as that of the Bible—after all, it is the testimony of Jesus. First Selected Messages, page 41 tells us that "Through His Holy Spirit the voice of God has come to us continually in warning and instruction, to confirm the faith of the believers in the Spirit of prophecy. Repeatedly the word has come, Write the things that I have given you to confirm the faith of My people in the position they have taken. Time and trial have not made void the instruction given, but through years of suffering and selfsacrifice have established the truth of the testimony given.

The instruction that was given in the early days of the message is to be held as safe instruction to follow in these its closing days." The testimony of Jesus which is the Spirit of Prophecy is part and parcel of the Advent movement. It is a MAGNIFICENT GIFT from God. It is centered in Christ and all He represents -- His salvation, grace, and current ministry in the Most Holy Place in the heavenly sanctuary. The Spirit of Prophecy shares what Jesus wants for His end-time people-people waiting for His imminent second coming. We don't know the exact date, and don't accept anyone's calculations if they tell you they know-only the Father knows-but we do know that His coming is very soon... I believe it with all my heart... everything points to the culminating events of the Great Controversy. And this is why it is so important, especially at this time, that we stay close to God, studying His Word--the Scriptures, and following His counsels found in the Spirit of Prophecy--the lesser light that leads to the greater light of God's Word. (Wilson, 2021).

Indeed, prophecy can help us to proclaim Jesus! Let's ask ourselves, is this MAGNIFICIENT GIFT impacting my life as an Adventist? Prayerfully, I humbly encourage YOU to make it a priority in the learning of the Spirit of Prophecy and share its messages with our children, our youth, and our church members. May parents and church leaders alike play a very significant role in guiding every Adventist home to wholeheartedly receive and apply the Spirit of Prophecy in their everyday lives.

#### Deepening Your Experience in God

To be given the Holy Spirit and the Spirit of Prophecy is to deepen our experience in God. Our heavenly Father knows our needs and hence He gave us His love letter – the Bible - so that every life question we have can be answered, and every need is satisfied. He also knows that we need both the Holy Spirit and the Spirit of Prophecy to help us read and study the Bible properly. The Spirit of Prophecy leads us to appreciate more of the Bible and His Spirit is ever ready to guide us towards understanding and genuine Christian living. There is a deepening of the Christian experience, an experience that God wants all His children to have. The pen of inspiration mentioned,

Professedly we have taken our stand on the Lord's side, to represent in this evil generation the close relationship that Christians enjoy with God, and with Jesus Christ whom He hath sent. It is certainly our privilege to enlarge our experience, to deepen our consecration, and to come into closer contact with our heavenly Father, bringing our will and way into conformity with His will and way. (White, 1932).

As we allow the Holy Spirit to deepen our Christian experience, we will be more than ready to obey God's will. To end, I would like to say that because all of us are so valued and important in God's eyes, He gave us the Spirit of Prophecy that we may know God's heart and that one day we will be in His eternal home, eternally embraced by His overflowing love. Let's respond to His great LOVE by immersing ourselves in the learning of the Spirit of Prophecy and in the sharing of its messages to others. May all these things begin in our homes.

The prayer of Christ in John 17:21 will be completely answered in the remnant church, and all mankind will wonder at the spiritual solidarity of the advent brotherhood. We feel greatly cheered as we notice an ever-deepening love among us for the Spirit of prophecy books. If our ministers and teachers study anew this divine light and if our people follow it, we shall hold together, finish the work, and be prepared to meet the Lord. (Christian, 1947).

Proclaiming the Spirit of Prophecy is proclaiming Jesus. It is my sincere prayer that the Holy Spirit's power will empower you and me to be proclaimers of the MAGNIFICENT GIFT to all. Amen.

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#### **COVER STORY**

# THE HOLY SPIRIT

by Benjamin Ng, Spirit of Prophecy Ministry

The work of the church in the last days is still largely a proclamation work to the world. God wants us to preach and proclaim the gospel "to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people" (Revelation 14:6 KJV). We are not commissioned to build institutions or big buildings or even churches. *Our gospel commission is to preach and to teach (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19) and everything we do must have this one thing in mind.* Unless we do this, Jesus will not come back again for a second time (Matthew 24:14). He is waiting for His people to finish the work of sharing the gospel, giving everyone a chance to hear the good news of Jesus, so that everyone will have the opportunity to be saved.

The mark of the beast will be the catalyst that will push the gospel message to the remotest boundaries of the earth in these last days, just as the persecution of the Christians in the book of Acts was the catalyst to push the disciples and apostles of Christ out of Jerusalem to preach to every creature under heaven. Acts 8:1 (KJV) tells us that when there arose "a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem," it was then that many of those in Jerusalem "were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria."

Ultimately, Paul would preach in Rome itself, not as a free man but as a prisoner, bound in chains. Even in his letter to the Philippians, as he closed, he said, "All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar's household." He had preached, and the word of God had not returned void irrespective of his circumstances. It had done its work.



# and the Spirit of Prophecy

So it will be at the end. We read in Matthew 24:14 (KJV) that it shall "be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations." That word "witness" in the Greek is written as "martyrion." This is where we get the word "martyr" from in the English language – someone who is willing and ready to die for what they believe in. The gospel will go to the ends of the earth in times of persecution when the whole world will be marshalled against the people of God, against those that have the seal of God and not the mark of the beast. The gospel will go to the whole world with the people that are ready to die for the faith of Jesus. Are we ready to die for Jesus today?

HOLE BIBLE

#### How can we be ready?

The 3 Angels Message in Revelation 14 is our identity as Seventh-day Adventists. If the angels in Revelation 14 are symbolic of God's people going through all the earth with great speed preaching the everlasting gospel, then these angels must also represent God's people in the end times. Revelation 18:1 (KJV) reads, an angel will "come down from heaven, having great power" and the whole earth will be lightened with God's glory. This means that God's people are accompanied with a heavenly element, something that God gives them from above - great power and the whole earth will be lightened with God's glory.

First let's have a look at God's glory. How will the whole world be lightened with His glory? Isaiah 60:1 (KJV) says, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee." We must receive His glory in each of our lives. And when we do, we will be able to shine, we will be able to preach and prophesy. Furthermore, in verse 3, we are told that even the Gentiles will come to the light. I don't know about you, but that sounds like the whole world being lightened with God's glory.

#### **COVER STORY**

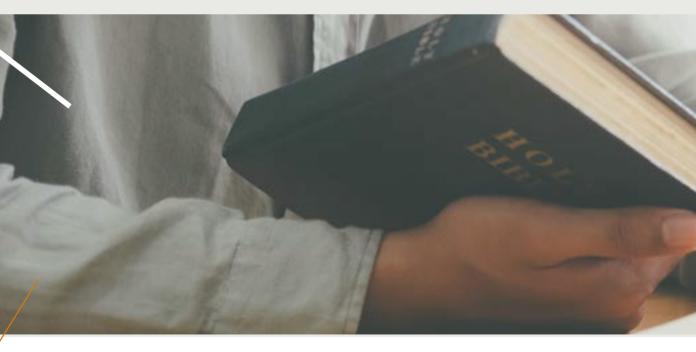
#### How can we be filled with His glory?

John 1:14 (KJV) says, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." Jesus, the Word, became flesh so that we could behold His glory and ultimately be filled with His glory. If we are to be filled with His glory and shine it to the world, we need the Word to become flesh in each of our lives today. We need to spend time reading God's word, digesting His word, and making His word our life. We need Christ living in us and through us (Galatians 2:20). This is where we must begin today.

Coming back to the text in Revelation 18, it says that God's people would receive power as well. What will give God's people power to light up the whole world? It is the same power that was given to the apostles in the book of Acts to preach the gospel to the then-known world in their time. Acts 1:8 (KJV), "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." The word "witnesses" there is the root word of what we saw in Matthew 24:14 – martyr. In the Greek it is "martys." You see, unless we receive the Holy Spirit, we will not be ready to die for our faith. Unless we receive the Holy Spirit, we will not be given power to preach the everlasting gospel to the whole world. Unless we receive the Holy Spirit, we will not have the spirit of prophecy being manifested in our midst for we will not have any desire to even preach or share.

The spirit of prophecy is not only the prophets in the Bible and those that wrote scripture or even Ellen White as many points out in our church today. *The spirit of prophecy is a gift that is given and which will be poured out even at the end of time.* Peter confirms this in Acts 2:16-18 when he preached his amazing sermon after the Holy Spirit came upon the praying group in the upper room. He says,

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;



17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. (KJV)

Peter and his group were not living in the last days. You and I are living it now. This time belongs to us, who are living a short time before the second coming of Christ. This means that there will yet be a people who will be filled with the spirit of God, sons and daughters who will stand up and prophesy. People who will preach! They will proclaim the everlasting gospel with great power! And with more power than any of the other prophets that have come before us.

Then the word of God will go to the whole earth, and the work of God will be finished!

More than ever today, we need to spend more time in God's word. We need to pray more for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in each of our lives. Not simply to just be ready so that we can be saved. Not simply so that we can lead holy lives and go to heaven one day. But so that we can preach with power that the WHOLE WORLD will know that Jesus is soon to come and that He is mighty to save each and every one of them – including us, the chief of sinners.

Let us pray for a heart that thirsts after the living water. Let us pray that God would give us willingness to open the door of our hearts to let Him come in today. Let us pray that God would give us appetite and desire of His word each day.





# Maintain Your Mental Health with NEWSTART

by Dr Sim Su Tein, Petaling Jaya Chinese

According to the National Health Morbidity Survey (2019), almost half a million Malaysians were experiencing depression symptoms – and this was before the pandemic occurred. Amidst the COVID-19 outbreak, many mental health cases were reported due to the abrupt shift in everyday life for many individuals. "In 2020 alone, the Health Ministry recorded 1080 suicide attempts. Between March and October of that year, 266 people had reportedly committed suicide for various reasons." (New Straits Times, 2022). As a result, mental health and psychosocial well-being receive a lot of attention. However, despite the rampant disease, the stigma remains pervasive, making mental health issues taboo to be discussed, which in turn, causes poor mental health literacy and resilience among us.

The Bible is profound in regards to mental health. 3 John 1:2 says, "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." It is important to note that physical, mental, and spiritual health should be kept well as they are interrelated in many ways.

#### **NEWSTART** and Mental Well-being

Our mental health can be improved or maintained by living the NEWSTART principle. It's the acronym for Nutrition, Exercise, Water, Sunshine, Temperance, Air, Rest, and Trust in God. It is God's natural remedy, introduced by Ellen White. Here are some NEWSTART recommendations for good mental health:

#### **I. NUTRITION**

We believe that what is good for the heart is also good for the brain.

Leafy green vegetables such as kale, spinach, collards, and broccoli are rich in brain-healthy nutrients like vitamin K, lutein, folate, and beta carotene. Research suggests this plant-based food may help to slow cognitive decline.

Berries. Flavonoids, the natural plant pigments that give berries their brilliant hues, also help improve memory and delay memory decline.

Nuts are excellent sources of protein and healthy fats. A 2015 study from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) linked higher walnut consumption to improved cognitive test scores.

#### **II. EXERCISE**

"For the brain to have clearness and strength of thought, retentive memory, and mental power, the muscles of the body should exercise a portion of each day to preserve and improve health." (The Health Reformer, March 1, 1873)

Exercise can regulate the levels of brain chemicals, such as serotonin, stress hormones, and endorphins, which result in better emotional regulation. As a result, exercise can improve our sense of control, ability, and self-esteem. When overwhelmed, exercise can distract us from negative thoughts and allow us to explore new experiences.







Drinking at least eight glasses of water a day will maintain not only our physical fitness but also our mental well-being. Research shows that water is important for maintaining our mental health. Since our brain is made up of about 73% water, can you imagine what dehydration can do to the brain? Dehydration may increase our risk of anxiety and depression, among other unhealthy mental states. "Pure water to drink and fresh air to breathe which helps to invigorate the vital organs, purifies the blood, and helps nature in her task of overcoming the bad conditions of the system." (Healthful Living 187.1).

#### **IV. SUNSHINE**

This [sunshine] is one of nature's most healing agents." (Testimonies for the Church Vol.1, 527.1)

Sunlight and darkness are essential to regulating our biological clock, especially in growing children and adolescents. Exposure to sunlight is believed to increase the brain's release of a hormone called serotonin which is associated with regulating one's mood and emotions. Children and growing teens who are deprived of sunlight will experience growth and emotional dysregulation issues.





#### **V. TEMPERANCE**

"To preserve health, temperance in all things is necessary - temperance in labor, temperance in eating and drinking." (Counsels on Diet and Foods 23.1)

"True temperance teaches us to dispense entirely with everything hurtful and to use that which is healthful judiciously." (The Faith I Live By 231.8)

True temperance means abstaining entirely from harmful things like illicit substances or psychoactive drugs. For those things that are good for us, like medications and supplements, we should use them in moderation.

#### **VI. AIR**

"Air is the free blessing of heaven, calculated to electrify the whole system." (Healthful Living 71.1)

Fresh air has been linked to increased health and happiness, especially in individuals who spend more time outdoors. In addition, consistent immersion in nature can calm thoughts and alleviate anxiety.

#### VII. REST

Sleep and mental health are closely connected. Sleep deprivation affects our psychological state and mental health. Those with mental health problems are more likely to have insomnia or other sleep disorders. Sufficient sleep facilitates the brain's processing of emotional information. During sleep, the brain works to evaluate and remember thoughts and memories, and a lack of sleep is especially harmful for consolidating positive emotional content. This can influence our mood and emotional reactivity and is tied to mental health disorders.

#### **VIII. TRUST IN GOD**

"Gratitude, rejoicing, benevolence, trust in God's love and care are health's greatest safeguards." (My Life Today 151.5)

Many research findings reveal that trust in God is associated with lower levels of anxiety as well as fewer symptoms of depression and lower somatic symptoms. Mark 4:35-41 reminds us of a crucial aspect of the Christian life. When the disciples were terrified by a terrible storm, the horrendous waves, and the relentless beating of the winds, Jesus was sleeping peacefully. This incident helps us to understand, from a mental health perspective, that there is no point in being stressed over uncontrollable circumstances that cause our mental health to deteriorate. We need to stay calm and learn to trust God. This can be done by praying to God and spending time with Him. He alone can give us the peace that the world cannot give.

In this unprecedented time, we need to fully realize God's presence and His mighty power over us. We need to see through the eyes of faith and have full assurance of His leading and protection. If we care for our mental health, we must prioritize our relationship with God. When life turns challenging, God does not change our circumstances; instead, He empowers us to think positively and preserve our minds regardless of the possibilities!











#### **MISSION SPOTLIGHT**

# 第六届学生文字布道 两年之后的我们

在2020年,全世界面临了灾难性的瘟疫"新型冠状肺炎"。不仅影响了人们的健康,更涉及到全球经济、生态环境、生活作息等等,甚至连我们的信仰也受到极大的冲击。面对这严峻的病毒侵袭,实体的教堂聚会被迫暂停,许多拜访小组也停止了。人们的信仰无法得到奋兴。许多人就渐渐地失去那火热的心,渐渐地离开了上帝。

但我们知道主的恩典从来没有离开。感谢主!2022年 疫情稍有了减缓,各国开始开放边境,人们开始向外 旅游。教会也开放实体聚会,各地开始举办各种营 会,其中就有"第六届文字震撼力 -- 学生文字布道营 会"。(Recruitment for Student Literature Evangelist)

这是很特别的营会,由马来西亚半岛区会几位年轻的 传道人策划举办,主要以学生为培训对象。营会从9月 3日开始,至9月8日结束,为期6天的训练。本届的地 点选在马来西亚中部的雪州巴生。

#### 整个训练期间有五大目的让学生经历并学习:

传扬耶稣 - Witness for Jesus 经历上帝的大能 - Experience God's Power 塑造品格 - Character Building 销售技能培训 - Canvassing Skill Training 赚取零用钱 - Earning Pocket Money

今年的文字布道营会比往年更具有挑战性,主要是因为疫情的缘故。因此,学员们的健康状况需要特别关注。他们生活作息都在一起,而且还需要每天与陌生人接触。何时会染疫我们都无法确定。但圣经有句话:"耶和华必在你前面行;他必与你同在,必不撇下你,也不丢弃你。不要惧怕,也不要惊惶。"(申命

记31:8)上帝应许不会丢弃我们,并会与我们同在。 我们把营会每一天的忧虑都交给祂。在上帝的保守看 顾之下,直到营会结束为止,每一位学员以及传道人 都安然无恙。上帝把人的忧虑转变成祝福,把人的忧 患转为喜乐!我们感恩赞美主!

其次,就是这批学员中有九成以上都是新人。我们还担 心学员没有勇气向陌生人卖书,或着无法承受被拒绝而 产生的受挫感等等。 但人的尽头就是神的开始,每一 位学员都在派书的过程当中经历了耶稣的同在和带领。

"第六届文字震撼力 - 学生文字布道营会"在上帝充满 恩典的福气之下,以及在学员们的祷告和努力之下, 六天的销售书籍数据,如下:健康书籍共81本、 儿童 书籍共51本、属灵书籍共382本。

因着疫情的缘故,这次与以往不同的是,我们有"脸书 直播卖书"。"直播卖货"已成了疫情下的常态,但并非 人人都能在手机面前做直播,除了考验勇气之外,更 是考验临场反应,以及是否可以吸引观众。 直播当晚 每位学员都紧锣密鼓地在筹备,不管是在镜头前的直 播主持人,或是在幕后的编辑,以及在现场的学员, 每一个人都尽力去完成这一个半小时的直播。在上帝 的带领下,当晚就有了RM2,000的销售额,我们将荣耀 归给上帝。 同时我们也期望借着直播的力量,让人认 识到"文字震撼力布道营会"并不是只有卖书、派书,更 多是他们的培灵生活。

"文字震撼力布道营会"是一个绝不能错过的营会。它 是一个可以祝福他人,并帮助我们体验上帝大能的机 会。让我们一起学习从每一次拒绝中得着勇气,从每 一场祷告中得着祝福,从每一本书籍中经历上帝奇妙 的大能。"文字震撼力"我们明年见!

#### 《林欣瑜姊妹 来自蒲种中文堂》

『记得在我刚来的时候,我是有一些恐惧,因为这是第一次参加。我既 开心又兴奋能够参加这一次的活动。 当我第一天尝试去卖书的时候,我 不是那么的敢进去店里介绍,但是接下去的几天就变得越来越勇敢了。 我印象最深刻的是在第三天的时候,那是我和我的队友人生中第一次进 警察局,而且进去就只是为了卖书。 虽然最后警察没有买我们的书,但 是我们也会觉得这是一个很好的经验。 记得当我们从警察局出来,正打 算去下一个地方卖书时,突然有两只狗向我们奔来,我和我的队友就开 始跑了。虽然卖书很辛苦,但是我觉得这是一个很好的体验。 在这里, 我想感谢有参与这项活动的所有人,感谢你们与我一起并肩同行,一起 度过快乐,甚至沮丧的时光。』



『这几天参加文字布道最深刻的见证是,当我们开始卖书前,我邀请我 的队友们一起祷告,求主带领我们,也预备需要这些书的人,然后我们 就开始向我们遇到的人分享。最让我们意想不到的是,我们那天遇见的 第一个人就对我们传福音的活动特别地感兴趣,遇到的第一个人就支持 我们的食谱和福音书。这让我感觉上帝其实一直都在眷顾、守护我们, 因为我们在为上帝做工。"无论作什么,都要从心里作,像是给主作的, 不是给人作的。"主必有安排。 因为疫情后,我们都很少与人交流接 触,所以我觉得这是一个很好的机会,让我们去和陌生人分享书籍,同 时也可以传福音给更多的人。这是我第三次参加文字布道,很感恩上帝 让我有机会去带领队友们一起去努力。从中我也学习到很多,看见队友 们的成长,从社恐进步到勇敢去分享,也替他们感到开心。"因为上帝赐 给我们,不是胆怯的心,乃是刚强,仁爱,谨守的心。"』



为上帝先爱



为上帝先发

#### 《胡以诺姊妹 来自怡保中文堂》

『这是我第四次参加文字布道。文字布道就是有这种魅力,它会让你想 要一去再去。 这次的文字布道依然让我在很多方面突破了自己,比如说 卖了很多以前都没有卖过的书本,但我们都知道这是上帝满满的恩典。 文字布道士都会有一个习惯,就是在开始卖书之前先做祷告。 我们每一 次都祷告,每一次都能感受上帝的同在,还有天使一直在保护我们的安 全。 其实我们每个人的内心都很害怕要进去店面里卖书,因为我们根本 不知道要面对的人是谁。但是上帝赐给了我们满满的信心,去应对这一 切。 我们可能会遇到很好心的人,请我们吃饭喝水;同时也有可能会遇 到骂我们、赶我们走的人,但是我们知道这都是让我们成长的经历。』

#### 《黎伟良弟兄来自居銮中文堂》

『不知什么时候开始,我发现自己没有了起初的热忱,所以在营会开始 的两天,我并不像之前参加文字布道营会表现的那般积极,甚至没有心 或是不想做那么多。但后来牧师鼓励我再次找回起初的热忱。虽然还没 完全找回那种感觉,但是我已经在慢慢的改变。每当我回想起初参加营 会的时候,感受到的那份感动,就情不自禁的流下眼泪。

经上记着说:'我们爱,因为上帝先爱我们。'因着上帝的爱使我们相聚一起,将上帝的爱传给身边的人。 来到最后一天的时候,虽然卖书的记录 不多,但我却用了将近一个小时的时间,和一位药材店老板交谈。虽然他 是无神论者,但是我们的交谈都在环绕着上帝。其实他并不排斥信仰, 我知道上帝的话已经撒在他的心田了。 短短的文字布道营会的这几天, 虽然没什么很特别的经历,但我想上帝就是要我找回那起初的热忱吧!』



为上帝先爱



为上帝先爱

# **Share Your Faith Story**

#### Count your blessings, name them one by one, Count your blessings, see what God has done.

Have you been counting your blessings? Are you able to see God's goodness in the past 12 months? Many things happened in my life this year; the good and the bad, and sometimes, the worst. But I still got to see God's leading and blessings along the way. If it were not for him, I would not be the person I am today.

The coming new year has a lot in store for you and me. New challenges, new responsibilities, new friends, and a new pet, perhaps? Regardless, whatever that will happen in 2023, trust that God is always with you. I encourage you to keep counting your blessings and writing them down in a book so you can look back and remember His goodness.

With that, I look forward to your testimony in the coming newsletter, March 2023 issue! I encourage you to keep sharing (or start sharing) so others will be blessed too.

Till we meet again, God bless and see you in 2023!

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### VISION Article Submission Guide

You are welcome to write for the edification of our members.Share with us your experience with Christ. What's the latest with your local church?

We welcome scripts from all local church members of sister-institutions of Seventh-day Adventists in areas of:

News and Testimonies (800 to 1,600 words), Evangelistic program and activities (400 to 800 words)

We reserve the right to edit / delete / reject all scripts to ensure that it is for the purpose of edifying our members.

#### Deadline:

-15th Jan (for Mar Issue) -15th Apr (for Jun Issue) -15th Jul (for Sep Issue) -15th Oct (for Dec Issue)

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#### Write

Indicate name / pseudonym, church / organization



#### Check

Check spelling and grammar, use appropriate punctuation

#### Avoid

Avoid insert picture in MS Word Avoid whatsapp compressed photo

#### Photo

Send original high-res photo atleast 1MB / 300dpi with caption

#### Email

vision@adventist.org.my

#### **NEWS UPDATE**

### Sharing God's Blessing with the Sentosa Community

**by Edwin Joseph,** Kuala Selangor



Cooking delicious Indian meals for the needy

On 16 September 2022, the newly formed Sentosa Adventist Community joined hands with a group of young people from the Bukit Jelutong Seventh-day Adventist Church to distribute meals to the needy around Sentosa, Klang. There are many poor and unfortunate people living on this side of Klang and hence, we wanted to help and share God's blessing.

Praise God, with a humble budget, we managed to cook enough food and distributed many packs of food to the hungry. We praise God for the humbling experience on that day.

Formed on 13 August 2022, the Sentosa Adventist

Distributing the meals to the young and old around Sentosa

Community strives to conduct the Food Drive project on a quarterly basis. We believe that God is opening up a way for our church to reach out to the community within our reach. We acknowledge that despite our many lacking, He still graciously provides and that motivates us to keep reaching out to others.

Besides doing community outreach, we also have regular prayer meetings every Tuesday, vesper and Sabbath service. Located at No. 24A, Lorong Dato Dagang 35C, Taman Sentosa, 41200 Klang, the Sentosa Adventist Community can be reached at 014-3177172.

# 3 Days and 90 Houses: Praise God!

#### **by Arvind Robert,** Klebang

The youth and health departments of the Klebang Indian Seventh-day Adventist Church joined forces to organize a 3-day health screening around Ipoh. It was a memorable occasion as this was our first health outreach after many years of being hindered by the Covid19 restrictions.

This year, we organized our health screening in a different manner. The teams went house to house and gave the residents free health checkups including the checking of blood pressure, glucose, BMI and health counselling.

We started the screening on 16 September 2022 and ended on 18 September 2022. Within the 3-day period, the team aimed to cover the following locations: Sungai Siput, Klebang and Bercham-Tanjung Rambutan. Praise God for strength and determination. We managed to visit over 90 houses and contacts were recorded for follow-ups in the future. We also want to praise God for giving us the opportunity to be a blessing to the community and also for giving our young people the experience to serve and learn.



The mandatory group photo before we began our outreach

## **Mooncake Festival**

#### by Ngo Xiao Yun, Melaka

On the Sabbath evening of 10 September 2022, the Melaka Church held a gathering to celebrate the Mooncake festival at a shelter by the Melaka River. This festival symbolizes togetherness and therefore, it is a day for reunion with family and friends.

We had a blessed time together that evening as we closed the Sabbath by the river. It followed by a delicious potluck and later, we had a fun time playing riddles and bonding games. Before the reunion ended, everyone carried their lanterns and walked along the river while enjoying God's nature together. Even though we were not able to see the full moon on that night, God gave us a serene, peaceful and quiet atmosphere by the river. Everyone present enjoyed this memorable reunion.

Melaka Church is always very blessed. It is a home church to many faithful serving members all around the world and nearby. Even though it was a simple celebration, the get-together was enlightened and made extra special by visitation of old church members. We could feel the warmth and the closeness that we once had long ago.



A group photo with our lanterns

### SSD-ASI CONVENTION 2022: Scaling Up During a Crisis

**by Edward Rodriguez,** Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD)

The Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASi) of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD) convened at the La Carmela de Boracay Resort, Aklan, Philippines, for a four-day annual convention on 1 September 2022 – 4 September 2022. Several delegates from the Peninsular Malaysia Mission attended this convention.

The 2022 convention of Adventist business professionals from SSD dwelt on overcoming challenges while advancing God's mission in the workplace. Under the theme, "Scaling Up During a Crisis," more than 500 delegates from several countries within the division assembled for the first time since the pandemic.

ASi is a mission-driven organization empowering lay people of the church to be involved in various church missions and projects. The incumbent president of the SSD-ASi chapter, Rexon Nainggolan, officiated the convention. "The integrated work of the church through leaders and lay people creates a network of believers that supports each other in fulfilling the mission," Nainggolan said.

Speakers from various industries in the marketplace and Adventist Church leaders shared management ideas and development strategies contextualized for church organizations to achieve mission-oriented, Christ-like working ethics in various Adventist offices. They also reiterated the value of epitomizing a positive mindset, following the example of leaders and disciples of the past who exhibited it while following God's mission.

#### A Clear and Absolute Mindset

In his devotional message, the General Conference Sabbath School and Personal Ministries director, James Howard, encouraged delegates to find inspiration in Nehemiah's way of thinking as he faced challenges in his leadership and mission. Amid the political and spiritual challenges that hurdled Jerusalem's rebuilding, Howard emphasized that Nehemiah remained focused on his mission. "Nehemiah's mindset was clear and absolute," Howard said. "Nehemiah left an example of dependence on God; understanding his mission and identity, taking action and responsibility; he spent time studying and developing clear plans, and remained focused on his mission," he added.

Adventist University of the Philippines theology dean, Felixian Felicitas, shared the story of Joseph and his response to crisis while thriving on God's mission for Israel. He reminded delegates of the character that Joseph exemplified when he was betrayed and when his faith was stretched. Joseph's resilience paved the way for God to fulfill His mission for Israel. "Just like Joseph, all of us face crises at different levels and perspectives," Felicitas said. "But despite facing what seemed to be insurmountable feats, Joseph understood that God never forgets, that God hears our pravers, and that He is in control."

#### Ready to Face Crises

SSD communication director, Mamerto Guingguing II, welcomed the Sabbath with an inspirational talk on spiritual scaling-up during the Friday evening service. The Bible account records countless occasions when adversity tested the mission, yet the Lord's work flourished through His leading, he said. "To fortify our Christian character, God permits mishaps and reversals to refine us and prepare us for the greater crisis ahead," he assured.

Guingguing added that prayer and spiritual discipline are essential to prepare our hearts as we face a greater crisis in the end time. "Despite life's challenges, praise and worship should be the heartbeat of the Christian life. This should be our spontaneous response to difficulties," he said.

#### Scaling Up for Mission

Business professionals in marketing, human resources, project development, and networking presented modern strategies and trends to complement the church's mission.



ASI Convention 2022

A mandatory group photo with the beautiful Boracay beach

Product marketing specialist, Albright Dy, discussed fundamental elements of scaling up and achieving a great value of service in taking part in God's mission. "If the quality of work we dedicate for the mission is random, spontaneous, and mediocre, the possibility of scaling up is far from [being achieved]," he said.

#### Working Hard and Cheerfully

Behind every organization are people who have invested their skills and time in keeping the entity's operations and brand promise. Amytis Mahal Sandalo-Banaag, senior assistant human resource officer, reminded delegates and business professionals about giving value to the best investment each organization has: their people. Banaag quoted Colossians 3:23 where Paul wrote, "Work hard and cheerfully at all you do, just as though you were working for the Lord and not merely for your masters" (TLB).\* According to Banaag, God does not settle for less. "He is performanceconscious and is concerned about the quality and level of our work towards the mission," said Amytis.

Marvin De Ocampo, ASi member and senior financial advisor of a renowned global financial company, invokes clear objectives for identifying strategies to position the church where people can find the church easily and have a clearer understanding of who we are and what we do as a church. "Our strategy is to create a plan that will help the church identify how we can establish our presence in the communities through mission-oriented projects and how it should be positioned in the minds of individuals who see us and attract them to follow Jesus," he said.

#### **Mission First**

"The main business of the church is to bring the message to the world," said SSD president Roger Caderma in his closing remarks at the end of the event. Caderma described the Adventist Church as an organized entity with all its organizations, institutions, schools, hospitals, publishing houses, and supporting ministries. Despite its organized composition, he said, "numbers are useless if we don't fulfill the gospel commission." He added, "Seventh-day Adventists are people with a mission, people with a purpose, and people with commitment."

#### Thriving Despite the Pandemic

Despite the pandemic, several projects were developed in prime locations around the division to establish an Adventist presence in unreached cities. One of the projects that ASi funded was the establishment of a church on Komodo Island in Indonesia.

The island is a tourist destination known for its Komodo dragons, a member of the monitor lizard family. Despite being a tourist location, an Adventist presence was not yet established in this location. SSD-ASi purposed to build a church and organized an evangelistic meeting, which resulted in the baptism of the first eight believers on the island.

#### ASi in Peninsular Malaysia Mission

As the team embarks on a strategic journey to revamp ASi in the Peninsular Malaysia Mission, the team welcome ideas and potential collaborations. Please feel free to contact Immanuel Tan, ASi Coordinator for Peninsular Malaysia Mission, for further communication.

The original version of this story was posted on the Southern Asia-Pacific Division news site.

\*Verses marked TLB are taken from The Living Bible, copyright © 1971 by Tyndale House Publishers, Wheaton, III. Used by permission.

#### **NEWS UPDATE**

# New Pathfinder Honor Launched!

**by Daniel Victor,** Hope Adventist Church

The emergence of the COVID-19 virus in 2019 has led to abrupt changes in the lives of many worldwide as the years go by. Governments and those in authority began to work hard with the people to contain the spread of the virus as best as they could. It was since then that we were taught to live and adapt to the new norms by following the stringent guidelines provided, and one of them is regarding hygiene and cleanliness.

A culture of hygiene has been highly promoted since the days of the pandemic. It was during those days when MG Daniel Victor was asked by his wife, MG Jane Daniel, regarding ways they could simplify and teach the Adventurers and Pathfinders in the church about the pandemic and the individual responsibility that comes with it. Jane, who is also a staff nurse, was concerned about the importance of personal hygiene as well as how they could be of help to those around them.

The question was a light bulb moment for Daniel; instead of making it an ad-hoc learning opportunity, cleanliness and personal hygiene education should be made into a Pathfinder honor. Not only can fellow Pathfinders truly learn and earn the honor, but at the same time, they can share what they have learned to their family and friends.



Brother Daniel and his wife Jane

With the combined effort of this Master Guide couple, they came up with the honor proposal, went through the review process with Peninsular Malaysia Mission (PEM) Youth Director, Pastor Renie Ubara, and later on, this honor was finally reviewed and approved by the Southern Asia Pacific Division (SSD) Pathfinder Honor & Adventurer Award committee.

This newly created Pandemic honor serves as a continuation study after the Viruses honor, focusing on the pandemic context. Any individual interested in earning this honor should first complete and earn the Viruses honor.



Pandemic Honor Patch

#### The objectives of the Pandemic honor are as below:

- Know and understand what a pandemic is.
- Know how you can be of help to others during the pandemic.
- Know what God has spoken about cleanliness and personal hygiene.
- Know what God has spoken about diseases and the hope humanity has to overcome the them.

Regardless of whether we are moving toward an endemic or epidemic, it is important that we understand what our role and responsibility are during such times. Let's prepare ourselves and do our best to be a blessing to others.

## Fedora Club's First Ever Camp

**by Daniel Victor,** Hope Adventist Church



A group photo together with PEM Youth Director

The Fedora Club of Hope Adventist Church, consisting of both Adventurer and Pathfinder clubs, had its first camp on 8-10 October 2022. Attended by fellow Adventurers, Pathfinders, Master Guides, including our church pastor, Pastor Noah Agustin, this camp was held at The Nest @ MAEPS. After pitching our tents by the beautiful lake, we proceeded with cooking. A few of us had never experienced camp cooking before, so this definitely brought more excitement and joy to the overall camp experience. Peninsular Malaysia Mission Youth Director, Pastor Tan Weoi Siong, was also invited to share some special remarks and devotion.

The first night of the camp proved to be quite challenging due to the rain. Rainwater seeped through some of our tents, but we praise God that it did not rain heavily and the weather was good for the rest of the camping days. This experience also served as a learning opportunity for our Adventurers and Pathfinders in learning how to be better prepared for camp as well as camping etiquette.

Throughout the 3-day camp, the Adventurers learnt to earn various awards, including the Fitness Fun award, Knot Tying award, Camper award, and Honey award. The Pathfinders focused on Camping Skills honor, Camp Cookery & Fire Building honor, Archery honor and Lashing honor. Besides that, we also did other fun activities such as canoeing, stargazing, campfire and nature walk.

This camping experience will be etched in the memories of the Adventurers and Pathfinders. We give glory and thanks to the Lord for the blessings and learning opportunities we gained during the camp. On behalf of the Fedore club, I would like to thank the following leaders for their leadership, commitment, and hard work in making this camp a successful and memorable one.

#### Special thanks to:

Fedora Adventurer Club Director: MG Jane Daniel Deputy Directors: MG Pamela Benjamin & MG Shanthi Jonathan

Fedora Pathfinder Club Director: MG Clifford Weldy Deputy Director: MG Brantha Kannathasan





Tents all set!

#### **NEWS UPDATE**

## Knowing God through Chinese History: Evangelistic Meeting

#### **by Ngo Xiao Yun,** Melaka

Melaka Church is blessed to be able to invite Dr. Samuel Wang to speak for an evangelistic meeting on 28 September 2022 until 2 October 2022. His sharing focused on The Bible and Ancient Chinese Wisdom. In his sharing, he connected Chinese history to various aspects of the Bible. The event was eye-opening, and it was amazing to learn how our Chinese ancestors acknowledged God's existence. We learnt that their wisdom and understanding of their god is the same as the God we worship today. These are proven in their early writings, Chinese characters, and even in the temples they built.

The 5-day meeting was conducted in the Chinese language. On Saturday, Dr. Samuel spoke in English for the English-speaking members who attended. One of the many things that impressed and convicted everyone is that the Chinese ancestors were, no doubt, faith bearers. Here are the 5 topics we went through that week:

- 1. The Great Ceremony of Sacrifice to Heaven has been Passed Down through the Ages
- 2. Pieces of Oracle Bones Shocked the World
- 3. Taoism and the Sage's Dream
- 4. Self-cultured and Well-being
- 5. The United World is Expected to Return

The presenter led us to swim in the long river of wisdom, to find an antidote for this crisis-ridden modern society, to find strength for people in a state of uncertainty, and to bring apocalyptic guidance to the unpredictable life. Dr. Samuel's talks were very interesting. In his sharing, he even showed us many nice places in China and encouraged us to visit specific places and temples to gain a deeper personal understanding of ancient Chinese wisdom.

Even though the evangelistic meeting is over, to many who have listened to his message, it was the beginning of ventures. Through his Youtube channel, books, and continual messages on the media, Dr. Samuel Wang has led many truth seekers' hearts to study and discover more about God and ancient Chinese wisdom. It is our prayer that the link between God and the Chinese ancestors will also link our hearts and souls to the almighty God in heaven.



Photo of the evangelistic meeting committee together with Dr. Samuel Wang and his wife



Group photo on the last day of the evangelistic meeting



Dr. Samuel Wang during his presentation

# **An Unexpected Call**

by Goh Cheng Siew, Penang English



Blood glucose station



Blood pressure station



One of the two waiting areas

A health screening is necessary every now and then to help the community keep in check with their health and to detect any abnormalities early so that they may get treated early. Therefore, PESDAC Community Services and Health departments organized a free health screening for the church members and the community on 10 July 2022. Penang Adventist Church (PAH) Community Health department and Peninsular Malaysia Mission (PEM) Health department assisted in this program, and also donated strips and medical supplies for the event.

Yang Berhormat Chris Lee Chun Kit, the ADUN for Pulau Tikus, officiated the program and gave a short speech commending the church for the event. About 200 persons participated in the health screening which consisted of the following checks:

- 1. Blood pressure
- 2. Blood glucose
- 3. Cholesterol
- 4. BMI
- 5. Eye check by Dr Raymond Tah of PAH
- 6. Breast examination for ladies by Dr Pua Sze Ning, the Health director of PEM
- 7. Health counselling

All the participants received a goodie bag and a pack of Adventist whole-meal bread. Visitors at the event were also given spiritual books and GLOW tracts by our volunteers.

After the health screening event, we received an unexpected call from a former health screening participant a few months back. He called to share that his wife, Nilapathi, attended the PESDAC free health screening on 10 July 2022. He further shared that his wife was examined by Dr Pua who detected a lump in her breast. His wife was requested to go for further examination. She had her mammogram. Ac CT scan was also done at the general hospital as they could not afford to go to a private one.

The tests confirmed that she has breast cancer. A breast surgery was urgently performed by Dr Saw and her recovery from cancer went well. This couple expressed their sincere thanks to the church because it was this health screening event that helped her to overcome the life-threatening illness.

We also received a warm message from Madam Khor who's also one of our health screening participants. She expressed her gratefulness for the meaningful event and hoped there will be more done for the community in the future. To her, this event was a great success.

To the nursing students and medical interns, this health screening event was a golden opportunity for them to gain experience in community health service. They were happy and fulfilled with their involvement.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our appreciation and thanks to everyone who made this health screening a success. Your support and prayers are deeply appreciated.

#### **NEWS UPDATE**

### **Center of Influence (COI):** KL CORNERSTONE Academy, Puchong

**by Rosalind Chan,** *Puchong Chinese* 

"The greatest want of the world is the want of men-men who will not be bought or sold; men who in their inmost souls are true and honest; men who do not fear to call sin by its right name; men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole; men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall." (Education 57.3 EGW)

Over the last three years, Covid-19 has greatly changed our educational landscape. Education is evolving and adopting digitalization and transformation in the classroom. Whilst the world can boast of its academic values and best-inclass infrastructure, our denomination has been privileged to be entrusted with the blueprint of true education.

In order to fulfill "the greatest want of the world," where do we stand in making sure we are filling in the gaps? How do we raise up an army of youth for God when we only tell the story of Jesus once a week? How do we reach out to young people when we have evangelistic meetings or camp meetings once a year?

What would be an effective method of producing what the world needs? The answer - Christian Education.

There is no doubt one may depend on public schools to educate our children scholastically. They may even teach the basics of healthful living and a certain degree of ethics. Music, art and physical education are usually masterfully presented. While these have their place, Adventist education maintains that "the true science of education... will fit the youth for eternal life" (Manuscript 1, 1909) and that "the work of education and the work of redemption are one" (Education, p. 13). Scripture highlights this connection: "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life" (John 6:47). "But how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear if nobody tells them?" (Romans 10:14). Consequently, the ultimate priority of Adventist education is to prepare our students as candidates of heaven.

The public school system will not, cannot, and can never be expected to encourage the development of a Christ-like character in the students. George Barna, who specializes in research for Christian ministries, wrote a book entitled "Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions." In it he stresses the importance of guiding our children in their choice of inviting Jesus into their hearts at a young age.

His findings show the following:

- The probability of someone embracing Jesus as their Savior between the ages of 5-12 is 32%
- This drops to 4% for ages 13 to 18
- 6% for those 19 and older
- He also points out that the spiritual moorings of children are in place by age 9

Clearly, it is extremely important to provide our children with the opportunity at a young age to accept Jesus.

Hence, Christian education is an effective evangelistic tool that we may adopt and as a denomination have embraced. Educating our young people for eternity must not be secondary or peripheral, but rather primary and central.

Notice this powerful statement from Patrick Johnstone:

"If children's work is neglected you lose the next generation. Ignore children and sacrifice the future" (Rainbows of Hope, August 2004).

As we move into the 21st century re-commitment is imperative. Adventist education is more important now than ever before in our history. Satan knows his time is short. When it comes to destroying the church, don't you think the youth would be the enemy's target population?

Don't be fooled! Satan has great plans for the children - He has made them a priority.

Church Schools to Be Established in Cities.—Much more can be done to save and educate the children of those who at present cannot get away from the cities. This is a matter worthy of our best efforts. Church schools are to be established for the children in the cities. —Manuscript 129, 1903 (Manuscript Releases 10:258).

#### Heeding the urgency of establishing a church school, we thank God that we have the support of our local church to establish a learning center where we can share the gospel with those that come in through our doors. KL CORNERSTONE Academy is the Center of Influence (COI) by Puchong Chinese Church, and its purpose is to provide a blended learning of both academic and vocational skills. Jesus is the Chief Cornerstone, and His word our textbook. Adhering to the principles of true education, we hope to be instrumental in helping children receive a harmonious development of the physical, mental and spiritual powers.

Hence, we are pleased to announce that KL CORNERSTONE academy is open for year 2023 enrollment. For further details, please feel free to connect with us at info@klcornerstone.com

We humbly invite those who are interested to serve God in the education ministry, those who have a heavy burden for youths, or would like to do volunteering work, please connect with us at the contact information listed below. Those who would like to offer their contributions for the upbuilding of the learning center, may send their gifts to: SDA Puchong Chinese Church / PUBLIC BANK / 3155163221 / Purpose: COI PCC

For more information – please WhatsApp Rosalind @ 012-429 1877 / info@klcornerstone.com

# Advent Youth Camp

#### **by Kezia Fam,** Tampin English

Young people from the combined Adventist Youth of Tampin English and Tampin Chinese SDA churches, along with the students and staff from Aenon Health Care, decided that they could not contain their burning desire to share the love of Jesus with others any longer. Therefore, in the month of April, as the pandemic began to abate, they saw an opportunity for the carrying out of a youth camp. They envisioned this camp to bring spiritual revival and reformation in the lives of other youths in Malaysia.

Although young themselves and with such a great task before them, the organizers realized their utter dependence upon the One who could bring it all to fruition. There were many challenges while organizing this camp, but because of God, the committee was forced to close registration way before the appointed date due to the overwhelming stream of participants!

We praise God for His guiding hand because close to 100 youths from all over Malaysia, and even Singapore, participated in the first ever Advent Youth Camp located in Melaka on 3 June 2022 – 6 Jun 2022. With the theme "Live It Out" this camp was the first of its kind ever held!

The goal of this camp was to lead and guide every participant to see their infinite worth and find their true identity in Christ – designed, chosen, and called for a life higher, loftier, and nobler than many actually realize. The entire camp was run with the earnest desire to help youth experience how real and personal God truly is, and taste for themselves the overflowing joy and blessing known to all who place their trust in Jesus.

Throughout the camp, the organizers sought to provide and preserve a positive influence in the environment to promote growth – mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Scriptural values and principles were established and encouraged through the setting of examples. Working together, everyone strove for the building of Christian character for time and eternity. Besides delivering deep heartsearching messages, various workshops focusing on practical knowledge and life skills were also conducted. All the fun and play, laughter and joy shared are unforgettable moments!

#### **NEWS UPDATE**

It's truly amazing how the Lord moved and worked through His Spirit throughout the whole camp! On the last day, nearly all the youths came forward to respond to the appeal, committing to at least 1 hour of daily personal devotions. Also, during testimony time, a youth shared that he used to hate going to church and did not want to have anything to do with God. However, his view of God and the church has changed so he cannot wait to go back to church again!

A youth also shared that it was the first time he felt God was close to him during his personal devotions each morning throughout the camp. Another also shared that she had grown so much in her walk with Christ throughout the camp! All in all, many were thankful for the camp as it helped them to rest from the hustle of everyday lives.

For many of these youths, Christianity was something new to them. But as the Spirit worked, hearts were opened to the decision to have Bible studies! Youths coming from dysfunctional families, dejected and broken with backgrounds of untold woe and sadness, left with hope in their hearts and smiles on their faces. Although the last day was filled with goodbyes, for the camp had been a place where warmth and love prevailed and a sense of belonging was exercised, the participants did not go home empty handed. They left with stories to tell, bringing hope to the people around them. We praise God because just a few months later, some of the participants organized their own youth camp at their respective churches, using what they learned and experienced at Advent Youth Camp.

Advent Youth Camps hopes to continue running yearly with the mission to inspire more young people to experience Christ's love and inspire others to experience the same. Longing to help other youths fulfill God's unique plans in their lives, Advent Youth Camp envisions a generation rising up to the high calling of God, living out the knowledge and love of the risen Savior, standing true to principles and for God – very shortly, this earth will be lightened up with the glory of God!



Campfire night

Last day of camp. Group photo is a must

# Celebrating & Welcoming 5 Youths to the Family

**by Helen Joseph,** *Taiping English* 

<sup>«29</sup>The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup>This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who [k]is preferred before me, for He was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." John 1:29-31

Taiping Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) church was overjoyed with the decision of 5 youths who decided to take Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Saviour and committing their lives to Jesus Christ as His disciples in baptism. The baptism ceremony was held on 9 September 2022 at Maxwell Hill's Coronation pool in Taiping, Perak. Their ages range from 12 to 20+ years old. This occasion was attended and supported by friends and family of the candidates, both within and outside of the church.

Taiping, well known as a "rain town", had its frequent share of showers for weeks. Thus, we expected it would rain that evening. Praise God. He is great. It stayed sunny until the end of the ceremony.

The joy of the occasion was evident and went beyond the ones being baptized. The church members shared their excitement about their new brothers and sisters in Christ by extending their arm of Christian fellowship. They offered words of welcome, love and support, followed by the giving of fresh flowers and "bear" hugs. The Taiping SDA church would like to thank all who were, in one way or another, instrumental to this end. All praise and glory go to God our heavenly Father who says "there is great rejoicing in heaven", who has seen to the spiritual growth and development of these precious souls.

The Church would also like to thank the parents who were instrumental in developing disciples for Christ.

Last but not least, we'd like to thank Elder and Mrs Loh Kam Kee, Pastor Petrik and his wife, Sister Ellen, for their endless hours spent with the youths in bible studies.

A special thanks also to all the church leaders and members who had been helping in the nurturing of these precious souls.

These newly baptized members are being developed to be useful citizens devoted to God by nurturing their spirituality and following biblical Christian values for their betterment and for the benefit of all around them.

May God accompany every step they make, remembering that He will always go before them and be their constant companion. May every lesson they learned from their bible studies serves as a guide in their everyday lives.



A group photo with with our beloved church Pastor



Celebrating the day with friends and family

#### **NEWS UPDATE**

### **Experiencing God's Blessings** Through Outreach

**by Olivia James,** SAHC



Joybox parents with their kids



The health screening team on APU campus

Physiotherapy session with one of our elderly seekers



House cleaning for an unwell elderly or a



Joybox led by the mothers



Door to door health screening in progress

2022 is the year when we want to do more for others because God has been blessing SAHC in many ways. It is also the year when we want to encourage every lay member, young and old, to be involved in God's work because we believe that "it is labor that keeps the strong man strong. And spiritual labor, toil, and burden-bearing, is what give strength to the church of Christ." (Testimonies for the Church 2:22). And if we want to take the gospel further, as commissioned in Matthew 28, it is "not by what the pulpit teaches, but by what the church lives." (Testimonies for the Church 7:16).

We were convicted to reach out to the community but it was not easy as we imagined. Though there were hurdles but that's also when we experienced God's mercy, wisdom, and providence. We have been witnessing His working hand in our community outreach programs, and here are some praises to commemorate His goodness.

**Praise #1:** Establishing a committee isn't easy, but it is the only way to have our Campus Hope club back on the APU campus again to serve as a channel for soul-winning. Having our core consisting of APU alumni lay members to step in to re-establish the club, and recruit non-SDA committee members, seemed to be a risky step. We could foresee a conflict in goals between the SDAs and non-SDAs. However, after our recent committee team building, it was evident that God brought to us these people to be ministered to as well. Though there were ups and downs, they still chose to open up to us and are still actively joining Care Group. Praise God!

**Praise #2:** One of our close friends, whom we met at Campus Hope 2019, has grown to be comfortable with us and is currently staying with us. Somehow, through exposure to Care Group and Bible studies, although not a Christian, she is actively attending church, serving in our children's outreach program, and assisting the church in different ways.

**Praise #3:** Campus Hope has been organizing health-related activities that many students are keen on. More new members are coming in, and with the help of the Bible workers and church members, it is evident that through the trial and error of organizing activities again after MCO - more friendships have been built. Praise God for His involvement in our campus ministry!

**Praise #4:** Praise God, after several months of door-knocking and the health screening at The Mines, we were able to get two contacts who are interested in healthy cooking demo in their respective houses. They learned how to make healthy salad dressings and healthy smoothies. We praise God for lay members who were willing to volunteer to be involved in this cooking demo too.

**Praise #5:** Constant visits are essential for friendship development. Our friendship with our contacts started as we began to visit them during our afternoon Sabbath outreach, every two weeks. One of them is currently participating in our other ministry that we have – JOYBOX. A ministry that caters to children, educating them about STEM through art and crafts.

Our contact's child loves to do art work and meet new friends. They even joined us on our recent field trip to the science museum with the other parents and kids!

**Praise #6:** Praise God that though most of the families we met are not Christians, they still trust us and are very accommodating in accepting us into their homes. We see this as God's opening door for us to be a blessing to them and we pray that one day, these families will come to know the God we serve who loves them so much.

**Praise #7:** Through the JOYBOX ministry, we came to know \*Jane and her three children. Since that day, when one of our JOYBOX leaders invited her to church, she has been attending SAHC with her children every Sabbath, praise God. She is also going through a Bible study. All glory goes to God!

**Praise #8:** Jane's\* friend also decided to join JOYBOX and church with her own kids!

**Praise #9:** Praise God for the well-organized field trip to Petrosains with the JOYBOX kids and their parents. We appreciate the help we received from the youths and families to make this field trip fruitful, smooth and worry-free! It was indeed a fun-filled day for everyone!

**Praise #10:** We also would like to thank God for the help we received from some of our seekers, whom we met through campus ministry. They were willing to spend their Sunday with us at Petrosains and also taught science to the JOYBOX kids.

**Praise #11:** Even the parents of the JOYBOX kids did not want to miss the opportunity to serve, so they helped to prepare food for the field trip!

**Praise #12:** Through outreach, I learnt how important it is to rely on God. We can do very little for an individual and even less for the family we came across. However, God can multiply our efforts and turn them into a greater blessing. I praise God because He calls us to be His co-laborers in the mission of saving souls. His grace is sufficient for sinful beings like us to be a blessing to someone's life.

**Praise #13:** We met a grandmother during our health screening event at a nearby mall. What amazed us is that this grandmother practices most of the health principles that we Adventists grew up with, although she is of a different faith. Since then, we have been visiting her, and sometimes her grandchildren are there with her too. She is very open to anything health-related, so we conducted a mini health knowledge sharing and cooking demo with her. We hope that we are able to learn something from her too, as she is a good baker!

**Praise #14:** I praise God for community outreach. It has been helping me to come out of my comfort zone for the sake of helping the community. It is still a struggle for me, but I praise God for using me nevertheless.

\* a pseudonym

#### **NEWS UPDATE**

# Please Lord, help us get one more

**by May Yong,** Utama Beacon



Baptism of Leon and Sebastien

Acts 2:38-41 says: Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them."

For Utama Beacon, 3000 was our dream and the journey continues in June and July 2022. The heaven rejoiced with 3 more souls saved for His kingdom. A glimpse into the 3 newly baptised "babies":

"I decided to be baptised cause I felt like Christianity puts me in some sense of belonging, and even if it's a glimmer sense of hope (after all I've done in the past), I get to go to Heaven", says Brother Leon. Transformed from youth complacency and troubled life, it was a tremendous joy for the parents and siblings of Leon, to see the miracles of the Lord working in him. After many months of 1-on-1 with Pastor Ho, today, he is a transformed man, blessed with a stable career, thanks to the love of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Our Lord, a miracle worker, indeed touched the heart of Brother MJ, after many years of prayers by his devoted wife and church. "My association with Christ has crossed many times since childhood. Never took those instances seriously before but the calling was getting stronger with each passing

Baptism of Sebastien

months and years. No pressure whatsoever, but one day I knew the time has come and I surrendered myself to the good Lord without hesitation and doubts and bow for his acceptance and blessings" says Brother MJ, now on fire to start his spiritual work for Christ.

Sebastien was our youngest baptised "baby". Shy and humble in nature, this 11-year-old boy was our very first student of Utama Beacon's children's bible study class. In the words of his bible Teacher Rose, "A young boy who loves Jesus and is always happy when he is at the Lord's house". He decided to follow the footsteps of his mother and placed his faith on Jesus Christ as his saviour. One more soul for your Kingdom, Lord!

As for Utama Beacon, our journey continues. "Please Lord, help us get one more, 1000 more, 3000 more, according to your will". Like King Jehoshaphat, we humbled ourselves, fasted, and prayed. We organized a week of FPP (Fast, Prayer, Praise, and Prayer) throughout the week of 4 September 2022 – 9 September 2022. We prayed for more souls to save, for God to use us mightily. Also, we did not forget to pray for our church pastor. Pastor Ho is a faithful servant of our Lord Jesus Christ. He has been instrumental in teaching the words of Jesus Christ to many of us. "Pastor Ho was and is the greatest influencer for Jesus and was able to turn my husband around over time and he has a huge impact on my family's allegiance to the Lord". We praise God for his ministry.

In the Lord we trust and surrender in all things, Amen.

## **Connect:** The Bible School for All

by Ben Foo (Personal Ministries), Christine Tan (Children's Ministries) & Robert J. Agustin (Sabbath School Department)

"The Sabbath-school should be one of the greatest instrumentalities, and the most effectual, in bringing souls to Christ." (Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work, p. 20)

This year, the Sabbath School department collaborated with Personal Ministries, Children's Ministries, and Youth Ministries to conduct a regional training in the Central, Northern, and Southern Regions of Peninsular Malaysia. The theme for the event is "Connect: Transform from Aloof to Zhoosh".

"The Sabbath school is an important branch of the missionary work, not only because it gives to young and old a knowledge of God's Word, but also because it awakens in them a love for its sacred truth, and a desire to study them for themselves; above all, it teaches them to regulate their lives by its holy teachings." (Counsels on Sabbath School Work, p. 10, 11)

"It is a school for all where faith and life connect."

Sabbath School should not be a dry round of service. It should be the heart of the church to "Reach-up, Reach-in and Reach-out". The main objective of this year's training is to make "Sabbath School Alive", to make every Sabbath School transform from "Aloof to Zhoosh".

Many have asked, what's the meaning of Aloof and Zhoosh?

"Aloof" is a way to describe someone being not friendly or forthcoming; cool and distant. While "Zhoosh" means making something more exciting, lively, or attractive. Yes, we want our Sabbath School to be exciting, lively and attractive, even to outsiders!

"Sabbath School Alive!" is a worldwide initiative of the General Conference Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department, helping local churches to rediscover the power and purpose of Sabbath School. The power of Sabbath School is that it follows the divine model for true discipleship—Bible study and prayer, fellowship, and mission.

The "Sabbath School Alive!" initiative highlights three vital components of thriving Sabbath Schools: Bible study and prayer, fellowship, and mission. A solid balance of these elements characterizes the most vital Sabbath Schools around the world.

BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER-discover the power of Bible study and prayer in Sabbath School

FELLOWSHIP—experience the joy of fellowship through study and service in Sabbath School

MISSION-gain world mission education and community outreach training in Sabbath School

Through the Sabbath School Action Unit (SSAU) providing smaller Sabbath School groups to engage members and keep people involved, the attrition experienced will be much less, and everyone will benefit from having a more personal and rich relationship with Christ. Besides, class members coordinate the reclaiming of inactive members, helping to keep Sabbath School membership lists upto-date. This is an opportunity for R&R – Revival and Reformation, Reclaiming and Retaining.

"The object of Sabbath school work should be the ingathering of souls." (Counsels on Sabbath School Work, p. 61)

Secular learning recognizes that students must advance beyond information gathering to understanding, application and evaluation of facts. Thus, spiritual learning involves all of the above along with additional domains such as faith and action.

With the collaboration of PEM Personal Ministries, Children's Ministries, and Youth Ministries, we are working toward a newly improvised Sabbath School that focuses on the moral transformation of the soul. It is done by combining the Sabbath School foundation, which consists of Bible study and prayer, with its focus mission and community outreach. These elements are the vital components that help make "Sabbath School Alive!", and with this new mindset, we will no longer just be passing knowledge during our weekly Sabbath School but also connect members with the Almighty Teacher -Jesus Christ, and encourage them to be actively involved in soul-winning.



### NEWS UPDATE

### Free Health Screening Program 2022 @ SUNGAI PETANI

#### **by Lydia Norman,** Sungai Petani BM-ENG

Everyone seems to have fallen a prey to the shallow way of living life which majorly contributes to the following:

(i) an unhealthy lifestyle(ii) compromising self-care.

With the motive of promoting a healthy lifestyle for healthier and fit body, the Sungai Petani SDA BM-ENG Church (SPC) aimed to organize the Free Health Screening Program (FHSP) for the community.

1John 5:14-15 "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him."

With our desire to organize this program, as a church, we prayed about it together for a few months during our online united prayer meeting. We wanted to get divine approval from God and we wanted to be guided by the Holy Spirit.

Proverbs 2:6 "For the Lord gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding."

By God's approval, grace and wisdom, this whole program was organized. After many deliberations and suggestions, a venue was decided.

Philippians 4:19 "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

We began discussing and planning since 12 June 2022 and decision was made after the meeting with the manager of Lotus Bandar Puteri Jaya. We praise God that we were able to fix the date of the health screening smoothly alongside with the venue. We also want to praise God because daily, more and more people stepped forward to volunteer for the program. 1Thessalonians 5:17 "Pray without ceasing."

Philippians 4:6 "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."

We, as a CHURCH, believe FHSP is the first step for us to populate the Kingdom of God and we have experienced God's power through PRAYERS. Every time we pray, we move the hand of God, our PRAYER does the things that our hands cannot do.

1 Chronicles 16:8 "Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples!"

We want to praise and thank God for all the supernatural help through His divine intervention. 70 people participated the health screening and praise God, 44 of them showed interest in health talks. Therefore, the team is currently planning a series of health talks as our follow-up program.

Matthew 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen."

Hebrews 13:5 "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

God is in control of all things at all times. SPC's main goal is to follow CHRIST'S method alone to get true success in reaching people. LORD JESUS CHRIST our SAVIOUR in HIS earthly Ministry, HE mingled with men as one who desired their good, showed sympathy for them, ministered their needs and won their confidence. Then HE bade them, "Follow Me." (Ministry of Healing, p143).

As such, we will use this method to reach out to not only the participants but also to some of our volunteers who are not of the same faith.

Philippians 1:6 "Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ."

To God be the GLORY forever and ever, Amen.



One with the team and friends from Lotus



中文堂

在青年布道营开始前,我们只有很短促的时间去策划活 动和准备道具。但是我感恩在策划游戏的过程中,上帝 派了一群"天使"来帮助我。就在教堂大扫除的时候,有位 很有经验的老师乐意跟我分享策划游戏的流程和一些游 戏灵感,并且还介绍了她正在放假的女儿来成为我的帮 手。我非常感谢她们的协助。思想细腻的她总是能在游 戏中找到需要改进的地方。策划游戏的时候也有很多人 愿意来帮忙。

我也要感谢在游戏进行时,带领着队伍的队长们和在一 旁协助的老师们。他们虽然都有忙碌的生活,但却也乐 意随时站出来,助我们一臂之力。在队伍散乱的时候, 她们为我们帮忙矫正位置;帮忙带领比较年幼又好动的 一群来参与活动;也为我们预备这三天健康又美味的食物。

此外,我也要感谢上帝,因为在活动当天眼见快要下雨 了,那大片的乌云就在头上,也开始淋到了几滴雨。正 当我们觉得游戏不能进行的时候,圣灵告诉我要祷告。 所以我请另一位老师,一起为活动祷告。结果不到五 分钟,再一次看向天空,上面的乌云已经散去不见踪 影,只剩下美丽的天空。我也要感恩上帝聆听了我们的 祷告,为我们的活动放晴了天空。那是一场多神奇的经 历。在游戏的过程中,我看见了青年们乐在其中,互相 帮助,彼此包容。这一切都是上帝带领并差派 "天使们" 的协助。

最让我印象深刻的讲座是那个黑脸的故事。因为仿佛在 诉说我的故事似的。我从小性格内向,跟同龄人格格不 入,不参与别人,也不合群。然而感谢上帝的恩典,让 我从这个格格不入的"黑脸",改变成了现在的我。上帝帮 助我远离了世俗的脚步,而跟随上帝的脚步,看见祂的 作为是如此神奇而伟大。我感恩上帝为我开路,使我的 大学生活一切都能顺利。

当然还有关于改变的讲座,也是让我有所感动。我非常 认同上帝的改变是百利而无一害的!在我还未认识上帝 以前,我是个非常孤僻固执的孩子。脸上满是忧愁,看 不见一丝欢乐。就连我的家人都很少看见我开心的笑。 我的笑容自从小学的校园霸凌后,就像被封印了一样。 我的眼中只有仇恨。然而在一次来自中国讲师的分享 中, 圣灵感动了我, 让我想要改变自己。而改变就只是 从一个简单的祷告开始:"天父上帝,请你让我明天能记 得向你祷告, 阿门"。从那天开始, 我的世界就改变了。 我开始看见那些努力向我伸出的手,而不是那些要害我 的手!我才发觉原来上帝一直有派天使在我左右,只是 我看不见。后来我的人生就有了翻天覆地的改变。曾经 的仇人,也成了我的朋友!听完整个讲座,让我一一想 起上帝在我身上的工作。我在这里也要勉励所有阅读我 见证的朋友们,请接纳上帝在你身上的工作。让上帝来 改变你,因为祂对你的改变是百利而无一害的!



游戏-从报纸找圣经章节



其中一堂户外课

39



## 荣神益人的健康检查

黄**玮恩,** 怡保中文:



工作人员合照



良好的天气造就了高达百人的参与者

7月17日(星期日),早上8点30分到中午12点。怡保基督复临安息日会在Kinta Heights举办了免费的健康检查。健康检查开放给40岁以上的人士参与。检查包括体脂分析,血压测量,血糖测量,胆固醇测量等等。

感谢主给予当天良好的天气,参与健康检查的人数高达100 人,参与者至少未进食了8小时以上。选择的此地点也是教友 们星期日免费派饭的地方。因避免疫情的严重,所有人都必 须带上口罩,遵守防疫措施。

当天场地被分成几个不同的站,避免人群拥挤。第一站是记 录参与者的基本资料;第二站是测量身高;第三站是测量体



进行测量体重体脂分析

重、体脂分析等;第四站是测量血压及心跳;第五站是测量 血糖和胆固醇;第六站有提供水、面包以及口罩给参与者; 第七站还有专业人士给予的检查建议。

每一位教友都在各自的岗位热心地为参与者提供服务。感谢所有人的参与以及提供的帮助,让此活动能顺利圆满的结束。看见每位脸上都露出笑容,给予了我们极大的鼓励。感谢主,愿一切都可荣神益人,荣耀归主名。

## 重新出发,晴天你好

陈慧文, <sub>医隆坡中文堂</sub>



明媚阳光下的大合照

从疫情中走出来的日子,还是有着许多的调整和挑战。本以为宅在家太久的人们会抗拒阳光人群,可在国庆假日,吉隆坡中文堂 - 家庭事工安排的郊游野餐,却看见了人心依旧向往上帝的创造 - 大自然,踊跃参加的程度叫人欢欣。

在明媚的阳光下,约四十位弟兄姐妹拿出精心准备 的美食,大家一起歌唱聊天分享,进行了一场惬意 美满的野餐记。

其实这些乃是后记,在这一天之前几乎都是连绵雨 天,就连当天早晨也逃不过乌云密布的笼罩。但是 这样的情景却没有扑灭大家的热诚期待,反而更积极 的为天气而祷告。上帝怜悯垂听,天放晴了,这样逆 袭的一道风景,让每一个出席的弟兄姐妹心中满载感 恩。

孩子的追逐欢乐声,青年人抱着吉他高歌赞美声,父 母们彼此分享祷告声,那厚云依旧的天空,却成了上 帝为我们撑的一把伞,这样久违的画面实在是叫人动 容。希望大家走出陰霾,过得不再 " 疫 " 样 !



各自享受在久违的野餐

年轻人绝不错过的游戏时光

### **NEWS UPDATE**

# "时光不老,初心不忘"

**吴开兴**, 关丹中文堂

感谢主,在今年的8月14日,让我有机会参与这次乐龄关怀-【关丹一日 游】的活动,大家一起用餐联谊。

乐龄朋友往往因为朋友渐逝、或经济无法自主、与家人生活又无法切合, 抑或跟不上日新月异的科技而感到自卑。有些因为健康出现问题及儿女们 没有能力看顾,就被安排送进安老院,造成许多长辈们在晚年时活得并不 愉悦。

经过两年多的疫情后,我国马来西亚政府宣布重新开放各经济领域,人民可以再次如常生活。盼望这次的关丹一日游的活动能够对消解乐龄族内心的孤独、隔离感,和陌生感起着一定的作用。

家有一老如有一宝 真的让我体会和感触极深。当天早上我带着一位黄老先 生去吃早餐,交流中他述说曾经在人生过程如何风光,也如何跌到谷底的 那种感受,导致现在一无所有。虽然如此,现在他还是要活得开心和有尊 严。

【箴16:18】骄傲在败坏以先;狂心在跌倒之前。

在整天的活动里面,我可以体会到23位乐龄人士也相当的努力去配合义工 们的协助,虽然某些乐龄人士的体力,视力和腰椎都有问题,但最后他们 也是能够完成整个旅游过程。

早上,我们参观关丹文化节和关丹高塔后,就在"如意素食馆"享受午餐。 餐馆老板也为在8月份的3位乐龄人士庆祝生日。还有一对称呼"麦" 夫妻赞 助了我们全体人员的午餐。

同时,我们也感谢有教会的牧者们带领关丹教会社区关怀小组的一班弟兄 姐妹们,一起的参与活动,使这次的活动带来活力。以致乐龄人士都问我 们,何时会再举办旅游活动。他们都希望能参加。

健康长寿是世人梦寐以求的福气,但要活出丰盛而自在的人生,真是毕生的学问。进入人生下半场、继而退下职场,往往令人百感交集。

圣经给了我们最好的答案!信靠上帝、与祂相交,是营造幸福精彩晚年的要诀。"白发是荣耀的冠冕,在公义的道上必能得着"(箴言16:31)。



义工陪伴长辈们开心出游



义工们协助长辈们上下巴士



吴妍霖, <sub>关丹中文堂</sub>

自疫情爆发后,弟兄姐妹们在牧师的带领下,一直都 有去关怀那些贫困,孤寡,有疾病的弱势群体。为 他们送上食物干粮,日常用品,防疫物品,甚至医药 费。在这漫长的一段时间里,无论是管制令或自愿闭 关,那些日子就像坐牢似的,与世隔绝。

在过去两年多的疫情期间,政府宣布封国封城。这段漫 长时间的禁足,让一些人开始习惯了不出门,一些人的 性情开始变化,一些人埋怨失去自由,还有老人们的孤 单与无奈。如今虽未恢复往日节凑,但也逐步恢复正常 生活。趁此机会,教会组织了一个银发族关丹一日遊的 节目。带一班老人家出去走走,一起用餐,一起联谊, 一起活动。感谢主恩待,在弟兄姐妹们的配合和努力 下,短短两个星期时间内一切准备就绪。

活动当天的早晨,弟兄姐妹们就陆续地把老人家接到 教堂集合,还帮助他们上了巴士。当中有位瘫痪的婆 婆,见到每一位弟兄姐妹都向他们道谢,因为她长期 住在老人院里,基本上是没出过门。当天她非常开心 可以出来散散心。

一路上弟兄姐妹们以一对一的方式,陪伴着他们,聆 听着他们的故事。一路上看到他们的坚持和配合,疲 累中绽放出幸福开心的笑容。原来幸福快乐就是这么 简单。 回家的途中,老人依依不舍的向弟兄姐妹们道谢。今天他 们如皇帝般得到专人照顾和陪伴。老人们说他们年轻时都 没有这样的经历。这是他们人生第一次得到弟兄姐妹们的 爱心对待。虽然我们所付出的是那么地微不足道,但对他 们却意义非凡。

回家时老人们都带回一盒爱心饭盒做晚餐,再加上月饼当 点心。愿弟兄姐妹可以继续把爱传给身边的人,把主的爱 感染周遭的人。福音传遍天下,不是藉着理论,而是效法 耶稣,走入民间,进入人群,帮忙解决他们的困难和需 要。愿主馨香之气继续使人活,并活得更丰盛(约10:10)。



庆祝大宝们的生日



一日游全体照

#### **NEWS UPDATE**

## 王敬之博士 《圣经与古代中华智慧》 巡回布道

#### **胡森生**, 槟城中文堂

祂希望祂的工作得以缜密而正确地向前推进,以致得蒙祂的嘉纳认可。 基督徒与基督徒,教会与教会,都要联合一致,人的力量方法与神的能 力方法合作,一切机能都驯服于圣灵之下,大家联合一致将上帝恩惠的 佳音传给世人。使徒行述, p. 96.1

感谢主,在经历了两年的新冠疫情之后,王敬之博士第一个实体布道会 《圣经与中华古代智慧》马来西亚巡回布道,终于在2022年9月至10月 期间圆满结束。这为期一个月的布道会,总共有6个地放教会的参与, 其中包括巴生中文堂、关丹中文堂、怡保中文堂、槟城中文堂、马六甲 以及柔佛英文堂。

经历了半年的策划以及筹备,在南亚太分会华人布道部、马来西亚半岛 区会、巨响媒体事工以及各地方教会的紧密合作之下,我们克服了许多 艰难的挑战。从安排地点、海报设计、宣传、礼包订购、行程安排等, 大家各尽其职的一同联合策划筹备,凭着信心在上帝的赐福带领下完成 这次的巡回布道。王博士使用古代中华智慧作为一座"桥梁",从不同角 度,有文化、甲骨文、预言、医学和人生来切入,将圣经的现代真理以 及本会的特色真理连接起来。

王博士夫妇从在9月1号抵达马来西亚之后,就马不停蹄地北上南下, 到各地区进行布道工作。首站就是在巴生中文堂,开始一连5个晚上的" 席·明·纳"讲座会。每晚教堂都是座无虚席的。当中有40多位的慕道 友全程参与。之后,王博士夫妇到达关丹教会。在叶少文教士和众教友 的合作筹备之下,布道会有健康信息,还有儿童节目,让携带孩子赴会 的家长们可以专心聆听。期间还穿插了中秋晚会的节目,有百多位出席 者一同欢庆中秋节。

回到西海岸,王博士夫妇就北上怡保中文堂和槟城中文堂两站。这两个 教会在过去两年的疫情期间,都很积极的参与社区服务,如派饭等活 动。为这次的布道会预备了不少的慕道友参与。这次的布道会有槟城中 文堂社区服务部的交通组协助,一连五晚风雨不改的把30多位的慕道友 载到教堂来。同时好些迷羊以及冷淡的教友和家属也参与这布道会。感 谢主,这次布道会槟城站有接近40位的慕道友全程出席,教会赠送圣经 给他们,为后续的查经工作而准备。

然后就是进入马六甲站和柔佛站。结束以后,王博士这一个多月的巡回布 道也来到尾声。感谢王敬之博士对于马来西亚圣工的协助和支持。这次 巡回布道会是一个好的开始,启动教会上下同心继续推进传福音的工作, 各教会也藉着这次布道会展开了后续的跟进工作,包括建立新聚会点和新 工。愿上帝保守我们手所作的工,也将一切荣耀归给我们的上帝。

末日近了,犹如黑夜的贼,蹑手蹑足,悄然无声地临近我们。愿上帝使 我们不再象别人那样睡觉,却要儆醒预备。很快,真理必将大大地得胜, 凡愿现在与上帝同工的人,必与真理一同得胜。时间短促;黑夜将到, 那时就无人能作工了,凡欢乐地处在现代真理光明之中的人,应急速起 来将真理传给别人。愿我们各处的教会都联合起来。务使圣道各部的工 作,完全和谐融洽地配合起来,形成完美的整体。我们要多祷告,团结 合一,托起他们的手,并从天上的圣所领受明亮的光辉。9T 134.3



巡回 - 关丹站



巡回-槟城站



温家华弟兄给与参加者的健康小贴士



怡保站万怡大酒店会场



柔佛站新山英文堂的大合照



巨响媒体在马六甲站进行拍摄录影



巴生站的布道会前联谊晚餐



赠送给参与者的小礼包

巡回 - 马六甲站

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### January

07	Ministerial	Day of Fasting & Prayer	PEM
07	VOP	VOP Enrolment	PEM
08	Pub	LE's Meeting & Goal Setting	PEM
11-21	Ministerial	Global 10 Days of Prayer	PEM
13-14	SS/PM	Bible Webinars - Theme: Stewardship (5th)	PEM
15	НМ	Health Leader Meeting	PEM
21	RL	Global Religious Liberty Day	PEM
22	MSA	Cooking Demo	PEM
28	VOP	VOP Promotion	Northern
29	НМ	Online Health Talk: Survival Skill (Bahasa)	PEM

### February

03	НМ	Health Regional Training	Northern
05	MSA	Cooking Demo	PEM
05-06	Ministerial	Elders, Deacons, & Deaconesses Leadership Training	PEM
		(Certification) (1) - Online	
11	FM	Effective Helping-Compassionate Care	Northern
11-18	FM	Global Christian Home and Marriage Week	PEM
12-13	Ministerial	Elders, Deacons, & Deaconesses Leadership Training	PEM
		(Certification) (2) - Online	
18	Stewardship	Stewardship Seminar	Northern
19	Admin	Executive Committee Meeting (1 - FY 2022)	PEM
19-20	Ministerial	Elders, Deacons, & Deaconesses Leadership Training	PEM
		(Certification) (3)	
21-22	Ministerial	PEM Ministerial Meeting	PEM
24-26	Youth	Youth & Young Adults Congress 2023	PEM
		"The Power of the Gospel"	

March			
Mar-Dec	Youth	PEM Wide Voice of Youth Unstoppable Evangelism 2023 - Local Church	PEM
03	НМ	Health Region Training	Southern
03-05	Ministerial	Regional Ministerial Visitation	Southern
04	WM	Global International Women's Day of Prayer	PEM
05-06	Ministerial	Elders, Deacons, & Deaconesses Leadership Training	PEM
		(Certification) (4)	
10-12	SS/PM/ACM	Regional Training	East Coast
11	Stewardship	Stewardship Seminar	Central
12	Youth	Senior Youth Leadership Training	PEM
13-14	Ministerial	MAUM Pastoral Evaluation and Professional Growth	PEM
17-18	ACM	PEM Adventist Children Ministry Advisory	PEM
18	Youth	Global Youth Day	PEM
18	ACM	Global Children's Day	PEM
19-20	Ministerial	Elders, Deacons, & Deaconesses Leadership Training	PEM
		(Certification) (5)	
19	MSA	Cooking Demo	PEM
24-26	Youth	PEM Wide Club Ministries Orientation & Training	PEM
		(New Curriculum)	
	НМ	Health Expo / Regional Training	Central
	SS/PM	Bible Webinars - Theme: The Three Angels Messages (6th)	PEM
31-Apr02	Ministerial	Regional Ministerial Visitation	Kinta / Northern



### APPRECIATION

God's blessings upon *Brother Noah Agustin* as he transitions to a teaching ministry which he feels, best match his spiritual gifts. We thank him for his services with Peninsular Malaysia Mission as an intern and church pastor from 01 July 2019 to 31 December 2022.

God's blessings upon *Brother Joshua John* and family as he has accepted a teaching position in Thailand. We thank him for his services with Peninsular Malaysia Mission as an intern and church pastor from 01 May 2011 to 31 December 2022.

God's blessings upon *Pastor Petrik Andrews* for his ministry as Adventist Mission and Family Ministries Director from 01 February 2022 to 31 December 2022, as he focuses his ministry as a local church pastor.



Brother Kelvin Liew has been appointed as Assistant Treasurer beginning 01 January 2023.

### **OBITUARY**



**Dr Pastor Thavarajulu Vengadasamy** passed away on 01 December 2022. His ministry as a church pastor since 01 January 1973 shall always be remembered by many whose lives he has touched. May his family be comforted during this difficult time.

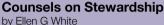
- He leaves behind:
- ~ 2 sons & 1 daughter, 2 daughters-in law and 1 son-in-law and 4 grandchildren

And many relatives, friends, pastors whom he has mentored. He will be missed by all.

### **BOOK ADVERTISEMENT**

### Book Promotion December 2022





Stewardship involves properly managing God's blessings. The way we handle material things, therefore, says a lot about our spiritual state. How then should we take care of what the Lord has given to our care? Are we really supposed to grow them? How? By any means possible? Or are there God-given ideas and ideals? This volume covers practical topics such as tithing, getting into and out of debt, giving to charity, wise and unwise investment, and more. Besides providing practice principles, this inspired writings also lead to reach dividends - here and in the hereafter.

The price of this book is **RM68** only.



#### Ministry of Healing by Ellen G White

Natural Healing, Disease Prevention, Nutrition and Diet, Conquering Stress, Mental Health, Answers to Depression, Prayer for the Sick, Successful Families, and Child Training. All this and more- in this book has helped millions. Here you will learn the Law of Health- simple rules that bring better and happier living into the home.

Harga buku ini adalah RM68 sahaja.

### **CHILDREN COLUMN**

### REPORTING ABUSE You could save someone's life.

### Why should I report?

Children and women are among the mo vulnerable in society due to their age and lack of capacity for self-protection.

If the abuse is allowed to prolong or worsen, the victim's life will be impacted in many ways that can last for a lifetime. For this reason, it's imperative that we do what's best for the victim, such as reporting the suspected abuse.

### When to report?

REASONABLE SUSPICION"

### What is "REASONABLE SUSPICION"?

- It means:

  You have witnessed physical or behavioral signs of abuse
  You have witnessed the abuse
  You have received a disclosure regarding the abuse (from victim or someone else)

### Where to report?

#### Police Station

- Government Hospitals "One-Stop Crisis Centres'
- Child Abuse Talian Nur hotline: 15999 Woman Abuse - WAO
- (Women's Aid Organisation)
  - a) Hotline: +603 3000 8858 (24 hours)
  - b) SMS/WhatsApp TINA: +6018 988 8058 (24 hours)

### What to report?

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#### What happens after reporting?

- Investigation will begin by going to see the victim and family. The victim will be brought to hospital for further evaluation if the suspicion is confirmed.
- In the hospital, the victim will be assessed and examined for any injuries or mental health problems.
- If the abuse is confirmed, there will be discussions among the doctor, welfare organization and police as to the management plan for the victim.
- The plan for the victim should be in the best interest of the victim and not the family or others.
- For child abuse, the general goal is to send the child back to the family with continued supervision and family therapy.
- The police may take the alleged abuser into custody and charge him/her accordingly.

- EALTH Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia
  - men's Aid Oppanization others Among Us. Youth Advocates

### **YOUTH COLUMN**

### How to Help the Youth Recover from the Pandemic?

by Tan Weoi Siong, Youth Ministries

Young people aged 16 to 24 are facing mental health problems, mostly due to the recent pandemic. They witnessed a halt to their cherished plans and expected goals. They did not get to experience their most anticipated events, seen in our Malaysia context, such as sitting for a major exam (e.g. PT3 and SPM), attending college graduation with classmates, and flying overseas to pursue a dream just to name a few.

They feel delayed and far behind and this has added to their anxiety levels. Realistically speaking, this portion of Generation Z and Millennials feel:

- 1. Postponed
- 2. Pushed aside
- 3. Penalized

In the past, there were pandemics, tragedies and crises too. Those of the older generations alongside their young ones went through something similar. How were they able to bring up their children in the midst of fear and hopelessness? What can we learn from history?

During World War I, soldiers were diagnosed with the condition called "shell shock", which is later known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). PTSD often affects people for the rest of their lives and this could reduce a person's level of happiness.

Psychologists discovered something interesting in the beginning of the 1990s. They discovered that at least half of the population who endured a traumatic event showed no signs or symptoms of post-traumatic stress. Four out of five trauma victims did not suffer from PTSD afterward. In fact, these victims became even stronger despite the traumatic experience. Psychologists termed this as Post-Traumatic Growth (PTG). While it is not as well-known as PTSD, yet it is still commonly experienced by many today. Studies reveal that more than 60%, and even as high as 90%, of trauma victims undergo PTG, and this even includes those who initially showed symptoms of PTSD.

Nowadays, psychologists use a chart to track PTG. People with PTG typically experience:

- 1. Increased appreciation of life
- 2. Deeper relationships with others
- 3. New perspectives and priorities
- 4. Greater personal strength

So, how do we change our perspective to see the good in the bad? Most importantly, how do we help both generation Z and millennials to recover from their traumatizing pandemic experience? Author Tim Elmore's book entitled The Pandemic Population gives helpful insights regarding helping the young people, especially students, to build a positive outlook and overcome the bad experience they went through. Here are some summarized points highlighted from his work:

#### 1. Empathize with their experience.

Sympathy is not enough. Empathy is needed when it comes to understand the affected young people. We should not only acknowledge or sympathize with the circumstances they're in. Show that we truly care and give our best to put ourselves in their shoes. By truly understanding how they feel, they will not feel alone and this gives them encouragement to move forward. Also, a sense of hope is instilled, believing that things will turn out well in ways they do not expect.

### 2. Expect them to rise above it AND believe they CAN.

Based on research, it was found that student performance reflects the expectations of their teachers. By demonstrating higher expectations, this indirectly helps to improve their academic performance. To promote PTG, we can let them know about our expectations and most importantly, make it known to them that we sincerely believe that they are capable of overcoming their unique adversities. In this way, the young people are able to respond to the pandemic positively.

#### 3. Encourage an intentional life narrative.

Encourage and motivate them to intentionally narrate their experience from negative to a positive outlook. Remind them about Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." Also, another promise they can keep is found in Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." We must remind them of the God we serve who is able to deliver. One day, they will be able to testify their testimonies of grit.

### 4. Provide them with a metaphor to renew their perspectives.

Most students need visualization to help frame their life journey. One example – when the wind blows, we can either be a candle that's extinguished or a bushfire that's extended. One goes out, one gets bigger.

Also, remind them stories of perseverance from the Bible. The story of Job is a good one. Although he lost everything, but he trusted God. In the end, God blessed him with even more.

## 10 DAYS OF PRAYER

# BACK TO THE ALTAR

January 11-21, 2023

"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him." JOHN 4:23, NKJV



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