

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Not my will, but Thine, be done" – Luke 22:42

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A WORD ON WORSHIP

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The way to come to God the Father is through Christ. He is the sure and only way to God (cf. John 14:6). "Now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ" (Ephesians 2:13). All those who have trusted in Christ's atoning sacrifice on the cross can now draw nigh to God, rejoicing in that wonderful privilege. Paul said, "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement" (Romans 5:10-11).

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SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

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Defence

Psalm 59:9

Because of his strength will I wait upon thee: for God is my defence.

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

❧

Call to Worship

Elder Mah Chin Kwang

*Hymn 60: Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

* Invocation & Gloria Patri

* **Responsive Scripture Reading** *Revelation 3:14-22*

Hymn 55: Our Great Saviour

Collection of Offerings

* Doxology & Prayer

Hymn 379: O for a Faith That Will Not Shrink

Scripture Memorisation

* Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"Authority to Censure or to Acquit"

Matthew 18:18-20

Holy Communion

Hymn 117: In Tenderness He Sought Me

*Hymn 175: For All My Sin

*Benediction & Threefold Amen

** Congregation Standing*



TODAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2018

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2018

9.00 – 10.00am		CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR	CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR
		MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP	MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP
10.30am	CHINESE SERVICE	Worship Leader: Pr Daniel Lim Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Gan Sze Huey Flowers: Lee Kim Lei Ushers: Lawrence Ng & Robert Ooi	Worship Leader: Elder Alan Choy Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Angeline Wong Flowers: Winnie Yap Refreshments: Jennifer Goh Ushers: Francis Tan & Chong Ah Huat
	ENGLISH SERVICE	Worship Leader: Eld Mah Chin Kwang Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Eunice Choy, Dorcas Koshy Ushers: Gerry Lee (i/c) Cornelius Koshy, Edwin Quek Jason Low, Low Chip Hung Marcus Lim, John Peh Greeter: Mah Lean Choo AV Ministry: Crew No. 1 Flowers: Karen Quek Refreshments: Violet Quek, Chairine Chayadi Lim Hua See, Mary Ong Junior Worship: Pr Kelvin Lim, (Stella Tan) Mong Jee Pawa, (Cecilia Siah) Pr Ho Kee How	Worship Leader: Dn Kelvin Lim Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Jasmine Low, Sarah Lee Ushers: Dn Low Boon Siang (i/c) Ng Kwan Teng, Theodore Wang Benny Skariah, Cayson Chok Timotheus Liu, Chan Tuck Whye Greeter: Sally Lum AV Ministry: Crew No. 2 Flowers: Diana Chan Refreshments: Stella Tan, Amanda Leong Rachel Teo, Mary Lee Junior Worship: Pr Dennis Kabingue, (Rhodora Resuma), Angeline Wong, (Adlucia Lim), Eld Francis Lee
1.30pm	FILIPINO SERVICE	Worship Leader: Eric Delina Preacher: Pr Dennis Kabingue Musician: Duaine Kabingue Usher: Julius Del Rosario Refreshments: Erly Calaro	Worship Leader: Norefel Resuma Preacher: Pr Dennis Kabingue Musician: Ayn Tindaan Usher: Jordan Ballega Refreshments: Tomei Tan
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Eld Ng Poh Kok Dialect Speaker: Eld Alan Choy	Venue: 9 Bishan Street 13 English Speaker: Eld Mah Chin Kwang Dialect Speaker: Pr Kelvin Lim

4 February 2018

A New Bible Study Outreach (Anda, Bohol, the Philippines)

(Our missionary, Edsel Locot, sent the following report about a new Gospel outreach in a place called Anda in the island of Bohol. Let us praise the Lord for yet another Gospel-door being opened. Let us pray for the Lord to bless this work for the furtherance of the Gospel and salvation of many more souls.)

Dear Pastor Koshy,

Greetings to you in the blessed name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

The LORD has sustained and preserved the Bohol mission church, and we thank the Lord for His abundant mercies. We also praise the Lord for bringing back members of two families who left the church several years ago but had recently begun to come for Sunday worship services. The present members of the mission church are persevering in their service to the Lord in spite of the many trials and difficulties they face. Praise the Lord!

A special thanksgiving to God is the new Bible-study outreach in Anda. The town of Anda is situated about 100 km east of the mission church. Anda is the hometown of Sis Roscelle Lim's mother. The majority of those who joined the Bible study are cousins and relatives of Sis Roscelle. One of her cousins, Hansel Timaan, was a member of



(Pr Edsel Locot)



(Brethren from Anda)

Cebu Church while he lived in Cebu. He went back 5 years ago from Cebu to Anda for good. Though he made constant effort to come to our mission church for worship on Sundays, it was difficult for him to travel 100km due to lack of funds to make that long journey. He needed 600 pesos every Sunday for him and his wife to travel for worship.

Pastor Reggor encouraged Bro Hansel to prayerfully consider having a Bible study every Saturday in Anda, so that Hansel could continue to worship the LORD and learn from the Scriptures. Above all, it would provide an opportunity to reach out and share the Gospel with his cousins and neighbours. Hansel shared the burden with his wife, mother and cousins in Anda. All of them expressed interest. So, on the fourth Saturday of July 2017, I went to Anda and conducted the Bible study at Bro Hansel's house. Since then, the Bible study has a regular participation of 15 persons, though since Christmas, the number has reduced as some had gone away for vacation.

For our Bible study, we use the book "Westminster Standards" as a guide. Those who attend are very attentive and cooperative. They ask many questions.

All of them testify that this Bible study is the only opportunity they have to open the Bible to read and hear its words. They have been Roman Catholics. Now having heard and understood the truth of the Bible, their eyes are being opened to see and understand Christ and His Word. It is my prayer that the Lord will continue to work in these people as they hear the Word and learn precious doctrines, so that they will forsake their sins, unbiblical beliefs and traditions, and truly stand for the truth. May the LORD enable me to travel the long distance and to teach them the Word of God.

Pastor, I have also distributed your book, "365 Daily Exhortations", as well as many issues of Bible Witness magazines, to each of them. They are very happy and have received them with eagerness. Furthermore, the people in Anda were all very happy and excited when I told them that God willing, on April 7, Elder Mah and a group of brethren from Singapore will visit them and join the Bible study.

Thank you very much for your encouragement and prayers!

In His service,
Edsel Locot

Serve the LORD with Gladness

(Matthew Peh's testimony of his call to full-time service in BWMM)

I write this testimony not only to ascertain my calling, but also to give thanks to God for His goodness in my life. I have grown up with sound preaching in Gethsemane, yet I have oft times been distracted by the allure of the world. Indeed, “[t]he backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways” (Pro. 14:14a). For a long time, every waking thought was focused on the things of this earth instead of my blessed Redeemer. While I was frequent in attending church, there was a certain spiritual lethargy. But God is faithful and healed me from my backslidings (cf. Jer. 3:22).

The greatest sin that plagues me is pride — a struggle I continue to face every day. The first sin that disrupted peace in heaven and on this earth was pride. Satan's pride led to his banishment (Isa. 14), while man's pride to be like gods (Gen. 3:5) brought death into this world. Alas, while oft reminded of its dangers, I allowed it to fester in my teenage years. A prayerless spirit ensued: 'Why pray when everything is going well? Why pray when I'm doing well? Why bother with devotion? I'm alright.' Like the wicked who seek not after God, God was not at all in my thoughts (Psa. 10:4) as I entertained my pride.

Fast forward to university, where by the grace of God, I did well in my first semester. I still remember a lecturer suggesting to me: 'Have you considered doing a PhD?' Oh how that comment made me puffed up! While studying in university, I remained regular in church. A part of me was thinking: 'I better do my church duties well or I'll lose these blessings.' Oh, what a Pharisaic view of things! But the LORD is gracious indeed. Because of His love for me, He has graciously chastised me for my pride and sins (Heb. 12:5-8). Looking back, I see how the many experiences I went through were the LORD's chastising hand upon me. I want to highlight three such incidents.

First, failing to get a scholarship with MOE after my 'A' levels. Friends who did not do as well as me could get the scholarship, but I couldn't. I was disheartened, but I 'comforted' myself by saying at least I wasn't tied down to MOE. Second, not doing well for my honours thesis (HT). My HT was cross-disciplinary, combining insights from linguistics (my major), geography and sociology. I was so proud of it, for few undergraduates would attempt such an ambitious topic. I thought I'd do well, but alas, I

didn't! Third, the struggle with unemployment for half a year upon graduating in 2016. I was very sure that my good results would yield many job offers. Yet, I wasn't even called up for interviews. Having no choice, I took on a job through someone's recommendation, but I found little joy and quit in July 2017.

Yet as I reflect on these things, I see God's providence at work. If I had a scholarship, I would be bonded and wouldn't be able to serve God immediately at His call. If I had done well in my HT, I would have been overcome by pride and would have furthered my studies. If I was employed in a government agency, I would have been too comfortable earning thousands a month; I wouldn't quit in eight months. I wouldn't have had the time to learn the necessary skills and programmes for use in BWMM. As I sit to write and reflect on these experiences, truly, only God can make all things work in such a manner.

Since November 2017, due to the nature of my freelance work, I could help out in the church office. I offered to revamp the BW website, and had the opportunity to review some of the older issues of the magazine. Volume 15, Issue 5 ('Redeeming the Time') caught my attention. It contains sermons preached by Rev Reggor during the 2009 church camp, which I was unable to attend due to National Service. An article, 'The Brevity of Time', discussed Psalm 90. Verse 10 talks

of the years of man being "threescore and ten". It dawned upon me that should God grant me life till the age of 70 or even 80, I have already lived out about a third of my life. Oh, how the past 26 years of my life have been so poorly used! Oh, what a poor steward of God-given time I was!

The Lord then reminded me of Ecclesiastes 12:1, where Solomon tells the reader to "remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth". What else can I do but to serve my Creator? If I do not use my time wisely for God, then what point is there in living? Indeed, "[w]hatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work... in the grave, whither thou goest" (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

Perhaps then, I can freelance and help in the church office in my spare time? That was my train of thought for a while. But on a Tuesday prayer meeting, Pr Kee How reminded us through his message on Matthew 6:24 that we "cannot serve God and mammon". Two weeks later, during the YF-YAF retreat, Pastor commented that the work of the LORD is labour and toil, and is 'no place for volunteers'. Helping out in the office made me realise how time-consuming the Lord's work is; there isn't enough time for both my freelance work and the Lord's work. What then?

The answer is clear: I have to serve God. In the short months helping out in the office, I experienced a joy unspeakable, a joy indescribable. This joy is different from other feelings of happiness. Recently, one of my evening devotions was from Psalm 100:2a — “serve the LORD with gladness”. Psalm 100 exhorts the congregation to praise the LORD for His goodness and everlasting mercies upon His people. After reading that evening’s devotion by Spurgeon, I read Matthew Henry’s commentary on the same psalm, which reflects God’s will “that we should serve the Lord, [that we] should devote ourselves to his service and employ ourselves in it”. I want to experience this great joy every day! Indeed, nothing else can be better than this! I know my own heart: if I continue outside the safety of God’s house, I will easily lose myself in the world. I will lose this joy that I have been so marvellously filled with. If that be so, I would rather die! “For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness” (Psalm 84:10).

Is there not fear for the future? Is there not fear about financial security? I would be lying if I deny having such fear within me. But in the last 26 years of my life, I see God’s hand at work. Even though I had failed to get a scholarship, the LORD provided for my education through various monetary awards and bursaries. I

didn’t have to take any loans, and about three-quarters of my university fees were paid through the awards and bursaries. If the LORD takes care of the fowls and the lilies, what more His own child (cf. Matt. 6)?

What then of hard work? I know that there will be exacting labours, for Paul told Timothy to “endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier” (2 Timothy 2:3-4). I pray that the Lord will help me to keep my sights set on things above, and that my service to Him in BWMM would be reward enough for me. What a great privilege it is to serve the One who has created and redeemed me! As the hymn-writer put it, may I “give of [my] best to the Master” and “give of the strength of [my] youth”! ■

Programmes on BWWR this week (5th February 2018 to 10th February 2018)

Faithful Men: Pilgrims in a Foreign Land (Part II)

Women of Virtue: Loose Women are like Snares and Nets; Adulterous Women can be Self-righteous

Youth Bible Hour: Importance of the Word of God in the Lives of Youth



Creation: The Fifth Day

Genesis 1:20-23

Dear children, we shall continue about God's works of Creation.

On the fifth day, He made the living creatures of the sea (v. 20a), as well as the winged fowl of the sky (v. 20b).

Scripture tells us that God created every moving creature in the seas (v. 21a). From the greatest to the smallest, the LORD made them all – e.g. the whale, octopus, dolphin, lobster, crab, prawn, and all kinds of fishes. All these and many others that live in the waters are God's creation.

My young readers, have you been to the "Underwater World" in Sentosa? There you can see amazing sea creatures as you walk through its glass tunnel. There are sharks of different species and sizes swimming inside the glass enclosures above your head, or even at your side. There are different kinds and various sizes of fishes too. Some are as small as your hand; others are as big as you, while yet others are even bigger than you! They are a

beautiful sight to behold, especially for Christians. Those who believe what the Bible says know for certain that these living creatures that swim in the water are created by God.

On the fifth day, God also made the winged fowl. He created the birds that are able to fly freely above the ground and high up in the sky – e.g. the crow, sparrow, parrot, owl, hawk and eagle – as well as other winged fowl that cannot fly, such as the duck, chicken and ostrich. These are also God's creations.

My dear children, we read later on in Genesis 9:2-3 that God gave the fishes of the sea and the fowl of the sky to man as food. For those of you who love to eat fish, prawn or crab, remember to thank God for this gift. The same goes for those who love to eat chicken, duck or quail eggs – these are also God's gift!



Kelvin Lim

COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 28 January 2018

Tithes: 2,270.00

Offerings: 8,378.70

Building Fund (Project): 1,000.00;150.00;
500.00; 600.00

Designated Gifts: General Fund 50.00;
920.00; Bible Witness 400.00; Care
Ministry 100.00; GBPC (Ethiopia) 100.00;
Ethiopian Student Meals 200.00; Rev
Ephrem 50.00; Rev Reggor 200.00; Dn
Kelvin 50.00; Pr Dennis Kabingue 200.00;
Carolyn Koshy 100.00

NON-SUNDAY GIFT

Designated Gifts: Building Fund 10,000.00

SPECIAL FUND UPDATE

(as of 28 January 2018)

Building Fund (Project): \$2,401,961.20

**Give generously
towards our
Church Building Fund.**

*"Every man according as
he purpoeth in his heart,
so let him give;
not grudgingly, or of necessity:
for God loveth a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7*

PASTORAL VISITATION

ANG MO KIO/BISHAN

Date & Time: Fri, 9 Feb 2018, 8.00pm

Venue: Home of Mr & Mrs Jason Low
7 Bright Hill Drive #18-06 Thomson
View Condo, Singapore 579599

If you live in this region, please check
that your name is on the list placed on the
reception table. If it is not, please add it in.

GETHSEMANE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairman: Dn Lok Kwok Wah

Date & Time: Sat, 10 Feb 2018 at 4pm

Venue: TGCM premises
202B, Ponggol Seventeenth Avenue

Take LRT (West Loop) from Punggol MRT
station to Punggol Point LRT station.

There will also be a concurrent children's
programme for children aged 4-12.

HARD COPIES OF THE CHURCH CONSTITUTION

All members who would like to receive
a hard copy of our church constitution,
kindly indicate your name on a sign-up
form at the reception table (one copy
per family).

TO ALL STUDENTS TRAVELLING ABROAD FOR STUDIES

Pastor would like to meet all the
students who will be travelling overseas
for studies after the worship service
today, so as to give them pastoral
counsel and to pray for them.

BIBLE WITNESS MAGAZINE

The latest issue on:

"Nurturing of Godly Children
at Home & in Church"
(Volume 18, Issue 1)

is available at the reception table.

*(Feel free to take as many copies as you
need to give to others for their spiritual
admonition and edification.)*

PUBLISHING AND MEDIA EXECUTIVE

Bro Matthew Peh has been interviewed
and accepted by the BOE to serve full-
time in the above role. We praise the
Lord for calling and equipping Matthew
to serve in this role. He has started
working in the Church Resource Centre
as a church staff from February 1, 2018.
Please pray and encourage our brother
that he may serve the Lord fervently.

14TH BIBLE WITNESS RETREAT

14-16 March 2018 (Wed-Fri)

Theme: Heavenly-Mindedness

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Venue: Pulau Springs Resort, Johor

Retreat Fees (incl. transportation):

Single Occupancy: \$280/person

Twin/Triple Sharing: \$240/person

Child with Bed (Aged 4 to 11): \$150/child

Child without Bed (Aged 4 to 11): \$120/child

(Please sign up quickly at the reception table to facilitate the planning of this retreat. You may approach Dn Lok or Bro Hendrick Foo if you need any additional information.)

CHURCH CAMP 2018

Date: 4-8 June 2018 (Mon-Fri)

Venue: Lexis Penang

Registration is now open. Participants are advised to book plane tickets on their own as soon as possible. The costs of the rooms are printed on the registration form. Please take the registration form from the reception table. If you have any questions, please approach Elder Francis Lee.

GAMES HELPERS FOR CHURCH CAMP

Brethren who are keen to serve as Games Helpers in the upcoming Church Camp, please contact Bro Cornelius (8298 5681) or Bro Benjamin Quek (8228 5457).

POST-WORSHIP ACTIVITIES

Please stay back after worship to join us for:

Refreshments & Fellowship

12.30pm – 1.30pm

Bible Study (Adults, Youths & Children)

GBI-Online Class & CBS @ 1.45pm

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer

8.00pm @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

Wednesday Lunch Hour Bible Study

1.00pm @ Bible Witness Bookroom

Thursday Seniors' Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

Campus Bible Study

2.30pm on Tuesdays @NAFA

2.00pm on Fridays @SUTD

Friday Morning Prayer

7.45am – 8.30am @ Church Resource Centre

Sunday Lions Home Ministry

For enquiry, contact Pr Jeremiah Sim

*For more information, please call
the church office at 6741 1910.*



Bible Witness
Magazine



Bible Witness
Web Radio



Church
Weekly

Time & Place of Worship

10.30am

Level 5 Auditorium

Singapore Post Centre

10 Eunos Road 8

Singapore 408600

(next to Paya Lebar MRT station)

Prayer Hotline

8138 8139

SMS or WhatsApp

your prayer item

Our Office

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Our Websites

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Our Pastor

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Email: pastor.gbpc@gmail.com

Our Session

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Elder Mah Chin Kwang

Elder Alan Choy

Elder Ng Poh Kok

Elder Francis Lee

Deacon Daniel Lim

Deacon Lok Kwok Wah

Deacon Kelvin Lim

Deacon Low Boon Siang