



BETHESDA HALL ANG MO KIO



161ST ANNIVERSARY & THANKSGIVING
1864-2025

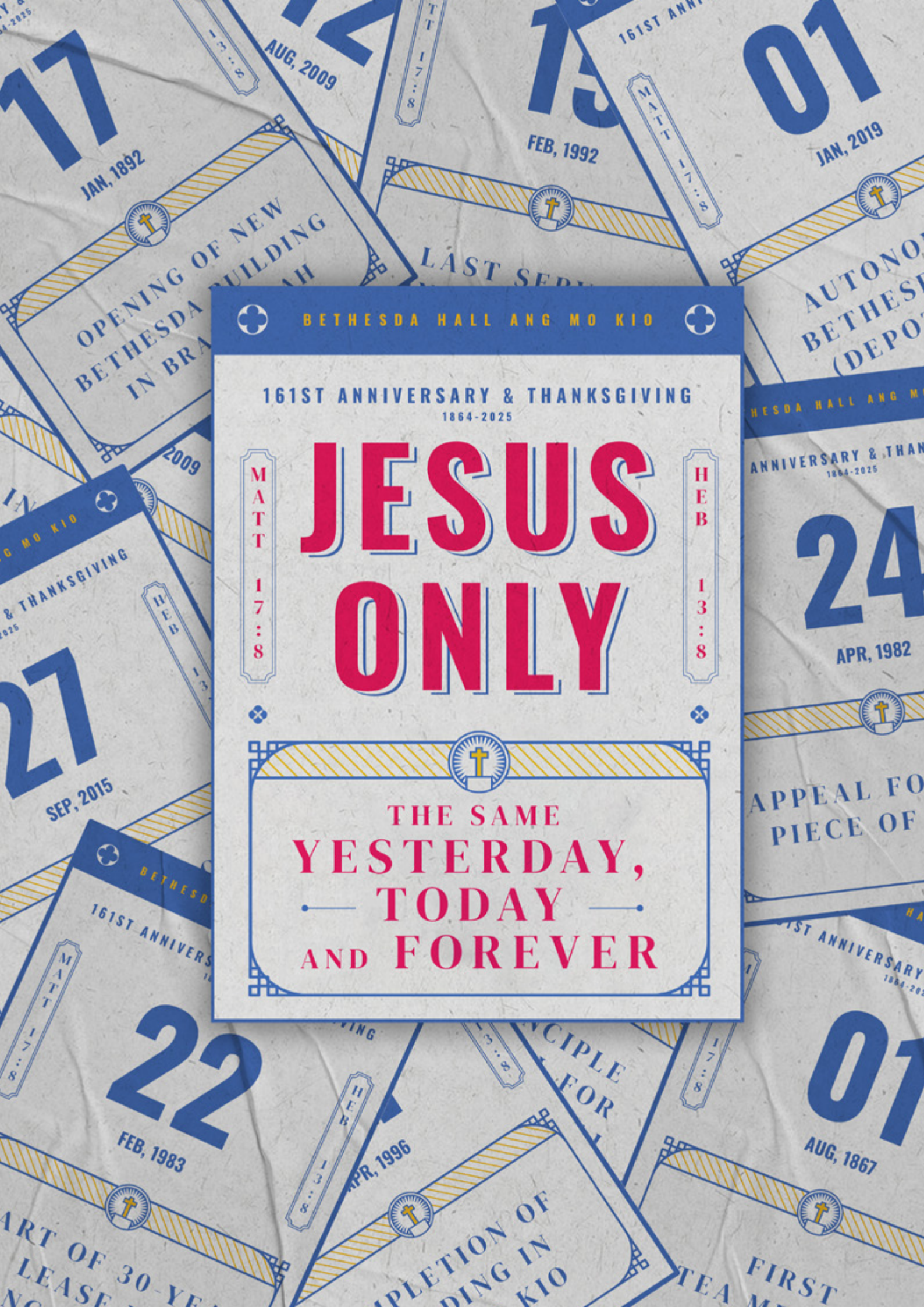
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JESUS ONLY

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THE SAME
YESTERDAY,
— TODAY —
AND FOREVER



BETHESDA HALL ANG MO KIO

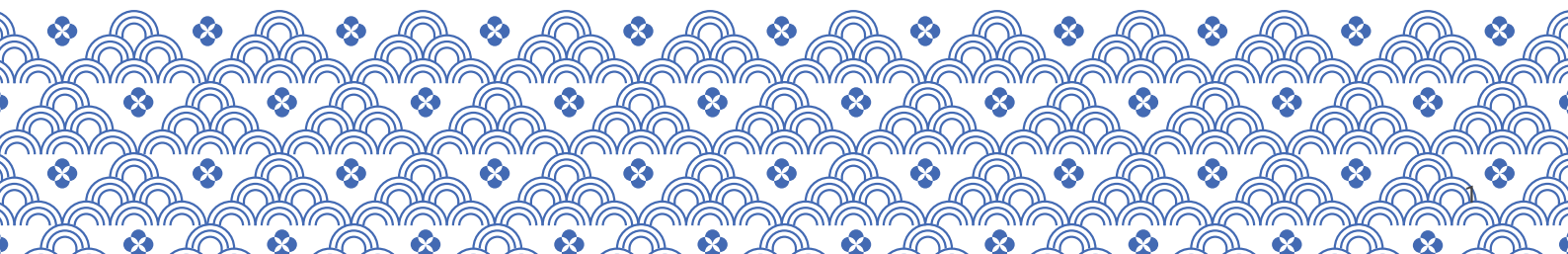
161ST ANNIVERSARY & THANKSGIVING

1864-2025

**JESUS
ONLY**



THE SAME
YESTERDAY,
— TODAY —
AND FOREVER





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Foreword

It is with the Lord's blessings that we can commemorate the 161st anniversary of Bethesda Hall. 161 years is in no way a short period of time, and a key aspect of such longevity is a strict adherence to God's instructions and not cowering to what is popular or requested by the masses. When the assembly was first started in 1864 at Bencoolen Street, Singapore was still a British colony, and arguably, those who attended the assembly then were different in demography and had different spiritual needs. So much has happened since then, such as the Second World War and Singapore gaining independence. It is, therefore, amazing to think about how many lives were touched, how many souls were won for God, and how many communities were supported and scaffolded by the assembly during the last 160 years of our history.

I started worshipping at Bethesda Hall in 1990 when I was just 15 years old. As such, I have a fairly vantage view of the role of the assembly for those who have chosen to worship here, as well as in the local community at Kebun Baru. In the 35 years since I first came to Bethesda Hall, the assembly has undergone several significant moments such as establishing a new assembly at Depot Walk, renewing our lease at Ang Mo Kio and renovating the building, and in recent years, providing support for our members through the difficult COVID-19 years. I believe that through all of these, the assembly has kept to its cardinal mission as mentioned in Ephesians chapter 2 verses 19 to 22, that *you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.*

As highlighted by the verses in Ephesians, the role of an assembly is to be a place where we can worship the Lord wholeheartedly, have meaningful fellowship with one another and edify others in being spiritually strong. I think the assembly has been very much aligned with this set of imperatives, and there has always been a desire to lean forward, to do more, and to be resilient despite the challenges along the way. One such period was during the COVID-19 pandemic between 2020 and 2022. I noted that we were one of the first assemblies to suspend our physical worship sessions at the onset of the pandemic, but within a week, we already put in place various virtual arrangements for our members to come together and worship. For the more senior members that were less technologically-

Foreword

savvy, we had younger members take time to support them when possible. This demonstrated our love for fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, and more importantly, our love for the Lord's work.

Beyond this, the assembly has also acknowledged that it is important for us to be relevant and useful to Kebun Baru residents, the community in which we are situated. Many of the assembly's programmes, such as the free tuition programme, the St Luke's ElderCare initiative, and various other community events and projects have allowed us to be attuned to the practical needs and concerns of the residents in Kebun Baru. Often, this does not come with the opportunity to preach God's Word, but we acknowledge and accept that such work must continue.

In the end, as an assembly, we want to be a place like the one described in Acts chapter 2 verses 44 to 47—that *all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.* Our assembly can thrive only if it roots itself in the community that it belongs to. We pray that we will continue to do so.

As we commemorate 161 years for our assembly, we do so with grateful hearts, appreciative of what the Lord has provided for us. I am heartened that the 161st Anniversary Committee has decided to publish a commemorative book which details our history and endeavours over the years. I believe that such curation of history is key to enabling us to build on the good work done by the saints of old. We must pray that our assembly will continue to meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of our members, and to be relevant and useful in the community that we reside in. May the good news of the gospel be always available for those who seek it.

In service of our Lord,
Gerald Sim
Chairman, Council of Elders
Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio)



Preface

The fellowship and ministry associated with the 161st History Book Sub-committee continue to be a rewarding experience. Our primary responsibility is to coordinate, communicate, and establish contact with all assembly activities and groups to accurately document the history of the past decade. We aim to highlight the Lord's role in establishing the assembly's testimony since 1864 and preserving His witness for the benefit of His people, especially in anticipation of the 161st Anniversary and Thanksgiving on 1 Nov. 2025. The Lord's provision and preservation of His assembly compel us to express our deep gratitude for His faithfulness, favour, and fruitfulness. As Romans chapter 15 verse 4 states, *For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.* Our goal is to present this history accurately, ensuring we do not forget the Lord, as the Israelites did, and that we respond to Him with faith, love, and hope.

The chapters in this book reflect our ongoing commitment to encourage and articulate His people's service, acknowledging that their efforts are not in vain in the Lord. While there may be temporary blessings of encouragement and edification, the ultimate reward will come when they meet Him face to face. A brief overview of the chapters traces the assembly's life and testimony, starting from its roots on Bencoolen Street and Bras Basah Road in 1964 and 1966 respectively, to its establishment in Ang Mo Kio in 1986. The years dedicated to exalting the Lord in worship and experiencing Him at work have been remarkably memorable.

Throughout history, the Lord's work has opened multiple avenues for evangelism via various assembly meetings and activity groups, exalting Christ and edifying the saints. Numerous contacts have been established, resulting in an average of 10 individuals joining the assembly each year. The weekly exposition and teaching of God's Word have also been vital in equipping and building up the saints. Even during the extraordinary circumstances of COVID-19, the Lord has drawn His people closer to Him and to one another.

Preface

The administration of the Lord's workers has been effectively overseen by the elders, deacons, commended workers, and co-ordinators, who have provided leadership and love. We are deeply grateful to those who have faithfully and fervently served the Lord, both in the past and the present, bearing much fruit. Ultimately, we can only give thanks to the Lord for His greatness, goodness, and guidance as we reflect on the activities His people have engaged in over the past decade. The diary of events will highlight the numerous ways the Lord has worked through and for His people, showcasing opportunities for involvement in various meetings and ministries.

As we look to the Lord for future generations in the 21st century, we can learn much from the pioneers in the 18th to 20th centuries, particularly their dedication to faith, community outreach, and the flourishing life of the assembly. It is crucial to acknowledge God's sovereignty over both past challenges and present difficulties. A consistent theme from history provides a foundation for practising New Testament principles in our work, witness, and worship today. The central focus of any gathering should remain on Christ and His control. We pray that Christ will continue to be the focal point of the assembly, inspiring efforts to pass this legacy on to future generations.

We hope that every reader will gain a thorough understanding of the accomplishments the Lord has achieved through the commitment, communion, care, and contributions of His people. A life dedicated to service will leave a lasting legacy. How we serve others will determine how we are remembered and the reward we will receive in heaven. May our lives reflect a commitment to serving the Lord with our entire hearts, mind, and spirit.

For and on behalf of the 161st History Book Committee,
Wong Tuck Keong





FAITHFULNESS

Jesus Only—The same yesterday

Chapter 1

Establishment, Expansion, Extension

ESTABLISHMENT

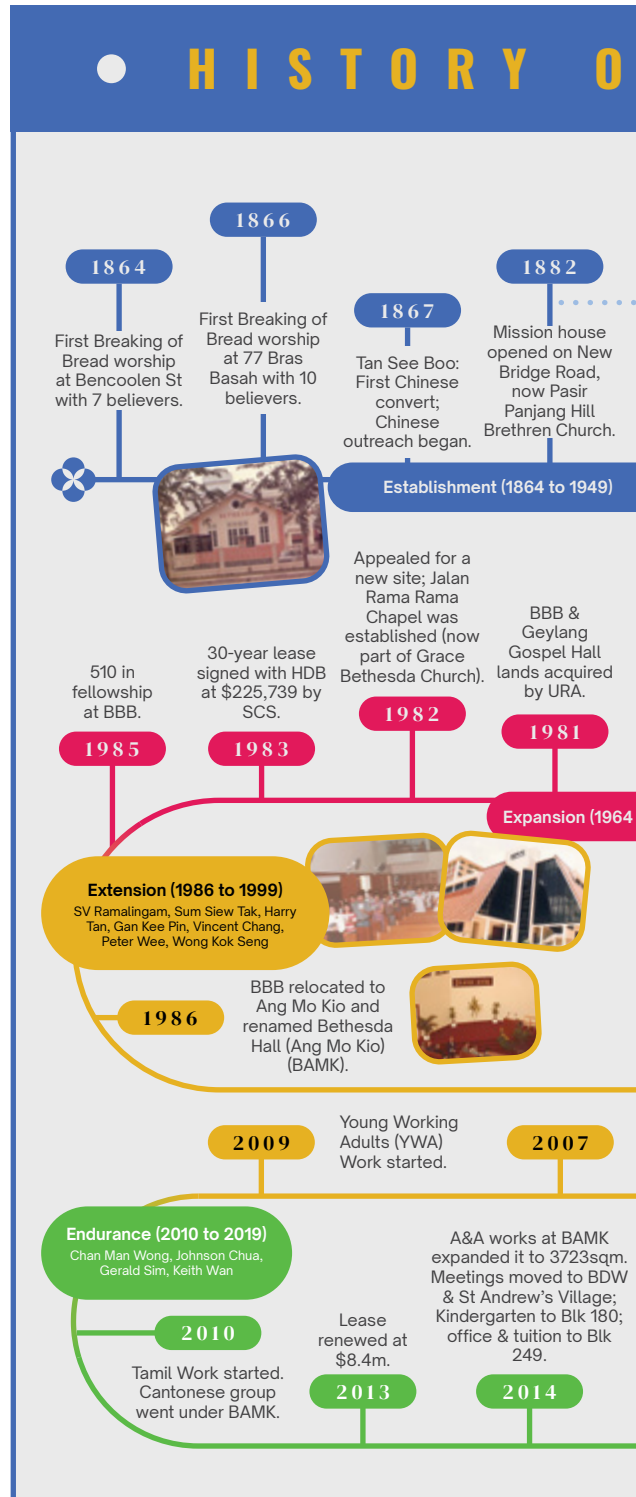
Beginnings in 1864

And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us, And establish the work of our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands. (Psa. 90:17)

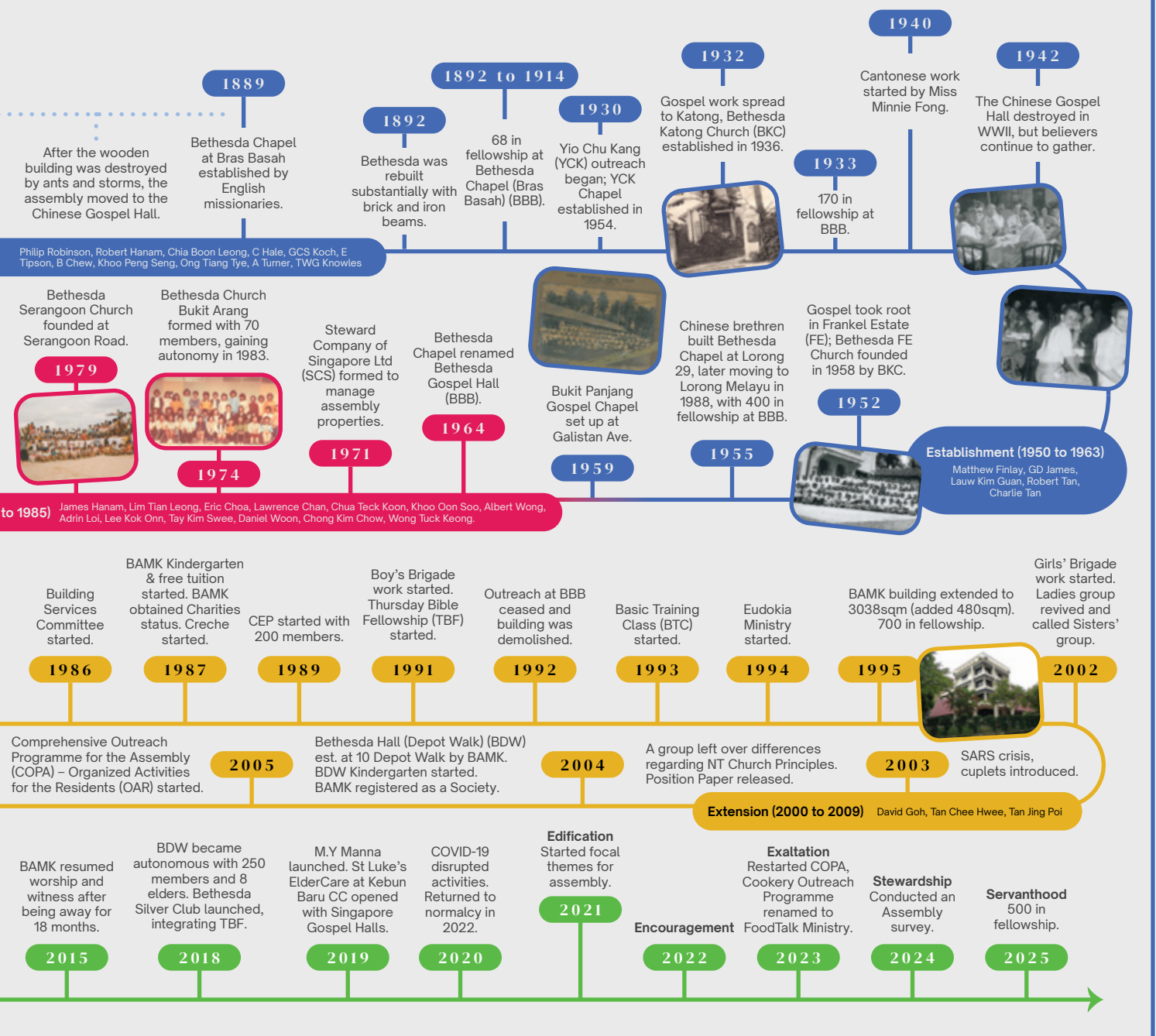
The year 2025 marks 161 years since the Lord began His work at Bethesda Chapel in 1864, which later relocated to Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) (BAMK) in 1986. Throughout the decades, God has remained faithful, establishing and sustaining His work. In times of change—such as Depot Walk becoming autonomous and the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic—His presence has never wavered.

To ensure that God's blessings, grace, and mercy are remembered, the history of our assembly has been documented in four previous publications: One Hundred Years of the Lord's Blessings (1864–1964) by Matthew Finlay, Post Centennial Blessings of the Lord (1964–1985) by Lim Tian Leong, He is Faithful (1864–2009) by the History Committee chaired by Jason Lim, and Great is His Faithfulness (2010–2015) by the History Committee chaired by Peter Chow, advised by Tan Kian Huat. Now, a decade later, this book, Jesus Only: the Same Yesterday, Today, and Forever, continues the record, focusing on the past 10 years.

As we reflect on our history, we seek to learn valuable lessons from the past, striving—by His grace—to uphold the New Testament principles outlined in scripture and faithfully followed by the brethren who have gathered at Bethesda for generations. May this book serve as a testimony to His unchanging faithfulness as we continue to meet Sunday after Sunday, until the Lord returns for His Church. Join us in exploring 161 years of the Lord's blessings on His work at Bethesda!



F BETHESDA HALL ANG MO KIO



One Hundred Years of the Lord's Blessing: 1864–1963



Mission Rooms, 108 Bencoolen Street (1864)

How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things! (Rom. 10:15)

In the year 1857, the population of Singapore was 57,421, and tigers roamed the town. It was then that 26-year-old Oxford graduate, Philip Robinson (who co-founded Robinsons Singapore), first arrived with his wife, Eliza, and young daughter. The Robinsons' home was open to all who loved the Lord, and simple gatherings for fellowship took place regularly under their roof. But Philip and Eliza Robinson grew in their conviction that they were called to be Christian witnesses in Singapore, and consequently a place was hired at 108 Bencoolen Street, for use as 'Mission Rooms'. The first Brethren Lord's Supper was held in the rooms on 3 July 1864 with seven believers present, birthing the Brethren movement in Singapore.

What were these early assembly meetings like? The first annual report of the Mission Rooms described that believers assembled 'together on the first day of the week, after the manner of the earliest churches planted by the apostles, for the breaking of bread, and Christian worship'. And by God's grace, these simple meetings continued, ceasing only for a short period during the Japanese Occupation of Singapore, when meetings were not permitted by the Japanese authorities.

In the early days, the gospel was preached to commanders of vessels in the harbour and their crew with considerable acceptance. According to the Centennial Brochure, 'The simple preaching of the Cross, oft-times by unlettered men, has been the means of awakening many who were living in total indifference about their souls to cry out "What must I do to be saved?" and the prayers of the congregation have on several occasions been answered by these seeking ones', who were afterward directed to the Saviour. Indeed, such accounts are testament that God's work is done ... *not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit...* (Zech. 4:6).

Despite facing challenges—such as a period of nearly 15 months without a single conversion—the believers remained steadfast in prayer and preaching. They held firm to their faith that 'the foolishness of preaching is still the power of God for salvation to everyone that believeth'. Their faith was eventually rewarded when it became clear that several who had long heard the Word were deeply moved by it and began earnestly seeking answers about the salvation of their souls. People were being saved almost every week for several succeeding months. 'There was no excitement of any kind, either in the preaching or prayer meetings, but the still small voice of the Spirit dealing with individual souls concerning their sin then pointing them to the Saviour.'

Bethesda Chapel, 77 Bras Basah Road (1866)

On 29 July 1866, Philip Robinson proposed building a small place of worship. The matter was entrusted to the Lord in prayer, after which funds were collected, and a building contractor was engaged. 2 months later, on 30 Sept. 1866, the new building—named Bethesda, or the





Bethesda building
(1925)

House of Mercy—was opened with a prayer service at 6:30 a.m., followed by a gathering of 10 believers for the breaking of bread at 9:00 a.m. Remarkably, within a few months, the chapel proved too small to accommodate the growing congregation. About a year later, it was expanded with the addition of two side wings. In response to fervent prayers, the Lord sent His labourers—John Chapman and his wife, missionaries from Bristol—who travelled from Penang to visit Bethesda in April 1867. On 8 May 1867, John Chapman baptised Tan See Boo and five other Chinese men. They were believed to be the first converts baptised by immersion in the Straits Settlements. Tan See Boo subsequently started the first Chinese Brethren assembly in Singapore, the Chinese Gospel Hall, also in 1867.

The gospel was preached to both sailors and soldiers in Singapore, as well as to the local population. The first recorded 'tea meeting' on 1 Aug. 1867 saw an attendance of 130 sailors, soldiers, and others. On 5 June 1867, the first Malay convert came to faith. In 1931, six believers were baptised, among them a converted Muslim, a converted Hindu, and a former Buddhist—powerful testimonies to the saving power of the atoning blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. As the Centennial Brochure states, 'There is no record on earth of the hundreds (probably thousands) who have been brought to a knowledge of Christ directly and indirectly as a result of the gospel activities of the believers at Bethesda, but they shall form part of the worshipping throng of the Redeemed in the great day when the Church complete stands around the Throne!'

After some years, the timber chapel succumbed to white ants and was eventually destroyed by storms. However, this did not hinder the church's growth, for it was never defined by a physical structure but by *living stones* (1 Pet. 2:5). The assembly then relocated to the Chinese Gospel Hall, known as 'Hock Im Koan', which stood in an adjacent section.

In 1889, a party of missionaries set sail from England. Among them were W.G. Honywill and his wife. W.G. Honywill decided to rebuild Bethesda Chapel at Bras Basah, and plans for a new building to be built substantially with brick and iron beams were made. On 17 Jan. 1892, the new Bethesda building was opened with a week of special prayer.

During the Japanese Occupation of Singapore in World War II, Bethesda Chapel was taken over for use by the Nippon Military Authorities, whilst the nearby Chinese Gospel Hall was destroyed by bombing in 1942. After the war, the Chinese congregation used Bethesda Chapel for many of their meetings. In 1955, the Chinese brethren built a new gospel hall at No. 55 Lorong 29, Geylang. They subsequently relocated to 27 Lorong Melayu in 1988, and were also called Bethesda Gospel Hall.

By 1955, the fellowship at Bethesda Chapel in Bras Basah had grown to 400 members—a testament to the truth of 1 Corinthians chapter 3 verse 6: *...God gave the increase.*

Post Centennial Blessings of the Lord: 1964–1985

1960s-1970s



PIONEERING

4 NEW ASSEMBLIES

In the 1960s and 1970s, the Holy Spirit motivated and moved older brethren to pioneer new assembly testimonies in Bukit Panjang, Bukit Arang, Toa Payoh (the assembly now located in Serangoon), and Balestier (at Jalan Rama Rama). Several brethren followed them, and the exodus would have depleted the numbers, but the Lord maintained His testimony at Bethesda Chapel, adding more to them than what He had sent forth.

1980

By 1980, the number of elders had once again dwindled to two. In response, over a period of months, five brothers were called to serve as undershepherds: Albert Wong, Khoo Oon Soo, Daniel Woon, Chua Teck Koon, and Chong Kim Chow. The Lord continued to provide, and between 1983 and 1985, six more elders were appointed: Tay Kim Swee (1983), Adrin Loi and Lee Kok Onn (1984), S. V. Ramalingam, Wong Tuck Keong, and Eric Choa (1985).

70%
Under age of 30

1976

By 1976, for various reasons, the six brothers who had served as elders in the assembly since 1964 were no longer in the oversight. During this period of diminishing leadership, the Lord, in His faithfulness, raised up Lim Tian Leong and James Hanam to become elders in June 1966 and 1967, respectively. As the assembly grew, these two brothers carried the increasing responsibilities of shepherding the flock. In His mercy, God moved the heart of another brother to share in the work of eldership.

3 RISING Elders



At that time, the assembly was young, with more than 70% of its members below the age of 30. Yet, the Lord had faithfully taught and prepared them, enabling them to uphold the rich heritage of New Testament principles passed down by the pioneers of the assembly. They rejoiced that God had chosen younger brothers to share in the pastoral ministry (1 Tim. 4:12). Many assemblies declined when aging elders were unable to continue shepherding effectively, lacked successors, or hesitated to entrust leadership to younger men. However, Bethesda Chapel, by God's grace, remained steadfast, with a new generation stepping forward to continue His work.

1981

Bethesda Chapel, located at 77 Bras Basah Road since 1866, faced a significant change on 10 June 1981, when the Urban Redevelopment Authority acquired the property. Although the assembly was permitted to continue using the premises under a Temporary Occupation Licence, the need for a new location became apparent. Concurrently, the Geylang Gospel Hall property was acquired by the Housing and Development Board. In response to these developments, on 24 April 1982, the elders of both assemblies jointly appealed to the government for a new piece of land to replace their acquired properties.

The Post Centennial Blessings of the Lord publication reported that in the 1950s, we began searching for land to build a new Bethesda Hall. In 1966, Nancy Wee gave 12 Galistan Avenue to Bethesda Chapel, which became the home of the Bukit Panjang assembly. In 1969, Oh Choon Sioh generously covered most of the cost for 15A Jalan Rama Rama, which became the home of the Jalan Rama Rama assembly. Then, in 1975, we built Bethesda Hall (Bukit Arang), though it is currently used by the Bukit Arang assembly. Despite these blessings, we found ourselves in a premises crisis during the 1980s. None of the properties could be used to house the saints from Bras Basah, even as the lease for Bethesda Chapel was about to expire by the end of the decade.



Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah)



Bethesda building (1986)

1982-1983

The annual report for 30 June 1982 recorded, 'We have prayed and done much to purchase another site for the development of a new hall, but in vain. This may indicate that the Lord has another plan for us. In the meanwhile, we should be prepared—with all things ready—to move forward the moment He directs us.' Within weeks of the above report, Bethesda Chapel received news that it might be given a piece of land for joint development with the Hokkien-speaking assembly from the Geylang Gospel Hall. The government gave us a 30-year lease of land at Ang Mo Kio Avenue 4 to establish a new meeting place. The lease would take effect from 22 Feb. 1983. Our God is surely the God of the impossible!

He is Faithful: 1985–2009

Early Challenges

Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name Ebenezer, saying, 'Thus far the Lord has helped us.' (1 Sam. 7:12)

On 13 July 1986, more than 500 believers gathered together to break bread at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) (BAMK) for the very first time. It was a time of thanksgiving and dedication for the new work of the Lord. However, it was soon evident that this new work came with challenges. Although attendance at the breaking of bread service held steady at about 500, attendance at the weekly assembly prayer meeting and the gospel meeting was disappointing. The attendance at the assembly prayer meeting dropped 50% from an earlier average of 100 at Bras Basah. The annual records noted that in 1988/1989, 'visiting speakers such as Geoffrey Bull and Stan Warren saw our lack of prayers and did not flinch from rebuking us in public'.

There were also concerns over the number of members who left immediately after the breaking of bread service without staying for the ministry of the Word. Additionally, the total collection dropped drastically, reaching a

situation where a dire appeal had to be made in 1988 after several years of operating at a deficit. Thankfully, the Lord prompted members to respond positively, and the finances of the assembly were stabilised when the total collection rose by almost 50% the following year.

Some new initiatives such as the kindergarten and tuition work were implemented successfully and established as core outreach activities, but others such as the cleaning roster idea proved unworkable.

In January 1989, BAMK started the new Christian Education Programme (CEP) under the direction of Lim Tian Leong, assisted by Peter Wee, Chong Kim Chow, Harry Tan, Lee Kok Onn, and Khoo Oon Soo. The objective was to provide a systematic and co-ordinated Bible-based teaching programme for assembly members. At its inception, the programme engaged 215 believers across 23 groups, with materials written by the elders. By the Lord's grace, this ministry has continued to the present, with the 2023 Annual Report noting 361 believers in the programme.



1986 Annual Thanksgiving Meeting – congregation at main hall



1989 Tuition Work

Moving On (1992)

The last service at the old Bras Basah premises took place on 15 Feb. 1992. The old premises was handed over to the Urban Redevelopment Authority on 9 March 1992 and demolished in June. The Assembly Family Camp themed 'Be a Barnabas, Yes!' that year saw campers travel by air, for the first time, to Penang. Following that camp, attendance at the assembly prayer meeting increased to more than 100. Gospel meeting attendance also increased, and total collections year on year continued on an upward trend.



Bethesda building (1992)

Expansion (1995)

By 1995, the total number in fellowship had risen from 500 to 700. In May 1995, the assembly prepared for further physical growth as building work commenced on the erection of a four-storey structure with a basement extension in the former courtyard area. This was completed on 1 April 1996.

As the Lord continued to bless in terms of increased membership, the assembly began to consider the purchase of a new piece of land for the work of the gospel. The 1996 Annual Report noted that 'the extra aisle seats in the main hall were well occupied' at the breaking of bread services, and that average attendance had now reached 550. Attendance continued to grow in 1997, with 600 gathering around the Lord's Table on Sunday mornings. Some CEP groups had also begun meeting for dinner before each prayer meeting to encourage one another to attend.

Towards the end of the century, the assembly acknowledged its full dependence on the Lord and His grace in the annual report for 1999 stating: 'We are what we are by the grace of the Lord... We reject any confidence in ourselves and trust wholly in the Lord of grace, who alone is able to work in and through us for His good pleasure.'

The Lord graciously added another 62 members to the assembly at the turn of the new millennium, but with such a large membership, it was easy for members to leave much of the work to a few 'elite servants'. New challenges, it seemed, were needed for the assembly to move forward as a united body.



Bethesda building (1996)



Bethesda Building (Today)

New Challenges (2004)

The assembly faced a setback in 2004 when some brethren disagreed over the proper way to uphold New Testament church principles, or 'Assembly Distinctives', desiring to practise a fellowship that was more in line with the Exclusive Brethren. These included the requirement to wear head covering by the sisters at all activities, and to discontinue the use of cuplets for wine at the Lord's Supper (which had been introduced around the time of the SARS crisis in 2003). Sadly, the group abruptly left the assembly in August 2004 to set up their own meetings.

This split shocked and fractured the assembly, and severely tested the leadership. After numerous council meetings, some lasting into the wee hours of the morning, strategies were worked out to control the damage. The elders met with the deacons and leaders of the various activity groups, confused and discouraged members were counselled, and exhortations were given from the pulpit on the need for love and forgiveness. In the wake of the split, a Position Paper encapsulating the assembly's position on New Testament principles and practices was issued. Through it all, the Lord held the assembly together as He lovingly taught the assembly some hard lessons concerning the sins of pride, complacency, and over-reliance on a few individuals to do the Lord's work. The Lord graciously stirred His people to respond to the challenge by stepping forward to fill the gaps, and the assembly was able to pull together and carry on, ever conscious of the need to humbly submit to one another, to obey the Lord's commandments, and to love as He loves.

'In essentials, unity, in non-essentials, liberty, in all things, charity and love.' (Greg Laurie)

Moving On, Focused On the Lord's Work (2004)

In the midst of the disagreement and the eventual split in 2004, a new outreach work began at Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) (BDW), a building which the Lord had graciously provided after several years of diligent search. Breaking of bread services, Sunday School and CEP classes at BDW formally began in March 2005.

The other project was the Comprehensive Outreach Programme for the Assembly (COPA), which began in 2007. This programme focused on reaching out to people living in the Ang Mo Kio and Depot Walk neighbourhoods, and introduced new outreach initiatives such as talks, health screenings, blood donations drives, Easter and Christmas performances at the Community Club, and short tours out of Singapore. These activities were specifically directed at building relationships with the unsaved souls in the neighbourhood.



Bethesda Depot Walk (2004)



8th Oct 2016 at BDW main hall

God's Leading in Uncertain Times: A Decade and More at Bethesda Hall 2010–2024

Lease Renewal (2010)

2010 was a time of looming uncertainty as BAMK neared the end of its initial lease period for its Ang Mo Kio Avenue 4 site—would the assembly be able to renew the lease in land-scarce Singapore? What would the price be at a time of rising land prices? Would we be able to raise the funds needed in the years immediately following the global financial crisis? Yet, in the face of these very legitimate questions, the assembly was reminded of what Hudson Taylor once said, 'There are three stages in every great work of God: first, it is impossible, then it is difficult, then it is done.'

On 12 Aug. 2009, the Housing Development Board (HDB) granted in-principle approval for BAMK's lease renewal. However, due to the scarcity of suitable church sites, land prices had increased significantly. Bids for comparable land parcels had risen from about S\$4.6 million in 2004 to S\$13.6 million in 2007. On 24 April 2012, the HDB proposed a lease renewal price of \$9.3 million, excluding GST. Including GST and stamp duty,

Yet, in the face of these very legitimate questions, the assembly was reminded of what Hudson Taylor once said, 'There are three stages in every great work of God: first, it is impossible, then it is difficult, then it is done.'

the total cost would reach approximately S\$10.2 million, more than double the initial S\$5 million estimate. Faced with this challenge, the oversight of BAMK and the Chinese Assembly committed the matter to the Lord in prayer. They appealed to the Prime Minister through then-Member of Parliament, Mr Inderjit Singh, who supported the assembly's community involvement.



Breaking of Bread service (2015)

During negotiations with the HDB, a property consultant engaged by BAMK demonstrated that the 2007 bid was an outlier compared to prevailing prices. In response, the HDB reduced the land renewal premium from S\$9.3 million to S\$8.4 million. The breakthrough was indeed an answer to prayers—to God be the glory!

As this revised lower premium was within the mandate received from assembly members, BAMK accepted the offer by the HDB on 13 April 2013. During the transition period, about 100 saints from the assembly settled very well at BDW, while 300 met each Sunday afternoon at St Andrew's Village. Combined assembly prayer meetings were held at BDW, the Children's Corner meetings were held at Block 180, Ang Mo Kio Avenue 4, and the Young People's meetings, at the premises of the Assembly of Christians at Yio Chu Kang. Praise the Lord, that after 18 months away, He brought the assembly back to BAMK on 27 Sept. 2015. Looking back, we can truly rejoice and give thanks to our faithful and sovereign God who brought years of prayerful planning and hard work to fruition.

Depot Walk (2018)

The work at Depot Walk officially started in 2005. Through the years, the Lord has been good in adding to the leadership and members at Depot Walk, so much so that in 2018, there were about 250 baptised members meeting at Depot Walk, including seven elders and seven deacons. Three committees (ministries, legal and

finance) were set up to reorganise the activities at the two locations of Ang Mo Kio and Depot Walk, and on 27 May 2018, Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) Limited was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee, with its objective being that of a church. After much prayer, BDW formally became autonomous on 1 Jan. 2019.

...it was by God's grace that the assembly discovered new ways of using technology to unlock new opportunities to build up its members and reach out to those who have yet to hear the gospel.

COVID-19 Pandemic (Beginning in 2020)

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted BAMK beginning in February 2020, leading to the temporary suspension of all in-person assembly activities from March 2020. As the situation evolved, restrictions were gradually eased. Despite these challenges, the assembly persevered in its mission, continuing various ministries and programmes to strengthen the congregation's understanding of God's Word and to spread the gospel. The full details regarding COVID-19 and how it affected the assembly are detailed in Chapter 7 of this book. Although COVID-19 posed significant challenges to the assembly, it was by God's grace that the assembly discovered new ways of using technology to unlock new opportunities to build up its members and reach out to those who have yet to hear the gospel. The assembly embraced new technological solutions to maintain its spiritual activities through:

- online and hybrid meeting formats which were implemented to facilitate continued fellowship and Bible teaching;
- the setting up of a Digital Media Committee to address the assembly's digital communication needs during the pandemic;
- upgraded audio and visual equipment, made possible by the generous contributions of its members.



First Zoom worship session. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee (2020).



First Zoom worship session (2020)

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. (Lam. 3:22-23)

Assembly Survey for Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) (2024)

In late 2023, the collective leadership in BAMK initiated an Assembly Survey to assess the congregation's current state and identify areas for improvement. The survey aimed to gather constructive feedback, enable the leadership to better care for the flock (John 10:3, 4, 14), prayerfully consider how to guide the assembly forward (1 Pet. 5:2), and finally, help both the leadership and the assembly to reflect on how to align more closely with their mission to build up BAMK as a vibrant and faithful church community. A committee of 12 members representing the council, the diaconate, and ministry groups within the assembly, developed the survey. Through workshops, the committee articulated a shared vision for BAMK as a healthy church by 2043. The shared vision focused on three key areas:

1. An assembly that has good Bible teaching that is doctrinally sound and clear.

- Bible teaching should combat falsehoods, convict hearts, and challenge Christians to live out their faith. Pulpit teaching should be clear, inspiring, and focused.

2. An assembly that enables the transformation of lives by encouraging, equipping, and extending God's kingdom.

- Leaders should organise activities and ministries with clearly defined purposes, balancing the needs of those serving and maintaining strong connections across generations;
- Members who lead and serve should be equipped, supported, and strengthened to foster growth and accountability, and prevent burnout;
- A culture and clear pathway should nurture members into disciple-making disciples, with a passion for outreach locally and globally.

3. An assembly that is an inter-generational and open community that cares for one another.

- Programmes and meetings should meet the needs of all generations, fostering a God-centred and Christ-loving community;
- The church should be a safe space for vulnerable sharing, where members care for one another and warmly welcome unbelievers.

As such, the survey covered four main areas: 1) Bible Teaching, 2) Assembly Activities, 3) Evangelistic Outreach, and 4) Community, Leadership, and Pastoral Needs. Open to members aged 15 and above, the survey received 167 responses. Responses were anonymised to ensure confidentiality, encouraging members to provide honest and thoughtful feedback.



A committee of 12 members representing the council, the diaconate, and ministry groups within the assembly, developed the survey

At the time of writing, the survey has been completed and the committee is currently analysing the results to identify key themes and actionable insights. The findings, along with proposed recommendations, will be shared with the assembly's leadership for further reflection and action. The feedback will help to guide future initiatives, ensuring that the assembly remains responsive to the needs of its members. The leadership deeply appreciates the participation of all members in this survey, as well as all of your prayers.

Focal Themes (began in 2021)

In 2021, we embarked on Edification as a focal theme for the assembly. This was sustained by incorporating topics relating to edification in the morning ministry, CEP, Sunday School and Young People's meetings. We concluded our 2022 theme of Encouragement with a book study on 2 Corinthians. In 2023, we embarked on the theme of Exaltation, a focal theme for the assembly to live a life of worshipping God in spirit and in truth. The theme for 2024 was Stewardship, and we were well reminded that we are only stewards 'occupying' ourselves with being about our Master's business till He comes. May we be found faithful (1 Cor. 4:2)!

Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful. (1 Cor. 4:2)



BLESSINGS

Jesus Only—The same today

Chapter 2

Exaltation—Main Meetings of the Assembly

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. (Acts 2:42)

INTRODUCTION

The Word of God records that the early church devoted themselves to gathering for worship, teaching, prayer and proclamation of the gospel. Based on the New Testament church principles, our assembly holds weekly breaking of bread worship services and assembly prayer meetings, and monthly gospel meetings (details regarding gospel meetings can be found in Chapter 3—Evangelism). An interesting historical note from 'The Straits Calendar and Directory', 1872, noted that the meetings at Bethesda then were as follows:

Services:

Lord's Day

- 11.00 a.m. Believers meet for breaking of bread.
- 5.00 p.m. Sunday School.
- 6.30 p.m. The Gospel is preached.

Wednesday

- 7.30 p.m. Prayer meeting.

Friday

- 7.30 p.m. Exposition of Scriptures.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we began holding these meetings in a hybrid format—both in-person and online via Zoom and/or YouTube. Members were encouraged to attend in person whenever possible.

We praise the Lord for the on-going meetings of the assembly held in the past years, and we pray that they will continue until the Lord comes!



Breaking of Bread Worship or The Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:20)



Breaking of bread worship is held on the first day of each week, the Lord's Day, also known as Sunday. This is the assembly's main meeting, attended by everyone. Therefore, it is important to understand why we gather: to praise and worship God the Father and His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. In fond remembrance, we, Christians, express our heartfelt gratitude and exalt both the Father and our Saviour by looking back on the Lord Jesus' life and death and looking forward to His coming again. Quoting Kenneth Khong in the Bethesda Newsletter (January 2023) regarding worship: 'Spiritual engagement with God is key to meaningful worship. It is not about how good we feel but how God is glorified. The measure of a meeting is less about our experience and more about His exaltation.' It is also at this meeting where we break the bread—symbolic of the body of our Lord and Saviour broken for us, and drink the cup—symbolic of His precious blood poured out for the forgiveness of our sins.

As previously mentioned in the assembly publication, piano accompaniment was introduced in 2015 to enhance harmony and unity in congregational singing. However, the COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted assembly meetings, leading to the temporary suspension of physical gatherings from March 2020.

In response, live streaming of the breaking of bread worship via Zoom and YouTube commenced on 5 Apr. 2020, with over 300 participants joining from their respective homes for the first online service.

We are grateful to the Lord that the Safe Management Measures (SMM) for COVID-19 were gradually eased from July 2021 to May 2022, allowing us to return to Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) (BAMK) for in-person worship. As the psalmist declared: *I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'* (Psa. 122:1)

Following COVID-19, some adjustments were made: the worship time was moved from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., individual disposable cups were introduced, and the bread was pre-cut into small pieces and distributed by the deacons for health reasons.

In October 2024, the council reinstated the symbolic breaking of the bread and pouring of the cup by a deacon before the emblems are distributed to the congregation, following the pattern instituted by the Lord while maintaining safe-distancing precautions.

While the assembly has been using the Believers Hymn Book, which contains many relevant hymns for the remembrance feast, 2020 saw the introduction of the Supplementary Songbook. Having this additional collection of hymns and songs is intended to engage all of our members, both young and old, to worship the Lord in the splendour of His holiness with reverence.



It is also encouraging to witness baptised younger brothers, including teenagers, increasingly taking the initiative to read scripture, lead hymns, or offer prayers during worship. Reflections from a few brothers on the breaking of bread worship are as follows:

One of the defining characteristics of Bethesda Hall is the open worship during the breaking of bread worship service, and I saw it as a duty and calling to participate. This filled my days with much meaning. I began reflecting more on various moments and experiences, to see if it could be a potentially edifying sharing with the church. I spent less mindless time scrolling through my phone, and more mindful time flipping through the Word. I encourage all brothers to respond to God's invitation and enjoy this closeness with God. As you serve the Lord, may you bless the church, and may you in turn be blessed. Amen. (Fong Xiong Kun)

On that Sunday, while going to church, I had the idea, 'Why not stand up today?'. I prayed and asked God to guide me and allow me to speak if it was His will. Throughout the morning, I felt the Spirit nudging me and it felt like I had to do it. I prayed to God and asked Him to let me know when to go up to speak and to provide me with silence so that I will be brave enough to go to the microphone. Surprisingly, that Sunday was unusually quieter than most Sundays and I felt the Spirit nudging me even

more. It was truly the work of the Lord, answering my prayer. So, I mustered the courage and took the step off my chair, quickly walking towards the mic. I thank God for granting me this opportunity to give Him back the glory He deserves and allowing me to proclaim His love and the wonderful and marvellous love of the Lord Jesus Christ for what He has done for me. I think that if and only when you feel the Spirit working in you, that you should exalt God through exhortation. (Timothy Nissi)

Growing up in BAMK, I was frequently reminded of the privilege of exercising one's priesthood, but the weight of that responsibility didn't truly sink in for me. One day, as I reflected on the meaning of worship—especially after spending a year immersed in the assembly's theme of Exaltation—I asked myself: 'What is my contribution to worship?' I realised that as a believer with direct access to God, I wasn't fully offering my effort or heart in praise. This reflection stirred the resolve in me to become more engaged during corporate worship on Sundays. However, stepping out of my comfort zone was not easy. Pride, fear of others' opinions, and doubts about my intentions crept in—was I leading because I felt called, or simply because someone had asked me to? In that moment, God reminded me that if my heart was right, I had no reason to fear what others might think. Encouraged by this, I took a small but meaningful step. One day, I stood up and led the congregation in a hymn. To my surprise, many brothers and sisters encouraged me afterward. I've come to understand that exercising my priesthood is not about perfection or performance—it's about being sincere in my devotion and willing to give my best for His glory. (Timothy Joachim)



I've come to understand that exercising my priesthood is not about perfection or performance—it's about being sincere in my devotion and willing to give my best for His glory.'

Assembly Prayer Meeting

The Assembly Prayer Meeting is often described as the powerhouse of the assembly, reflecting the truth that the assembly marches on its knees—for without the Lord Jesus Christ, we can do nothing (John 15:5). Daniel Skelton noted that Bible teachers have described prayer as an expression of ‘complete dependence on the Lord for worship, guidance, preservation, and service’ and as ‘the secret of continuance’.

During the Addition and Alteration (A&A) works at BAMK, prayer meetings were temporarily held at Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) (BDW). Upon returning to the Ang Mo Kio premises in October 2015, the two locations resumed their usual arrangement: holding separate prayer meetings, with one combined prayer meeting every first week of the month at BAMK. In January 2017, both congregations also began hosting their own missionary prayer meetings on the first Tuesday of the month.



Assembly Prayer Meeting (2017)

Since 2023, BAMK has introduced 52 weekly prayer themes, aligned with the assembly’s theme of the year.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, live streaming was introduced for the assembly prayer meetings. This change led to a notable increase in attendance, from an average of 60 in 2015 to about 90 in 2023, with the highest recorded attendance reaching 108.

Revival prayer meetings, held on every fifth Tuesday of the month, were first introduced on 29 Jan. 2019, drawing

70 brothers and 30 sisters. These meetings begin with 15 minutes of Bible reading by a brother, followed by a time for sisters to gather for prayer, either in an online breakout room (via Zoom) or physically in Room B01.



Sisters praying at the first revival prayer meeting (2019)

For regular (non-revival) prayer meetings, the sessions conclude with 15 minutes of Bible reading by a brother. Beginning in 1989, we have studied the books of Matthew, 1 and 2 Samuel, Psalms, Proverbs, Galatians to Colossians, James to Revelation, Genesis and Exodus. Over the past decade, the studies have covered Numbers (2016), Deuteronomy (2017), Joshua (2018), Judges (2019), Ruth (2020), 1 Samuel (2021), 2 Samuel (2022), 1 Kings (2023) and 2 Kings (2024).

The following is another brother’s reflection on the Assembly Prayer Meeting:

Just like the early Christians, I am thankful that as an assembly, we recognise the importance and power of prayer. This is an opportunity for us to be made aware and to pray intentionally about the needs, activities and members of the assembly. As we gather weekly to pray, it is an encouragement to see believers of all ages united in prayer, with a desire to seek the Lord’s will for the assembly and His people. May we all be encouraged to come to the throne of grace as an assembly, for *the Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth (Psa. 145:18)*. (Jereme Teo)

Workers' Retreat (Assembly Retreat from 2017)

Workers' Retreat, traditionally held on the first day of the new year, was meant for those who serve in the different activity groups to meet annually to evaluate the past year of service, give thanks to God, and rededicate themselves to another fruitful year of service to the Lord. This was changed to become Assembly Retreat in 2017 to include all members of the assembly and was held separately at BAMK and BDW on 2 Jan., a Monday. The Assembly Retreat in 2020, which had the theme Evangelism Expo (Eph. 3:10), included Ministries' Airtime and expo booths by the various activity groups to inform assembly members of the opportunities in the various ministries for evangelism. In 2021 and 2022, certain segments of the Assembly Retreat were on livestream due to COVID-19 restrictions. In 2021, members who were physically present at the retreat took part in various activities such as Creative Ways to Illustrate Gospel Truths, flower arrangement and creative cake decoration. In 2023, the theme for the Assembly Retreat was Let us Exalt His Name Together; *Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. (Psa. 34:3).*



Assembly Retreat (2017)



Learning creative ways to illustrate gospel truths at the Assembly Retreat (2021)



Easter Conference (2018)



Chairman Mr Kam Yew Chuen introducing the choir at the Easter Conference (2023)

Easter Conference

The focus of the Easter Conference is not only to remember the Lord and His death, burial and resurrection, but also to reach out to non-believers. Over the years, we have benefitted from challenging messages given by our own brethren, as well as invited speakers from overseas. But since 2020, the messages have been given by local brethren due to travel restrictions imposed because of COVID-19. The Bethesda Choir or selected members of the choir (during COVID-19 times) would also usually be in attendance. More than 500 attended the Easter Conference at BAMK in 2016, but attendance dropped to the 300s from 2019 to 2023.

Special Ministry Meetings



Special ministry by Mr Fred Kosin (2020)

Special Ministry Meetings are usually held over 3 days, mainly in June by invited overseas speakers. 2020 saw the greatest number of Special Ministry Meetings series with four series, all being held online due to COVID-19 restrictions. There were no Special Ministry Meetings



Mr Roger Liebi playing the piano at the Special Ministry Meeting (2024)

in 2022. In 2024, Special Ministry Meetings were again held physically at BAMK. What a wonderful privilege to hear God's Word so freely and ably expounded by His servants who come from all corners of the globe.

Annual Thanksgiving Meeting

The Annual Thanksgiving Meeting is usually held in October for members to come together and thank the Lord for His faithfulness and goodness to the assembly for the past year under review. The programme for the service would include a slide presentation of the past year's activities, a report by the assembly secretary, song items, and a message by an elder, followed by a buffet dinner.

The Annual Thanksgiving Meeting was a little different in 2016, in that it also included a Q & A Session on the autonomy of BDW taken by a panel of elders (Andrew Kwan, Tan Jing Poi and Sum Siew Tak). The Annual Thanksgiving Meeting was held wholly online in the years of 2020 and 2021. Attendance for the Annual Thanksgiving Meeting in 2022 was 210 (counting those present in person and across online platforms).



Annual Thanksgiving Meeting (2015)



Video Presentation at the Annual Thanksgiving Meeting (2019)

Christmas Service

Christmas Service is held either on Christmas Day or on Christmas Eve (if Christmas Day falls on the Lord's Day). It is a time for members to praise God for His indescribable Gift—sending His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to earth that first Christmas to die for our sins and reconcile us to Himself. Christmas Service has traditionally seen the highest attendance, as it provides a wonderful opportunity to invite non-believing friends and family to hear the good news about the true meaning of Christmas. The highlight of the service is usually the cantata presented by the Bethesda Choir. However, due to COVID-19 SMM, this was not possible in 2020 and 2021.



Bethesda Choir presents the Christmas Cantata at the Christmas Service (2016)



Bethesda Choir at the Christmas service (2023)



Watchnight Service

Watchnight Service is a time when assembly members gather together on the last day of each year to reflect on the year that has passed, and to be exhorted and challenged to face the new year. This meaningful tradition has been carried on from Bras Basah days to Ang Mo Kio. Coffee supper would be served at 10 p.m. before the 11 p.m. meeting. The speaker would then end his message a few minutes before midnight, and the chairman would facilitate the countdown to the New Year.

At the conclusion of his Watchnight Service message in 2022, our brother, Johnson Chua, encouraged us to fix our eyes firmly on 'Jesus Only', recognising that it is He alone who saves, is supreme, soothes and secures. He also reminded us to *fight the good fight of faith and take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses (1 Tim. 6:12)*. There is a special joy to be found in the midst of our brothers and sisters as we ring in the New Year by wishing one another a 'Blessed New Year!', and as each Watchnight Service comes and goes, may we be all found watching for our blessed Lord's soon return! Maranatha!



Watchnight Service with 120 at BAMK, 30 on Zoom, and 26 on YouTube (2022).



Watchnight Service (2018).

Chapter 3

Evangelism

How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?
(Rom. 10:14)

And He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.'
(Mk. 16:15)

INTRODUCTION

The Bible verses above are just two of many that explain why evangelism—sharing the gospel both publicly and privately—is so important and directly command Christians to evangelise. Clearly, evangelism should be a central part of our Christian lives. It would be good for us to follow the examples set by Andrew and Philip in John chapter 1. Andrew, excited to have found Jesus Christ, immediately went to his brother Simon Peter and said, *We have found the Messiah* (v. 41) and brought him to Christ. Similarly, Philip found Nathanael and said, *We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph ... Come and see* (vv. 45–46).

Consider how the early followers eagerly shared news of their Saviour. Do you share this same passion for the gospel? Have you answered Christ's call in Matthew 28:19–20 to make disciples of all nations? If not, what's holding you back—fear, lack of confidence, or perhaps uncertainty about your role in evangelism?

Dear brothers and sisters, do not let these barriers deter you any longer. You can overcome them by developing a closer relationship with God through prayer and reading the Bible. In the process, you will learn to be confident in the saving power of the gospel and understand the importance of

evangelism in a Christian's life. You may also find that speaking to other Christians, for example, those who actively preach the gospel or are part of the Bethesda Hall (And Mo Kio) (BAMK) counselling team, will help you to find the courage to overcome these challenges and step out in faith.

This excerpt from page 62 of BAMK's Post Centennial Blessings of the Lord highlighted the need for evangelism when BAMK was first established, and it remains just as relevant today:

'Ang Mo Kio poses a challenge to us to evangelise. How are we to attract them? The Gospel of Christ is still the power of God to salvation to everyone who believes. But how can they believe it if they have not heard it? They will not hear what we say about Christ until they have seen what Christ has done in our lives. We will not be able to influence them with our lips regarding the claims of Christ unless we are able to impress them with lives manifesting love, faith and hope, the characteristics of the dependable, devoted and dependent Christians.'

We are thankful that our assembly provides various ways for us to fulfil the Christian's call to proclaim the gospel. Our assembly's evangelistic efforts are organised into three main categories:

LOCAL DIRECT

Gospel Services

Assembly Gospel Rally
Monthly Gospel Meeting
Easter Gospel Service
Christmas Gospel Service
Yum Cha (an outreach by the Cantonese Group)

Counselling

Tract Distribution

Ushering

LOCAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

Bethesda (Ang Mo Kio) Kindergarten

Boys' Brigade

Girls' Brigade

Comprehensive Outreach Programme for the Assembly (COPA)

Food Talk Ministry
M.Y Manna
Organised Activities for Residents (OAR)
St Luke's ElderCare

OVERSEAS

Mission Group

Bethesda Mission Exposure Trip (BMET)

Medical Dental Eye Care (MDEC)



23 Dec. 2017 More than 500 attended Simply Christmas at Kebun Baru



14 Sep. 2020 MP Yip Hong Wen (MP for Yio Chu Kang) visited BAMK to find out more about our community services in and around AMK

Overseeing most of the evangelistic efforts is the Assembly Evangelistic Committee (AEC).

In March 2000, the AEC was established to replace the Assembly Evangelistic Group (AEG), made up of three groups of workers: counsellors, tract distributors, and ushers. Many former members of the AEG joined the new committee. The purpose of this change was to establish a dedicated committee to oversee and coordinate the various aspects of the assembly's evangelistic work.

Since 2015, the committee has experienced a leadership transition from James Yim to William Chew (September 2017 to date). As of 2025, the AEC comprises representatives from Boys' Brigade, Choir, Counselling, the Deacons, Digital Media Committee (DMC), the Elders, Music Interest Group (MIG), Public Address (PA), Tract Distribution and Ushering.

The following is written by William Chew (Co-ordinator) & Tan Chee Hwee (Advisor)

AEC's Foundation—The Great Commission

And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.'
(Mt. 28:18–20)

Mission

The primary mission of the AEC is to mobilise the assembly to be passionate about evangelism.



Our Vision Forward

As we look to the future, the AEC envisions:

1. United Outreach

- Strengthening collaboration between different activity groups with an evangelistic focus
- Creating synergistic gospel efforts that leverage the strengths of our members
- Building a unified approach to evangelism

2. Digital Innovation

- Embracing new technologies to reach the digital generation
- Developing creative approaches to online evangelism
- Maintaining personal connections in an increasingly digital world

3. Sustained Passion

- Nurturing continued excitement for sharing Christ's message
- Encouraging every member to actively participate in evangelism
- Keeping the message of salvation central to all our efforts

4. Community Impact

- Expanding our reach to diverse segments of society
- Developing targeted approaches for different age groups and backgrounds
- Building lasting relationships with our local community

We remain committed to the Great Commission, seeking to share Christ's message of salvation with renewed passion and relevance in today's changing world. Through prayer, dedication, and the active involvement of all members, we trust that God will continue to use our assembly to bring His light to those around us.

Gospel Services

Assembly Gospel Rally

The AEC organises the annual Assembly Gospel Rally (AGR), with active involvement from passionate assembly members, who contribute to everything from planning the programme to its final execution.

A notable rally took place on 26 July 2020. It was the first rally held entirely online via Zoom and YouTube due to COVID-19. The event was chaired by Amos Chew, with Raju Kunjummen (from the USA) as the speaker. Zoom breakout rooms were used for 1-to-1 counselling. Promotion was done digitally through e-flyers and e-invites shared on the assembly's WhatsApp platform.



AGR 2019 Children's Programme skit, The Three Trees



AGR 2019 Skit



AGR 2020 Item by choir

Monthly Gospel Meetings

Gospel Meetings are currently held on the fourth Sunday of every month. Various activity groups, including the Christian Education Programme, Regional Fellowship Group, Sunday School (SS), and the Young People's Ministry (YP) are involved. Since March 2020, the format has been adapted to Zoom/YouTube and 'hybrid mode' (i.e. Zoom/YouTube and physically at the hall). Starting in 2023, new initiatives were introduced in the format of a 'mini-series', featuring main themes and sub-themes aimed at addressing the different segments and needs of the audience.



Nigel Wong (speaker) and Yeo Tun Ren (Mandarin interpreter)



Choong Kit Soon (speaker) and Matthew Wong (chairman)



The Broadcast Team supporting the live broadcast



22 Dec. 2019 Christmas Gospel Meeting



24 Sept. 2023 Gospel Meeting, Kevin Kwan (speaker)



26 Nov. 2023 Gospel Meeting

Mini-series gospel meetings:

DIVING DEEP: QUESTIONS OF LIFE		
Date	Evangelist	Topic
27 Aug. 2023	Joel Lim	Who is God and why Should I Care if He Exists? (1 Tim. 2:3–6)
24 Sept. 2023	Kevin Kwan	What is the Meaning of Life? (Acts 17:28)
22 Oct. 2023	Darren Kui	How can a Good God Allow Suffering? (Job 2:3–10)
26 Nov. 2023	Izumi Tan	Who Determines my Worth? (Eph. 2:10)

WHAT CAN I FIND IN JESUS		
Date	Evangelist	Topic
28 Apr. 2024	Amos Chew	Finding Contentment—Does the Answer lie in a Person, a Principle, or a Pursuit? (Phil. 4:12–13; Mt. 6:32–33)
26 May 2024	Samuel Tay	Finding Peace—Why do I Need Jesus to Find Peace? (Mk. 4:35–41)
23 June 2024	Robert Hmar	Finding Goodness—Can I be Good Without God? (Acts 9:1–19)
28 July 2024	Nigel Wong	Finding Acceptance—Am I Acceptable Enough? (John 8:11)

Other New Evangelistic Efforts since 2015

Since 2015, a few new evangelistic initiatives and committees have been launched, namely M.Y Manna, St Luke's ElderCare and Digital Media Committee (DMC). In response to the 'new normal' during COVID-19, a specialised sub-committee, DMC, was formed to focus on digital evangelism. For more details about the DMC, please refer to Chapter 5: Encouragement.



Counselling

The fervour for evangelism inspired three groups of workers—counsellors, tract distributors, and ushers—to form the Assembly Evangelistic Group (AEG) in 1979. Robert Hmar has been the co-ordinator of the Counselling Ministry since 2006, taking over from Patrick Wee.



The following is written by Robert Hmar (Co-ordinator)

As we celebrate the 161st anniversary of BAMK, we are reminded of God’s unwavering faithfulness and His constant presence in our lives. Over the past decade, the counselling ministry has been a testament to God’s faithfulness, impacting the lives of both young and old, as reflected in the assembly’s annual reports. Through it all, our Lord remains the same—yesterday, today, and forever.

Some significant events include:

1. Get-togethers for counselees and counsellors, organised a week after gospel rallies, hosted by the AEG at BAMK, with a simple meal.
2. The Sister’s Ministry held a prayer session over 3 nights during the rally for the salvation of newcomers, in addition to the usual counsellors’ prayers before the rally.
3. Several sessions of Counselling Refresher Course cum Briefing were conducted for those new to counselling.

Looking ahead, our vision for the counselling ministry at BAMK is one of continued growth and transformation, particularly for our counsellors. This will be achieved through intentional follow-ups with all seekers, both in person and online. For those who are saved, we strongly encourage the counsellors or befrienders to channel the new believers to join the Basic Training Class (BTC) for spiritual development, along with the introduction to the Emmaus app and courses. Additionally, we aim to encourage more young people and sisters to join as counsellors, fostering stronger connections with our younger members. Furthermore, we propose publishing their testimonies in the assembly newsletter to inspire and encourage the congregation. These stories will serve as a reminder that our Lord is the same—unchanging and ever-present in our time of need.



AGR 2019 Counselling & Usher Team (3 adults seekers were counselled)

Tract Distribution



Tract Distribution Team members in 2025

The objectives of the Tract Distribution Ministry are to: (1) spread the glorious gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to the surrounding neighbourhood, (2) invite people to the church's activities, and (3) reach out to them. In addition to the gospel tracts, introductory flyers for the church's evangelistic activities are also distributed. After a slowdown in activity in 2015, the ministry resumed its monthly tract distribution around the neighbourhood in January 2016.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, tract distribution was temporarily suspended from February 2020. For the 2020 AGR, tract distribution was carried out through e-flyers and e-invites via the assembly's official WhatsApp platform. From July 2020 to January 2021, no physical distribution took place due to the pandemic. However, tract distribution resumed in February 2021, with the distribution being moved to the third Saturday of each month. During this time, tracts were only placed on doorsteps, and there was no interaction with residents or door knocking, in compliance with national guidelines for social gatherings. Where there were more than eight participants, the group was split into two. It was encouraging to see most of the regular distributors return, and it also provided an opportunity to reconnect with one another.

In May 2021, due to a surge in locally transmitted COVID-19 cases and new Ministry of Health guidelines, the distribution had to be temporarily suspended again.

However, by January 2022, the tract distribution ministry resumed, and the ministry praised God for His enabling. From January to April 2022, distribution continued on the third Saturday of each month. In May 2022, the ministry reverted to its pre-COVID schedule, distributing tracts on the second Sunday of each month. It was wonderful to see brethren who were unable to serve on Saturdays the previous year return to the ministry.

The ministry is grateful for the Lord's continued provision of faithful brothers and sisters in this work. They request prayer alongside the tract distribution team for opportunities to share the gospel through the tracts, as well as for strength and encouragement in their efforts. The ministry is thankful that tract distribution has returned to its pre-COVID routine. The average turnout for these distributions is currently around eight people. Ng Kim Khoon has been the co-ordinator of this ministry since 2008, taking over from James Yim.



Tract Distribution at Ang Mo Kio

Ushering

The Ushering Ministry continues to faithfully support the assembly's evangelistic events. The monthly gospel services, consistently attract visitors, particularly those attending baptism services. The ministry is grateful to God for the attendance and relies on His grace and providence to provide ushers and befrienders to support the team during these gatherings. It is a true blessing that a small group of dedicated members continues to serve at these monthly services. For special outreach events, such as the Christmas Gospel Service and Annual Gospel Rallies, which typically draw larger numbers of newcomers, it has been encouraging to see assembly members step up to the challenge and help with ushering and befriending newcomers.

The ushering team comprises nine regular members, and for the monthly gospel services, around two to three ushers are needed, with up to four for special outreach events. While ushers are not necessarily required to be befrienders, they are expected to be warm, kind, and friendly in welcoming visitors to the hall.

The team has been exploring new ways to attract newcomers. Over the past few years, the visitor gift packs have been updated to be more practical and appealing. Additionally, the assembly's evangelistic flyer has been redesigned with a colourful, engaging layout, featuring pictures of the assembly's activities. With God's help, it is hoped that these new flyers will inspire newcomers to join the assembly's events.

The ministry remains committed to serving and sharing the love of Jesus with everyone who walks through the assembly's doors. Lucius Tan has been the co-ordinator of this ministry since 2015, taking over from Alvin Teo.



Ushers preparing goodie bags at AGR 2023



Ushers preparing goodie bags at AGR 2023

Bethesda (Ang Mo Kio) Kindergarten

The kindergarten has experienced a leadership transition from Andrew Kwan to Keith Wan (in 2017) to Chang Chew Kient (2019 to date).



The following is written by Chang Chew Kient (Chairman)

A Journey of Faith, Blessings and Growth!

We thank the Lord for 161 years of blessings at BAMK, where saints gather weekly to worship and remember the Lord Jesus. Over the years, BAMK's witness has touched many lives, bringing blessings and service to countless souls. One of the key avenues of blessing to the community has been the Bethesda (Ang Mo Kio) Kindergarten.

In the past 37 years, over 10,000 children have graduated from the kindergarten, each carrying their own unique story of faith, learning, and growth. Many of our alumni have returned as parents of current students, continuing the cycle of blessing.



18 May 2018 Family Day (345 attended)

Under the leadership of Lawrence Chan and Lee Chin Ghee, along with fervent prayers, the kindergarten opened its doors in January 1987 with a mission to reach the community. Starting with 180 children, the kindergarten embarked on its journey of faith, blessings, and growth—a journey that continues today.

Through nurturing programme and a faith-oriented environment, many children have joined BAMK's CC and SS programmes. Many have also chosen the path of faith in Christ and have been baptised, bringing great joy and blessings to all.

The Lord has used many dedicated and selfless saints who have served and contributed to this ministry. Our heartfelt thanks go to the supervisors, management committee members, treasurers, principals, and teachers—both past and present—who have faithfully supported the kindergarten.

This includes Lee Chin Ghee, our first and longest-serving supervisor along with Stephen Chang, Wong Tuck Keong, and Victor Ng. They were supported by an exceptional management committee led by brothers like Lawrence Chan, the late Chua Teck Koon, David Goh, Andrew Kwan, the late Victor Ng, Sum Siew Tak, Harry Tan Siew Ann, and Keith Wan. We also extend our thanks to the dedicated treasurers who have overseen



K2 children preparing for their concert item recording in 2020

the financial matters, including Mah Lai Seong, Ng Ngah Lee, Christiana Ngo, Keoy Soo Siong & Phebe, Sim Mee Foong, and Lee Yue Ming.

We are especially thankful to our faithful principals—Yvonne Chong, who remained steadfast during the difficult early years, and Audrey Tan, Cecilia Goh, Lynette Khong, Jacqueline Lau, and Faith Leong, each of whom made their own distinguished contributions. We also fondly remember the teachers (who are members of



Kindergarten Open House 2023



July 2024 Food rations donated by the kindergarten children's parents to the elderly at St Luke's ElderCare

BAMK) who have helped shape our vision and filled our classrooms with love and learning, such as Annie See Tho, Christy Koh, Koh Mei Lin, Lim Mei Lin, Theresa Lee, Alice Tan, and Ashley Keoy.

In 2021, we launched the uplifting Weekly Christian Education program, led by Chua Pik Yee and Valerie Kwan. Their engaging Bible lessons and songs have deeply resonated with the children during Monday assemblies. These assemblies also provide valuable opportunities for the students' parents to hear about God's love, as many of them stayed back in the basement for the duration of the assemblies after dropping off their children.

Finally, we want to extend special thanks to those who may not be mentioned by name but who have given their time, money, and gifts to support this ministry. As Hebrews chapter 6 verse 10 reminds us, *For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for His name in serving the saints, as you still do.*

As we look to the future, we trust in our Lord's faithfulness as we face the challenges ahead in the ever-changing educational landscape. We ask for your continued prayers and support as we move forward in this ministry rooted in faith and continue its enduring legacy.



July 2022 Song items presented by K2 children in St Luke's ElderCare



June 2021 Sunshine Camp, Joanna Alice (camp teacher)



May 2024 Sunshine Camp (37 children attended)

Boys' Brigade

In 1989, our assembly was burdened to reach out to the youth in the neighbourhood through the BB Ministry. In July 1991, prayers were answered when Glory Joy Christian Church handed over the 43rd Company at Yishun Secondary School to our assembly. Later, from 2000 to 2003, the 51st Company at Mayflower Secondary School and the 29J Company at Mayflower Primary School were added to the BB ministry. (Sadly, the respective schools closed the 51st Company in March 2020 and 43rd Company at the end of 2022 due to low student enrolment in the Co-Curricular Activity [CCA]).

Over the past 34 years, despite many challenges, including a shortage of manpower and the impact of COVID-19, our faithful assembly members have been able to fulfil the Great Commission—going out to make disciples and teaching the boys to observe all that the Lord Jesus commanded us. The weekly CCA sessions include activities such as badge work, Bible quizzes, the Christian Education (CE) programme, drills, outdoor activities, and singing. The boys also participate in national BB events like Character Quest (CQ) and BB Cares community service. In addition to the CE programme, we aim to teach the boys spiritually by inviting them to join our assembly's evangelistic programmes, such as CC, SS and Daily Vacation Bible School (DVBS).

Yeo Ann Kian has been the Chairman of the BB work at our assembly since 2009.



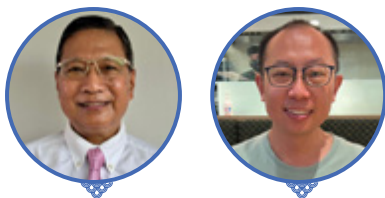
15 April 2017 BB Enrolment Service



6 July 2019 BB Enrolment Service



June 2017 BB Parent Appreciation Night



The following is written by Robert Hmar (Chaplain) & Kenneth Khong (Officer)

Significant Milestones over the Past Decade

The BB ministry has had an adventurous journey, much like a roller coaster with its ups and downs. We have faced challenges such as some boys changing CCAs, less parade time, and even the closure of two senior companies due to declining student numbers. Despite these challenges, the BB ministry remains one of our most important local missions initiatives. Amidst the many odds over the past decade, it has been a beacon of hope, offering discipline and Christian development to many young boys. In small but significant ways, we are helping to nurture the next generation of leaders.

We are especially grateful to God for Andrew He, an old boy of the 43rd Company at Yishun Secondary School. He not only found salvation in Christ but has also led our BB ministry, serving as the Admin & Activity Officer in our church office since 2014—an important milestone for the ministry.

Over the years, we have witnessed the Holy Spirit at work. Many boys who initially knew little about Christ have come to accept Him as their Lord and Saviour. Now grown men, these former boys continue their spiritual journeys and are actively worshipping in churches across Singapore.

God has also been faithful to us during the COVID-19 period (2020–2022). He provided us with the manpower and resources to adapt to new challenges, allowing us to conduct parades and even train for national events like CQ using Zoom. This transition was made quickly, and just as God heard the cries of Israel and delivered them, He too heard our prayers during the pandemic and delivered us.



9 Nov. 2019 BB 29J Parents Bonding Outing at Sentosa



Gospel message given by Robert Hmar

Vision and Hope for the Future

Looking ahead, our spiritual vision for the boys is to help them grow into young men who are deeply rooted in the Christian faith, while also addressing their spiritual, emotional, and social needs. We are dedicated to equipping them to serve their communities and lead with integrity, especially in an ever-changing world.

In alignment with the BB's mission to advance Christ's kingdom and impart Christian values, we aim to guide these boys on their faith journeys, foster their character development, and nurture their leadership skills. Our goal is to prepare them to become responsible, godly men who know Christ personally and learn to depend on Him. We continuously pray that the BB boys—our captive audience—will one day say 'Yes, Lord', not just 'Yes, Sir'.

Our practical vision is for our assembly and the BB ministry to build stronger bonds and work more closely together. We hope assembly members will become more eager to serve and assist the BB, helping the boys feel a greater sense of belonging to the church. When assembly members are more familiar and approachable, the boys will feel more welcome to join and participate in other ministries like CC and YP.

To God be the Glory!



... Many boys who initially knew little about Christ have come to accept Him as their Lord and Saviour. Now grown men, these former boys continue their spiritual journeys and are actively worshipping in churches across Singapore.



February 2021 BB session at Mayflower Primary School



One of the BB Zoom sessions during the Circuit Breaker

Girls' Brigade



May 2023 BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service

The idea of setting up a Girls' Brigade (GB) Company alongside the 51st BB Company at Mayflower Secondary School was first proposed in 1999. It came to fruition in 2001 at Mayflower Primary School as the 57th Company. The activities the girls participate in include art and craft, badge work, Bible knowledge competitions, the CE programme, community work, drills, and singing. The girls also participate in national GB events like GB Fortnight, drill competitions, Fast Food and Fuzz, and Junior Leader's Training Camp. Similar to the BB, we aim to further teach the girls spiritually by inviting them to join our assembly's evangelistic programmes, such as CC, SS and DVBS. Additionally, GB workers offer support to the girls, helping them to navigate family challenges and the pressures of growing up in a difficult world.



May 2016 GB Enrolment Service

... the team continues to seize every opportunity within this CCA to joyfully share the message of the Lord Jesus through loving the girls and reaching out to their families, who have been very welcoming and appreciative of the programme.



May 2018 GB Enrolment Service



The following is written by Amy Tan (Captain, 57th GB Company)

BAMK has been the faithful steward of the 57th GB Company since 2001. There has been a renewal in leadership, with Keith Wan and William Chew taking over as Advisor and Chaplain, respectively, from the late Victor Ng and Tay Kim Swee. Sisters who are available serve weekly and at special events like drill competitions. The teachers-in-charge have also become more supportive and involved over the years. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, the meetings continued, and national events were held virtually; the work never stopped.

On average, there are about 32 girls in the programme, and those who join in Primary 3 have over 3 years of exposure to the love of God. This is especially valuable, as more than half come from non-believing homes. In our most recent combined enrolment with the BB in 2024, we invited the parents and siblings of the girls to BAMK to join them in a bonding programme. It was a delightful time, and many expressed an interest in more opportunities for parent-child enrichment.

Over the years, there have been increased restrictions on the curriculum and the way meetings are conducted, such as not being allowed to mention the name of 'Jesus' in public and reducing Bible teaching. Despite these challenges, the team continues to seize every opportunity within this CCA to joyfully share the message of the Lord Jesus through loving the girls and reaching out to their families, who have been very welcoming and appreciative of the programme.



May 2022 BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service



May 2024 BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service

Comprehensive Outreach Programme for the Assembly

In 2007, our assembly launched the Comprehensive Outreach Programme for the Assembly (COPA), marking the start of a new approach to evangelism, particularly the mode of reaching out to the communities in Ang Mo Kio and Depot Road. There was a clear need to connect with those living in our neighbourhoods, as many remained untouched by the gospel and had unmet needs that the assembly could address. COPA reviewed our existing outreach efforts and focussed on making them more engaging and accessible to our non-Christian neighbours.

The programme introduced several new outreach initiatives, such as talks, health screenings, blood donation drives, Easter and Christmas performances at the community clubs, short tours outside Singapore, and worked to revitalise existing efforts like gospel meetings and the annual Christmas Service. These activities were aimed at building relationships with the unsaved in the neighbourhood.

Over the years, COPA has helped the assembly to build stronger connections with those in the neighbourhood and has opened many doors for more assembly members to get involved in evangelising to those around them.



COPA Food Talk Ministry

The COPA Food Talk Ministry, formerly known as COPA Cookery Outreach Programme, was led by Dorcas Goh from July 2018 to January 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ministry had to pause its activities. However, the programme resumed in January 2023, with a new name—COPA Food Talk Ministry.

The ministry is grateful for the newly formed committee, now led by Titus Chong. The Food Talk sessions often feature a mix of modern and classic recipes, engaging participants of all ages. Easy-to-follow recipes and hands-on activities are incorporated, with Bible verses included in the recipe sheets to encourage and enrich participants' experiences, reminding them of God's provisions and the joy they bring.

It is encouraging to see that some non-BAMK participants have gone on to join various church programmes, including BTC, Easter Gospel Service, and Assembly Gospel Rally.

Food Talk sessions since the rename:

Date	Dish, Demonstrator, Speaker & Translator	Participants
11 Feb. 2023	Truffle Kombu Pasta & Strawberry Panna Cotta by Titus Chong Speaker: Tan Chee Hwee	Non-BAMK participants: 13; BAMK participants: 11; Committee members: 9
8 July 2023	Vietnamese Rice Rolls by Tay Lai To Speaker: Tan Soo Hock	33
16 Sept. 2023	Mooncakes by Titus Chong Speaker: Thomas Phua	28
27 July 2024	Kimchi & Japchae by Choi Hyeok Speaker: Johnson Chua Translator: Kenneth Khong (Mandarin)	Non-BAMK participants: 21; BAMK participants: 16; Committee members: 6
7 Sept. 2024	Kueh Salat & Kueh Kosui by Thomas Phua Speaker: Kevin Kwan Translator: Kenneth Khong (Mandarin)	Non-BAMK participants: 27; BAMK participants: 22; Committee members: 8
16 Nov. 2024	Laksa & Sambal by Jeffrey Bennett Speaker: Chan Wai Kiong	Non-BAMK participants: 14; BAMK participants: 18; Committee members: 7
28 Dec. 2024	Food Talk Ministry Year-End Thanksgiving Party Speaker: Kenneth Khong	Non-BAMK participants: 7; BAMK participants: 11; Committee members: 6



FoodTalk Sessions in 2023 with Titus Chong demonstrating the steps



COPA Cookery Sessions in 2017



The following is written Titus Chong (Co-ordinator)

Jesus Only: The same yesterday, today and forever

BAMK's COPA has been a key expression of one of the church's purposes: loving people and sharing the gospel. Since its inception in March 2016, the programme has been grounded in Romans chapter 1 verse 16, which reminds us that the gospel *is the power of God that brings salvation*. Thus, we have kept the gospel at the heart of our outreach. Despite a pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019, we are grateful to God for the opportunity to restart COPA Cookery in 2023, with a reformed committee and a new name—Food Talk Ministry.

In collaboration with prayerful and like-minded saints, the ministry has organised bi-monthly sessions that have brought great joy, offering participants the opportunity to enjoy:

- Cooking demonstrations and hands-on activities
- Recipe sharing and fun games
- Short gospel messages and inspiring testimonies
- Meaningful fellowship and relationship-building

A particularly memorable moment was Joseph Lim's courageous testimony in 2018. Despite his cancer diagnosis, Joseph radiated joy and peace, inspiring all who heard his story of faith and hope. His testimony exemplified Hebrews chapter 13 verse 8, *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever*. Just as Jesus Christ lovingly reached out to those in need, COPA continues to show His love to our community.

Through the sessions, we've seen friendships formed across cultures and generations. Participants have found support and comfort in our Christian fellowship during challenging times, and church members have been strengthened in their faith by sharing their testimonies, building a stronger community in the process.

As we reflect on a decade of this ministry, we are deeply

thankful for God's unwavering faithfulness and guidance. We also want to express our heartfelt gratitude to our team, whose dedication has made this ministry a place of transformation and hope.

Looking ahead, we pray that Food Talk continues to be a powerful tool of God to reach people in the neighbourhood with His love through fellowship and relationship-building. If you feel called to serve, we invite you to join us in this mission.

To God be the glory!



COPA Cookery Sessions in 2017



20 July 2019 Peach Upside Down Mini Cake

COPA M.Y Manna

M.Y Manna is a food distribution programme initiated by Metropolitan YMCA Singapore (MYMCA) to alleviate the financial burden of low-income families. Beneficiaries referred by social service organisations can select provisions within a needs-based budget ranging from S\$50 to S\$100. During festive seasons, ethnic festive goodie bags are also provided in addition to monthly provisions.

Since March 2019, BAMK has served as a satellite centre for the programme, offering volunteers and storage facilities to manage the inventory of provisions supplied by MYMCA for beneficiaries in Ang Mo Kio. The beneficiaries our centre supports includes low-income families, especially those with sole breadwinners who have been retrenched or incapacitated, helping to bridge the gap in these difficult circumstances.



28 Sept. 2020 Food distribution at BAMK basement to 18 beneficiaries



21 Dec. 2019 Food distribution at BAMK basement to 17 beneficiaries



M.Y Manna volunteers during the March 2019 launch

Collection day at our centre is the fourth Saturday of every month. Volunteers ensure that all necessary processes are in place before opening our doors to beneficiaries from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Most volunteers serve as befrienders, while others handle administration and packing. In addition to food distribution, the ministry also distributes gospel tracts to non-Muslim beneficiaries and invites them to join assembly activities, such as Yum Cha, gospel meetings, CC, and YP meetings. Lim Mei Lin has been the co-ordinator of this ministry since its inception.



Nov. 2024 Volunteers packing the rations for distribution



The following is written by Lim Mei Lin (Co-ordinator)

Our journey at M.Y Manna began humbly as a satellite centre on 19 March 2019, serving just 10 beneficiaries. We are incredibly grateful for the steady growth of beneficiaries we have seen over the past 5 years, which reflects the positive impact of our mission. This growth has allowed us to connect with over 60 individuals and families in Ang Mo Kio. Currently, we serve an average of 30 beneficiaries each month, with the potential to reach over 40. We look forward to working closely with MYMCA to expand our care and support to even more beneficiaries.

We are truly blessed to have the opportunity to build deep personal connections with our beneficiaries. Our centre has evolved from being just a distribution point for monthly rations to a safe space where beneficiaries can freely express their feelings and thoughts. They know that our befrienders are there to listen and show genuine concern for their well-being. Some of our beneficiaries have been with us since 2019, allowing us to form lasting friendships that extend beyond the programme. Through these relationships, we have been able to share the gospel and invite them to participate in our evangelistic activities.

The COVID-19 pandemic was a challenging period for our ministry, testing our adaptability and resilience. We are grateful for the alternative arrangements that helped us stay connected with our beneficiaries, even

... Some of our beneficiaries have been with us since 2019, allowing us to form lasting friendships that extend beyond the programme. Through these relationships, we have been able to share the gospel and invite them to participate in our evangelistic activities.

when we couldn't open our premises for self-collection. Working alongside MYMCA, we were able to deliver rations directly to individual homes, as the M.Y Manna programme was classified as an 'essential service'. Over the course of 2 years, our workers adapted to various situations and followed strict safety measures, all while continuing to bring cheer to our beneficiaries. Despite the challenges, we remained committed to our mission, with our workers taking turns to handle home deliveries each month. This experience also gave us a deeper insight into the living conditions of our beneficiaries.

Since our start in 2019, our pool of workers has doubled, and we thank the Lord for the consistent support of an average of 15 volunteers each month for our distributions. We are deeply grateful for the help of our assembly members, volunteers, and donors. In addition to volunteering for the monthly distribution, our workers stay engaged in the ministry through prayer for our beneficiaries and by sharing experiences with one another. Many of our workers are thankful that, through this programme, they can also reach out to beneficiaries of different faiths by being a good testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ through their acts of service.



2024 M.Y Manna volunteers thanksgiving fellowship lunch

COPA Organised Activities for Residents

The first COPA Organised Activities for Residents (OAR) took place on 2 June 2007, with a 1-day Kukup trip attended by 12 neighbourhood residents, 17 BB boys from 29J Company, and their parents. Since then, a variety of engagement activities have been organised to share the love of our Lord with the residents in our neighbourhood, offering them opportunities to experience Christian fellowship. These activities include outings to places of interest, as well as lunches at our church, where we also share God's Word and enjoy singspiration sessions together. Gary Kum has been the co-ordinator of this ministry since June 2018.



The following is written by Gary Kam (Co-ordinator)

Significant Milestones Over the Past Decade

The emergence of COVID-19 in Singapore from January 2020, lasting until it became endemic in February 2023, caused significant disruptions in daily life, from the way we work to how we could even share a meal. This was particularly impactful for the residents, as many were in the at-risk group most vulnerable to the virus.

With our Lord's leading, we managed to stay compliant to the regulatory restrictions, while still managing to stay connected with the residents through care pack distributions during the pandemic. Our Lord has also been faithful in sending forth energetic helpers to aid with the distribution and keeping the residents safe through the pandemic.



October 2016 COPA OAR activity

Since the formation of COPA-OAR in January 2007, our Lord has ceaselessly been leading and guiding how we navigate through the not yet known—from the first outreach to residents through cold calls door-to-door, ideas of how to engage residents to providing wisdom and support during an unprecedented global pandemic of our time.



August 2019 COPA OAR outing

Our God is good and faithful! Praise His holy name!

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! His faithful love endures forever. (Psa. 107:1)

Vision for the Future

The vision of the COPA OAR ministry is to serve as a platform for evangelistic efforts within the local community. While our focus has mainly been on the silver generation since the ministry started, we hope to connect with a broader and more diverse range of demographics in the future. Our aim is for everyone to experience God's love through our activities and become part of His everlasting family.

Significant, Unusual Events or Testimonies

In a recent Easter event at church, a resident from a neighbouring block walked in during the message. She stayed for the entire session, joined the worship on Sunday, and attended the following week's BTC. This was an unexpected and encouraging surprise, a reminder that the Lord is always with us, and our efforts are never in vain.

COPA St Luke's ElderCare

In 2019, our Lord provided another wonderful opportunity to be involved in community outreach in Ang Mo Kio. Representatives from St Luke's ElderCare invited our assembly, along with Singapore Gospel Halls (SGH), to bring care and joy to the elderly at their day-care centre at Kebun Baru Community Club. After much prayer and consultation with the leadership of both assemblies, a joint partnership management team was formed with the following objectives:

- To engage in community outreach in our neighbourhood
- To provide meaningful programs and activities that care for and uplift the elderly
- To share the gospel

This is the profile of the elderly:

Total Registered	85
Approximate Daily Attendance	65
Spoken Languages	16% speak English/Dialect; 84% speak Mandarin/Dialect
Age Range	58–93 years old (majority in their 70s and 80s)
Condition	40% have dementia, 60% do not have dementia
Mobility Status	20% are ambulant, 65% require walking aids, 15% are wheelchair-bound

A 1.5-hour programme is conducted twice a month, one in English by BAMK and the other in Mandarin by SGH. Volunteers befriend (to care and communicate God's love), offer skills and share interests (e.g., testimonies, song items, health talks, conducting exercises), as well as share the gospel. On all occasions, volunteers have the opportunity to bond with the elderly and meet their spiritual and practical needs.

There were some periods of suspension in activities at the centre owing to the COVID-19 restrictions, and thankfully the ministry was resumed in December 2021. Wong Tuck Keong has been the co-ordinator of this ministry since its inception.



6 Dec. 2019 Activities with the elderly



8 April 2022 Befrienders giving out pastry to the elderly



The following is written by Wong Tuck Keong (Coordinator)

I want to share an incredible community outreach initiative that began in 2019 at St Luke's ElderCare Centre at Kebun Baru Community Club. Partnering SGH, our assembly brought joy and care to the elderly at the day-care centre. Through activities, singspiration sessions, and gospel sharing, we've been able to bring happiness into their lives.

Despite challenges like the COVID-19 pause, the ministry remains strong. The smiles on the elderly's faces show our efforts matter. It has been an amazing journey, and we're excited to keep making a difference!

We are incredibly grateful for the dedication of our volunteers, including Ann Chua, Goh Boon Choo, Chia Boon Hong & Margaret, Fong Ban Lee, Andrew He, Steven Leong & Michelle, Wong Tuck Keong & Elizabeth, and Edmund Yong. Their contributions, along with the support of speakers like Raymond Chin, Fong Ban Lee, Peter Fung, Andrew He, Kenneth Khong, Steven Leong, Thomas Phua, Tan Jin Song, Tan Soo Hock, Keith Wan, and Yeo Tun Ren, have been invaluable in sharing the gospel with the elderly.

Special occasions have also been marked by donations and involvement from Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten. We've also included dental and eye care screenings for the elderly as part of our outreach. While only a few have come to know the Lord, our efforts have still made a significant impact in the community.

Although there are challenges, such as a lack of volunteers and the need for more engaging activities, the joy and contentment we see in the elderly make it all worthwhile. We remain committed to this vital work and look forward to more opportunities to enhance the well-being of the elderly in our community.



21 April 2023 Easter skit by BAMK

Mission Group

Mission trips since 2015 (Bethesda Mission Exposure Trip [BMET]; Medical, Dental and Eye Care [MDEC] & Mission Group):

2015	23 Feb–8 Mar Mission Trip to Myanmar	30 Mar–6 Apr Mission Trip to Cebu, the Philippines	17–21 May MDEC to Sri Lanka	14–21 Jun Mission trip to Bohol, the Philippines 15 attended	14–22 Nov MDEC to the Philippines 36 attended 1480 were screened	17–28 Dec BMET to Myanmar 10 attended
2016	23 Mar–3 Apr BMET to Indonesia 16 attended	20–27 Apr BMET to Cebu, the Philippines 8 attended	11–21 Jun Mission Trip to Bohol, the Philippines 21 attended	13–20 Nov MDEC to Kampong Chhnang, Cambodia 37 attended 2500 were screened		
2017	12–19 Mar BMET to Cambodia 24 attended	13–18 Nov MDEC to Myanmar 800 were screened				
2018	21–29 Nov MDEC to Nepal 27 attended 1600 were Screened	21 Dec 2018– 2 Jan 2019 BMET to India 4 attended				
2019	22–30 Jun BMET to Cambodia 18 attended	16–22 Nov MDEC to Indonesia 27 attended 616 were screened				
2022	21–27 Jun BMET to Cambodia 13 attended					
2023	18–28 Aug BMET to Indonesia 14 attended	11–17 Nov MDEC to the Philippines 27 attended 1790 were screened				
2024	27 Mar–7 Apr Mission trip to South Africa 9 attended	21 Jun–1 Jul BMET to Japan 17 attended				
2025	3–17 Jan Mission Trip to South Africa 8 attended					

Wong Tuck Keong has been the co-ordinator of this ministry since its inception.



The following is written by Nigel Wong (Member) and Wong Tuck Keong (Co-ordinator)

The Mission Group, originally named Prayer Voices by the late Charlie Tan, was established in 1979. The initiative was inspired by Wong Tuck Keong's vision, which he received during the Assembly Training Class led by the late Lim Tian Leong.

The Mission Group embodies the belief that individuals can make a meaningful impact for the Lord through missions. While only some are called to serve directly in the field, and a few may offer substantial financial support, many can still contribute through prayer. The group began with a small number of individuals who established correspondence with both local and overseas missionaries.

With invaluable assistance from the late R.E. Harlow, the then President of Christian Missions in Many Lands (CMML), Wong Tuck Keong was able to acquire the CMML Missionary Handbook. This handbook listed the names of missionaries working in various regions, and he began writing to them. The initial outreach to a few overseas missionaries received modest responses, but excitement grew when the first reply came from Allison, a pioneering missionary who had been serving in Africa since the 1960s.



August 2023 BMET to Indonesia. Kalimantan Camp campers



2024 BMET to Japan. Youth Evangelistic Outreach



November 2015 MDEC to the Philippines



December 2015 BMET to Myanmar

From these humble beginnings, the Mission Group has grown into a partnership with over 40 missionaries worldwide. What began as a small group of prayer warriors eventually reached a peak of more than 20 dedicated members. Today, 12 faithful individuals continue to sustain this impactful ministry. Through the network established by the Mission Group, our assembly has become a source of much comfort and encouragement for many in the field.

Financial support for missions, which began at less than S\$1,500 annually, has grown significantly to around S\$20,000 today. Over the years, the group has seen four former members answer the call to serve in the mission field. We are grateful to the past secretaries of the group, including Lim Geok Kim, Susan Chan, and Stephanie Grace Sim, for their dedication.

An important goal of the group is to seek the Lord's guidance in raising up more young prayer warriors, as many current members are in their 60s, with only one member in his 30s.

The Mission Group has joyfully organised numerous overseas mission trips, both individually and at the assembly level, through partnerships with BMET and MDEC. Over the years, these trips have reached countries such as China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, South Africa, and Thailand. The group continues to meet once a month on the first Sunday to pray, and occasionally, to connect with missionaries for updates via Zoom.



Mission trip to South Africa. 1-day conference on 5 April 2024 attended by 75 people



November 2019 MDEC to Indonesia. Team with the Indonesian villagers

Throughout 45 years of ministry, several transformative lessons have emerged:

- An assembly that lacks a missionary mindset is at risk of becoming a mission field itself.
- It is vital to continually seek the Lord, who is a God who answers prayers, especially in matters of global missions.
- The mutual blessings experienced by missionaries and prayer warriors, through prayer, practical support, and personal visits to mission fields, have been remarkably enriching and uplifting.

The mission field offers a unique opportunity to experience God in a profound way. It is not about superiority, but rather about being humbled and learning to rely completely on the Lord's faithfulness, no matter the circumstances. Rather than viewing it as a sacrifice, believers find themselves abundantly blessed through this ministry, witnessing answered prayers and receiving encouragement along the way. Many working in the mission field are sustained by the faithful prayers of the saints. It is the heartfelt prayer of our mission group that this ministry will continue to shine brightly, connecting our assembly worldwide and enabling us to support our brethren through prayer. Together, we aim to fulfil the Great Commission given by our Lord Jesus Christ. The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few. Let us pray that the Lord of the harvest will send out labourers into His harvest!



Local MDEC 17 May 2024 Dental Team



13 May 2018 Foreign Worker Outreach at North Coast Lodge



November 2015 MDEC to the Philippines. Eye screening in progress.



28 April 2019 Foreign Worker Outreach. More than 250 people had a free health screening

Chapter 4

Edification

INTRODUCTION

Teaching ministries are an integral part of the local church, where Christ is the head and the members, its body (Col. 1:18). 1 Timothy chapter 3 verse 15 declares the church as a *pillar and buttress of the truth*. Like a fortress wall, the church is to defend God's truths and protect it from false teachings (2 Cor. 11:4). Our teaching ministries carry out the important work of pointing believers to the Scripture as the ultimate source of knowledge of the Saviour and to encourage them to remain faithful to what they have been taught (2 Tim. 3:14). We are exhorted as followers of Jesus to grow from a diet of 'milk' to a diet of 'meat' in the Word, and to work at building ourselves up in the most holy faith in these last days (Jude 20).

The Lord has blessed our teaching ministries over the past ten years, and the following write-ups are a testimony of how Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) (BAMK) has grown together in the faith as *members together of one body and sharers together in the promise of our Lord* (Eph. 3:6)

Children's Corner

Over the past decade, we have witnessed the Lord's faithfulness to the Children's Corner (CC) ministry through every season. The vision of CC remained focussed on giving every child the opportunity to hear the gospel, guiding them to grow in the Word of God, and igniting a desire in them to share the gospel with others.

Between 2016 and 2019, the ministry saw an average weekly attendance of 20 to 25 children, with around 60% coming from the local neighbourhood. As part of CC's ongoing efforts to strengthen relationships with the children and their families, CC organised special events such as Superheroes Day in April 2018, bringing the gospel to the children from BAMK Kindergarten through the theme, Jesus My Superhero. In 2019, CC introduced a P6-to-YP (Young People's Ministry) transition initiative to help the new Secondary One children smoothly move from CC to YP, with CC leaders attending a few YP Bible study lessons with the children at the start of the year to support their transition.



2018 CC Superheroes Day

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown in 2020 was a challenging time for the ministry, but through that season, the Lord proved His unchanging nature. The CC faced a daunting challenge of continuing weekly meetings while still being able to effectively engage the children. Many of us were unfamiliar with video conferencing tools, but we thank the Lord that within a few weeks of the lockdown announcement, we were ready to transition traditional in-person meetings into virtual ones.

Initially, we faced the challenge of engaging the children virtually. We tried various methods such as using action music videos, activities that required children to interact with their environment, as well as online games. We also created weekly activity packs that included worksheets and crafts, and posted them to the children so that we could still provide a physical experience though physically separated.



2020 Zoom Meeting with CC leaders and children

The online format proved effective, and attendance remained steady, with some weeks even seeing growth. The ease of attending CC through a simple Zoom link also made it easy for children to invite their friends, giving us an opportunity to reach out to newcomers with the good news. We had been praying for more children, and this unexpected blessing was a testament to the Lord's provision and His faithfulness even during the most challenging times.

2021 saw the gradual resumption of physical meetings after the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions. Physical meetings resumed on 16 Jan. 2021, providing an opportunity for children to reconnect in person after months of online sessions. Outings, such as those held in October and November, and special events like the Primary 6 Graduation Outing in December, provided a much-needed break for the children, and allowed them to enjoy fellowship in a safe environment. The Easter Special in April 2021 featured a powerful gospel message through the portrayal of biblical characters who had personal encounters with Jesus. Despite the ongoing

challenges of COVID-19, CC remained committed to engaging children both online and in person, sharing the gospel through creative and interactive means.

The year 2022 marked significant progress as CC resumed regular physical meetings from February. With the easing of Safe Management Measures, CC held a Chinese New Year Visitation on 5 Feb. 2022, reconnecting with families and re-establishing relationships. Easter Special in April featured an immersive scavenger hunt and a simple craft activity, through which the gospel was shared, and one child came to the faith. An outing to the Botanic Gardens in May saw 39 children attending, enjoying fellowship and outdoor activities in a post-pandemic setting.



2022 CC Outing to Botanic Gardens

Also, as we resumed in-person meetings, we witnessed an increase in newcomers, with some walking in after noticing that the assembly had a children's programme. This was unusual, but we can only attribute this to the Lord's work in drawing young hearts to Himself, and we are thankful to have the opportunity to share the gospel and His love with these precious children. Weekly attendance grew to around 30, and the ministry continued to focus on engaging both children and their families, recognising the importance of parents in the spiritual journey of their children.

By 2024, the average weekly attendance grew to 40, with over half of the children coming from the local community and kindergarten. The ministry continued to focus on outreach to families, engaging parents through events such as the Christmas Special, Chinese New Year home visits, and Family Day. Social media outreach through Facebook and Instagram continued to bring

new children to the ministry, and word-of-mouth referrals were a major source of growth.



2023 CC outing to Admiralty Park



2024 CC1 Children

Looking forward, we recognise that parents are instrumental in their children's participation in CC, and CC is focused on continuing its outreach efforts, particularly through increased engagement with parents. Throughout the changing seasons, the Lord remains unchanging. We are grateful for His goodness and faithfulness to the CC ministry. As we continue to trust in Him, we are reminded that those who trust in the Lord lack nothing.



2024 CC Leaders

Young People's Ministry

Over the past ten years, the Young Peoples' (YP) ministry has seen many changes, both inside and out. On the outside, it was relocated from BAMK to a holding site at the Assembly of Christians (Yio Chu Kang), and subsequently back to the refurbished BAMK site, all over just a span of two years. On the inside, whole batches of youths have transited through entire Junior, Senior, and Young Adult groups, and a number have even now taken up the call to serve as ministry workers. While changes both big and small continue to fill the YP books, it is the same faithful God who continues to sovereignly provide, sustain, and flourish the work which was started here.

From the very beginning, our mission has been to disciple the youth, guiding them to place God at the centre of their lives. In a world that so often encourages young people to follow their own fleeting desires, the YP Ministry provides a space where the youth can discover true fulfilment in Christ. Our vision extends beyond spiritual growth—we aim to equip them to go forth and disciple others, creating a multiplying effect that enlarges the kingdom of God.

At the heart of our ministry is the commitment to providing regular Bible studies, typically held on Saturday afternoons from 3–5:30 p.m., as well as workshops and other activities that deepen the young person's understanding of God's Word and its application in everyday life. Around 45–65 members attend these weekly Bible studies and activities. Our ministry has seen new faces join regularly, and we've built strong connections, including with the Boys' Brigade ministry.



YP Junior Boys 2019

Over the years, we have introduced various themes and topics, each aimed at drawing the youth closer to God and equipping them for service in His kingdom. The sessions included topics such as Heart Transformation inspired by Psalm chapter 51 verse 17, Study on the Book of James through Francis Chan's book *Crazy Love*, Christian Response to Homosexuality, The Nature of Angels and Demons, Fostering Understanding Among Different Christian Denominations, Quiet Time and Prayer, God's Kingdom and Christ's Central Role in Scripture through Vaughan Robert's book *God's Big Picture*, among many others.

In YP, we also emphasise service—youth are encouraged not only to grow spiritually but also to engage in outreach. Service initiatives, such as Youth Gospel Night and Love Thy Neighbour—which include showing appreciation to local hawkers and cleaners and visiting the elderly during Chinese New Year, provided the youth with opportunities to give back to the community.

Like any journey, the YP ministry has encountered its share of challenges, but through it all, God's unwavering faithfulness has been evident. We thank God for always supplying the YP ministry with dedicated, Bible-centred workers and eager-hearted members, both during the plentiful seasons when the youth are many, and the dry ones when the workers are few. There were weeks when only a handful of young people (less than ten across the



Captain's ball game after YP bible study

YP groups) would show up, while in other weeks, the junior groups alone would number over 20. We thank God that He has blessed this ministry with workers who have been patient to journey with each youth, sacrificially making time to teach, exhort, and correct even the hardest of youths.

As we look toward the next chapter of YP, it is the shared vision of the YP workers that God’s Word will continue to take root in the hearts of the youths, helping them grow deeper in their relationship with God as they mature into future disciples of Christ and disciple-makers for Him. With our hearts full, we trust in the same faithful God who will see the good work to completion, until the day of Christ’s return.



YP Song presentation



YP Bible Study



YP Bible Study



YP Zoom Meeting 2021

Young Working Adults

After graduating from YP/Young Adults, many people struggled to find a community within BAMK, especially when transitioning into adult life. This was particularly true for those who did not choose to or feel called to serve in any ministry. They tended to slowly drift away from the church community or even stop attending church altogether.

This challenge was more pronounced for young adults undergoing major life transitions, such as joining the assembly as foreigners, having life partners from other churches, or not yet serving but still in need of peer support. The experience was even more difficult for young parents, those from non-Christian homes, and individuals longing for prayer and spiritual encouragement within the fellowship. Many expressed a need for safe, informal spaces to bring non-believing friends, colleagues, and family members as part of their personal evangelism.

In response to these needs, a group of younger adults proposed the formation of a new fellowship group in 2018. The idea was brought before the elders, and with their guidance, a Regional Fellowship Group was established. Initially meeting once a month, the group began refining its purpose and direction. The onset of COVID-19 in early 2020 disrupted in-person gatherings, but this challenge prompted the group to seek creative solutions. The need for fellowship became even more pressing as circuit-breaker measures halted many in-person church meetings. During 2020, about 30 members participated in the group's monthly sessions, which centred on the theme Counter Cultural.



YWA 2020 September Meeting using Zoom



YWA Mental Health Workshop (May 2023)

In December 2020, the Young Working Adults (YWA) Committee was formed, and they proposed a pilot 6-month YWA programme for 2021, focusing on four key pillars: Teaching, Fellowship, Outreach, and Service. This proposal addressed several issues raised by the elders about the YWA's mission, structure, curriculum, and consistent growth. Despite the ongoing social distancing restrictions, which limited mass gatherings, YWA adapted by hosting multiple home gatherings on Friday evenings. This approach not only allowed for greater flexibility but also provided members with more opportunities to experience hospitality and attend sessions after work.

The success of the pilot program in 2021 led the elders to support the continuation of YWA gatherings. By 2022, the group had grown, and members had become more accustomed to the programme. By 2023, YWA had experienced significant growth, with the committee welcoming new members. At that time, approximately 70 members attended YWA annually, and the ministry was officially recognised as part of the Assembly Youth Group with its own budget. YWA met two to three times a month, primarily in homes for dinner, Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. The committee also organised events such as Chinese New Year steamboat, board game nights, and night walks. Teaching included a series on *The Gospel in Life* by Timothy Keller, as well as workshops on evangelism and mental health. Members

were also encouraged to serve in various ministries, and the group focused on supporting sojourners, including non-believers and those undergoing transitions.

In 2024, YWA expanded to include a third meeting venue in Punggol, attracting 70 attendees, including 18 newcomers. They completed a series on The Case for Faith by Lee Strobel and began a new series on Holy Sexuality and the Gospel, with additional workshops on personal finance, sexuality, and caring for aging parents. The ministry continues to emphasise service, community support, and outreach to sojourners.



YWA CNY Hotpot at Wild Crumbs (2025)



YWA September 2024 meeting at Ang Mo Kio

Throughout its short history, YWA has striven to live out its vision of loving the sojourners in our midst, inspired by passages such as Deuteronomy chapter 31 verse 12 and Ephesians chapter 2 verse 19. Many members have been recipients of love during their own transitional seasons and are now encouraged to extend that love to others. The hope is that, as the Lord continues to bless the ministry, more sojourners will be called to serve and love others in the future. Furthermore, the group prays for the establishment of more spaces within BAMK where believers can meet, encourage one another, and spur each other on to love and good works (Heb. 10:24-25).



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YWA Night Walk (June 2023)



YWA Mental Health Workshop (May 2023)

The Cantonese group continues to meet every Lord's Day for the Breaking of Bread Service at 2 p.m.. Praise God, there have been many milestones reached in the last 10 years. After the Addition & Alteration works, the Cantonese group celebrated its first Annual Thanksgiving at BAMK on 1 Jan. 2016, where more than 80 attended. Raymond Chin shared a gospel message, which was interpreted by Tan Soo Hock into Hokkien, marking the very first time the Cantonese group had reached out to Hokkien-speaking friends and relatives. On Easter Day that same year, the Cantonese group held its very first Gospel High Tea.

August 2017 marked another significant milestone for the Cantonese Group. We started our Yum Cha Gospel Outreach on the first Saturday of each month. Before 2017, there was no large-scale gospel outreach work arranged. The Cantonese group brethren had been praying for this outreach work for a long time, and it finally came to fruition in 2017, with the Lord's leading, guidance, blessings, and provisions.



Yum Cha Outreach Jan 2017



Gospel Yum Cha Jan 2022



First Breaking of Bread Worship Dec 2020 with safe-distancing measures

We are grateful that this Yum Cha Gospel Outreach has experienced the good and mighty hand of the Lord over the past seven years, and that it continues to be faithfully sustained by His marvellous grace and mercy. The average attendance at the Yum Cha Gospel monthly meeting is about 60, with about one-third being unbelievers. To date, many souls have been saved at these meetings, and they continue to grow spiritually in Christ.

As part of a larger outreach plan, a concurrent children's programme was established in 2022 to encourage parents to join our weekly worship meetings, as well as the Yum Cha Gathering, while allowing their children to be meaningfully occupied. The children's programme is well-structured with a scheme of work that includes both Bible teaching and homework time. This has attracted about 12 regular teens and children, as well as four adult workers at present.

We are also thankful to the Lord that the Cantonese group has expanded its ministry network for outreach over the past ten years. We have connected with brethren from overseas assemblies (Hong Kong and Malaysia), and we have arranged to speak at one another's meetings.

Since July 2023, the Cantonese group has been praying about gospel outreach work among Cantonese-speaking new immigrants from Hong Kong and Malaysia. Plans are in place to befriend these new immigrants personally through introductions by other brethren and to get to know them through social media platforms like Facebook, which allows us to invite them to our regular gospel meetings.

There are also plans to organise talks on topics that may be of interest to these migrant friends (e.g., Education for Children in Singapore, Healthcare in Singapore, etc.). These talks provide a platform for further engagement and gospel sharing. The current children's programme, which runs concurrently with the adult meeting on Sundays, is another opportunity to invite these new friends to join us as a family.

These are the plans we have been praying for, and we anticipate the time of fruition according to the Lord's will and in His good time.



Cantonese Mid-Autumn Gospel Night 2023



Cantonese children programme

The Christian Education Programme (CEP) at BAMK has been a cornerstone of the church's spiritual life for 37 years. Since its inception in 1987, the CEP's mission has been to deepen every member's devotion to the Word of God through systematic Bible study, discipleship, and fellowship.

From its beginning, the CEP aimed to help members rightly divide the Word of truth (2 Tim. 2:15) and be equipped to give a reason for the hope within us (1 Pet. 3:15). This vision aligns with the long-standing belief that Christian education is a lifelong journey. Bible-believing members who actively study the Word are the lifeline of this local assembly.

Over the past 37 years, the programme has made significant progress towards achieving its objective. While attendance has fluctuated, more than half of those attending Sunday morning worship currently stay on for CEP after the refreshment break, demonstrating the programme's tangible impact as participants continue to study God's Word.

Major Changes to the CEP

- **Group Structure and Interaction:** One major change was the introduction of five age-based clusters, which encouraged members to interact more with one another. This shift led to stronger connections between groups, in contrast to previous years when cross-group interaction was minimal.
- **Prayer and Fellowship:** The five CEP clusters were encouraged to gather for monthly prayer sessions prior to CEP meetings. Previously, a prayer meeting for only the CEP leaders was held on the first Sunday of each month. We are grateful that each cluster initiated weekly prayer meetings; however, this practice did not resume after the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Curriculum:** In 2019, the CEP transitioned to a 3- to 4-year syllabus cycle, moving away from the previous 5- to 7-year syllabus cycle. This shift allowed for a more focused and relevant approach to Bible study, with key themes such as Stewardship (2024) and

Servanthood (2025) brought to the forefront. The CEP materials are continuously developed by dedicated volunteer members who contribute to writing lessons and shaping the curriculum. A younger curriculum committee, bringing fresh perspectives, has now taken the lead in guiding the development and direction of the curriculum.



CEP Open session 2022



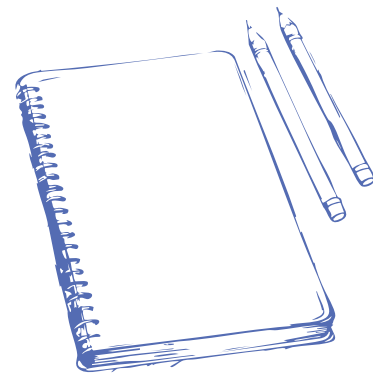
CEP Track Series on Revival 2018



CEP group led by Dr. Chong

- **Book Studies and Alignment with Pulpit Ministry:** We introduced a series of book studies aligned with the morning ministry topics. This allowed members to continue reflecting on or discussing the lessons learnt from the sermons. Although it was a new initiative, it was carefully implemented in stages. In 2024, we had two series of aligned ministry teachings and CEP studies that spanned several months.
- **Evangelism and Outreach:** Evangelism remained a central focus of the CEP, even in the face of challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. The CEP consistently emphasised the importance of making evangelism a way of life, encouraging members to actively participate in outreach efforts. Outreach efforts, such as the Easter Gospel Service and the Chinese New Year Orange Distribution, persisted. Additionally, the annual CEP Retreat served as an important platform for personal evangelism and spiritual reflection.

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Basic Training Class

The Basic Training Class (BTC) seeks to minister to seekers and new believers of the Christian faith. Each week, BTC teachers share foundational Bible truths to help attendees understand more about God. BTC also focuses on nurturing spiritual growth and teaching attendees how to live out their faith using various Bible passages that speak to Christian living.

- **A New Focus:** The BTC has shifted from merely imparting knowledge to emphasising body life. This new approach fosters a sense of family belonging among class members through prayer and shared experiences.
- **Visitation:** The BTC's new team of teachers has made personal visits a regular practice. These visits offer emotional support and spiritual encouragement to attendees, enhancing their overall growth.
- **Community Gatherings:** Social gatherings have become a cherished part of the ministry. Whether it is sharing a meal after BTC sessions or celebrating birthdays, public holidays, or special events, these occasions often provide opportunities for deeper

personal sharing and testimonies that may not take place during regular Sunday sessions.

In 2024, we welcomed a new team of teachers—William and Julia Chew—joining Tay Kim Swee and Lai To in leading the BTC. This marks a shift from past practices, where a senior leader typically spearheaded the ministry. We praise the Lord for the younger workers who have stepped up to contribute to this meaningful and fruitful work. As a result, we have seen members of the BTC take the step of obedience through baptism after being grounded in the teachings of God's Word.



Song item presented by BTC in 2022

Special Instruction Class

The Special Instruction Class (SIC) aims to assure believers of their salvation and teach them foundational church truths through the book, *Christ Loved the Church*. The class focuses on helping believers understand their privileges and responsibilities, particularly as they are received into assembly fellowship after baptism. It also emphasises the importance of the local church and its role in living out and witnessing New Testament truths in its practices.

A key aspect of the class is teaching about the two ordinances of the assembly. The first is Believer's Baptism, which serves as a public confession of faith, symbolising the believer's identification with Christ's burial and resurrection. The second ordinance is The Lord's Supper, instituted by the Lord Jesus during the Passover before His death. This ordinance allows believers to express gratitude to God the Father and the Lord Jesus, reflecting on His life, sacrifice, and the promise of His Second Coming. Before participating, believers are encouraged to examine themselves and confess any sins.

Over the years, we have had the privilege of witnessing many young believers being baptised and joining in fellowship, as well as a few seniors who also made the decision to publicly identify with the Lord. These moments highlight the significance of the class in helping believers grow in their understanding of and commitment to their faith.



Young believers at Special Instruction Class



Young believers at Special Instruction Class

Assembly Training Class

The assembly continues to organise the Assembly Training Class (ATC). Over the past few years, four key courses were introduced:

- The Evangelist Training Class was a five-lesson course that combined lectures, discussions, homework, and practical preaching. Two runs of this course have been held, and some participants from the first cohort have already begun sharing the gospel at outreach meetings.
- The Parenting Course for Young and Teenage Children offered a comprehensive look at parenting across various stages. It featured lectures, Q&A sessions with an experienced child counsellor, and workshops. The course was divided into five modules: Equipping Parents and Teachers, Christian Parenting, Empowering Parents to Discipline Children, Empowering Teachers to Disciple Children, and Parenting Teens. Most of the participants were young parents, though there were also older, more experienced parents who shared their insights.
- The Becoming Effective in Teaching God's Word course was a five-unit offering that focused on key aspects of teaching, including The Call to Study and Teach, Building Lesson Outlines, Applying and Illustrating Lessons, Delivering Messages, and Teaching in Small Groups. Held during the COVID-19 pandemic, this course was attended primarily by CEP leaders and co-leaders, who were actively involved in discussions and sharing their experiences.
- The Bible Study Course was launched in 2019 for CEP leaders and members who wished to improve their ability to handle the Bible and teach it to others. Participants learned how to identify the main points of scripture, craft questions, and lead Bible studies in small groups, receiving feedback from one another. The course introduced various methods of Bible study, emphasising the importance of understanding and applying God's Word effectively.

Most of those who enrolled in these short-term courses were younger members of the church. We continue to prayerfully seek the Lord's will in this ministry, praying that these participants will apply what they have learned to their lives.



ATC Parenting 2022



Parenting Class conducted by Dorcas Li

The vision of Emmaus is to glorify God by providing biblically-sound resources and structured study materials for the purpose of teaching people from every nation to know Jesus Christ as Saviour and to live in a way that is consistent with God's Word.

Emmaus's work began in 1998 at BAMK. Adrin Loi first served as Regional Director from 1998–2000. The work faced challenges in 2000, and Charles Fizer from the USA played a crucial role in reviving the work. In 2001, leadership was handed over to Robert Hmar, who has since served as Chairman. Currently, the 2024 Emmaus SG Committee is chaired by Robert Hmar, with William Chew as Secretary. Members include David Chew, Fong Ban Lee (up to 2023), Joe Mathew John, Kenneth Khong, and Wong Tuck Keong, with Tan Chee Hwee as the advisor.

God's Faithfulness in the Emmaus Ministry over the past decade

Over the past decade, the Emmaus Ministry has witnessed God's remarkable faithfulness. Notable events include Emmaus USA donating 10,000 copies of The Word of God for the 2001 Festival of Celebration rally in Singapore and another 10,000 copies of Lessons for Christian Living printed in Singapore as follow-up materials. A complete set of Emmaus courses was later provided to all participating assemblies at the rally.

In 2007, BAMK hosted the East Asia Emmaus Conference. Since then, more than 6,807 courses have been distributed in Singapore and many more have been sent to Nepal and Myanmar.

Subsequent East Asia Emmaus Conferences took place in Malaysia in 2012 and 2013, Japan in 2014, Taiwan in 2017, and Korea in 2019. Kenneth Khong and Robert Hmar represented Emmaus SG.



Emmaus Asia-Oceania Conference, Malaysia June 18 2023 Bottom Row Left 1: Kenneth Khong, Third Row from Bottom, Left 4: Robert Hmar

A key milestone during the pandemic was the launch of the Emmaus website, way2emmaus.sg, in June 2022. In response to lockdowns and restrictions, we adapted to online platforms to connect with those feeling isolated and anxious. We began offering Emmaus Bible studies in English, Mandarin, Indian languages, Tagalog, Thai, and Indonesian through <https://app.emmaus.study/>. We are grateful that Emmaus courses are now utilised in Sunday School, CEP, Thursday Bible Fellowship, Regional Fellowship Groups, Prison Ministry, Boys' Brigade and Christian halfway homes.



Emmaus road show at Depot Walk Nov 2024

The Sisters' Ministry (SM) began in 2003 with the goals of fostering closer fellowship among sisters in the assembly, promoting spiritual growth, and providing opportunities for sisters to discover, develop, and exercise their gifts.

God has proven Himself faithful, sustaining the SM and providing many committed workers in the Sisters' Committee. Bible studies such as Who is Jesus, Sermon on the Mount, and Woman of God have centred on Jesus. Our retreats in 2016, led by Sharon Fleming with the theme His Eyes Are on the Sparrows (Mt. 10:31), and in 2024, led by Suzanne Wong with the theme I Am Not My Own (1 Cor. 6:19–20), encouraged our sisters to find strength in the Lord Jesus through the different seasons and challenges of life.

Over the past decade, the SM engaged in Bible studies on different books such as Hosea, Psalms and Philippians with a focus on spiritual growth and fellowship, and on special topics such as Respectable Sins. The SM also organised special events like retreats and talks on family relationships and dementia care.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 marked a pivotal moment, prompting the transition to online gatherings. Bible studies and health-related talks were held via Zoom, enabling continued connection during a difficult time.



Sisters' Ministry wrap up meeting in April

During this time, Prasanthi's cancer worsened, but her group members faithfully met on Zoom to pray for and with her. Despite her suffering, she remained a source of encouragement, sharing her faithful testimony of God's grace. Her joyful spirit and gratitude continued until she passed away in India in 2021.

We are deeply grateful to the Lord for His guidance and blessings. We thank Him for the sisters' willingness to attend SM meetings, despite many being seniors facing mobility challenges. Yet, they actively engage in Bible study discussions. We also praise the Lord for empowering various sisters to step out of their comfort zones, taking on roles such as chairing meetings, leading singing, and delivering 30-minute talks to conclude the Bible study discussions.



Sisters' Ministry and Library Ministry fellowship 2023

... We are deeply grateful to the Lord for His guidance and blessings. We thank Him for the sisters' willingness to attend SM meetings, despite many being seniors facing mobility challenges.

Additionally, we are thankful for the three support groups that have been established. The Visitation Group regularly visits elderly sisters who are sick, offering both emotional and spiritual support. The Young Mums' Group holds fortnightly meetings to support young mothers in their parenting roles, while the Singles' Group gathers monthly, providing an opportunity for single sisters and widows to bond with one another. These gatherings often include outings to places such as the Botanic Gardens, Peranakan Museum, and Kukup, as well as activities like learning paper quilling and macramé.



Young Mums' Group overseen by Sisters' Ministry

The vision of the SM is to promote unity among the sisters, so that as they discover and embrace their God-given potential, our Lord Jesus can use them to support the assembly's evangelistic and pastoral activities. We pray that more sisters, particularly younger women, will join the SM, carrying the baton forward to continue proclaiming Jesus Only.



Sisters' Ministry Group Outing Sentosa June 2022

The aim of Sunday School (SS) is to guide children towards having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ by introducing them to God's Word and the person of Jesus. Through this process, we hope they will accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, follow His command to be baptised, and grow spiritually to serve the church community. Ultimately, our goal is for them to develop a love for God's Word and be inspired to live a life that serves Him. As Proverbs chapter 22 verse 6 reminds us, *Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.* The SS is split into Junior and Senior levels, catering to children from Pre-Nursery to Junior College. Each Sunday begins with a combined singspiration, followed by Bible lessons, and for the Junior level, crafts. We are thankful to the Lord that the scholars continue to be reached with His Word through songs and Bible lessons each week.

SS in the Past Decade

In 2014, while the BAMK premises underwent essential renovations, the SS moved to St. Andrew's Village and was conducted in the afternoon. This change resulted in a slight drop in attendance across both Senior and Junior SS classes. In September 2015, we returned to the BAMK site and benefited from improved facilities and an upgraded audio-visual system.

However, the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020 meant that the church had to implement various preventive measures in accordance with national directives. For part of the duration of the pandemic, no physical meetings were allowed at the assembly, and SS had to adapt quickly. Junior classes were shifted to a combination of online platforms: for Pre-Nursery to K2, lessons were delivered through Zoom and pre-recorded slides, with worksheets mailed to the scholars for them to complete. For Primary levels, lessons included a mix of pre-recorded videos, Zoom sessions, online quizzes, and worksheets. Senior classes continued via platforms like Facebook Live, Zoom, WhatsApp, and phone calls. Male SS teachers took turns to conduct live lessons on Facebook, which included Bible sharing and singspiration. Interactive tools like online quizzes and



SS Singspiration 2022



Johnson Chua leading Singspiration

Kahoot were used to engage the scholars. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, the SS was able to host two virtual Christmas Specials in 2020 and 2021. Both Junior and Senior scholars participated in a combined singspiration, before breaking into smaller groups to attend their respective talks.

In December 2021, after approval from the elders, the SS resumed its first face-to-face meeting in church. This was during the year-end school holidays, and although the session was held without singspiration, it marked

... Ultimately, our goal is for them to develop a love for God's Word and be inspired to live a life that serves Him.

a significant return to physical gatherings. In 2022, as classes returned to in-person lessons, Facebook Live sessions for Senior SS scholars were discontinued. The shift to physical gatherings was further supported when Singapore entered the endemic phase of the pandemic on 13 Feb. 2023, with most COVID-19 restrictions lifted. The 158th Sunday School Anniversary and Prize-Giving on 6 Mar. 2022 was held in a hybrid format due to Safe Management Measures, with 200 attendees in the hall and others online. The Junior SS scholars presented a pre-recorded item, while the Senior SS scholars shared a pre-recorded performance. From 26 Apr. 2022, the SS resumed mask-on singing, and the first singspiration session took place on 1 May 2022. On 4 Sep. 2022, the SS resumed the collection of physical offerings, which are used as love gifts for children's homes locally and abroad.

In 2024, a new toddlers' class was introduced in the Junior SS for children from birth to two years old, focussing on Bible stories and fostering community among parents. In the Senior SS, two new initiatives were launched: contributors from the wider BAMK assembly began writing lesson plans to supplement the teachers' guide, and SS bonding sessions were organised every three months, featuring mini-games planned by the scholars.



SS Prizegiving 2024



... We are deeply grateful for the Lord's guidance in the SS work at BAMK and thank Him for His faithfulness. We express our appreciation to the teachers who faithfully prepare and teach the scholars every Sunday, and to those who serve as relief teachers when needed. Above all, we thank God for the many scholars who continue to attend and participate in the SS.

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Younger scholars who play the piano and guitar are encouraged to use their talents to serve God, often working alongside their senior peers. Senior scholars also take an active role in planning and leading the singspiration. We continue to pray for more scholars to join the SS from other ministries, such as the CC Ministry, YP Ministry, BAMK Kindergarten, and the Ang Mo Kio neighbourhood.



SS outing held at BAMK

The Bethesda Tamil Fellowship has faithfully served as a spiritual home for Tamil-speaking believers, reflecting the unchanging truth of Hebrews chapter 13 verse 8: *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.* Since January 2009, the fellowship has flourished into a thriving community committed to worship, spiritual growth, and outreach. Through the precious blood of Jesus Christ, this fellowship has been redeemed, guided by the Holy Spirit, and the Father is glorified in the works accomplished in His name.

Regular Sunday Services

The fellowship's weekly Sunday services, which include worship, communion, and Bible study through the CEP, provide a solid foundation for spiritual growth. Guided by Philippians chapter 2 verse 5, the fellowship seeks to cultivate Christ-like character, humility, and servanthood. The CEP, conducted in Tamil with translated materials, plays a key role in nurturing discipleship within the community.

Pivoting to Virtual Meetings During the Pandemic

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the fellowship swiftly adapted by launching Zoom prayer meetings. Initially established in response to the isolation brought on by the pandemic, these virtual gatherings continued as a vital source of connection and persistent prayer for the community. Held every Friday night at 10 p.m., the meetings continue to unite members, fostering intercession and resulting in spiritual breakthroughs and answered prayers.



Tamil Group fellowship 2022



Tamil Special Meeting 2023



Tamil Group Meeting

... Through the precious blood of Jesus Christ, this fellowship has been redeemed, guided by the Holy Spirit, and the Father is glorified in the works accomplished in His name.

Tamil Bible Camps

The Tamil Bible Camps have been a cornerstone of the fellowship's ministry since its early days and continue to be an important annual event. Typically held during the Chinese New Year holidays, these camps offer opportunities for attendees to deepen their faith and enjoy meaningful fellowship. Apart from the 2020 camp, which was held virtually due to the pandemic, these camps have been in person. With themes such as My Divine Responsibilities in 2023 and Perfecting Holiness in the Fear of God in 2024, the camps encourage believers to reflect on their walk with Christ. These events consistently attract both believers and seekers, with many experiencing life-changing encounters with the gospel. In 2024, the attendance for the Bible Camp reached a new high of 60 participants, reflecting the fellowship's expanded outreach and growing interest, particularly from non-believers.

Celebrating BAMK's 161st Anniversary

As we celebrate BAMK's 161st anniversary under the theme Jesus Only, we give thanks for the Lord's unchanging guidance and blessings. A recent testimony that underscores the theme, Jesus Only, is the baptism of two brothers in October 2023. Their journey to faith highlights the enduring and transformative power of the gospel, affirming the timeless message of Christ's salvation.

Looking ahead, the Tamil Fellowship envisions expanding its outreach to more Tamil-speaking individuals in Singapore and beyond. May the fellowship continue to keep its eyes fixed on the Lord, serving as a faithful witness to His love and truth in the years to come.



Tamil Bible Camp 2024



Tamil Bible Camp 2025



Tamil Group Meeting

... **Tamil Fellowship envisions expanding its outreach to more Tamil-speaking individuals in Singapore and beyond. May the fellowship continue to keep its eyes fixed on the Lord, serving as a faithful witness to His love and truth in the years to come.**

THURSDAY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

The Thursday Bible Fellowship (TBF) was integrated into the Bethesda Silver Club to address the spiritual needs of seniors through regular Bible studies and fellowship. The TBF began humbly in 1986 at Bras Basah Gospel Hall, with seniors gathering every Thursday (except during school holidays) to encourage one another by sharing the Word of God. Despite weather conditions, they made every effort to attend, demonstrating their dedication and love for God.

In February 2020, COVID-19 disrupted our plans as the seniors were no longer able to meet onsite on Thursdays. Reconnecting during the Circuit Breaker period was challenging, but we thank God for His provision. Despite the difficulties, the seniors quickly adapted to using Zoom for Bible study on Thursdays.



TBF 2023

THURSDAY BIBLE READING

A cherished feature of our brethren assemblies has been the systematic study of scripture through a 'verse-by-verse' discussion format. These meetings began in 2001, and were first initiated by Lim Tian Leong, with the intention of encouraging the assembly to be a sanctuary where God's people immerse themselves in His Word. The objective was for members to engage with *the ministry of God's Word* (Acts 6:4), *earnestly desire it* (1 Pet. 2:2), and *rightly handle the Word* (2 Tim. 2:15).

The Thursday Bible Reading (TBR), formerly known as Assembly Bible Reading, is a vibrant one-hour discussion where various brothers share insights on the passage for 30 minutes, followed by reflections and questions from participants. Over the years, we have been blessed by many brothers who stepped up to facilitate the exploration of books like Jeremiah, Isaiah, Ruth, Judges, Ecclesiastes, Proverbs, Hebrews, Matthew, and currently, the book of Psalms.

We are grateful for the emphasis placed on the simple action of reading scripture and are thankful that many who partake in Bible reading have been nourished by the Word. We have observed and want to celebrate the following blessings:

- Saints have been built up in our most holy faith (Eph. 4:12).
- Saints are being fully equipped for godly living and service (2 Tim. 3:16–17).
- Saints have been safeguarded from false doctrine (2 Tim. 2:15–16).
- Saints have learned to value every Word of God (2 Tim. 3:16).
- Some, through in-depth study of God's Word, have grown to minister more effectively.

It has been uplifting to witness the unwavering commitment of participants, especially the sisters, in their devoted attendance. While attendance once dwindled to as few as five, we now average 20, particularly during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, through Zoom. This growth is a testament to answered prayers, especially in times when we considered pausing the TBR. We praise the Lord for 23 years of enriching Bible teaching and learning through the TBR, providing ample substance for reflection and application. The true test for TBR will be whether it continues for another decade, should the Lord tarry. May participants continue to prioritise supporting TBR and invite others to join this transformative journey.

... We praise the Lord for 23 years of enriching Bible teaching and learning through the TBR, providing ample substance for reflection and application.

Chapter 5

Encouragement

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. (Heb. 10:24–25)



INTRODUCTION



At Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) (BAMK), a range of fellowship groups and non-teaching ministries support members in their walk of faith and strengthen the church community.

Fellowship Groups such as Bethesda Silver Club and Regional Fellowship Groups meet regularly for Bible study, fellowship, and outings, fostering close relationships and mutual support. Annual events like Assembly Bible Camp, Assembly Youth Camp, and Daily Vacation Bible School offer opportunities for deeper engagement with God’s Word and fellowship across the assembly.

Non-Teaching Ministries play a vital role in supporting church life through service. Committees like Building Services, Evangelistic Sub-Committees, Choir, Library, Newsletter, and Refreshments contribute through diverse gifts—whether in maintaining the premises, enhancing events, preserving Christian resources, or encouraging one another through shared content and hospitality.

Together, these groups reflect the assembly’s commitment to grow in unity and love as one body in Christ, with each member serving with what they have within these groups to build up and encourage one another in faith.



Bethesda Silver Club

Bethesda Silver Club (BSC) was launched on 20 Oct. 2018 to encourage active aging and bonding among seniors (retired or aged 60 and above), engage them in meaningful service and fellowship, and provide an evangelistic outreach platform to reach seniors in the neighbourhood. The programmes and activities are run

by seniors in the assembly, many of whom are retired and volunteer their time and expertise, for the benefit of fellow seniors. The BSC also oversees Thursday Bible Fellowship (TBF), a weekly meeting of hymn singing, Bible study and fellowship to meet the spiritual needs of seniors.

Period	Events and Activities	Chairman, Dy. Chairman, Advisor
July 2018– June 2019	Event/Fellowship: TBF • Excursion: Guided Peranakan Museum Tour • Exercise/Sports: Badminton; Swimming Lessons; Tai Chi; Walking • Talks: Cancer Screening: Is it for you?; Eat Well, Age Well • Workshops: Calligraphy; Useful Mobile Apps	Chairman: Sim Chear Wah Dy. Chairman: John Chua Advisor: the late Victor Ng
July 2019– June 2020	Events/Fellowship: BSC 1 st Anniversary Thanksgiving; Coffee Fellowship; CNY Lo Hei Fellowship; TBF • Excursions: Durian Tour; Flower Dome • Talk: Will and Estate Planning • Workshop: CNY Decoration	Chairman: Sim Chear Wah Dy. Chairman: John Chua Advisor: Tan Jing Poi
July 2020– June 2021	Event/Fellowship: TBF	Chairman: Sim Chear Wah Advisor: Tan Jing Poi
July 2021– June 2022	Event/Fellowship: TBF • Talks: Exercise—The Magic Pill of Ageing; Holistic Health in a World of Pandemic and Problems; Sarcopenia—Ageing and Muscle Loss; TCM and Wellness	Chairman: Sim Chear Wah Advisor: Tan Jing Poi
July 2022– June 2023	Events/Fellowship: CNY Shopping @ Woodlands Terrace; TBF; TBF Lo Hei • Forum: CPF and Retirement • Talks: Common Eye Problems in Seniors; Pain and Getting Older—Sensible Self-Management; The Art of Living and Leaving Well	Chairman: Sim Chear Wah Advisor: Tan Jing Poi



SIM CHEAR WAH



ROBERT HMAR

From February 2020, the BSC could not have on-site events and regular meetings on Thursdays due to COVID-19. Reconnecting our ministry during the Circuit Breaker period was difficult, but God has been good. The seniors were quick to overcome initial difficulties in using Zoom and were able to continue with the fellowship and study of God's Word on Thursdays.

God can turn a COVID-19 disruption into a good outcome (Gen. 50:20). As the BSC pivoted to holding health talks online (via Zoom and YouTube) in place of on-site meetings, we were pleasantly surprised that the online platforms allowed us to reach a wider audience as seniors invited their friends and neighbours to attend. Moving forward, we would continue to have talks over Zoom and YouTube platforms.

In addition, we will also organise on-site events so seniors will have the opportunity to interact with each other physically as well.

We are deeply grateful for God's unwavering goodness and faithfulness throughout these challenging times. His grace has enabled us to adapt and grow, ensuring that our seniors remain strong and connected. As we look to the future, we are reminded that God is *the same yesterday, today, and forever* (Heb. 13:8). His unchanging nature provides us with the confidence and hope to face whatever lies ahead, knowing that He will continue to guide and sustain us.

We rest in the assurance that our unchanging God will continue to bless and lead the BSC. Let us remain steadfast in our faith, committed to serving one another, and ever grateful for His enduring presence in our lives.



BSC 2019 October Anniversary Thanksgiving

Camps

The assembly organises camps regularly for the body of Christ to come together in fellowship and for outreach.

Assembly Bible Camp

Once a year, in June, the assembly will gather at an overseas campsite for fellowship, prayer and edification. The past 40 Assembly Bible Camps (ABCs) have been a special and sacred time and space for God's people to gather, learn from His Word, discuss Christian living, and bond over recreation, outings, food, and games.

The first ABC, with 80 campers—10 from the United Kingdom and 70 locals—was held in Malacca, Malaya, in 1951. Some of the teenagers then, like Chew Fatt Seng—who continues to be faithful in the Cantonese group—are already in their 90s. The first recorded gathering was held in 1979 at the Singapore Christian Convention Centre at Changi Point. Chaired by Lawrence Chan, with the late Peter Ferry (Phuket) as the camp teacher, this camp attracted 190 campers. In 1983, the ABC was held at Highland Christian Convention Centre, Cameron Highlands, where 120 campers gathered under Daniel Woon's leadership, with the late Lim Tian Leong as the camp teacher. In 1990, the camp conducted at Shah Beach Resort, Malacca, was chaired by Wong Tuck Keong, taught by the late Geoffrey Bull (Scotland) and attended by 156 campers. In 1992, the camp—chaired by the late Lim Tian Leong and taught by J.B. Nicholson Jr. (USA)—took flight to the Christian Convention Centre in Penang with 148 campers.

This camp made history by catering to the Cantonese Group for the first time. Over the years, the ABC averaged 200 attendees, with attendance ranging from 104 (in 1987 at Methodist Centre, Port Dickson) to 334 (in 2002 at Le Cemara, Desaru). The ABC was disrupted for 3 years—2020, 2021 and 2022—due to COVID-19, but resumed in 2023.

The ABCs have impacted countless souls, fostered salvation and strengthened the body life of the assembly. We are immensely blessed to have gifted Bible teachers from various countries share their insights, alongside our own local brethren who nurture our children and youth. As we look to the future, we embrace the following challenges and visions:

- A powerful ministry that nurtures the spiritual well-being of every individual, regardless of age. To embody the 'one another' spirit in our community, we encourage each member to prioritise camp attendance for the collective good, even amidst life's many distractions.
- The ABC has become a vital instrument in the Lord's hands for the salvation of loved ones and the spiritual growth of the saints, equipping us to navigate the complexities and transformations of the 21st century.
- Beyond our immediate families, our cherished Bethesda family calls us to support and serve one another, fostering a body life that thrives on care, communication, and connection, overcoming any challenges of complaint, comparison, and contention.



2017 ABC

SHARING FROM PAST CHAIRMEN



WONG TUCK KEONG
(2014–2015)

Serving alongside camp personnel and local camp teachers encouraged me as I witnessed their dedication and diligence. The camps exuded a welcoming

environment for campers to experience love and fellowship. There were also opportunities for in-depth study of God's Word, which nurtured spiritual maturity in Christ. Shared experiences and understanding during the camp caused attendees to connect with each other.

However, low priority among assembly members for camps can hinder the building of a strong fellowship among believers. There

are instances where members complain and compare, and the ABC can help resolve some of these issues as it is a great opportunity for members to build better relationships and understanding through positive interactions.



2015 ABC



KEITH WAN
(2016–2017)

Taking on the role of chairman in 2016 made me feel like I was stepping into the deep end of a pool when I could hardly swim. I was really stepping out of my comfort zone as I had never really been a 'camp' person. In fact, my first church camp was the 2013 Youth Camp. I found it even more challenging as I had only been an elder for less than a year when I found myself carrying the weight of organising a whole camp!

The camp theme was Take Root, Bear Fruit, inspired by Isaiah chapter 37 verse 31, which struck a chord, posing a profound question: How could a small group

of believers come together to revive an entire nation? Thankfully, the next verse offered hope, with a reminder that *the zeal of the LORD of hosts shall do this* (Isa. 37:32). Jim Dryden delivered powerful and uplifting messages about where to plant our roots and what fruits we could hope to bear.

In 2017, with a bit of experience under my belt, I thought organising the camp might be easier, but it turned out to be more challenging! The committee surprised us all by selecting a stunning beachside chalet as the venue. The logistics were daunting, especially since we were still including members from both BAMK and Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) (BDW). Through God's grace, and the incredible support from all the campers, everything came together beautifully. Fred Kosin inspired us with

a series of messages focused on the theme Household of Faith, where he discussed belonging, devotion, service, prayer, forgiveness, harmonisation, warning, and submission to one another.

Looking back, even though 8 years have passed, the memories are still vivid. The time spent with both committees and campers was filled with joy and grace. Each moment is a reminder of how we can experience God's grace together. As we look forward to future camps, I pray they will continue to be opportunities for us to gather, grow, and share in His grace.



2016 ABC



TAN JING POI
(2018–2019)

The ABCs have always thrived in the unique setting where assembly members, along with their families and friends, congregate and bond over a period of 4 to 5 days outside Singapore. This holiday environment fosters a sense of community across generations, from young children to seniors, and encourages a warm, inclusive atmosphere. The dedication of ABC committees, made up of both young and older volunteers, shines through in their collaborative efforts to organise a meaningful experience. Their creativity and passion come together to result in a programme filled with teachings,



2018 ABC

games, and activities that inspire and challenge participants, while presenting the gospel message through collective fellowship.

The first ABC after BDW was registered as a separate assembly was held in 2018. This camp, which represented the last combined effort for BAMK and BDW, centred around the theme The Guide Inside, exploring the person and ministry of the Holy Spirit. Special camp songs penned by Susan Chan were enhanced by Carol Chong’s musical arrangements. Mike Attwood delivered insightful talks on the Holy Spirit’s role in the

lives of believers and sinners.

The following year, the camp considered the theme The Glory Of Christ (2 Cor. 3:18). Participants enjoyed a beautiful camp song, All The Glory, created by a sister in the assembly. Roger Liebi shared eight messages about the Glory of the Messiah, including discussions on the Sermon on the Mount of Olives and a focus on Bible prophecy relating to the Third Temple. The camp concluded with a remarkable piano performance by Roger, showcasing his talent through a composition inspired by Israel.

After a 3-year hiatus due to COVID-19, the ABC resumed in 2023 with the theme Worthy is the Lamb (Rev. 5:12). Instead of the usual 5-day, Monday to Friday camp, the committee changed it to a 4-day, Sunday (after morning ministry) to Wednesday camp, to keep the camp fees affordable and reduce the number of days of work leave members must take.

Kenneth Wong gave the following talks: Come Up Here—Commending His Worthiness, Come and See—Considering His Work, Come Before Him—Continuing In Wonder and Come and Eat—Connecting in Worship. This year, the Young Adults had a separate Bible study programme after the morning talk, which replaced a separate Young Adult



CHAN MAN WONG
(2023)

Camp that was started after COVID-19.

Every morning started with a group morning devotion in the ballroom, with assigned brothers leading the campers to encourage one another on the importance of starting the day right with quiet time with the Lord.



2023 ABC



LAU HONG CHOON
(2024–2025)

ABC 2024, with the theme of Stewardship was a memorable experience that fostered a sense of family among the participants. It was made possible with a dedicated committee working tirelessly from planning to execution.

The camp emphasised family-oriented fellowship and spiritual growth through Bible teachings and discussions. During the camp, campers gathered to share in prayer and devotion, creating an atmosphere ripe for inspiration and connection in the Lord. The programme featured various sessions where the gospel was preached and the Bible was taught, allowing campers to engage with one another deeply.

Roger Liebi enriched the camp experience by leading discussions on stewardship across personal, family, and communal contexts. The campers actively participated in prayers, group activities, and themed workshops centred around the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Overall, the camp was a refreshing and joyful time of worship and community, leaving everyone looking forward to the next gathering.



2024 ABC

Assembly Youth Camp

Assembly Youth Camp (AYC) is a perennial event that is held annually in December. It is usually the highlight of the year for the assembly's youth as it is a time where they gather with their leaders for discipleship, and their friends for fellowship. They are cut off from their home and school to focus on God's Word and spiritual applications, and bond over games and food. It is also an opportunity for the youths to invite their friends for the camp.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021, the AYC continued in a modified format. The camps were held virtually, with the camp teacher conducting sessions remotely.



2017 AYC

SHARING FROM PAST CHAIRMEN



CHOONG KIT SOON



2018 AYC

Without fail, God has been good and faithful to ensure the availability of camp teachers over the years to impart the Word of God.

Young people are the future of the assembly. It is my hope that they will experience God at this age and hide the Word of God in their hearts (Psa. 119:9–11). The AYC has been a place where young people set aside time to focus on God and spiritual matters. Also, it is my desire to see this ministry continue to bear fruit in young believers as they set examples *in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity* (1 Tim. 4:12). We have seen changed lives among the campers in our Young People’s ministry.

One reminder of God’s goodness and faithfulness was in 2016 when we had the camp at Highland Christian Center, Cameron Highlands. We had the blessing of having three experienced camp doctors instead of one. We did not see this need until we had a major food poisoning outbreak among the campers after a lunch out in the town. Looking



2019 AYC

back, we understood why God provided three camp doctors and we are truly grateful. God will prepare and provide ahead of the storm.

In closing, I am reminded of the hymn Great is Thy Faithfulness. In particular, the third line reads:

‘Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.’



2020 AYC



2021 AYC



This ministry has a profound and significant impact on our assembly. It is the truth that our God is indeed the same, from past to future, through His ministry in the lives of our youths. It is marvellous that youths who attended the camp back in the early 2000s are now parents whose very own children attend this camp. Every camp is unique, but the constant theme that transcends time is the passing on of God's truths to each succeeding generation. To think that the current youths who attend can sing the same song, *My God, My Friend*, penned by our predecessors back in the 90s, with gusto and sincere faith (and perhaps not even knowing that our local brethren wrote it) brings profound gratitude to the Lord for His goodness. It is truly a legacy of passing it on to the next generation. Our God is a God of all generations, and we trust that He will continue to carry us through in His will.

God is faithful. He has given our assembly the privilege and resources to plan for this event despite the many challenges faced continually.

Over the past decade, the AYC has seen a gradual drop in numbers, which has made the situation bleak at times. However, our God is good, and He only requires our faith and obedience to serve Him wholly. Looking to the future, there are many obstacles. In our fleshly wisdom, this format of ministry may be losing its effectiveness due to the number of participants. However, we thank God that He gives spiritual wisdom, and we pray fervently that God will continue to use this ministry even if it seems counter-intuitive, by worldly standards, to do so. Even if one sheep could be rescued, all of heaven rejoices. It is not so much of having a camp, but rather the ministry of ensuring our youths *remember their Creator in the days of their youth* (Eccl. 12:1). Even if we have to remodel this ministry (and we need to discern the Lord's will humbly), we will continue the ministry of exhorting and evangelising to our youths in our assembly. May each succeeding generation be able to say, 'We are brothers and sisters, all in God's family.'



2022 AYC



2023 AYC

Daily Vacation Bible School

Daily Vacation Bible School (DVBS) is held annually at BAMK in November/December. Through the camp, the assembly seeks to minister the Word of God to the children in the assembly and neighbourhood. The

children are encouraged to invite their friends and neighbours to DVBS. It is the assembly's hope that children who attend the DVBS will continue to build their faith in Sunday School and Children's Corner.



AMOS CHEW



DVBS 2015

DVBS 2020 was both challenging and memorable due to the global pandemic. As the world responded to COVID-19, we were unsure of the best way to proceed with our evangelistic events. However, trusting in the Lord and His call to *Go and make disciples of all nations* (Mt. 28:19), and realising the importance of this annual evangelistic effort, the DVBS 2020 committee chose to stay flexible and hold fast to our plans lightly.

By God's grace and with everyone's commitment to the Great Commission, we successfully held DVBS 2020! Though it was a shorter version than usual, we were grateful to see children return to church, interact with one another, and—most importantly—remain safe.

'Depend on it. God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply.' (Hudson Taylor)

Children's ministry is truly a cornerstone of every church. It is vital that children are introduced to

the good news of Jesus Christ and the teachings of scripture at an early age, giving them the opportunity to respond to the gospel.

My personal hope is that assemblies across the nation and around the world will give special attention to this foundational ministry. I pray that churches will invest both the necessary manpower and heartfelt care into nurturing their children's ministries.

'At a certain meeting two and a half people were converted to Christ. A friend asked if he meant, two adults and a child. The facts were just the opposite two children and an adult. When a child is led to Christ, a whole life is saved!' (D.L Moody)

. . . He said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them. (Mk. 10:14–16)



DVBS 2024



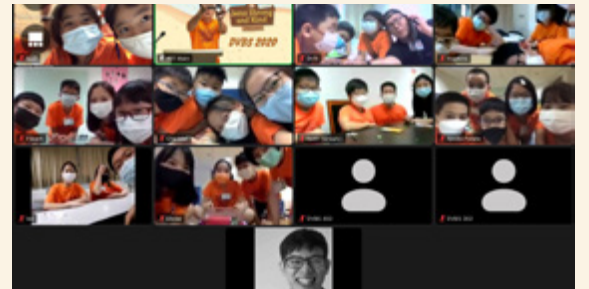
DVBS 2017



DVBS 2019



DVBS 2018



DVBS 2020



DVBS 2021



DVBS 2022



DVBS 2023

Regional Fellowship Groups

In 1986, when the assembly relocated from Bras Basah to Ang Mo Kio, the home fellowship got a new name—Regional Fellowship Groups (RFGs). RFGs comprise friends, families, and members of various ages who reside in the same locality. They meet to promote the unity of the body of Christ by providing help and encouragement, and exercising hospitality to one another. In addition, RFG meetings create evangelistic opportunities where members can invite friends and neighbours to their homes to share about their faith and what they do as an assembly.

The first RFG met in 1986. In recent years, Adrin Loi served as the co-ordinator from 2005 to 2010, Daniel Thein from 2011 to 2016, and Wong Tuck Keong has served as the advisor since 2017. Melly Sim has been the committee secretary since 2005.

Over the last 10 years, several RFGs have been discontinued and new ones have been established due to changing congregational demographics and leadership. The Young Working Adult RFG is now a ministry under the Assembly Youth Group. Several RFGs have also transferred to BDW.

At the point of publication, there are seven RFGs meeting regularly. They are represented by Ng Lai Fun (Ang Mo Kio), Tan Wee Siang (Bedok), Yong En Haur (Bishan), Chow Tat Foong (Choa Chu Kang), Robert Hmar (Hougang), Margaret Chia (Serangoon), and Kuehsamy Ponnusamy (Yishun). The RFGs usually meet once a month—on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday night—for fellowship, prayer, Bible study, singing, discussions on Christian living, workshops, outings, recreational activities, and fellowship over food. The groups are involved in assembly activities like Sunday Gospel Meeting, COPA Cookery and evangelistic outreach. The RFGs have combined meetings or outings once a year. Members of each group are closely connected through WhatsApp and telephone calls where they enquire, care, share, and pray for one another.

During the period when COVID-19 restrictions were in place, RFGs continued to meet online via Zoom and members encouraged one another through WhatsApp chats and phone calls. After restrictions were lifted, hybrid meetings (Zoom and physical meetings) were held.



Choa Chu Kang RFG 2024

SHARING FROM MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES



MELLY SIM
Committee Secretary

It has been my honour to serve as the RFG Committee Secretary since 2005, ensuring continuity and stability in our leadership.

We are thankful that our Lord, who is unchanging, gives unchanging love, unfailing care, and resources to us, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to learn to trust in the Lord.

The value and vision of small groups are similar to that of Moses—to meet the needs of the people. RFG’s vision is to foster a happy spirit for those living in the same district, to share, love, fellowship, pray, and study God’s Word.



Bedok RFG



MARGARET CHIA
Serangoon RFG

I joined Serangoon RFG in 1985. Today, we have 20 members who meet on the second Saturday of each month.

Despite the challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic years, our members continued to meet monthly, adapting first to online Zoom meetings and then to small home gatherings when restrictions were lifted. This resilience and commitment to fellowship are a testament to our shared faith.

Our community’s caring nature was evident when two of our faithful brothers passed away, and their widows, Evelyn and Grace, continued to attend and participate in RFG activities. We also offered and accepted love and support when two families faced the challenge of their sons’ cancer diagnoses this year.



Serangoon RFG

It is our prayer and hope that the Serangoon RFG will continue to grow, and we extend a warm invitation to anyone who is not in RFG to join us on this journey of faith and fellowship.



ROBERT HMAR
Hougang RFG



Hougang RFG

Hougang RFG began humbly in the early 1990s, with a small group of families living around the Hougang estate.

Over the decades, members have experienced God’s faithfulness in their spiritual journeys. As their children grew, married, and started families, most members remained steadfast in fellowship, embracing transgenerational parenting. A significant highlight from 2010 onwards was the presence of many octogenarians in the group, including Mr and Mrs Sek Loong Kwong and Leong Mun Fye, who have since been called home to

glory. The presence of our current octogenarian members—Leong Sow Yoong, Kurian Mariamma, and Lee Wai Sum—motivates and strengthens my commitment to serve on the Bethesda Silver Club committee.

In the late 2000s, home and hospital visitations, individual and small group Bible studies, and hymn singing became more frequent to encourage those facing age-related health challenges. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we adapted by transitioning to online Zoom meetings for our monthly gatherings, ensuring no disruption in fellowship.

Events and Testimony

We are thankful to Adrin Loi and Jennifer for hosting Christmas and Thanksgiving gatherings every year for many years. We are deeply grateful to the Lord for the dedication of the Hougang brethren in leading Bible studies. Sisters enrich RFG gatherings with delicious potluck. We are in touch with Janice Chan, Margaret Chew, Kurian Mariamma, and Tan Ah Lim & Susan, who have not returned since the COVID-19 pandemic, and we appreciate their continued support and prayers.

Vision for the Future

We are grateful to God for enabling the Hougang RFG members to journey together in caring for and encouraging one another. This proves that Jesus Christ remains the same yesterday and today—faithful in answering our prayers and guiding our service amid the ever-changing world.





ELIZABETH WONG
Ang Mo Kio RFG



Ang Mo Kio RFG

In the early years, our gatherings were lively with lots of young children. But now, our RFGs are mostly made up of senior believers, as the kids have grown up and started their own families. They gather for support and encouragement.

Ang Mo Kio RFG has around 33 members at each meeting, which takes place at the assembly premises on the last Friday of every month. Despite the name, our groups are open to believers from all over Singapore. We have members from different districts and everyone is welcome.

During the COVID-19 period, we had to adapt and move our gatherings online, and our senior members quickly picked up the Zoom technology. We did lose a few members who couldn't continue with the online meetings. We also saw acts of kindness, like surprise food deliveries after our

Zoom sessions and brothers delivering meals to encourage members during the Circuit Breaker. One brother even took care of the plants in the assembly garden, and we enjoyed the fruit of his labour.

Our gatherings are casual and relaxed, initially being hosted in someone's home. But with everyone's busy schedules, it can be challenging to keep up the meetings. However, we recognise the importance of fellowship and the impact we can have on each other's lives.

As believers, we are called to love one another and as we continue to love the Lord, we grow stronger in unity with our fellow believers. Our unity is what binds us together and makes us stronger. Let's continue to bond with each other and make a difference in each other's lives.



25 Nov. 2023

Assembly Evangelistic Committee Sub-Committees

Digital Media Committee (DMC)

In response to the 'new normal' brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, Digital Media Committee (DMC) was set up as a working sub-committee in the Assembly Evangelistic Committee to enable the assembly to evangelise in the digital age. The sub-committee is led by Andrew He and made up of three teams: Video Editing, Social Media, and Logistics and Public Announcement.

The DMC provides digital media support at the monthly gospel meetings by setting up the PA system for the physical service, including support for congregational singing by Music Interest Group. It also records, edits and manages the broadcast of the gospel services via Zoom and YouTube. In addition, the DMC creates publicity materials (e.g. posters, gif and videos) for the assembly's social media platforms and e-invites for



2020 Christmas Day

members to send to their friends and family. Recently, the DMC has assisted in the updating and formatting of photos and videos of the different ministries and events on the assembly website.

Music Interest Group

Be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart. (Eph. 5:18–19)

Music Interest Group (MIG) started officially in November 2020, and was born from the need to support online assembly events due to COVID-19, improve the overall

music quality of the assembly's events, and provide an opportunity for members to serve with their musical talents. Melissa Fong spearheaded the effort to start the MIG, under the oversight of Johnson Chua, by approaching and recruiting a team of musicians, vocalists, music directors, music co-ordinators and PA support.



2020 Thanksgiving

The MIG established its role as a supporting ministry that facilitates congregational singing at evangelistic and special events. As BAMK expanded its range of musical instruments used to accompany congregational singing, it was critical to understand the spiritual impact of music. The MIG was therefore responsible for ensuring the Biblical accuracy and quality of the lyrics, musical style and genre of songs played, and the roles of each instrument and vocalist.

In light of these considerations, Izumi Tan hosted a MIG discussion in May 2019 on the role of music in Biblical worship and singing. He presented historical and modern-day examples to help the MIG and assembly understand the important role music plays in our spiritual walk with God.

In 2021 to 2023, MIG recognised the need to equip and upskill musicians and vocalists to create music that is suitable for congregational singing. As a result, three workshops were conducted: vocalist training with an external voice coach, guitar 101 training with Joel Lim, and percussion 101 training with Michelle Tan. More than 30 members attended these training sessions and went on to play for gospel meetings. A committee of nine members was also formed to support the growth of the ministry. Many of them shared valuable feedback and suggestions that led to improvements in the structure and communication of the MIG.



MIG during COVID-19

In 2024, a clear SOP was formed with rostered musicians and vocalists for every gospel meeting and special event, improving the cohesiveness of music teams as they could consistently practise together. A total of 40 members have served in MIG in 2024 alone. New instruments were also introduced selectively to improve the quality of music at selected events and meetings. These included the synthesiser, bass guitar, electric guitar, and digital drum pad. Due to family commitments, Melissa Fong handed over the co-ordinator role to Michelle Tan.

As the assembly is edified through the use of music accompaniments, the MIG hopes to continue serving the assembly by uplifting and encouraging members to draw nearer to God.

Building Committee (Renewal and Extension)

Much has changed in church land acquisition since 1864. The assembly began in a humble room at 108 Bencoolen Street, then moved to a modest single-storey building at 77 Bras Basah Road. Today, the saints gather in a six-storey building at 601 Ang Mo Kio Avenue 4.

Since securing the Ang Mo Kio site on 22 Feb. 1983 through a land relocation exercise, BAMK completed a full 30-year land lease cycle on 21 Feb. 2013. The lease was subsequently renewed for another 30 years, until February 2043, at a cost of \$8.4 million (excluding legal fees, stamp duty and GST). An additional \$10 million was used for a major Addition and Alteration (A&A) exercise, as much of the 30-year-old building had

outlived its function. By God's grace, all the monies for the land lease renewal and the A&A works were generously contributed by the saints of the assembly.

30 years will soon come to pass—if the Lord has not returned. Come 2043, we anticipate a reasonable land cost escalation. Over the last 161 years, the Lord has not failed to establish local testimonies and provide the saints at BAMK with a place of testimony. We are confident that, if the Lord tarries, He will see us through another round of lease renewal. Hallelujah! We can confidently claim the immutable attributes of God and our Lord Jesus Christ, as He remains faithful to His church (Heb. 10:23; 13:8).

Building Services Committee

The Building Services Committee (BSC) oversees the maintenance of the building at BAMK, and previously oversaw BDW as well, until it attained autonomy. The BSC conducts regular maintenance tasks, fixes major building issues, and makes building improvements. The BSC comprises the Flower Arrangement, Garden Interest Group, and Public Announcement subgroups. It resumed at BAMK after the completion of the A&A works, with Goh Aik Tiong serving as chairman from 2015 to 2017. Wong Tuck Keong has been the advisor,

and Andrew He has been the activity administrative officer since 2015.

In April 2021, 17 representatives from BAMK and Singapore Gospel Halls (SGH) formed a Digital Audio Video (AV) group to consider the upgrading of the AV system on the premises. Most of the AV system upgrade was successfully completed in April 2022, while the studio room was only completed in September/October 2022 due to the unavailability of certain items.

[The sisters’] unwavering contributions, enthusiasm, and skills—offered in service to the Lord—are deeply appreciated. Each week, different sisters from the assembly volunteer to provide this service, coordinated through the assembly office

Flower Arrangement

Over the past decade, the assembly has been blessed with beautiful floral displays adorning the pulpit each Sunday. This lovely enhancement has been made possible by a group of dedicated and generous sisters, whose commitment to this ministry shines brightly. Their unwavering contributions, enthusiasm, and skills—offered in service to the Lord—are deeply appreciated. Each week, different sisters from the assembly volunteer to provide this service, coordinated through the assembly office, truly beautifying the main hall and giving glory to God.

The flower arrangement team is coordinated by Wong Tuck Keong, with the faithful involvement of sisters such as Amy Chow, Choy Wai Fann, Ann Chua, Eva Sek, Amy Tan, Christina Tan, Lynn Tan, Elizabeth Wong, and Doris Young—all of whom have played an integral role in this meaningful endeavour. Their efforts have not only beautified the worship hall but also contributed to a warm and inviting atmosphere for our congregation.



Garden Interest Group

In 2020, amidst the challenges of COVID-19, the Garden Interest Group (GIG) was established. Inspired by a vision to beautify the assembly's landscape, Jerry Young took on the responsibility of maintaining the grounds. With strong encouragement from the church leadership, Jerry committed to visiting the hall at least twice a week to tend to the plants, ensuring they received the water and care needed to thrive. Over the years, he, along with other enthusiastic members, has generously invested in this ministry by purchasing soil, tools, and various plants, enhancing the beauty of the assembly premises. Each Sunday, potted plants beautify the concourse, transforming it into a vibrant space filled with life and colour. The GIG also displays potted plants on Sundays when no sister has been rostered for the flower arrangement display in the main hall.

The fruits of their labour have been evident as the assembly has a flourishing garden, complete with blooming flowers and the occasional harvest of papayas, as well as unique varieties of chillies, bananas, and water apples. In 2023, the interest in gardening expanded when several brethren, including Elizabeth Wong, Kam Yew Ming, Seow Yuhan, and Jerry Young, organised a highly attended session on gardening tips. This event attracted over 30 eager participants, each receiving potted plants free of charge as a token of encouragement to start their gardening journeys.

Looking ahead, we envision the GIG becoming an even more vital part of the assembly's mission. We earnestly



pray that the Lord will sustain and grow this ministry, allowing members to further beautify both the pulpit and assembly grounds. We seek to testify to His goodness and the dedication of His people in caring for His property. There is still much work to be done, and we wholeheartedly encourage anyone with a desire to contribute to this meaningful initiative to step forward. Every effort made—no matter how small—plays a significant role in fulfilling His purpose and bringing glory to Him.



Public Announcement

In September 2015, the Public Announcement (PA) system sub-group resumed its duties in the newly renovated hall at BAMK, supporting and enhancing the teaching and preaching ministry during weekly meetings and special events. Many of the members attended in-house training sessions conducted by service providers to learn how to operate the new stage lighting, audio, and video systems. In addition to supporting meetings and events, the PA ministry also supported the MIG and Choir during their rehearsals. The PA is also in charge of the newly-built studio. Kuehsamy Ponnusamy was the PA co-ordinator from 2015 until 2023, when Andrew He took over.

From March to June 2020, all services were put on hold due to COVID-19. Members continued to provide support and service via online platforms. A new Zoom team was formed to support the two main meetings of the assembly (Breaking of Bread Worship Service and Tuesday Prayer Meeting) and some special meetings which had to



be conducted online via Zoom and YouTube. A music backup team by Kum Yew Meng and his family supported the online meetings. After COVID-19 restrictions were lifted and the congregation was allowed to return to physical meetings, the Zoom team continued to support online broadcast of the meetings for members who are unable to attend the meetings physically. The team was coordinated by Chan Man Wong.

Bethesda Choir

The Bethesda Choir meets for weekly practices on Mondays, except for a 1-month mid-year break in June. They rehearse and prepare to minister and encourage through songs at Gospel Services, Annual Meetings, Thanksgiving Services, as well as Easter and Christmas Services. Over the past 10 years, the Choir's membership has ranged from 26 to 40 members.

Lee Chong Kiat served as the Choir director until 2018. January 2018 was a significant milestone as the Choir transitioned into two groups following the autonomy of BDW. Thereafter, Lee Chong Kiat continued to lead the Choir at BDW, while Marvin Wee led the Choir at BAMK.

Between March 2020 to February 2022, the situation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic served as a challenge for the Choir as activities had to be put on hold due to government-mandated restrictions. The members of the Choir adapted by learning songs independently and recording their performances for virtual meetings. In February 2022, the Choir could resume regular

practices while adhering to safety guidelines. In December 2022, the Choir performed its first full cantata following the COVID-19 hiatus.



2017 Christmas at BDW



2018 Christmas at BAMK



MARVIN WEE

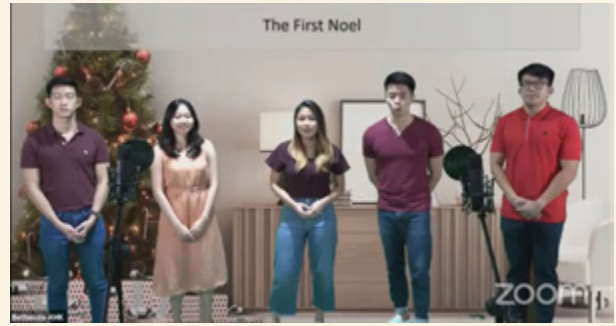
With hearts full of gratitude, the Bethesda Choir has witnessed the Lord's faithfulness over the many, many years spanning the history of Bethesda Hall. In a world that is easily swayed by unpredictability and uncertainty, we hold steadfast to the immutable assurance that God's truth will forever stand the test of time.



2019 Easter Conference

The members of the Bethesda Choir meet for practice every Monday. On top of other assembly meetings such as the Prayer Meeting on Tuesdays and the Breaking of Bread Service on Sundays, we are often asked if meeting on Mondays is tiring for us. As the Choir director, I believe that I speak on behalf of each member that the converse is true—we are rejuvenated and spiritually lifted after every rehearsal session on Mondays. This empowerment has thus sustained the Choir for several generations, with several members now in their golden years, having sung in the Choir tirelessly for decades on end. For a few of them, I am the fourth director they have served with, as I have had the privilege of walking the path paved for me by generations of directors before me, including Lee Chong Kiat, Lee Chin Gee, and Robert Tan.

The latest handover was in 2018, when I took over the directorship from Chong Kiat. This handover



2020 Christmas Gospel Meeting

flowed as a natural progression after BDW became an autonomous assembly, and Chong Kiat continued to serve in the Choir ministry in BDW. That period of change also brought much uncertainty, as the membership strength of the Choir was slated to split in half. Praise be to God, after making announcements for more members to join the Choir, we increased the membership from 15 members to over 30 and have kept the numbers consistent up to 2024.

As we continue our ministry of music and singing in the years ahead, we are continually inspired by the eternal nature of Christ's love, mercy and grace. Every believer's journey is filled with both times of joy and moments of sorrow. The music we make in service to God is a reminder to us that the One we worship remains the same, no matter the season of change we face. Through it all, we can trust that as we offer our voices in worship, God will be present and unwavering, and His faithfulness eternal.



2022 Christmas Eve



2024 Easter Gospel Meeting

Library

The library is used as a place for members to read, interact with others and prepare lessons. The library at BAMK paused its services during the A&A works and recommenced operations in November 2015. At BAMK, the role of advisor has been held by Wong Tuck Keong since 2016, while the role of chairman has been served by Kelvin Ng from 2016 to 2019, Surendra Babu Manne from 2019 to 2021 and David Rigel Magsipoc since 2021.

The library is a resource of quality printed Christian literature for edification and Bible study. Reopened after renovations, it is located on Level 3 and serves both BAMK and SGH, offering book titles in both English and Chinese. The library is open from 10:15–11:00 a.m. every Sunday, except on fifth Sundays. Bethesda Library is also the custodian of all audio messages. Since 2018/2019, recordings of messages by local and invited speakers have been made available in the digital archives.

In 2018, the library saw an increase in junior (i.e. children) members after book reviews were held at Sunday School classes. In 2019, publicity campaigns, which included

Publicity campaigns, which included Library Tours, Story-Telling and Show and Tell Sessions, and Book Reviews, were targeted at different Sunday School groups.

Library Tours, Story-Telling and Show and Tell Sessions, and Book Reviews, were targeted at different Sunday School groups. In addition, a monthly list of pre-selected books and book availability were blasted to CEP leaders and group chats. Relevant books were also suggested to YP members on Saturdays, on a monthly basis. In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions, the library was closed, although the librarians continued to share prayer requests and encourage each other on the group chat. The library reopened to assembly members on 12 Jun. 2022, after relocating to Room 301. In the reporting period 2022–2023, children formed the majority of the borrowers (67%).



Library 2020



DAVID RIGEL MAGSIPOC

I foresee that this ministry will continue to inspire people to be readers and seekers of God's Word.

The Library is a trusted and reliable resource of the assembly to know the Living Word (Jesus) through the printed Word (Bible). With technological changes over time (i.e. cassette, CDs, MP3/4, podcasts, e-books, videos, etc.), the message of the gospel and the character of Jesus Christ is still the same as ever. This ministry is quiet and a solace for those who seek quiet reflection in their study.

Contained in the library are recorded messages that hold teachings relevant to our study of the Word of God and in our daily Christian living. In the past 10 years, there has been an attempt to convert existing cassettes into CDs, with some re-converted to MP3s. This was performed by our sister Claris and a few other brethren. Their attempt to preserve as much of the past ministry in a sustainable format is a labour of love, as the task is extremely time consuming.

The library was re-homed multiple times after the church lease renewal. During the COVID-19 period,

the library was moved to Room 301. A lot of effort and manpower was needed for the move. We give thanks for all the librarians, volunteers, and the previous chairman Kelvin, who, with his experience, helped a lot during the process. We removed old books, conducted a stock-take, system update (with a new laptop), and moved the books.

These events of updating and reconverting old messages and resources to new places and formats demonstrate that the message of old is relevant to the present. The same God decades ago is the same God today.

I foresee that this ministry will continue to inspire people to be readers and seekers of God's Word. With the turn of the digital age and the decline of printed media, who knows if the library will still exist in its current form. What new library systems would we then use and what new books would we catalogue? I pray that those who grew up reading in the library will continue to read and grow in God's Word.



Library 2022

Newsletter Committee

Spearheaded by our former elder Lawrence Chan, the Newsletter Ministry was incepted in 1986 and has been an enduring ministry within BAMK. The ministry has been blessed with articles contributed by members, past and present. William Koh served as the chairman from 2014 to 2016, with Tan Jing Poi as the advisor from 2014 to 2017. At the close of 2018—following a difficult 2-year hiatus—the ministry was reformed with a new committee under the guidance of our current advisor, Wong Tuck Keong. The team has grown from six in 2014, to 19 in 2023.

In January 2015, the newsletter had a design overhaul, the first big change since 2009. In line with the A&A works and relocation of the congregation to Saint Andrew's Village and BDW, the circulation was decreased to 500. In January 2016, the committee organised a training on Adobe Indesign for young assembly members keen to learn to do design and layout for the newsletter. In July 2016, a Young Writers Workshop on how to write and edit articles was conducted. However, the ministry did face its own set of challenges. Through 2017 and 2018, it struggled to find its footing due to a changing leadership and the lack of a strong identity. In 2018, the newsletter was revived with an overhauled design, a clearer organisational and editorial structure, and above all a renewed sense of purpose for God's work. After much prayer and surrender, the newsletter committee launched its first issue titled *Envision, Enlistment and Encouragement* to kick off 2019. To reach a wider

In 2018, the newsletter was revived with an overhauled design, a clearer organisational and editorial structure, and above all a renewed sense of purpose for God's work.

audience, in addition to placing printed newsletters at the back of the hall, the soft copy is sent by the assembly office to assembly members via email and WhatsApp broadcast, and also uploaded on the assembly's website. Since the April 2020 issue, printed copies have been posted to assembly members with limited access to the internet. By God's grace, we have enjoyed 6 years of fruit, having published 24 issues containing numerous teaching, testimony and reflective articles—each a unique story of God's sovereign hand in our assembly.

It is the committee's hope that the newsletter ministry will continue to endure and grow for many years, if the Lord wills. The newsletter is almost like a written testimony of our assembly, recording not just the labour and blessings of the assembly's work, but also the stories and lives of the very people that join this body, with Christ as the Head. We pray that members will continue to come forth cheerfully to offer up their stories and continue to support the ministry by reading the newsletters, that we may all be edified, to the glory of God. While this ministry serves to provide a written account of how God has been active within our assembly, we are reminded and moved that we are ourselves *a letter from Christ, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts* (2 Cor. 3:3).

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Refreshment Committee



So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. (1 Cor. 13:13)

The refreshment team tirelessly provides coffee, tea and finger food after Morning Ministry weekly, so that members of the assembly can be refreshed in fellowship. Refreshment time is an opportunity for members to get to know each other and newcomers. Eating together, conversing and enjoying fellowship encourages one another in the faith and builds bonds for the ministry of the assembly. In addition, refreshments are provided for special meetings (e.g. CEP and Sunday School leaders and teachers' meetings, Gospel Meetings, Watchnight Services and other large meetings).

The refreshment team at BAMK has been led by several sisters in the assembly: Chong Lai Wah (2014–2021), Loh Lai Chun (2015–2016), Sarah Daniel (2016–2017), and Shirley Ong (since 2017). Chong Kim Chow served as the advisor until Lau Hong Choon took over in 2021. Some sisters would arrive very early on Sunday mornings to set up the breakfast tables and utensils, so that refreshments can be served immediately after the Morning Ministry. Dedicated members will also clean and wash up after the refreshment service. Members, along with different activity groups such as the CEP groups, Chinese and Tamil meeting groups, Sunday School teachers, and Sisters' Ministry, also lovingly contribute to sharing their blessings through food contribution and preparation.



Refreshment on Sunday morning

When BAMK had A&A works and moved to Saint Andrew's Village, the team continued to prepare refreshments. At the end of 2015, the congregation returned to the premises at Ang Mo Kio, and the team prepared a food section with a separate beverage section.

During the COVID-19 years, from February 2020 to March 2022, church meetings and fellowship gatherings almost came to a halt because of restrictions on gathering, meetings or fellowship numbers. Hence, there was no need for the provision of refreshments. However, the ministry kept the faith and hope that our Lord Jesus will bring the pandemic to pass, so that the body life of the church may return quickly. The ministry looked to our Lord Jesus for His grace.

After March 2022, when the COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, the brethren, infused with the love of God, were ready to revive the body life of the church and of Christ. As the dedicated team aged and faced physical infirmities, the refreshment duties were handed over to a younger team who quickly stepped up to serve. Morning refreshments resumed on 8 May 2022.

The refreshment committee is very much encouraged by the brethren who have shown the meaning of the love of Christ. We, as a Church, honour ONLY JESUS, who is the source of the grace of life, not only for the individuals, but also for the body life of the church.

The refreshment committee and the church rejoice in the Lord Jesus Christ who *is the same yesterday and today and forever* (Heb. 13:8). We now hope and prepare for the next generation to take over the mantle of this ministry if He is yet to come. Our vision is to make it known to all—'Christ Jesus' undying love and His lovingkindness.'

Chapter 6

Church Leadership and God's Faithfulness: Reflecting on 40 Years of Guiding the Flock at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio)

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. (Heb. 10:23)

INTRODUCTION

As we reflect on God's faithfulness over the years, we are reminded that His promises never fail. The leadership of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) (BAMK) has not been sustained by human wisdom alone, but by the unwavering faithfulness of God, who has guided each generation with divine wisdom and strength.

Over the decades, BAMK has witnessed countless challenges, triumphs, and moments of grace that have shaped its identity. Many of such moments are covered in other parts of this book. Through it all, God's guiding hand has been evident, providing direction, strength, and wisdom to those who have served in leadership. This chapter aims to provide some insight into the lives of those who have served since our beginnings at Ang Mo Kio in 1985, with the hope that it will inspire us to greater thanksgiving and rededication to God.

Church leadership, at its core, is more than organisational management or structure. It is a sacred calling to serve, shepherd, and lead God's people with humility, vision, and integrity. This responsibility has been passed down from generation to generation—each set of elders, deacons and commended workers building on the foundation of those who came before them, all the while trusting in God's faithfulness to sustain and guide.

This chapter captures the heart of our assembly's leadership journey, looking back at key moments that have defined our path and the lessons learnt along the way. Through personal reflections and testimonies, we hope to inspire a deeper appreciation for God's faithfulness and to encourage the next generation of leaders to walk boldly in His guidance.



Some elders and deacons

Back row, left to right: Wan Yin Chi, Nathaniel Sim, Jeffrey Jee, Kam Yew Chuen, William Chew, Wong Yong Jian, Matthew Chia, Chan Wai Kiong, Daniel Skelton, Benjamin Chia, Izumi Tan, Kum Yew Ming.

Front row, left to right: Wong Tuck Keong, Felix Lim, Tan Chee Hwee, Chan Man Wong, Gerald Sim, Linus Tan, Tan Jing Poi, Keith Wan

THE EARLY YEARS: HUMBLE BEGINNINGS AND A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

When BAMK first began in 1986, its leadership was driven by a deep conviction that God had called them to shepherd His people in this new community. Resources were limited, and the road ahead was uncertain, but the leaders were united in faith and prayer.

One of the elders recalls:

“We did not have a grand blueprint or an abundance of resources, but we had a firm belief that God would provide. We prayed fervently for guidance, for wisdom, and for hearts that would remain steadfast. Looking back, it is clear that God was with us every step of the way—leading, sustaining, and blessing the work.”

Another leader, reflecting on his long journey in service, shared:

“When I first gave my life to the Lord in 1975, my response to the Lord who gave me life and life more abundantly was that I would serve Him with my life ... That briefly covered 50 years of my life. To sum up, the verse that aptly described it all is Mark chapter 10 verse 45: *NOT to be served, but to serve and to give ...*”

SEASONS OF CHALLENGE: TRUSTING IN GOD'S SUSTAINING HAND

As the assembly grew, so did the responsibilities of leadership. The elders and deacons faced decisions that required wisdom beyond their own understanding. Economic downturns, shifting societal values, and challenges within the church body all tested the endurance of those called to lead. One elder shares a poignant memory from the 2000s:

“The time in our assembly history that we all wanted to forget but cannot forget was the sorrowful memory of 2005 when we suffered a ‘split’ of membership due to some biblical principles that were favourites of some so-called ‘learned’ leaders. Many hearts were broken, as well as families, but the greatest pain was the stain/scar left behind by those who did not consider the gravity of their actions. It took many years for us to forgive and forget, but these things don’t disappear easily.”

At times, leadership also meant facing personal criticisms and opposition. One elder reflected on the unity of the leadership team in the face of such challenges:

“One of the most unforgettable moments centres around the unwavering unity of the elders. They stood shoulder to shoulder, shielding each other from the stinging criticisms and jealousy that occasionally arose from less mature members. As leaders, we must take a hard look at ourselves to discern whether the criticism is valid. If it is not, we find strength in affirming our commitment to serve the Lord rather than seeking the approval of men. When faced with criticism, our response is simply, ‘Pray for us.’”



MOMENTS OF JOY: WITNESSING GOD'S WORK



Church leadership is not only about navigating challenges but also about celebrating God's goodness. There have been countless moments of joy—baptisms, mission endeavours, and the expansion of ministry efforts—that have reaffirmed God's hand at work.

One deacon recalls a particularly moving baptism service:



We had spent months discipling a group of young believers. Seeing them step into the waters of baptism, publicly declaring their faith, was a powerful moment. It reminded us why we serve—to lead others closer to Christ. Their testimonies of how God had transformed their lives were a testament to His faithfulness.



17 Nov. 2024 Ministry Leaders Retreat

LESSONS LEARNT: THE HEART OF FAITHFUL LEADERSHIP

Reflecting on the decades of leadership at BAMK, several key lessons emerge—truths that have been ingrained through experience and shaped by God’s hand:



1. Leadership is a Calling, not a Position

This calling is not just a title; it’s an incredible privilege bestowed upon us by the Lord Himself.

2. God’s Faithfulness is the Anchor

How real is our God—proven not once but twice in providing for our assembly’s needs!

3. Prayer is the Foundation

When I was involved in the acquisition of the hall at

10 Depot Walk ... Having received news of the huge amount we needed to raise brought us to our knees. Lo and behold, we stood amazed at the generous giving of the assembly.

4. Humility and Dependence on God are Essential

Biblical leadership means leading with God’s love, exemplifying godliness, working diligently, and being prepared to endure hardships in His service.



LOOKING AHEAD: TRUSTING GOD FOR THE FUTURE

As BAMK looks to the future, the call to leadership remains unchanged: to be faithful stewards of what God has entrusted to us. The challenges may differ, but the God who sustained us in the past is the same God who will lead us forward.

One leader reflects on what keeps him going in ministry:

“

If I didn't experience God's power or see spiritual growth, I may have been tempted to step aside for someone new. Thankfully, I am surrounded by passionate believers who eagerly engage with scripture and share their faith, contributing to the vibrant life of our assembly. I feel like I'm carrying on a legacy, akin to constructing a sturdy house. The challenging groundwork—digging, pouring cement, and laying the foundation—has already been laid by pioneers before me, and now I have the privilege of leading this family.

”

One current elder shares his vision for the years ahead:

“

We must continue to raise up the next generation of leaders—men and women who will stand firm on God's Word and lead with integrity. Our prayer is that they will build on the foundation laid before them, always trusting in God's unchanging faithfulness.

”

Leadership in the church is not about a single individual or even a single generation—it is about faithfulness in every season, with eyes fixed on Christ. May we remain faithful as He is faithful.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. (Lam. 3:22–23)

Special thanks to the following brothers and sisters who contributed to this chapter: Valerie Kwan, William Chew, Chong Kim Chow, Khoo Oon Soo, Daniel Skelton, Tan Chee Hwee, Tay Kim Swee and Wong Tuck Keong

Chapter 7

Extraordinary Circumstances (COVID-19)

We turn now to reflect on the global upheaval caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Though it was an unprecedented experience for most of us, the crisis powerfully revealed the steadfast and unchanging nature of the God we serve.

INTRODUCTION

We began 2020 filled with excitement and hope for the start of a new decade. As the novelty of the new year faded, an unforeseen challenge quickly emerged. In a time when toilet paper became unexpectedly valuable and a simple cough evoked fear reminiscent of biblical leprosy, we were thrust into an experience unlike anything before. By March 2020, following national guidelines and after prayerful deliberation by its leaders, Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) (BAMK) made the decision to suspend in-person gatherings. Services were shifted to online platforms to help curb the spread of COVID-19.

Over time, the assembly acclimated to the so-called 'new normal,' though it was, in truth, a far cry from anything familiar. Amidst the continual revisions to government directives in response to the evolving pandemic, we give thanks to God for His all-sufficient and abundant grace, which enabled the assembly to navigate these profound changes and, most importantly, to sustain our testimony, worship, and ministry.



When physical gatherings in church were being put on hold, the leadership of BAMK sought alternative ways to reach out to assembly members. In the early months of the pandemic, the Assembly Care & Connect (AC&C) initiative provided an outlet for members to receive support during the challenging times of the pandemic—whether practical, financial or emotional—from other members who could meet such needs. The AC&C initiative took the form of a six-pillar framework consisting of the following:

- 1) Dialogue with Elders;
- 2) Checking in on the Elderly;
- 3) Resources to go to;
- 4) Sharing Acts of Kindness;
- 5) Advice and Support;
- 6) Giving Help

PILLAR

1

Dialogue with Elders

Dialogue sessions were convened between the elders and the various activity groups within the assembly to provide a platform for members to express their concerns and offer feedback to the leadership. These engagements proved valuable

in bringing to light the challenges encountered by the activity groups and in identifying ways the leadership could offer more effective support amidst the constraints imposed by the pandemic.



PILLAR

2

Checking in on the Elderly



AC&C encouraging elderly saints

Acknowledging that the elderly were especially vulnerable to isolation during periods when physical gatherings were restricted, the well-being of senior members within the assembly was treated as a matter of priority. Regular phone calls were made to check in on the elderly and those who were unwell, with any needs raised

during these calls promptly attended to by the AC&C team. Visitations were carried out to assist with errands, mobile phone troubleshooting, as well as to share in singing and fellowship. While addressing practical needs remained a key concern, these check-ins also sought to provide spiritual encouragement and refreshment to our elderly members.

PILLAR

3

Resources to go to

The AC&C team provided practical assistance to members who wished to apply for various forms of assistance schemes and support programmes

made available by government agencies or community organisations by walking members through the application processes.

Sharing Acts of Kindness

During this season of physical separation, the AC&C team sought to encourage the assembly to continue spurring *one another on to love and good deeds* (Heb. 10:24). At the outset, members were invited to share stories of kindness they had received, which were then shared with the rest of the assembly to uplift and encourage. As time went on, different members were interviewed about their personal experiences—whether

serving in healthcare, undergoing quarantine orders or stay-home notices, or facing challenges in their businesses. These stories were compiled into videos and written reflections, which were shared via the assembly's WhatsApp broadcast channel. Through these glimpses into one another's lives, members were moved to pray more intentionally and support one another in deeper, more meaningful ways.



A snippet of one of the written reflections

TELL US MORE ABOUT YOURSELF!

Benjamin: I'm 31 years old and I work in the Housing and Development Board (HDB). Within the assembly, I serve as a deacon and also in the Young People's (YP) Ministry with the Junior Boys (13-15 year olds).

Melinda: I'm 30 years old and currently on maternity leave from my work as a political analyst, looking at geopolitics in Southeast Asia. I've previously served in ad-hoc ministries.

Baby Noelle has just turned 2 months old. She does not like taking naps in the day, but sleeps quite well at night! She is also starting to smile more at us.

BEHIND THE SCENES: PRAYING FOR COVID-19

A SHARING BY THE ACTS OF KINDNESS TEAM



Another written reflection shared via WhatsApp broadcast

Tell us about yourself!

Hi, I'm Lucius. I've been working as a nurse for 8 years, and have spent the past 2 years working at the National Centre for Infectious Diseases (NCID). Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, I've been working in the outbreak ward in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). I also recently got engaged to a fellow nurse, Melissa. We are planning to get married soon.

How has it been working in the NCID?

It has been a challenging but very rewarding experience! I remember my first encounter with the disease - a night shift assignment at two rooms at the end of the corridor, which had been designated for suspect cases. With little that was known about the disease, I was slightly apprehensive, yet excited to rise to the challenge.

Stringent measures have been implemented in the hospitals to ensure infection control. Interactions with the patients are carried out in full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and N95 masks are worn for the entire day in hospitals. Initially, having to follow these protocols so strictly felt troublesome and tiring. But now, these routines are a part of our muscle memory. Eventually, we began to recognise each other even while decked out in full PPE!

PILLAR

5

Advice and Support

Assembly members readily stepped forward to serve those in need of emotional and spiritual support, medical advice, legal advice, social support and counselling. The AC&C team helped to arrange for home delivery of medicines from polyclinics to seniors and kept in touch with vulnerable saints through visitation, text messaging and phone calls.

Dr Chew is in happy fellowship with Bethesda Hall (AMK). A general practitioner and family physician, he lectures part-time at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine. He has a deep interest in the subject on Coronaviruses and currently maintains a blog (<https://coronaviruses-pandemic.blogspot.com>) to accumulate knowledge about the virus.

Chairman: Mr Sim Chear Wah Speaker: Dr David Chew

COVID Conversation – Past, Present and Future

18th May
8:00 pm
Join Zoom
Meeting ID:
84378419501
Password: 028544

Highlights of the talk:

- ✓ Basic Introduction on COVID-19 and how it compares with SARS/MERS
- ✓ Common symptoms of COVID and disease progression
- ✓ The situation in Singapore and government responses
- ✓ What can we reasonably expect to lie ahead- Coping with social-economical effects of COVID-19

Panellists:

Dr Chong Kim Chow Mr Calvin Koh Mr Tan Jin Song Dr Kwan Pek Yee Ms Valerie Kwan

18 May 2020 COVID-19 Conversation



COVID-19 Conversation participants

PILLAR

6

Giving Help

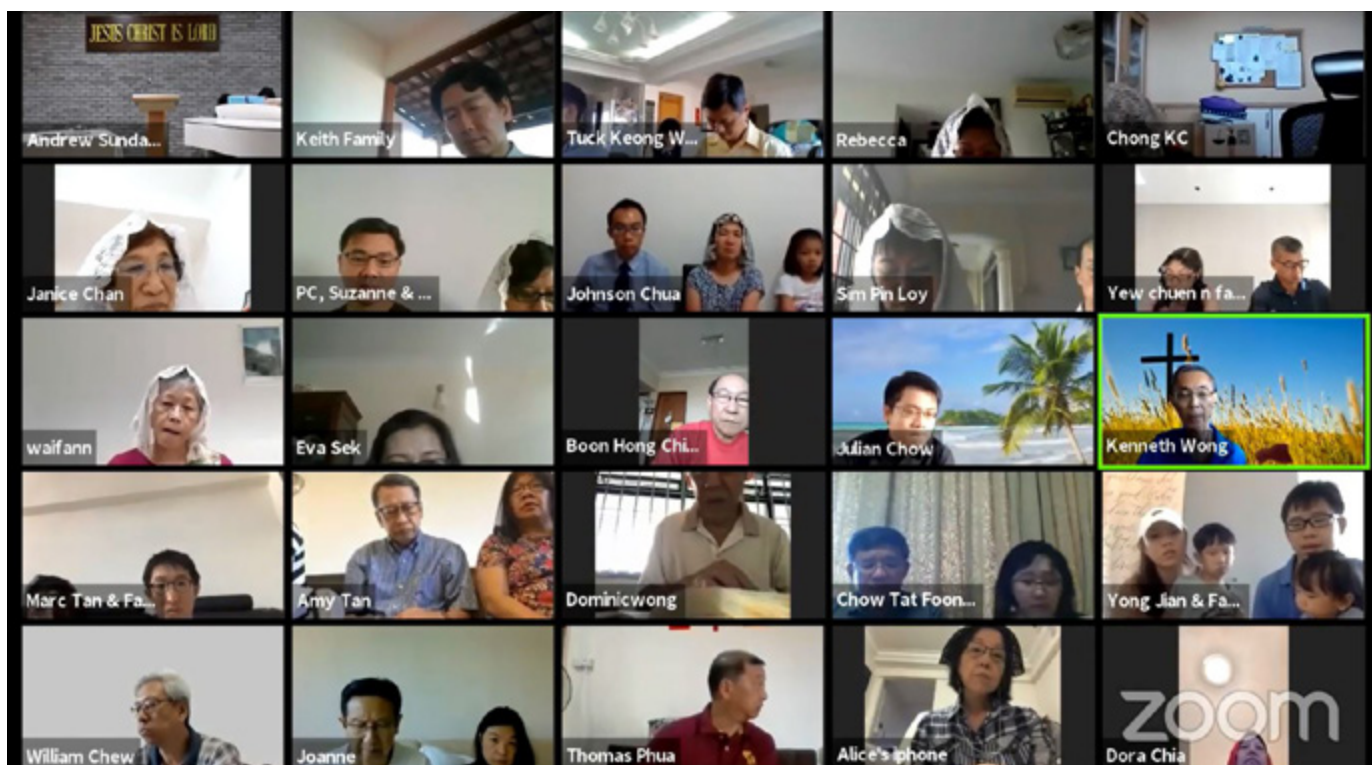
Members who were able and willing to give help were exhorted to do so, to ensure that the help provided by the assembly could be sustained over time.

The assembly implemented a daily initiative where elders and deacons authored short devotional

articles that were shared through the assembly's WhatsApp broadcast channel. This programme later expanded to welcome contributions from brothers and sisters throughout the congregation, enriching the daily devotional content with diverse perspectives from the assembly family.

ZOOM

Thank God for the introduction of Zoom, which allowed the assembly to continue most of its usual meetings, albeit in a remote manner.



5 April 2020 First livestream Zoom worship session

Using Zoom to run our Online Meetings



One of the families that provided musical and vocal accompaniment

Morning worship on Zoom presented the assembly with the novel experience of engaging in corporate worship while being physically far apart. Brothers who wished to participate audibly in the morning worship were required to use the 'raise hand' function on Zoom, following which they would be allowed to unmute themselves to offer a hymn, pray or read from the Bible. The assembly's monthly gospel meetings and weekly prayer meetings followed the same format. Though we longed to return to the hall physically for worship, there was something very heartening about seeing individuals and families alike through their webcams, gathering in their living rooms to praise and worship the God who remains the same amidst changing circumstances.

Attendance at some of the meetings increased with the convenience of this alternative format of participation. Assembly prayer meetings, for example, saw more participants as members made use of the Zoom platform on Tuesday nights.

The Lord provided greatly for the assembly through a capable Public Address team, which undertook various responsibilities that were integral to the running of each session, such as facilitating the order of brothers

who would speak during the meeting and screen-sharing the lyrics of each hymn that was chosen. God provided them with the technical expertise to troubleshoot issues and improve audio and video quality during extended Zoom services. The assembly upgraded its Audio Visual (AV) equipment in the main hall and concourse, ensuring high-quality transmission for both in-person and remote attendees.

We are grateful to the Lord also for His provision through families in the assembly who stepped up to provide the musical and vocal accompaniment each time the assembly gathered for worship.



Another family that provided musical and vocal accompaniment

Special Events

During physical gathering restrictions, our assembly adapted creatively. Event chairmen produced 'virtual choirs' by combining pre-recorded individual singing videos. The Bethesda Music Interest Group (MIG) converted Room 401 into a studio to provide musical

accompaniment. In the few years that we missed the Easter and Christmas cantatas, the Bethesda Choir did pre-recorded performances which were screened at the services.



Clockwise from top left: Youth Gospel Service items by YP / 25 Dec. 2020 Broadcast team for the Christmas Day Service / MIG providing music accompaniment / 20 Dec. 2020 Christmas Gospel Service choir item

The Sunday School (SS) teachers also did not spare any effort in making sure that the Annual Sunday School Prizegiving ceremony could still go on—instead of the usual prize presentation held in the BAMK hall, SS teachers brought the prizes right to their scholars' doorsteps!



SS Prizegiving at the scholars' doorstep

Things That Came out of COVID-19



Special Ministry by David Newell

With online live broadcasts firmly part of the 'new normal', the assembly was able to easily meet with gifted Bible teachers from overseas. Over the 3 years of the pandemic, the assembly had the opportunity to gather on Zoom for the ministry of God's Word by Roger Liebi (Switzerland), David Newell (Scotland), as well as Fred Kosin, Mark Shelley, Raju Kunjummen, and Scott DeGroff (USA).

The Zoom platform also proved particularly useful for the Mission Group. The members of the Mission Group were glad to take up this new format of communication with different overseas missionaries, meeting with them over Zoom for an update on their work and for the sharing of prayer items.

To date, Zoom remains a beneficial and convenient means of conducting of interviews with brothers and sisters from overseas, holding Bible studies and committee meetings, and catering to those with mobility issues or who are unwell.

Of course, not everything could be moved online.



Special Ministry by Scott DeGroff

The Zoom platform also proved particularly useful for the Mission Group. The members of the Mission Group were glad to take up this new format of communication with different overseas missionaries



Overseas Travel

As countries across the globe raced to shut their borders and global travel came to a halt, so did the assembly's short-term missions like the Bethesda Mission Exposure Trip and the Medical, Dental and Eye Care trips. Trips to countries like Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal and the Philippines stopped for 2 years and only resumed in June 2022. We thank the Lord for the resumption of these trips, and for the privilege we have to be His hands and feet in bringing the gospel to foreign lands, serving as His coworkers in the gospel work.

Similarly, the Assembly Bible Camp held annually in Malaysia was halted for 3 years, resuming only in June 2023. While the Assembly Youth Camp (AYC) continued to be held in the pandemic years on the BAMK premises, the youth in our assembly were pleased to be able to return to their beloved campsite in Mersing 2 years after the pandemic began.



AYC 2020



AYC 2021

Members' Thoughts



Caleb Soo



I was not very surprised to receive the announcement to suspend physical church. School had already begun going online, and I remember one teacher telling us during the online classes that we might not return to school anytime soon. It was only a matter of time before church would have to shift too. Although not unexpected, it all happened quite quickly and was more dreadful when it arrived.



Natalie Chia



To be honest, the respite initially felt great because we were always so busy on weekends. But subsequently, I felt sad when physical meetings were suspended indefinitely. There's something about face-to-face interactions that cannot be felt over Zoom, and I truly missed the fellowship we had with one another. I was very excited to return to church for worship and I even remember taking a photo of Matt driving to church on the first Sunday we could go back!





GOING BACK TO THE HALL



It took a long 7 months before COVID-19 infections in Singapore began to embark on a downward trend. Government directives allowed for the assembly to resume worship at physical premises, albeit with a restriction on the number of people who could attend, and numerous safe management measures in place.

In the initial reopening phase, 100 people were permitted to worship at BAMK premises under strict zoning protocols to minimise group interaction and facilitate contact tracing. Members needed to register with the Assembly Office for physical attendance. Temperature checks and SafeEntry QR code scans were mandatory. To prevent COVID-19 transmission via respiratory droplets, congregational singing was prohibited for several months. Instead, two families provided remote musical accompaniment, which was broadcast in the hall as congregants silently meditated on the lyrics.

Over the following months, as government directives evolved to counter the ever-changing COVID-19 situation, the number of people permitted to gather in the hall for in-person worship fluctuated between 50 and 150. More infectious variants of COVID-19 which surfaced in 2021 forced the assembly to revert to having worship fully on Zoom for periods of time. Throughout this time, the assembly undertook a hybrid form of worship, with believers gathering to worship either in the hall or over Zoom.



December 2020 Breaking of Bread worship in four zones

The first sense of normalcy returned to BAMK in April 2022, when the limit of participants allowed in the hall was raised and up to 300 people could gather physically in the hall. Safe distancing measures were no longer required, and congregational singing was allowed, although only with masks on. We were glad to be able to once again enjoy sweet fellowship over Sunday refreshments in May 2022.

Beginning August 2022, worship returned to what it continues to be today. We thank God for the clear communication from the leadership and for wisdom to make difficult decisions, as well as the understanding and cooperation of the members amidst changing guidelines.



December 2020 Main Hall

Members' Thoughts



Seow Xinning



I remember for the first YP singspiration, after restrictions for congregational singing were lifted, we sang There is a Higher Throne and the singing was truly 'thunderous'. The COVID-19 restrictions gave me newfound appreciation for singing and worshipping God together in church.



Chong Kian Seng



COVID-19 has disrupted many traditional practices, prompting us to refine our processes and embrace online meetings. Yet, what I have come to cherish even more is the irreplaceable value of physical gatherings. No virtual experience can ever truly replicate the profound connection and significance of being together in person—just as the Lord chose to come to us physically to fulfill the divine plan of redemption.



Counter for temperature taking during COVID-19



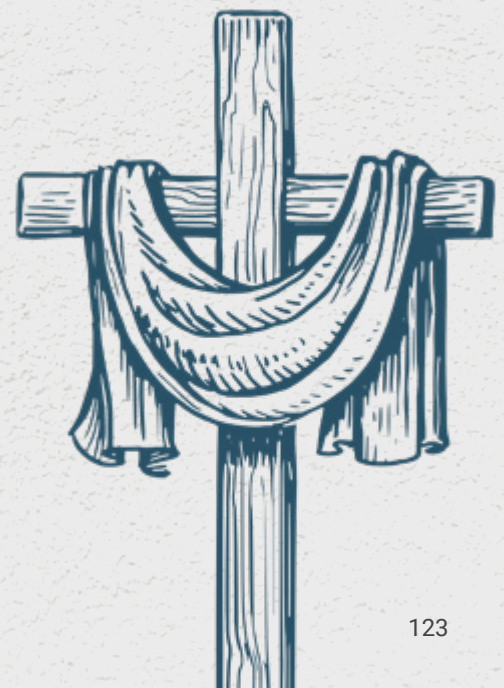
Main hall under COVID-19 restrictions



Amy Chow



A heart of gratitude; thanksgiving to God. I remembered we all sang loudly. For me, I cried with joy to praise God despite the social distancing restrictions. I felt very blessed, knowing that nothing can separate us from God's love. Surely, truly, double confirm.



Practices We Have Kept

Many of the measures implemented during the pandemic have continued till today. In particular, the assembly continues to hold both physical and online meetings for worship, gospel, prayer and other special meetings. While most members have returned to attend physical meetings on the BAMK premises, having the option of attending the meetings online has proven useful for believers who are unable to make it down physically for reasons of illness or immobility.

Apart from holding hybrid meetings, the assembly continues to leverage online media as a means of supporting assembly activities and meetings. To this end, the Digital Media Committee and the Website Committee continues to explore different aspects of evangelism in the digital age, past the pandemic. The work undertaken by these committees has been helpful in expanding our network and communication channels to reach out to our members and to facilitate their invitation of friends and family to assembly meetings.

Thoughts from Some Elders



Chan Man Wong: The Importance of Gathering Physically in a Post-COVID-19 World

“

The COVID-19 pandemic brought about online meetings as a temporary necessity. While these online platforms allowed us to stay connected during COVID-19, they also helped us appreciate the unique blessings of gathering physically.

The scriptures remind us to come together as a body of believers. Hebrews chapter 10 verses 24 to 25 exhorts us to *not neglect meeting together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

Online meetings continue to serve a need for those unable to attend physically due to illness, distance or other legitimate circumstances. However, they should complement and not replace physical gatherings. Despite the

reopening of physical gatherings, some believers continue to favour online meetings. Common reasons include the convenience of attending meetings from home without the need for travel, health concerns or even social anxiety.

Physical gatherings provide an environment where the richness of fellowship, mutual encouragement, and corporate worship can be experienced in ways that online interactions cannot fully replicate.

Online gathering has limited physical connection in that body language, tone, and the warmth of presence are diminished online. Online meetings often make it easier for attendees to disengage or multitask, leading to a passive experience. There are fewer spontaneous interactions.

In-person meetings, on the other hand, create opportunities for personal connection—spontaneous conversations and unspoken warmth of being present with one another. Physical gatherings also allow for tangible expressions of love, such as a handshake, a pat on the back, or a hug. These simple acts convey care and belonging in ways that even the best video call cannot imitate.

Face-to-face interactions also foster deeper connections. Conversations before and after services, shared meals, and group activities create bonds that strengthen relationships, instill accountability and foster spiritual growth. It is easier and more effective to walk alongside someone, mentor, and disciple them when physically present.

Moreover, the collective experience of worshipping together—singing hymns, partaking in the Lord’s Supper, and engaging in open fellowship—bears a witness to the world of our unity in Christ. The early church in Acts chapter 2 verses 42

to 47 prioritised meeting together regularly, devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching, the breaking of bread, and prayer. Their physical presence was a testimony of their shared life in Christ, and the same holds true for us today.

We commend those who have faithfully resumed attending physical meetings since the reopening. Your commitment not only strengthens the body of Christ but also serves as an encouragement to others. Your presence speaks volumes about the value you place on gathering as an assembly and your desire to glorify God through corporate worship and service.

The joy of physical fellowship reflects our ultimate hope: the eternal gathering of believers in the presence of God. Revelation chapter 7 verses 9 to 10 paints a glorious picture of this, where people from every nation, tribe, and language will worship together before the throne. Until that day, let us prioritise meeting together, knowing that our shared fellowship on earth points to the greater communion we will enjoy in heaven.



Johnson Chua: Giving Thanks to God for His Provision



Looking back at the COVID-19 period, we are thankful and bless the Lord for His continued protection, guidance and sustenance of the assembly, its members, and its various ministries through the period in question. We are grateful for His direction in enabling the assembly to continue to function in the areas of worship, witness, fellowship and study of the Word through this period.

We are grateful for the Lord’s provision of funds through the generous giving of the Lord’s people,

which enabled an upgrade of the assembly’s AV equipment to be undertaken. This has been a great support for the gospel, Bible teaching and fellowship opportunities, which have opened up through the use of online and hybrid meeting formats.

Through this period, the assembly has had to re-examine and re-affirm our understanding of assembly gatherings in the light of God’s Word—that physical attendance at assembly gatherings is a privilege and responsibility

that every believer should make every effort to exercise. However, as an assembly, there is also a necessity to support members who are unable to attend physically for health or other reasons.

We also give thanks for the dedication and efforts of members, which allowed many of the assembly's ministries and activities to resume physically gradually over the COVID-19 period, while maximising opportunities using online platforms to re-establish and maintain contact with members, children, and the wider community. Activities included the weekly Saturday and Sunday ministries, AYC, Daily Vacation Bible School and Comprehensive Outreach Programme for the Assembly outreach activities.

As we emerge from the shadow of COVID-19, we bear witness that the Lord is faithful and gracious in His dealings with the assembly and each of us, and this provides us with a strong foundation to build upon as we move into the years ahead.

In addition, let us be reminded of our calling and responsibilities as members of the body of Christ:



10 Oct. 2021 About 60 attended the breaking of bread worship

Firstly, as we enjoy and resume physical meetings, activities, and fellowship, we remember the lessons we have learnt through the past years, encouraging one another not to take things for granted, but to put our hands to the plough, to work while it is day, serving and witnessing for Him even as we await the return of our Lord Jesus.

Secondly, we enter a world marked with great uncertainty—news of new diseases, wars and rumours of wars, job uncertainty, inflation, climate change, and the ongoing assault on the issues of gender and sanctity of marriage. May we never lose sight of the truth that our God is still on the throne, and all things are working out in accordance with His will.



CLOSING

As the COVID-19 pandemic draws to a close, we reflect with deep gratitude on God's faithful protection during these challenging years. Despite unprecedented circumstances, His gracious provision remained constant. Facing uncertainty, we find comfort knowing that God maintains sovereign control. We thank Him for bestowing wisdom and grace upon both our assembly leaders and national authorities as they navigated difficult pandemic-related decisions.

Entering this post-pandemic era, let us remember the lessons learnt. May we more deeply value our local assembly, where mutual support flourishes both spiritually and practically. Let us never take for granted our privilege of in-person worship, praising our unchanging God who remains faithful through every season.

Chapter 8

Events Directory



2014

Daily Vacation Bible School – The Lord is Good (Psa. 118:1) | T: Jeanna Goh and Brandon Chan |
C: Kelvin Chan | 170 attended

Assembly Bible Camp – Mystery Revealed—Why is God Doing What He is Doing (Eph. 3:9) |
King's Green Hotel, Melaka | T: Jim McCarthy, Elsie Wong, Ho Ren An, Dennis Loh and Jimmy Wong |
C: Wong Tuck Keong | 247 attended

Assembly Youth Camp – But Believe (John 20:27) | Resort Lautan Biru (LB), Mersing | T: Andrew Cowell
| C: Aaron Wong | 112 attended

Assembly Gospel Rally @ BDW What is Your Life? | S: Andrew Prem Sundar | C: Jeffrey Jee, Jeshier Loi
and Tan Li Sheng | Average: 230 adults attended

Children's programme | S: Moritza Lim and Vincent Tham | Total: 74 children attended

Special Ministry – All @ BDW April: Special Ministry by Ralph Carr | C: Aaron Wong and Tan Li Sheng
Average: 60 attended

June: Special Ministry by Jim McCarthy

Day 1: **Can I Trust a 2,000-year-old Book?** / Day 2: **Was Jesus a Real Historical Person?** / Day 3: **Could
Someone Just Make the Whole Thing up?** | C: William Chew and Tan Li Sheng | Average: 300 attended

December: Special Ministry by Andrew Cowell

The Essence of the Christian Life | Day 1: C: Keith Wan / Day 2: C: Aaron Wong / Day 3: C: Kenneth
Khong | Average: 65 attended

Annual Thanksgiving – S: Andrew Kwan | C: Daniel Thein | 280 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert – @ Salvation Army HQ Rainbow | S: Tan Jin Song
| C: Wong Tuck Keong | 390 attended (88 K2 graduands)

Christmas Day Service – @ BDW S: Chan Man Wong | C: Gerald Sim | Bethesda Choir: Silent Night!
Holy Night! (Christmas Cantata) | 500 attended

Christmas Gospel Service – S: SV Ramalingam | C: Nicholas Ong | Bethesda Choir: Silent Night!
Holy Night! (Christmas Cantata) | 200 attended

Watchnight Service – S: Peter Wong | C: Nathaniel Sim | 250 attended

2014 cont.

Workers' Retreat – @ BDW **Building in Unity** (Phil. 2:2) | S: Tan Chee Hwee | C: Sum Siew Tak | 100 attended

Sunday School (SS) Anniversary and Prize-giving – 150th SS Anniversary & Prize-giving | S: Ho Kuang Cheng | 134 scholars received prizes | 21 Roll of Honour recipients | 300 attended

Easter Conference – @ BDW S: Ralph Carr | C: Ho Kuang Cheng | 450 attended

Easter Gospel Service – @ BDW S: Ralph Carr | C: William Chew | 250 attended

Boys' Brigade (BB)/Girls' Brigade (GB) Enrolment Service and BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service – @ BDW GB 57th Enrolment Service | Helpers: Choy Wai Fann, Lynette Khong, Koh Mei Ling, Anna Leong, Vivien Phay, Amy Tan, Tay Lei Shan | About 90 attended

Baptism – Jeanna Goh, Sherie Prema George, Wong Siok Fun, Jeremy Chia, Chow Tat Foong & Amy, Put Man Wai, Kavin Timothy

Wedding – Mervyn Tan & Melissa Wee

Home Call – Cheong-Koh Gek Choo, Evelyn Hanam, Gong In Lang, Robert Yee

2015

Daily Vacation Bible School – @ BDW **God's Masterpiece** | T: Suzanne Wong and Brandon Chan | C: Tan Hee Chin | 200 attended

Assembly Bible Camp – **So Great Salvation** | Concorde Inn, KL | T: Roy Hill, Poon Yiam Kiau, Joel Boon, Andrew He and Jonathan Tsui | C: Wong Tuck Keong | 222 attended

Assembly Youth Camp – **What is Truth?** (John 18:38) | LB, Mersing | T: Andrew Cowell | C: Choong Kit Soon | 141 attended

Assembly Gospel Rally – @ BDW **Possessing Much Yet Lacking?** | S: Khoo Oon Soo | C: Robert Hmar, Joel Boon and Wong Yong Jian | Average: 350 adults attended per night

Children's programme | S: Jeanna Goh and Brandon Chan | Total: 176 children attended

2015 cont.

Special Ministry – March: Special Ministry by Fred Kosin

Conflicts in a Believer's Life

Day 1: C: William Chew / Day 2: C: Daniel Skelton | Average: 100 attended

June: Special Ministry by Roy Hill

Witnesses & Witnessing

Day 1: **Three Witnesses** | C: Kenneth Khong / Day 2: **Two Witnesses** | C: Chan Man Wong / Day 3: **One Witness** | C: Keith Wan | Average: 150 attended

December: Special Ministry by Andrew Cowell

Corporate Worship and the Lord's Supper | C: Daniel Skelton, Linus Tan and William Chew | Average: 90 attended

Annual Thanksgiving – To Fear..., to Love..., to Serve... and to Keep... (Deut. 10:12–13) | S: Wong Tuck Keong | C: Sum Siew Tak | 200 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert – @ Salvation Army HQ **All Around the World** | S: Chan Man Wong | C: Wong Tuck Keong | 220 attended

Christmas Day Service – @ BDW **The Man From the Other Side** (John 8:23) | S: Calvin Koh | C: Jonathan Sikhamani | Bethesda Choir: The First Noel (Christmas Cantata) | 150 attended

Watchnight Service – S: Ho Kuang Cheng | C: Gerald Sim | 300 attended

Workers' Retreat – @ BDW **Worker. Teacher. Leader. Be Accountable! God Will Judge Our Work.** | S: Dennis Loh | C: Andrew Kwan | 174 attended

Sunday School (SS) Anniversary and Prize-giving – 151st SS Anniversary & Prize-giving | **Thy Word Have I Hid in My Heart** (Psa. 119:11) | S: Dennis Loh | C: Aaron Wong | 102 scholars received prizes | 20 Roll of Honour recipients | 300 attended

Easter Conference – The Goodness of the Cross | S: Tan Li Sheng and Gerald Sim | C: Eric Choa | Bethesda Choir: The King is Coming (Easter Cantata) | 400 attended

Easter Gospel Service – S: Alex Matthew | C: Ng Kim Khoon | Bethesda Choir: The King is Coming (Easter Cantata) | 100 attended

Boys' Brigade (BB)/Girls' Brigade (GB) Enrolment Service and BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service – BB S: Kelvin Chan | C: Kenneth Khong | About 140 attended

@ BDW GB Heb. 13:16 | S: Dennis Loh | C: Choy Wai Fann | 80 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Sunshine Camp – S: Ng Yoke Yin

Baptism – Hannah Abbott, Rebekah Abbott, Chan Yuen Kam, Christina C. Dionisio, Adinda Magdalena, Swe Swe Myint, Teo Ai Ling, Amariah Wong, Azaliah Wong, Wong Suit Fun, Reuben Abraham Alexander, Cederic Chua, Ho Kuang Cheng, Jared Lee, Lok Fook Weng, Mong Tard Tong, Tan Tong Leng

Wedding – Bryan Lee & Tan Hui Xin, Tan Tong Leng & Tamara Soh

Home Call – Victor Tang Ka Cheung, Tan Geok Seng

2016

Daily Vacation Bible School – Did You Know? | T: Bettina Sim and Mervyn Tan | C: Vincent Tham | 180 attended

Assembly Bible Camp – Take Root, Bear Fruit (Isa. 37:31) | Concorde Inn, KL | T: Jim Dryden, Ng Yoke Yin, Andrew He, Darren Kui, Jordan Tan, and Raymond Chin | C: Keith Wan | 171 attended

Assembly Youth Camp – The New Has Come (2 Cor. 5:17) | Highlands Christian Centre, Cameron Highlands | T: Peter Ferry | C: Choong Kit Soon | 110 attended

Assembly Gospel Rally – To Gain the Whole World (Mk. 8:36) | S: Tan Jin Song | C: Choong Kit Soon, Ho Xin An and Ho Ren An | Average: 211 adults attended per night

Children's programme | S: Darren Kui and Moritza Lim | Average: 49 attended

Special Ministry – June: Special Ministry by Jim Dryden

Cities of Refuge (Josh. 20) | C: Edmund Yong, William Chew and Aaron Wong | Average: 100 attended

August: Special Ministry by Roy Hill

Day 1: **The Gospel of God Concerning His Son, Jesus** (Rom. 1:1–9) / Day 2: **The Will of God Concerning His Servant, Paul** (Rom. 1:10–20) | C: Wan Yin Chi and Daniel Skelton | Average: 110 attended

Annual Thanksgiving – Rev. 2:1–7 | S: Dennis Loh | C: Tan Chee Hwee | 350 attended

Addition & Alteration Thanksgiving – Be Thankful, an Afternoon of Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs | S: Roy Hill | C: Gerald Sim | Greetings by MP Henry Kwek, Nee Soon GRC | 500 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert – Amazing God | S: Wong Yong Jian | C: Samuel Tay | 200 attended (60 K2 graduands)

Christmas Eve Service – The Who, What, When, Where and Why of Christmas (Mt. 1:21) | S: Sim Chear Wah | C: Jeffrey Jee | Bethesda Choir: Bethlehem Morning (Christmas Cantata) | 400 attended

Christmas Day Service – @ BDW | S: Harry Tan | C: Andrew Sng | 400 attended

Watchnight Service – My Beloved...My Friend (Song 5:16) | S: Keith Wan | C: Tan Jing Poi | 300 attended

Workers' Retreat – Launch Out Into Deep (Lk. 5:4) | S: Kenneth Wong and Harry Tan | C: Keith Wan | 140 attended

Assembly Training Class – Every Child Is Special | 25 attended

The Family Project | 10 attended

Sunday School (SS) Anniversary and Prize-giving – 152nd SS Anniversary & Prize-giving | Ancient Words? (John 6:63) | S: Gerald Sim | C: Aaron Wong | 100 scholars received prizes | 22 Roll of Honour recipients | 300 attended

Easter Conference – The Crux of History | S: Linus Tan and Peter Wong | C: Tan Jing Poi | Bethesda Choir: Christ the Redeemer (Easter Cantata) | 500 attended

Easter Gospel Service – What Did the Death of Jesus Achieve? (Col. 1:14; 2:14) | S: Tan Jin Song | C: Benjamin Chia | Bethesda Choir: Christ the Redeemer (Easter Cantata) | 100 attended

2016 cont.

Boys' Brigade (BB)/Girls' Brigade (GB) Enrolment Service and BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service –

BB Guest of Honour (GOH): Loo Ming Yaw | S: Gerald Sim | C: Samuel Tay | More than 100 attended

GB Deut. 15:10 | S: Aloysius Ong | 120 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Sunshine Camp – [What Does God's Love Look Like?](#) | S: Rebecca Koh | 38 attended

Baptism – Sheryl Chan, Dorcas Choe, Cheryl Goh, Melinda Hoe, Koh Kai Kee, Rebecca Kwan, Lee Liu Ying, Lee Wen Ying, Ng Shao Qi, Sheryn Sim, Amanda Tan, Renee Tan, Stefanie Tan, Tan Xin Yi, Elisha Thein, Melody Wee, Ruth Wee, Wong Hui Xin, Joycelyn Yeow, Yeo Lay Foon, Ryan Chan, Joel Choe, Jeshu Kum, Lee Yue Ming, Oliver Leong, Joel Lim, Maximus Put, Ng Jia Le, Samuel Tay, Colin Tan, Tan Jie Jun

Wedding – Benjamin Chia & Melinda Hoe, Matthew Chia & Natalie Ong, Sherman Sim & Stephanie Tan, Joshua Yong & Jenna Goh @ BDW

Home Call – Margaret Lee, Charles Eu

2017

Daily Vacation Bible School – [To Infinity and Beyond](#) | T: Chow Chiew Gee and Johnson Chua | C: Vincent Tham | 100 attended

Assembly Bible Camp – [Household of Faith](#) (Gal. 6:10) | Avani Resort, Port Dickson | T: Fred Kosin, Rebecca Law, Samuel Chng, Chow Tat Foong, Tay Kim Swee, and Raymond Chin | C: Keith Wan | 200 attended

Assembly Youth Camp – [Best Story Ever](#) (Acts 17:26–27) | LB, Mersing | T: Paul Bramsen | C: Choong Kit Soon | 116 attended

Assembly Gospel Rally – [But Who Do You Say That I Am](#) (Mk. 8:29) | S: Gerald Sim | C: Kelvin Ng | Average: 260 adults attended

Children's programme | S: Rebecca Koh and Stephen Chang | Average: 30 children attended

2017 cont.

Special Ministry – June: Special Ministry by Fred Kosin

The Church of Jesus Christ | Day 1: **The Body of Christ** (1 Cor. 12) / Day 2: **The Building of God** (1 Cor. 3:9) / Day 3: **The Bride for Christ** (2 Cor. 11:2) / C: Wong Yong Jian, Daniel Skelton and Jeffrey Jee | Average: 100 attended

June: Special Ministry by Roger Liebi

Day 1: **Living in the End Times With Many Fulfilled Prophecies** / Day 2: **The Temple in the Time of Jesus Christ and Its Symbolism in the Light of the NT** | C: Tan Jing Poi and Felix Lim | Average: 120 attended

August: Special Ministry by Roger Liebi @ BDW

Introduction to the Book of Revelation

Day 1: C: Joel Boon / Day 2: Harry Tan | Average: 200 attended

Family of Faith, Hope and Love (1 Cor. 13:13) | S: Wong Tuck Keong | C: Eric Choa | 300 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert – Give Thanks | S: Tan Tse Yong | C: Victor Ng | 200 attended (57 K2 graduands)

Christmas Day Service – S: Khoo Oon Soo | C: Wan Yin Chi | Bethesda Choir: Come let us Adore (Christmas Cantata) | 500 attended

Christmas Gospel Service – S: Linus Tan | C: Jordan Tan | Bethesda Choir: Come let us Adore (Christmas Cantata) | 350 attended

Watchnight Service – S: Jeffrey Jee | C: William Chew | 250 attended

Workers' Retreat – Bond of Perfection (Col. 3:14) | S: Tan Kian Huat | C: William Chew | 220 attended
@ BDW: **Every Brick Counts**. (1 Cor. 3:9–10) | S: Harry Tan and Andrew Kwan | 134 attended

Assembly Training Class – Shepherding a Child's Heart | 24 attended

Living Proof: Evangelism – A Proven Strategy for Making Disciples in the Marketplace | 20 attended

Sunday School (SS) Anniversary and Prize-giving – 153rd SS Anniversary & Prize-giving | **Are you Real?** (Mt. 7:21) | S: Johnson Chua | C: William Chew | 87 scholars received prizes | 10 Roll of Honour recipients | 200 attended

@BDW **God's Masterpiece** (Eph. 2:10) | S: Kenneth Wong | C: Jordan Tan | 28 scholars received prizes | 8 Roll of Honour recipients | 200 attended

Easter Conference – Looking Forward to His New Creation | Message 1: **Look—and Live!** / Message 2: **Alive in the Lord** | S: Lee Kok Onn | C: Gerald Sim | Bethesda Choir: Then Came the Morning (Easter Cantata) | 450 attended

Easter Gospel Service – The King Lives (Lk. 24:1–8) | S: Sherman Sim | C: Wesley Ng | Bethesda Choir: Then Came the Morning (Easter Cantata) | 200 attended

@ BDW S: Khoo Oon Soo | 250 attended

2017 cont.

Boys' Brigade (BB)/Girls' Brigade (GB) Enrolment Service and BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service –

BB GOH: Michael Tan | S: Choong Kit Soon | C: Samuel Tay | About 100 attended

GB **Be Empowered** (Phil. 3:10) S: Tan Jin Song | 100 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Sunshine Camp – Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart | S: Lynn Tan | 42 attended

Baptism – Venetia Choo, Chow Yean Li, Sandy Kam, Ashley Keoy, Jasmine Ooi, Grace Quek, Tan Cheng Khoon, Ysanne Yeo, Chow Wai Tin, Choy Khun Hean, Joel Lee, Asher Mak, Poh Yeow Kian, Wan Jin Quan, Matthew Wong

Wedding – Kenneth Chua & Lim Pei Yiing, Joshua Fung & Amy Toke, John Kan & Lois Choa, Clarence Koh & Esther Wong, Sean Koh & Clarissa Tan, Wesley Ng & Danna Thein, Edison Ngo & Alexis Toh

Home Call – Betty Lim-Lee Swee Choo, Kenneth Lim Kian Le, Sek Loong Kwong

2018

Daily Vacation Bible School – Come Discover! Looking for the Fingerprints of God (John 1:46) | T: Ng Yoke Yin, Carol Chong and Vincent Tham | C: Amos Chew | 90 attended

Assembly Bible Camp – The Guide Inside (John 14:26–27) | Pullman Putrajaya Lakeside Hotel | T: Mike Attwood, Ng Yoke Yin, Brandon Chan, Amos Chew and John Ho | C: Tan Jing Poi | 247 attended

Assembly Youth Camp – Operation Ready (2 Pet. 3:11) | Malaysian Bible Seminary, Rawang | T: Mohan Kumar | C: Matthew Chia | 90 attended

Youth Gospel Night – 3D Gospel (Gen. 3:8–13) | S: Amos Chew | C: Wesley Ng | 100 attended

Assembly Gospel Rally – S.O.S (1 Pet. 2:25) | S: Kenneth Wong | C: Kam Yew Chuen | Average: 350 adults attended

Children's programme | S: Amos Chew | Average: 40 children attended

Special Ministry – @ BDW May: Special Ministry by Dr Mark Harwood

Going Where the Evidence Leads | Total: About 220 attended

June: Special Ministry by Mike Attwood

Ezekiel: The Man and His Message | Day 1: C: Chan Wai Kiong / Day 2: C: William Chew / Day 3: C: Wong Yong Jian | Average: About 200 attended

Annual Thanksgiving – B2B (Blessed to Bless) (Gen. 12:2) | S: Keith Wan | C: Wong Tuck Keong | 200 attended

2018 cont.

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert – **Love** (1 John 4:19) | S: Linus Tan | C: Victor Ng | 250 attended (54 K2 graduands)

Christmas Day Service – **Do They Know What's Christmas?** (1 Tim. 1:15) | S: Kenneth Wong | C: Wong Yong Jian | Bethesda Choir: Almost There (Christmas Cantata) | 400 attended
Children's Programme | **The Greatest Gift** | S: Chang Hin Keat

Christmas Gospel Service – S: Choy Boon Yew | C: Sherman Sim | Bethesda Choir: Almost There (Christmas Cantata) | 200 attended

Watchnight Service – S: Tan Jing Poi | C: Felix Lim | 150 attended

Assembly Retreat – **Channels of Blessings** (Prov. 11:25) | 140 attended

Assembly Training Class – **Essentials of Discipline** | About 12 attended

Living Proof: Discipleship | About 20 attended

Sunday School (SS) Anniversary and Prize-giving – 154th SS Anniversary & Prize-giving | **Come & See** (Mt. 5:14) | S: Noah Ong | C: William Chew | 78 scholars received prizes | 3 Roll of Honour recipients | 200 attended

@BDW **Fear of the Lord** (Psa. 34:11) | S: Tan Ah Beng | C: Brandon Chan | 36 scholars received prizes | 8 Roll of Honour recipients | 170 attended

Easter Conference – Message 1: **The Legacy of the Cross** | S: Adrin Loi / Message 2: **The Glories of the Tomb** | S: Jeshier Loi | C: Gerald Sim | Bethesda Choir: Redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb (Easter Cantata) | 400 attended

@BDW **The Redeemer's Cross** | S: Harry Tan | C: Tan Li Sheng | Bethesda Choir: Redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb (Easter Cantata) | 300 attended

Easter Gospel Service – S: Chang Chew Kient | C: Choong Kit Soon | Bethesda Choir: Redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb (Easter Cantata) | 150 attended

@BDW **No Condemnation in Christ Jesus** (Rom. 8:1) | S: Andrew Sng | C: Ryan Kwan | Bethesda Choir: Redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb (Easter Cantata) | 250 attended

Boys' Brigade (BB)/Girls' Brigade (GB) Enrolment Service and BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service – BB GOH: Lim-Chua Siow Ling | S: Kam Yew Chuen | C: Samuel Ko | 120 attended

GB Col. 3:23–24 | S: Felix Lim | C: Lynette Khong | 80 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Sunshine Camp – **Jesus Loves Me 24/7** | S: Jasmine Kum | 41 attended

Baptism – Winnie Aw, Gan Bee, Carrie Kam, Esther Kum, Ng Geok Lan, Eni Poh, Seow Xinning, Toh Si Qi, Renee Wee, Wu Si Min, Anton Chan, Nathanael Chan, David Chew, Joshua Lay, Poh Yew Chai, Soh Chin Boon, Joel Tan, Wesley Tan

Wedding – Cho Han Yu & Judith Ogawa @BDW, Philip Goh & Kerriann Chua, Kikuzawa Yuichi & Robyn Tan @BDW

Home Call – Dieu Siew Pin

2019

Daily Vacation Bible School – **Taste and See that the Lord is Good** (Psa. 34:8) | T: Carol Chong, Chua Pik Yee and Sean Koh | C: Mervyn Tan | 105 attended

Assembly Bible Camp – **The Glory of Christ** (2 Cor. 3:18) | Holiday Inn Melaka | T: Roger Liebi, Sheryl Chan, Kenneth Khong, Samuel Tay, and Victor Kung | C: Tan Jing Poi | 220 attended

Assembly Youth Camp – **Jesus Christ Is** (Mt. 16:15) | LB, Mersing | T: Mike Attwood | C: Benjamin Chia | 80 attended

Youth Gospel Night – **Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of God** (John 20:31) | S: Choong Kit Soon | C: Ng Shao Chuen | 100 attended

Assembly Gospel Rally – **The Gospel According to God** (1 John 4:19) | S: Jeshar Loi | C: Benjamin Chia | Total: 525 adults

Children's programme | S: Esther Wong | Total: 63 children attended

Special Ministry – June: Special Ministry by Roger Liebi

Days 1 & 2: **The Amazing Precision of the Bible** | C: William Chew and Jeffrey Jee / Day 3: **Isaiah 53—the Hidden Chapter** | C: Wong Tuck Keong | Average: About 180 attended

December: Special Ministry by Mike Attwood

Galatians 5: Freedom From Legalism; Freedom From License; Freedom From the Flesh; Freedom to Flourish and be Fruitful | C: Chan Wai Kiong, Wong Yong Jian and Wan Yin Chi | About 120 attended

Annual Thanksgiving – **Thanks for Your Partnership.** (Phil. 1:4–6) | S: Chan Man Wong | C: Gerald Sim | 150 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert – **Praise!** (Psa. 150:6) | S: Johnson Chua | C: Victor Ng | 300 attended (50 K2 graduands)

Christmas Day Service – **The Answer in the Manger** | S: Tan Jin Song | C: Jeffrey Jee | Bethesda Choir: Christmas in His Presence (Christmas Cantata) | 550 attended

Christmas Gospel Service – **Christmas Story and Incarnation** | S: Andrew Premsundar | C: Darren Kui | Bethesda Choir: Christmas in His Presence (Christmas Cantata) | 170 attended

Watchnight Service – S: Tan Jing Poi | C: Felix Lim | 150 attended

Assembly Retreat – **The Tie That Binds** (Col. 3:14) | S: Andrew Premsundar | C: Ng Siew Kiang | 180 attended

Assembly Training Class – **Better Handling the Bible and Teaching it to Others in a Small Group Setting** | 12 attended

Living Proof: Evangelism | 12 attended

Sunday School (SS) Anniversary and Prize-giving – 155th SS Anniversary & Prize-giving | **Do Right** (Mic. 6:8) | S: Darren Kui | C: Kum Yew Ming | 73 scholars received prizes | 14 Roll of Honour recipients | 300 attended

Easter Conference – Message 1: **Triumphs of Christ (OT)** | S: Charles Lingam / Message 2: **Triumphs of Christ (NT)** | S: Raju Kunjummen | C: Wong Tuck Keong | Bethesda Choir: One Day (Easter Cantata) | 350 attended

2019 cont.

Easter Gospel Service – S: Raji Kunjummen | C: Nigel Wong | Bethesda Choir: One Day (Easter Cantata) | 100 attended

Boys' Brigade (BB)/Girls' Brigade (GB) Enrolment Service and BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service – BB **What Is Your Anchor in Life?** | GOH: Wilson Tan | S: Johnson Chua | C: Samuel Ko | 100 attended
GB Heb. 13:16 | S: Kam Yew Chuen | C: Choy Wai Fann | 110 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Sunshine Camp – **I Will Follow Jesus** | S: Yim Siew Mei | 36 attended

Baptism – Joanna Alice, Naomi Chan, Genevieve Chong, Samyuktha Gurusamy, Hanna Kum, Koh Kai Ler, Reka Rajendran, See Siew Hoon, Sharon Soh, Wong Hui Si, Benjamin Foong, Koh Kai Yi, Joshua Lee, Owen Sim, Elkan Yeo

Wedding – Anton Chan & Vanessa Ng, Poh Wei Hao & Wu Simin, Soh Chin Boon & Jannelle Leong, Izumi Tan & Michelle Shieh

Home Call – Julia Lee, Tan Cheng Khoon, Tan Ye Leng, Chua Thing Chong, Leong Chee Tiek, Matthew Tang

2020

Daily Vacation Bible School – **Jesus Strong and Kind** (2 Thes. 3:3) | T: Moritza Lim and Law Gin Lieng | C: Amos Chew | 73 attended

Assembly Youth Camp – **In Exile** (Ezk. 39:28) | BAMK (no stayover) & online | T: Scott DeGroff | C: Benjamin Chia | 70 attended

Youth Gospel Night – (Online) **Who is God?** (Rom. 1:19–20) | S: Nigel Wong | C: Samuel Tay | 203 attended

Assembly Gospel Rally – (Online) **Our Greatest Need** (Phil. 3:8–9) | S: Raju Kunjummen | C: Amos Chew | 186 attended

Special Ministry – (Online) May: Special Ministry

Day 1: Raju Kunjummen | **How to be an Effective Counsellor** | C: Keith Wan. | Total: 103 attended /

Day 2: Raju Kunjummen | **How to Share the Gospel Effectively** | C: William Chew | Total: 151 attended /

Day 3: Kenneth Wong | **Developing a Preaching Culture** | C: Felix Lim | Total: 154 attended

Annual Thanksgiving – (Online) **The Simplicity and Purity of Devotion to Christ** (2 Cor. 11:3b) | S: Tan Chee Hwee | C: Tan Jing Poi | 100 attended

2020 cont.

Christmas Day Service – **The People... Have Seen a Great Light** (Isa. 9:1–6) | S: Chang Chew Kient | C: Matthew Chia | Song item by Marvin Wee and 4 choir members | 127 (BAMK), 182 (online) attended

Christmas Gospel Service – (Online) **The Advent of Grace** (John 1:16) | S: Choong Kit Soon | C: Matthew Wong | Song item by Marvin Wee and 4 choir members | 90 attended

Watchnight Service – **What Really Matters for the Assembly** (Eph. 4:12–16) | S: Wong Tuck Keong | C: William Chew | 112 (BAMK) 111 (online) attended

Assembly Retreat – **Evangelism Expo** (Eph. 3:10) | S: Chan Man Wong | C: Tan Chee Hwee | 173 attended

Sunday School (SS) Anniversary and Prize-giving – 156th SS Anniversary & Prize-giving Suspended due to COVID-19 | 83 scholars received prizes | 12 Roll of Honour recipients

Easter Conference – (Online) **Jesus Said, 'And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me'** (John 12:32) | S: Johnson Chua | Bethesda Choir: The Cross of Christ (Easter Cantata, pre-recorded audio by 7-member team) | 150 attended

Easter Gospel Service – (Online: Audio Recording) **The Easter Outlook** (Mt 28:5) | S: Koh Liang Hwee | 80 attended

Baptism – Jodi Kam, Charis Soo, Luke Chan, Koh Kai Ray, Clarence Soo

Home Call – Nancy Koh, Chandra Lekha, Poon Kwun Wah, Stephen Koong

2021

Daily Vacation Bible School – **Jesus Christ is the Same Yesterday, Today and Forever** (Heb. 13:8) | T: Rebecca Koh and Kevin Kwan | C: Matthew Wong | 66 attended

Assembly Youth Camp – **That Which Heaven Treasures** (Mt. 6:21) | BAMK T: Scott DeGross | C: Nigel Wong | 50 attended

Youth Gospel Night – (Online) **Except Ye Repent, Ye Shall Likewise Perish** (Lk. 13:1–5) | S: Darren Kui | C: Joel Lim | 82 attended

Assembly Gospel Rally – (Online) **Homecoming** (Lk. 15:32) | Day 1: S: Benjamin Chia | C: Kevin Kwan | 150 attended / Day 2: S: Linus Tan | C: Kevin Kwan | 126 attended

2021 cont.

Special Ministry – (Online) June: Special Ministry by Mark Shelley

Day 1: **Building Together—Rekindled** (Ezra 1:3–11) | C: Noah Ong | Total: 83 attended /

Day 2: **Building Together—Responding** (Ezra 2) | C: Tan Chee Hwee | Total: 93 attended /

Day 3: **Building Together—Refocusing** (Ezra 3) | C: Tan Jing Poi | Total: 94 attended

Annual Thanksgiving – (Online) **Rejoicing Through Temptations** (1 Pet. 1:6) | S: Johnson Chua |
C: Gerald Sim | 96 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert – **Birth of Jesus/Jesus Walking on the Water** |
S: Johnson Chua | C: Chang Chew Kient | 51 K2 graduands

Christmas Day Service – **Every Eye Will See Jesus** (Rev. 1:7) | S: Lau Hong Choon | C: Wan Yin Chi
Bethesda Choir: Angels we Have Heard on High and Jesus is Here (A Medley) | 208 (BAMK),
167 (online) attended

Christmas Gospel Service – **The Saviour of the World** (Mt. 2:1–12) | S: Wan Yin Chi | C: Julian Chow |
Bethesda Choir: Angels We Have Heard on High and Jesus is Here (A Medley) | 64 (BAMK), 72 (online)
attended

Watchnight Service – (Online) **Who Are the Watchmen?** (Isa. 21:11) | S: Tan Chee Hwee | C: Chan Wai
Kiong | 150 attended

Assembly Retreat – **Edification—Building Up the Body in Unity and Love** (Eph. 4:12–13) | S: Gerald Sim
| C: Johnson Chua | 88 (BAMK), 50 (online) attended

Sunday School (SS) Anniversary and Prize-giving – 157th SS Anniversary & Prize-giving | **I have hidden
Your word in my heart that I might not sin against You** (Psa. 119:11) | S: Kevin Kwan | C: Matthew Wong
| 108 scholars received prizes | 26 Roll of Honour recipients | 170 attended, incl. 40 online

Easter Conference – Message 1: **The Conquering Lion, a Slain Lamb** (Rev. 5:5–6) | S: Chan Man Wong
/ Message 2: **New Things for the Christians in Christ's Resurrection** (John 20) | S: Harry Tan | Bethesda
Choir: What a Beautiful Name (Pre-recorded song) | 142 (BAMK), 166 (online) attended

Easter Gospel Service – (Online) **Easter Outlook** (Mt. 28:1–8) | S: Kam Yew Chuen | C: Jeshur Kum |
84 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Sunshine Camp – **Our God Is a Great Big God** (Psa. 96:4) | S: Joanna
Alice | 41 attended

Baptism – Jeannie Chan, Denise Hng, Cherie Sng, Daphne Tan, Melissa Tan Marchen, Seraphine Tay,
Joelyn Tan, Bryan Chua, Abel Chong, Solomon Tay

Wedding – Benjamin Goh & Lydia Kwon, Reuben Goh & Denise Hng, Aaron Toke & Ng Su Ching, Yeo Tun
Ren & Hui Tianyi

Home Call – Violet Chew, Lucy Chua

2022

Daily Vacation Bible School – Come And See (Psa. 66:5) | T: Winnie Aw, Charlene Koh, Chow Wai Tin, Kevin Kwan, Jereme Teo and Matthew Wong | C: Matthew Wong | 128 attended

Assembly Youth Camp – Rooted in Solid Ground (Col. 2:6–7) | LB, Mersing | T: Clive Barber | C: Nigel Wong | 86 attended

Youth Gospel Night – Questions About God (Acts 17:16–34) | S: Kevin Kwan | C: Nicholas Ong | 60 attended

Assembly Gospel Rally – An Unexpected Answer: Jesus' Healing of the Paralytic (Mk. 2:1–12), **Jesus and Nicodemus** (John 3:1–21) | S: Wan Yin Chi | C: Izumi Tan | Average: 191 adults and children (BAMK), 62 (online) attended

Special Ministry – (Online) June: Special Ministry by Roger Liebi

Current Issues: COVID-19, War in Ukraine and Israel Today

Day 1: C: Wong Tuck Keong / Day 2: C: Tan Jing Poi / Day 3: C: Johnson Chua | Average: 223 attended

Annual Thanksgiving – Unity and Community (Eccl. 4:9–12) | S: Tan Jing Poi | C: Keith Wan | 172 (BAMK), 38 (online) attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert – Be Saved and Safe (Mk. 10:14) | S: Lau Hong Choon | C: Chang Chew Kient | 36 K2 graduands

Christmas Eve Service – What Christmas Brought—the Grace of God has Appeared, Bringing Salvation to all People (Tit. 2:11) | S: Dennis Loh | C: Benjamin Chia | Bethesda Choir: Take me Back to Bethlehem (A Medley) | 365 (BAMK), 40 (online) attended

Christmas Gospel Service – God is Love (John 3:16) | S: Kam Yew Chuen | C: Matthew Wong | Bethesda Choir: Take me Back to Bethlehem (A Medley) | 101 (BAMK), 98 (online) attended

Watchnight Service – Jesus Only (Mt. 17:5–7) | S: Johnson Chua | C: Joe Mathew John | 120 (BAMK), 57 (online) attended

Assembly Retreat – Encouragement (Phil. 2:1–2) | S: Mike Attwood | C: Linus Tan | 120 (BAMK), 44 (online) attended

Sunday School (SS) Anniversary and Prize-giving – 158th SS Anniversary & Prize-giving | Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart (Prov. 3:5–6) | S: Joel Lim | C: Choong Kit Soon | 94 scholars received prizes | 41 Roll of Honour recipients | 200 attended, incl. 20 online

Easter Conference – Message 1: **Risen Realities** (Rom. 1:4–5) | S: Kenneth Khong / Message 2: **Resurrection, Reigning and Returning** (Rev. 1:5–18) | S: Wong Tuck Keong | C: Amos Chew | Bethesda Choir: Medley of 3 Easter Songs | 250 (BAMK), 112 (online) attended

Easter Gospel Service – Remember Jesus Christ Risen From the Dead (2 Tim. 2:8) | S: Stephen Chee | C: Jeshu Kum | Bethesda Choir: Medley of 3 Easter Songs | 90 (BAMK), 63 (online) attended

Boys' Brigade (BB)/Girls' Brigade (GB) Enrolment Service and BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service – BB & GB **The Story of King** (Heb. 1:2–4) | S: Chong Kian Seng | C: Samuel Ko | 144 attended (BB: 74; GB: 70)

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Sunshine Camp – Our God Is a Great Big God (Psa. 96:4) | S: Joanna Alice | 43 attended

2022 cont.

Baptism – Seah Jia Neng, Tan Choon Keow, Yeo-Hui Tianyi, Elvin Lee & Sheryn, Gary Tan, Zachary Tan, Tay Yik Cheng, Tay Yik Yong

Wedding – Joseph George & Reenu Raju, Timothy Joachim Kuehsamy & Seah Jia Neng, Darren Kui & Judith Lim, Nicholas Ong & Joyce Tham, Tai Zhang Yong & Yeo Ern Jie, Lucius Tan & Melissa Fong, Stenny Jims Thomas & Lim Yun Fong, Samuel Tay & Moritza Lim

Home Call – Cheong Kui Peng, Gong-Ding Eu Sing, Chow Kim Wah, Mui Eng Teck, Ng Kim Leong

2023

Daily Vacation Bible School – **God of Wonders** (Mic. 7:18) | T: Joanna Alice, Hanna Kum, Lim Xin Yi, Seow Hoe Lay, Xu Jiale, Nathanael Chan, Chong Kian Seng and Linus Tan | C: Kevin Kwan | 118 attended

Assembly Bible Camp – **Worthy is the Lamb** (Rev. 5:12) | Impiana Hotel Senai, JB | T: Kenneth Wong, Toh Si Qi, Amos Chew, Clarence Soo, Raymond Chin and Tan Soo Hock | C: Chan Man Wong | 209 attended

Assembly Youth Camp – **Arise** (1 Thes. 5:6) | My Nature Leisure Farm, KL | T: John Noble | C: Nigel Wong | 96 attended

Youth Gospel Night – **If a Man Dies, Shall He Live Again?** (Job 14:14a) | S: Amos Chew | C: Samuel Ko | 120 attended

Assembly Gospel Rally – **Who Is Jesus Really? Peter Encounters Jesus in his Boat** (Lk. 5:1–11) **and on the Sea** (Mt. 14:22–33) | S: Jim Fleming | C: Chan Wai Kiong | Average: 295 adults and 50 children (BAMK), 38 (online) attended

Special Ministry – (Online) June: Special Ministry by David Newell

Nahum, Habakkuk and Zephaniah | C: Nigel Wong, Johnson Chua and Felix Lim | Average: 119 attended

Annual Thanksgiving – **Causing Thanksgiving to Abound to the Glory of God** (2 Cor. 1:11; 4:15) | S: Lau Hong Choon | C: Wong Tuck Keong | 210 (BAMK), 25 (online) attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert – **I Will Follow You** | S: Choy Boon Yew | C: Chang Chew Kient | 30 K2 graduands

2023 cont.

Christmas Day Service – Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth, Peace, Goodwill Toward Men (Lk. 2:14) | S: Johnson Chua | C: Mau Teck Hwee | Bethesda Choir: Let There Be Light (Christmas Cantata) | 400 (BAMK), 58 (online) attended

Christmas Gospel Service – Christmas Then and now (Lk. 2:1–15) | S: Nigel Wong | C: Lucas Tan | Bethesda Choir: Let There Be Light (Christmas Cantata) | 107 (BAMK), 30 (online) attended

Watchnight Service – Haggai—Considering Our Ways | S: Chan Man Wong | C: Amos Chew | 108 (BAMK), 60 (online) attended

Assembly Retreat – Let Us Exalt His Name Together (Psa. 34:3) | S: Kenneth Wong | C: Choong Kit Soon | 180 attended

Sunday School (SS) Anniversary and Prize-giving – 159th SS Anniversary & Prize-giving | Be on Your Guard; Stand Firm in the Faith; Be Courageous; Be Strong (1 Cor. 16:13) | S: Wong Yong Jian | C: Kam Yew Chuen | 108 scholars received prizes | 20 Roll of Honour recipients | 230 attended

Easter Conference – Message 1: The Cost of the Cross | S: Gerald Sim / Message 2: **The Colour of Love** (John 19:2–3) | S: Tan Chee Hwee | C: Kam Yew Chuen | Bethesda Choir: Is He Worthy? (Easter Cantata, Medley of 7 Songs) | 242 (BAMK), 93 (online) attended

Easter Gospel Service – It Is Finished (John 19:17–30) | S: Wong Kok Seng | C: Kevin Kwan | Bethesda Choir: Is He Worthy? (Easter Cantata; Medley of 7 Songs) | 60 (BAMK), 35 (online) attended

Boys' Brigade (BB)/Girls' Brigade (GB) Enrolment Service and BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service – BB & GB Nurturing Our Youths in Christ | S: David Chew | C: Kenneth Khong | About 100 attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Sunshine Camp – Taste and See That the Lord is Good (Psa. 34:8) | S: Lim Xin Yi | 34 attended

Baptism – Jessica Choy, Esther Shalom Daniel, He-Chua Julia, Love Meiron James, Lim Xin Yi, Koh Kai Ern, Rebecca Kui, Sarah Kum, Mint Ong, Bernice Tan, Hasia Yeo, Chin Seng Choon & Lee Nah, Trevor Chin, Timothy Nissi Daniel, Keane Goh, Asaph Law, Nathaniel Lee, Caleb Soo, Benedict Soo, Jeba Suthan S/O Sekar, Subin Gladson S/O Sundar, David Tan Marchen

Wedding – Roy Cher & Jerlynn Yeo, Samuel Ko & Jolene Tan, James Ng & Jemima Xue, Gabriel Ng & Joey Lee

Home Call – Dieu-Ng Shook Yen

2024

Daily Vacation Bible School – God Knows Me Inside Out (Psa. 42:11) | T: Valerie Kwan and Kam Yew Chuen | C: Kevin Kwan | 128 attended

Assembly Bible Camp – Gifted to Give! (1 Pet. 4:10) | Impiana Hotel Senai, JB | T: Roger Liebi, Chua Pik Yee, Timothy Nissi Daniel, Samuel Ko, Raymond Chin and Tan Soo Hock | C: Lau Hong Choon | 232 attended

Assembly Youth Camp – In Him (Eph. 1:3) | LB, Mersing | T: Clive Barber | C: Choong Kit Soon | 77 attended

Youth Gospel Night – Darkness into Night (Psa. 18:28) | S: Matthew Chia | C: Nicholas Ong | 100 attended

Special Ministry – April: Creation Ministries International (CMI) Seminar by Don Batten

Genesis—the Real History of the Universe. How Creation Affirms the Gospel | C: Tan Jing Poi. | Total: 103 (BAMK), 122 (online) attended

June: Special Ministry by Roger Liebi

Israel and the Middle East | Day 1: **Understanding the Past** / Day 2: **Understanding the Future** | Average: 89 (BAMK), 136 (online) attended

Annual Thanksgiving – Being Thankful for Abundance and Sufficiencies | S: Gerald Sim | C: Tan Chee Hwee | 190 (BAMK), 21 (online) attended

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert – Creation. (Gen. 1:1–2:3, 3:8–24; Rom. 1:20; Psa. 19:1–2; John 3:16) | S: Wong Yong Jian | C: Wong Tuck Keong | 40 K2 graduands

Christmas Day Service – Jesus, the Light of the World | S: Chan Man Wong | C: Nathaniel Sim | Bethesda Choir: Light & Life (Christmas Cantata) | 400 (BAMK), 43 (online) attended

Christmas Gospel Service – What Makes a Gift Special (2 Cor. 9:15) | S: Wan Yin Chi | C: Jeshu Kum | Bethesda Choir: Light and Life (Christmas Cantata) | 161 (BAMK), 21 (online) attended

Watchnight Service – One More Year (Lk. 13:6–9) | S: Felix Lim | C: Jeffrey Jee | 150 (BAMK), 56 (online) attended

Assembly Retreat – Stewardship (1 Pet 4:10) | S: Linus Tan | C: Darren Kui | 192 adults, 13 children attended

Sunday School (SS) Anniversary and Prize-giving – 160th SS Anniversary & Prize-giving | Thy Word Have I Hid in Mine Heart, that I Might Not Sin Against Thee. (Psa. 119:11) | S: Nigel Wong | C: Law Gin Lieng | 108 scholars received prizes | 12 Roll of Honour recipients | 220 attended

Easter Conference – Message 1: Eternal Life and the Resurrection (1 Cor. 15:2) | S: Lau Hong Choon / Message 2: **Knowing the Power of His Resurrection** (Phil 3:10–11) | S: Keith Wan | C: Matthew Chia | Bethesda Choir: The Hope of the Cross (Easter Cantata) | 340 (BAMK), 60 (online) attended

Easter Gospel Service – Jesus Christ Died, Was Buried, and Rose Again (1 Cor. 15:3–4) | S: Stephen Chee | C: Timothy Joachim Kuehsamy | Bethesda Choir: The Hope of the Cross (Easter Cantata) | 177 (BAMK), 16 (online) attended

2024 cont.

Boys' Brigade (BB)/Girls' Brigade (GB) Enrolment Service and BB & GB Combined Enrolment Service
— BB & GB **What Kind of Leader Are You?** (Mk. 10:35–45) | S: Felix Lim | C: Samuel Ko | 130 attended
(BB: 45; GB: 78; BAMK members: 7)

Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Sunshine Camp — **Our God Is a Great Big God** (Psa. 96:4) | S: Joanna Alice | 37 attended

Baptism — Rachel Chua, Joycelyn Chong, Ariel Tan, Arisa Wu, Ho Kwek Khong, Zion En James, Alpheus Law, Ernest Wee, Zachary Wong

Wedding — Matthew Wong & Amelia Ng

Home Call — Seah Kheng Keow, Victor Ng



Chapter 9

Congratulatory Greetings

E. Ravikuma

Christian Believers Assembly
INDIA

My heart overflows with joy and gratitude as I hear the excellent news of the 161st Anniversary celebration of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) (BAMK) on 1 Nov. 2025. I bow my head before the Lord, who has blessed me with fellowship among you since 1993 through our dear brother S. V. Ramalingam.

This house of God feels like the Macedonian churches of the New Testament to me because of your practical fellowship (financial support), which has greatly helped me serve the Lord consistently in Tamil Nadu, South India. Every act of support I received from you was a timely blessing from the Lord; it refreshed my heart and inspired my spirit to serve Him fervently.

My first visit to BAMK in 1993 opened the door for me to study God's Word systematically by attending CEP classes. By the grace of God, I continue to follow the same method in my ministry, which has proven beneficial in making disciples, as the Lord has entrusted me to do.

Every time I visited BAMK, I cherished your care, love, and concern for my family and ministry, which remain etched in my heart.

On this blessed occasion of celebration, I lift my heart to the Lord in adoration and thanksgiving, praying that He grants you sufficient grace to continue His work faithfully and fervently until He comes.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labour is not in vain in the Lord (1 Cor. 15:58); and For God is not unjust to forget your work and labour of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister (Heb. 6:10).

May the grace of the Lord be with you all.

Adam Beni

Citra Raya Assembly
INDONESIA

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ from the saints of Citra Raya Assembly. 'Happy 161st Anniversary' to all the saints in BAMK! It has been a true blessing to know you since we met in December 2004. As you have blessed us in countless ways, may our Lord grant you abundant heavenly blessings in return.

We take great pride in your remarkable achievements and admire your unwavering dedication to helping churches serve our Lord and Saviour. You have consistently set an inspiring example for the body of Christ. We will keep you in our prayers so that you may stand firm in faith and truth until the Lord's return. Maranatha.

Kyodo Christian Assembly
JAPAN

Takeda, Miwata, Niimi and Hama

We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to BAMK's brothers and sisters on the occasion of the 161st anniversary of BAMK.

We are sure that many labours, sacrifices, and prayers have been offered by beloved brothers and sisters of BAMK during these 161 years. May the Lord richly reward their work.

Above all, we praise the name of the Lord, remembering that it was all by His grace and mercy.

May the Lord continue to pour out more and more blessings on BAMK in abundance, and may the Lord's will, which is far beyond human knowledge, be done through BAMK in Singapore and throughout the whole world.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age (Mt 28:19-20).



CMAID
////// **MOLDOVA** ////

Matthew Hillier

We want to take this opportunity to congratulate BAMK on its 161st anniversary! We thank the Lord for the opportunity to visit BAMK on numerous occasions over the past decade and for the pleasure of fellowship with you. Your fellowship with us in the work of the gospel in Moldova, through your practical support, prayers and visits from members of the assembly, has been a tremendous blessing and encouragement to us and all those involved in the ministry. We are sure, as you look back over the long history of the assembly, you can say, as the prophet Samuel did, *Thus far the Lord has helped us* (1 Sam. 7:12). Our prayers are with you as you give thanks to Him for His faithfulness in the past and look to Him for His continued blessing in the future.

Aung Kway Htay

Ebenezer Bethren Assembly
////// **MYANMAR** ////

Greetings in the name of our highest, most precious name, our Lord Jesus Christ. I am incredibly joyful and proud of BAMK, which has now reached its 161st anniversary, thanks to God's protection, guidance, and care. Rejoicing together, we give thanks and praise to God for His grace, celebrating the 161st anniversary of your blessings through God's provision.

By God's providence, we have been granted the opportunity to know you since 2005. Since then, through you, we have been abundantly blessed. Regarding the New Testament Church (the biblical church) and sound doctrines, we have been given the opportunity to learn and receive more extensive instruction. We have also been given the chance to foster a closer

fellowship. We have also received your care, appreciation, prayer and generosity. We have been blessed to experience benefits not only spiritually but also physically. Just as others have been privileged to share their spiritual insights, I can serve more effectively in ministry work. We are engaged in this effort, which has also been made possible through your support. I sincerely and profoundly express my gratitude and honour for the spiritual and physical blessings you have been privileged to receive, which you have not kept to yourselves but graciously allowed to flow to us. As you celebrate this blessed 161st anniversary, I pray that God will continue to sustain, protect and use you all for many years to come. Thanks.

Dhruba



We are pleased to know that the 161st Anniversary and Thanksgiving Day of BAMK will take place on 1 Nov. 2025. We sincerely congratulate you all on this auspicious occasion.

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support, participation, cooperation, and prayers for Nepal's spiritual work from the very beginning to the present day.

When we remember you all in our prayers, we always remember Matthew chapter 5 verses 13 to 16, *You are the salt of the earth, and you are the light of the world. In the same way, let your light shine before others so that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*

You have become a faithful witness and model of Christ among Asian countries shrouded in spiritual darkness.

Thank you for your continued support in conducting Free Medical Camps. We want

to express our heartfelt gratitude for the service you provided to the poor and needy people of Nawalparasi and Sarlahi, located outside the Kathmandu Valley, in 2018. Around 1,700 people received free treatment during the three-day camp. Even now, people ask about you. God is taking glory by making you the salt and light of this world.

It is our sincere hope that the joyful celebration of this anniversary will inspire all believers to cultivate a deeper awareness of their Christian dignity and mission and awaken new resolutions in their hearts. We ask the Holy Spirit to make them increasingly aware of their divine adoption in Christ Jesus as children of God and of their call to a new life of holiness. We also pray that all the saints, in their specific roles, will realise the requirements of their vocation, which is intimately linked to Christ in His saving activity.



David Harvey & Ruth

We rejoice in the Lord with you as you celebrate His continuing great faithfulness to your fellowship over the last 161 years. This milestone indeed calls for heartfelt thanksgiving, as well as a renewed commitment to continue reaching out to your community, meeting together to remember our Lord, studying the Scriptures, enjoying fellowship, and growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the assembly of believers in the Philippines, we extend our greetings and pray that the Lord will continue to bless your ministry for His glory. We have been greatly encouraged by your interest and commitment to the Lord's work in the Philippines. Your generous gifts, prayers, and practical involvement through medical teams, evangelism, teaching, financial assistance, and personal visits to the assemblies in our country have been a special blessing! And when we've had the opportunity to visit Singapore, we consider Ang Mo Kio to be our 'home assembly' !

We know our Lord will continue to use Ang Mo Kio for His glory as you seek His perfect will and walk with Him daily. May His great faithfulness continue to strengthen you daily!





POST BOX



Mainit Church
PHILIPPINES

Moon In Oo & Jeong

In view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now ... I am confident of this very thing that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. (Phil. 1:5-6)

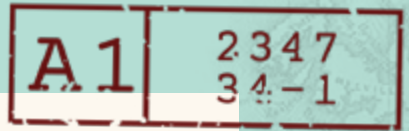
I sincerely congratulate you on the 161st Anniversary of BAMK. All glory belongs to the Lord! In 2002, shortly after I began my missionary journey in the Philippines, our fellowship with BAMK started following a visit by brothers from Singapore. Since then, the Medical Mission Team has visited Liloan Church in 2011 and Mainit Church in 2023. Through these missions, God opened doors for the gospel, and many souls came to salvation.

In times of trial, such as during the devastation of typhoons and fires, your prayers and support have been a great source of comfort and encouragement to the affected members, for which I'm deeply thankful.

I'm genuinely grateful for the unwavering fellowship we've shared in the gospel. I'm confident that the work God began in your lives will continue until the day of Christ Jesus. May the joy and peace from our Lord always overflow in your hearts.



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Harry Tan Siew Ann

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I am deeply honoured by your invitation to contribute a few words in commemoration of the 161st Anniversary and Thanksgiving of the saints gathered at BAMK. Reflecting on the past decade fills my heart with gratitude for the fellowship, growth, and shared mission we have experienced together.

BAMK has been a beacon of faith, unity, and service, and it has been a privilege to witness and participate in the Lord's work through this assembly. The love, dedication, and perseverance of the saints have been a constant source of encouragement to us. As we look back on the last ten years, we see not only God's faithfulness but also the enduring impact of a community rooted in His Word and guided by the Holy Spirit.

May this milestone serve as a reminder of God's goodness and a catalyst for renewed commitment to His purposes. I pray that BAMK continues to shine as a light in the world, bringing glory to His name and advancing God's kingdom. Congratulations on this remarkable journey of faith. May the Lord bless the years to come abundantly.

Low Kok Guan

Brethren Network Fellowship
SINGAPORE

Celebrating 161 Years of God's Faithfulness

Warm greetings in the Lord from the Brethren Network Fellowship (BNF)!

It is with heartfelt joy that we congratulate BAMK on this remarkable milestone—161 years of God's unfailing faithfulness. This history book is a meaningful tribute—not only to the legacy of your assembly but also to its impact on lives and its role in pioneering the various brethren assemblies over the years. This reveals God's steadfast grace upon you to be a beacon of light in Singapore and beyond, through the generations.

We at BNF have been deeply blessed by the fellowship shared with BAMK. Your warmth, humility, generosity, and gracious hospitality—especially in hosting elders and pastors from across the churches—reflect the love of Christ in tangible ways.

As you celebrate this significant chapter, may you also be encouraged and inspired by what God has in store for you ahead—renewed in purpose, united in love, and anchored in the hope of Christ.

The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy (Psa. 126:3).

Daniel Tan

宏茂桥福音堂
SINGAPORE

Warmest congratulations on your 161st anniversary! This remarkable milestone is a testament to your unwavering faith, dedication to God, and service to the community.

Throughout the decades, you have been a reliable partner, working together as a beacon of hope and love to the community in Ang Mo Kio. Your commitment to spreading the gospel and supporting those in need has had a profound impact on the broader community.

We celebrate with you and give thanks to God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon your congregation. May the church continue to thrive and grow, inspiring future generations with your devotion and steadfast faith.

We pray for God's abundant grace, wisdom, and strength to guide you. May He continue to bless your ministries and use you as instruments of His peace and love.

Kwaggafontein Assembly
//// SOUTH AFRICA ////

Abraham Choi & Sarah

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! (Psa. 133:1)

Congratulations on the 161st Anniversary of BAMK! We are grateful that the news of your assembly's faith, much like the name 'House of Mercy', brings great comfort and encouragement to saints around the world as you extend mercy and engage in missionary work across many countries. Your assembly serves as an exemplary model for the entire world. The fact that you have

continued for 161 years is indeed a source of joy for the Lord. This longevity is undoubtedly a result of the dedication and hard work of many saints over the years, and I do not doubt that the Lord will reward their efforts. I pray that the history of Bethesda Hall continues until the day the Lord returns, and I hope that His grace and peace overflow to all the homes of the saints and your assembly.



Noryanjin Assembly
//// SOUTH KOREA ////

Koo Hak Mo

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. (Phil. 1:3-5)

Congratulations on the 161st anniversary of BAMK! I have had the privilege of being in fellowship with the BAMK brothers and sisters since 1988 and have attended their meetings on three different occasions. BAMK has set

a precious example for Christian assemblies in Asia.

They have also made significant contributions to fostering fellowship and building relationships among Christian assemblies in the Asia Pacific region, as well as supporting missionaries across Asia. I pray that they continue to be a shining example for all assemblies and glorify God in all they do.

Fred Kosin

Bible Teacher

//// //// USA ////

It has been my blessing and responsibility to be asked to minister the Word to the family of God in Singapore at BAMK. The initial invitation was a wonder to me, as my friend William MacDonald had told me about the precious gathering of believers in Singapore. My pleasure was played out satisfactorily in real life. I came to experience a balanced assembly that effectively exhibits the primary purposes of the assembly. According to my research, the local church has had three specific responsibilities throughout its 70-year ministry.

These purposes, as seen practically in BAMK, are answers that folks most concerned about the existence and ministry of an assembly ask: 'What is in it for God?', 'What is in it for believers of the assembly?' and 'What is in it for the world?' While these questions are answered from the scriptures, BAMK places particular focus on them. It was my pleasure to address these three from the Word of the New Testament. Their demonstration of Worship is what the Lord gets from His Church. Fellowship is what believers receive from one another. Evangelism is what the world gets from this assembly. After 161 years, this assembly is in complete agreement with the New Testament. What a blessing for the Lord, the believers and the world.

POST BOX



HOPE

Jesus Only—The same forever

Chapter 10

Enduring Principles and Perspectives

Jesus Christ. The Same. (Heb 13:8)

What brings hope, help, and happiness for today and tomorrow?

We can surely rely on the promises of the Lord.

YESTERDAY

The work of the Lord at Bethesda through the ages, beginning at Bencoolen Street, then to all the various church plants in Singapore and throughout the world, stands as a testament to His

faithfulness. It is essential for us to connect with our history and appreciate the grace and provision of God in the lives and labours of the saints that He drew to Himself in the early days.

Toward the Lord—Service

Their service to the Lord was rooted in faith, love, and hope as dedicated servants of Christ. They sought to please God above all, pouring their best efforts into nurturing spiritual lives that brought Him glory, as was their reasonable service. Throughout the 160 years of history, there was a time when only seven individuals gathered at Bencoolen Street, dwindling at a point to just Philip, his wife, and another sister. Yet, they persevered with His grace, understanding that serving the Lord meant enduring suffering like good soldiers of Christ, facing both internal struggles and external challenges.

The Lord was gracious and honoured their faith. He convicted them of the need for their ministry to be revolved around the Word of God. Hence, in preparing and proclaiming the Word, they sought to handle scripture with the diligence of a workman who has no reason to be ashamed, accurately conveying the truth. These early saints left behind a legacy of equipping the saints for service and building up the body of Christ through the consistent and thorough teaching of God's Word. Whether in public or private settings, they sought to communicate essential truths with clarity and conviction.

Toward the Lost—All About Outreach

A comprehensive view of the ministry cannot neglect the importance of reaching those who are lost. The early saints were passionate about sharing the gospel and calling sinners to repentance. They participated in numerous outreach efforts, including the Sandes Soldiers Home, Tiong Bahru outreach, open-air preaching, hospital visits, Sunday School, and Young People's Ministry (YP).



Toward Themselves—Sacrifice

Sacrifice was central to the early saints' hearts. Their unwavering dedication and service to the Lord was characterised by compassion, commitment, and consecration. This was only possible because they understood the sacrifice of their Saviour. Hence, just like the disciples of old, they pressed on towards their high calling in Christ, trusting in the Spirit's leading to make their work worthy of the Lord. They nurtured spiritual lives with both tenderness and resilience. Starting their journey humbly, they pressed on despite challenges,

knowing that true success is measured by pleasing the Lord, not by public recognition. They faithfully completed their ministry, awaiting a divine reward. They aspired to fulfil the ministry God had entrusted to them, guided by compassion, commitment, and capability. Achieving this required a clear perspective on their ministry in relation to the Lord, believers, non-believers, and themselves. What a powerful testament to God's blessing and grace, in response to the hard work, humble hearts, and holy hands of His saints!

TODAY

The Current Work of the Lord— A Testimony of His Favour

We need to acknowledge the work the Lord is doing through His people at this time. Over the past 40 years at Bethesda (Ang Mo Kio) (BAMK), our journey has reinforced the value of New Testament principles and practices in nurturing assembly growth and spreading the gospel. The Holy Spirit continues to empower us, transforming lives despite our imperfections. His mission of exaltation, edification, evangelism, and

encouragement remains strong, leading the lost to salvation and the saved towards sanctification. Let us open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, allowing Him to strengthen each of us through His Word, ensuring a bright future for our assembly through grace, guidance, and guardianship—values that have supported us for over 160 years.

Our Privileges

We should cherish the blessings the Lord has handed down through the generations. Starting with a humble group of seven believers in a shophouse at 108 Bencoolen Street, moving to 77 Bras Basah Road, and now finding our home at 601 Ang Mo Kio Ave 4, this remarkable journey is solely the Lord's doing. He has inspired many to give selflessly, to serve faithfully, and to embody Christlike lives. We have been blessed beyond measure all while having the freedom to

worship. The various activities, such as Assembly Bible Camps, Assembly Youth Camps and retreats, have been organised for our edification and encouragement, enhancing our community life together. Let us not take these privileges for granted. We should appreciate what we have in the Lord and love our assembly as Christ loves it. Let us be thankful and make our meetings and activities a priority for fellowship, spiritual nourishment, and prayer as members of God's family.

Our People

As God's chosen people, we can draw inspiration from David, who loved and risked his life for his sheep. Unlike Saul, David's heart was entirely devoted to the Lord, showing that integrity and skill must go hand in hand. We need a biblical philosophy of ministry that defines our purpose and our assembly's existence. Every worker is a tool in God's hands, unique and valuable, called to serve to the best of our ability. 1 Corinthians chapter 3 verse 12 reminds us to build upon the foundation of Christ using quality materials—gold, silver, and precious stones—rather than inferior options like wood, hay, and

straw. These materials reflect our responses to the Lord and how we serve Him. While good deeds cannot save us, every Christian is created for good works and tasked with bearing fruit in service to God. Our service should stem from love and a genuine desire to honour the Lord, not from compulsion. Actions that might seem significant could hold little worth if done for the wrong reasons, and God knows our true motives (1 Cor. 4:5). Ultimately, our work must centre on Christ. A clear philosophy of ministry will enhance our effectiveness and keep us aligned with biblical principles.

Our Problems

We've encountered several pressing questions:

- Is the gospel at the heart of all we do?
- Is our chief end to bring glory to God or to be comfortable?
- How should the assembly respond to a changing culture?
- What does God consider relevant?
- How concerned is Christ about traditional versus contemporary issues?
- What should our ministry priorities be?
- Under whose authority do we stand?
- What direction does Christ want for His assembly at BAMK today?

The Lord will use His Word as the measure of our efforts, focusing on whether our ministry aligns with biblical standards, rather than whether it follows traditional or contemporary trends. We are facing challenges like a lack of commitment and prayer, often arising from a diminished view of the Bible. It is essential to avoid compromising our methods in favour of mere relevance. While our methods may evolve, the message remains

constant. We must faithfully uphold our theological heritage, affirming truths and steering clear of errors without diluting them for appeal. If we prioritise entertaining over fulfilling our mission, we risk losing our spiritual direction. Christ builds His church His way (Mt. 16:18), and for a ministry that pleases God, we must diligently plant the good seed of God's Word through dedicated pastoral care.



Our Principles

The conviction and commitment demonstrated by previous generations to adhere to New Testament church principles, as outlined in Acts chapter 2 verse 42, are vital for guiding and safeguarding assembly practices that exalt Christ, evangelise the unsaved, and edify and encourage the saints. This dedication must persist in contemporary times. We must comprehend these biblical truths and allow our hearts to be good, soft ground in which the seeds of biblical truth will grow and yield its blessings. This legacy of God's covenant with His saints should be written on the tablets of our hearts, so that it can be of great significance—not because of us, but because it focuses on the Lord, His work in building up the saints, and the outreach to the unsaved. Today, our beliefs and practices are not mere traditions; instead, they are grounded in scriptural principles. We must continue to uphold the following tenets:



- Our assembly is firmly anchored in Christ, recognised as the true gathering centre of His people, with an unwavering focus on His person and name (Mt. 18:20; Rev. 1:12–13). This steadfast devotion to Christ serves as the cornerstone of our beliefs and practices.
- We identify our fellowship as an independent and undenominational assembly, governed and supported under the Lordship of Christ.
- Within our community, we prioritise fellowship over formal membership. Individuals are welcomed into our assembly based on genuine faith in Christ and baptism by immersion or letter of commendation.
- The purpose of the assembly revolves around exaltation, evangelism, edification, and encouragement, emphasising simplicity, scriptural integrity, and regular engagement (1 Cor. 11:26). Our commitment to the gospel and missionary work transcends mere duty; it embodies a profound sense of purpose, calling, and commendation that inspires and motivates our actions.
- We celebrate the unity of all believers, affirming that we are one in Christ Jesus (Eph. 5:1).
- We uphold the priesthood of all believers and recognise the importance of spiritual gifts, prayers, praise, and practical fellowship.
- Our community includes elders, deacons, and saints (Phil. 1:1).
- We firmly believe in the all-sufficiency of God's Word as our guiding principle.
- In our financial practices, we do not solicit funds, maintaining transparency and faithfulness (1 Cor. 16:1–2).
- We honour the essential role of women within the assembly, focusing on their service, silence, and submission as unto the Lord.

Addressing Future Challenges for the Next Generation Through Divine Promises and Presence

It is imperative to safeguard the future of the Lord's work through His presence, promises and prospects until His return:

THE PAST

I have loved you (John 13:34)

This verse highlights His preservation, assuring us that the work of the Lord, conducted according to His will, shall ultimately prevail and succeed, confirming His role as the Lord of history.



THE PRESENT

I will never leave you (Heb. 13:5)

This verse emphasises His power, allowing individuals to experience a personal relationship with the Lord and engage in fervent prayer, recognising Him as the Lord of the present. The Lord desires for us to know, obey, and revere Him (Psa. 76:1–3). The manifestations of God's might further illustrate the depth of His character and authority (Psa. 75:1; Isa. 33:13). The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—acknowledged as the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 1:3; Eph. 1:3; 1 Pet. 1:3)—is indeed our Rock, Redeemer, and Refuge (Psa. 78:35). Trust in the Lord of history is crucial, sustained through



both individual and collective prayer. Historical evidence since the 1800s demonstrates that ministry thrives when undergirded by prayer. Our reliance rests solely upon the Lord and not on human wisdom, abilities, or resources, underlining the necessity for continued dependence on Him. Failure to do so risks transforming our ministry into an organisation driven by humanistic philosophies, rather than being guided by the Spirit.

THE FUTURE

I will come again and receive you (John 14:3)

This statement highlights His promise for future generations. The transmission of God's Word and the gospel of Christ through the ages is pivotal; without it, the foundation of faith would be compromised. It remains God's directive for each generation to propagate His Word to succeeding generations (Psa. 71:18; Ex. 10:2; Deut. 4:9, 6:6-9), a principle that is equally applicable to our current context (2 Tim. 2:2). The principles that govern the nature of the Lord are unchanging. Today, it is the responsibility of Christian parents, Sunday School (SS) teachers, YP leaders, Christian Education Programme (CEP) leaders, and mature believers to impart spiritual truths to the next generation. Neglecting this duty may jeopardise the testimony of future local assemblies (Rev. 2:5). It is essential for future generations to comprehend and adhere to the Lord's teachings to receive His blessings. This timeless principle remains significant today, urging us to ensure its continuity.

As participants in the 21st century, we stand to gain insights from the pioneers of faith and fellowship between the 18th and 20th centuries, whose contributions to the assembly's life and testimony are invaluable. It is critical to recognise that the Lord has been sovereign over past challenges and continues to guide us today. Acknowledging the continuity of the past equips us to uphold New Testament assembly principles and practices for our worship, witness, work and warfare. The central focus of the assembly must persistently remain on Christ and His Word. We owe a debt of gratitude to the devout men and women of the recent past, including elders, deacons, and dedicated workers, who have modelled such faithfulness. Our prayer is for the Lordship of Christ to be central to the assembly in our era, ensuring that this emphasis is passed down to subsequent generations.



Our Hope, in the Words of our Assembly Members

As we progress, it is vital to gather insights from various members of our community, spanning from the youngest to the oldest, regarding their perspectives and aspirations for protecting the future of the ministry and the testimony of BAMK, while embracing their challenges and hopes:



RACHEL CHUA
SS scholar

Even as the world is rapidly changing and there are always new things that draw people away from God, I hope that BAMK will not stop being a shining light in Ang Mo Kio as it has been for the past few decades. It is important for youths, including me, to read the Bible and pray every day, so as to grow spiritually, as we are the future of the church. I also think it is important to mind how we behave when we step out of the church premises.

As the Christian song What You Are goes, 'They're looking at your walk, not listening to your talk, they're judging from your actions every day ... Walk worthy of your holy calling, bring praise to His blessed name, lest He, through you, should be dishonoured and your deeds should bring Him shame.' May all of us, young and old, walk in a way that brings glory to God, whether we are at a bus stop, hawker centre or our workplaces/schools.

As a church, we must remember our first love in order to protect our assembly's future and testimony. We can do so by remembering the love of the Lord Jesus in how He laid aside His majesty to come down and die for our sins. We should frequently speak to each other about the Lord Jesus and how worthy He is of our love. Also, as John chapter 13 verse 34 says, we ought to love one another and humbly serve each other, following the Lord Jesus' example in how He washed His disciples' feet.



SARAH KUM
YP member



DAVID CHEW
CEP member

The desire is for BAMK to establish a permanent place of testimony, potentially situated at a central location akin to its existing platform, or as a network of freehold properties distributed across Singapore, entrusted to the care of responsible individuals. This arrangement would facilitate regular gatherings and foster fellowship, both in person and through video conferencing.

I envision our assembly as a beacon of divine light for the local community and nation, providing an environment where individuals can discover the truth of God through His Word and the testimonies of His followers.

I foresee the emergence of a new generation of leaders (young elders, deacons, and commended workers), guided prayerfully by the Holy Spirit, who will elevate BAMK's commitment to excellence in biblical teaching, ministry, communal life, and practical assistance for both our assembly and society at large.



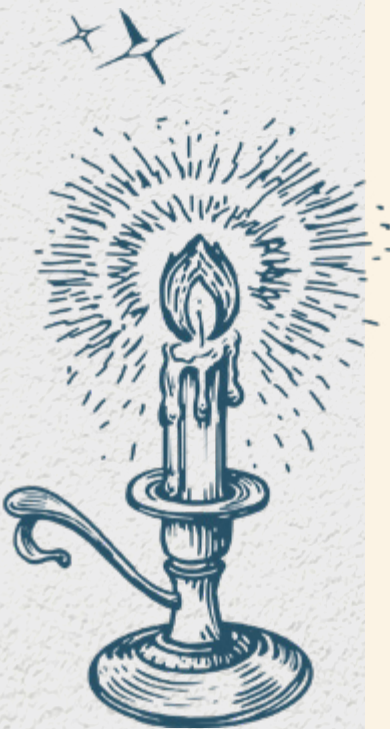
LEE WAI SUM
Choir member

I was baptised 54 years ago on 31 Oct. 1971, at Bras Basah Road, by the late Robert Tan. Shortly after, I joined the assembly choir he conducted, where attendance was generally high, except for occasional sickness. Two events especially moved me:

The first was on Christmas night, when the late Tommy Cheong, an elder, led us into Bethesda Hall with lighted candles and sang O Holy Night.

The second was during an evangelistic outreach at Victoria Memorial Hall, where I sang with Tommy Cheong. He began with, 'It is well with my soul,' and I responded, 'It is well, it is well, with my soul.'

May the Lord inspire us through the faithful examples of His people, whose years of experience encourage us to embody humility, commitment, and dedication in His service.



My vision for BAMK is for our assembly to embody the role of God's ambassador within Singapore and beyond, cultivating a community where members can inspire and support each other on their spiritual journeys. This esteemed vision can only be realised through the active involvement of every member of BAMK, who must prioritise the assembly above their interests.

I pray that our ministries remain firmly anchored in the Word of God, empowering us to proclaim His truth with boldness and conviction. I also hope that every member of BAMK embraces their calling as a royal priesthood, treating one another with kindness, respect, and love, while courageously reaching out to disseminate the gospel of God.



TAI ZHANG YONG
CEP member



KOH LIANG HWEE
CEP leader

To protect the future of the assembly, I have two views:

1. The assembly needs to grow the number of young members and nurture them spiritually with sound biblical teachings.
2. All existing members need to give sacrificially so BAMK will have enough resources to renew the lease or look for another premise when the current lease expires.



WAN JIN QUAN
CEP leader

In an era where moral standards seem to shift unpredictably and lawlessness is on the rise, we, as a united assembly, must remain unwavering in our convictions, deeply anchored in the teachings of God's Word. Our resolve to defend our faith should be resolute, fortified by prayer and mutual support.

Additionally, we ought to earnestly seek God's guidance and assistance to sustain our efforts in spreading the gospel. It is essential for us to actively engage with those in our surroundings, extending the warmth and truth of Christ's love to everyone we encounter. Let us commit ourselves to this mission with passion and dedication, striving to make a meaningful impact in the lives of others.

Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) 161st Anniversary Book Editorial Committee



Left to Right: Tuck Keong, Yong Jian, Jia Neng, Susan, Esther, Josephine, Pik Yee and Lynn
Not in photo: Chiew Gee and Lydia

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