

# FAIRFIELD COMPASS

A Newsletter by Fairfield Methodist Church

Issue 2 | January 2013 MITA (P) 085/02/2012

## Becoming A Disciplemaking Church

### The purpose of discipling

The pastors and leaders of Fairfield believe that each and every one of us in church is called to be a disciple. Because of this we have spent a great deal of time considering how the church can help us understand and express our discipleship. We have identified small group accountability, strong Word-based teaching and personal mentoring as the way we will train to be disciples in Fairfield. One way of putting the purpose of the discipling process is to help us become men, women, boys and girls that are *"filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God."* (Col 1:9-10). As God's beloved children, we want to grow to become like our Heavenly Father and to do what He does. This desire for continuing growth in holiness is a mark that we truly belong to God (1 Pet 1:14, 1 Jn 3:10).

When we try to understand and express our discipleship, we should aim for growth both in spiritual maturity as well as an increasing commitment and love for the local church. In other words, our plans and methods of making disciples should help us draw closer to God and to Fairfield Methodist Church as well. Of course, the latter is secondary to the former, but a discipleship programme that only helps us draw closer to God would not be any different from a discipleship programme by any other church or parachurch organization. So we should learn together about the ministries, activities and culture of Fairfield as members of a church family. This will help us grow to identify more closely with and to take a godly pride in the people and place we belong to.



Christian fellowship in a deeper and more committed way. We consider small groups to be the key vehicle for discipling in Fairfield. Because of this, we intend that participation in a small group become the norm for everyone in church.

Small groups can be defined as gatherings of 3-20 people who regularly meet together. Existing small groups in church include the cells, Bible study groups and follow-up groups. The Children's Ministry and Youth Ministry also have age-level cells under teachers. There are many groups of people meeting in church, with different purposes and emphases. Some groups meet mainly to pray together. Some meet mainly for Bible study. Others mainly provide support through sharing of personal life issues. Yet others meet because of a shared ministry (e.g. the choir) or a particular area of interest (e.g. pool).

It can be seen then that not all small groups in church have a specific goal to help their members grow in spiritual maturity. This is a normal state of affairs because the life of the church involves many kinds of small groups. Some small groups are not the right place for the kind of expression of Christian fellowship that the Bible talks about. Because of this we would encourage those of us whose small groups cannot focus on discipling to also join a second small group that does. Those of us in small groups who could be focusing on discipling can ask ourselves and one another in the same small group if we are able and willing to adopt this kind of focus. A small group that focuses on discipling has a particular programme (what happens when the cell meets), a depth of spiritual

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### Small group life

In the previous Compass issue, I mentioned the foundational role small groups have in helping our spiritual growth and encouraged everyone to join a small group. By doing this, we can experience



一家同庆  
Celebrating  
as ONE family



## A Word from the Pastor-in-charge

– Rev Lilian Ang

### Celebrating As One Family

How does the world know that we are Christians? It is “by our love.” Love is one of the marks of a Christian - an important element of a discipling church. But the litmus test of this love is whether it is genuine or hypocritical, out of self-interest or putting others’ well-being first.

Wesley’s general rules of “doing no harm, avoiding evil, and doing good of every possible sort” are ways to help us practice love in our lives. For Wesley, faith and works are two sides of the same coin.

As we celebrate our 65<sup>th</sup> church anniversary in 2013, we want to celebrate as ONE family in Christ – one loving family. How do we do that? Jesus says *“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another”* (John 13: 34-35 – NRSV).

This is the only commandment Jesus explicitly identified for His disciples, which includes you and me. The world will know we are Christians by our love for one another.

But why is this a “new command”? Because the people of God did not have love for one another like they should have had. Jesus is basically saying, “You, who are My disciples, love each other. You, who believe in Me, love each other. You, who are My followers, love each other. You, who are members of My church, love each other.”

This command to love one another is new because it is not a selfish love. The kind of love to which Jesus refers to is a self-sacrificial love. It is the kind of love that was exemplified in Jesus through His public and private ministry as He formed His disciples into a community of believers. It is also the kind of love that was exemplified in His Passion as He suffered and died for those believers and the entire world. The love we are to have for one another is love that is committed. It is love that does not have a self-serving agenda.

The church is about loving one another. This year, we want to grow as loving disciples – not only loving fellow worshippers across the different language services (English, Mandarin, Cantonese and China Nationals Ministry) in Fairfield - but also loving those who have stopped worshipping at Fairfield, loving our own inactive members and loving our community in Chinatown.

When we have love for one another, the world will see and know that we are Christians; that we belong to Jesus Christ. And this love which stems from Christ will compel us to love and serve our community in Chinatown.

So what does the world know about you? What does the world know about us?

As one Fairfield family, let us each do our part in giving attention to membership care and recovering “lost” members through our small groups, our ministry groups and any other informal groups. Together, let us “Celebrate As One Family” - “Following Christ, Making Disciples” that everyone will know that we are His disciples by our love.

# 主任牧师的话

— 洪秀琪牧师

## 全家同庆花菲卫理公会65周年

“爱”是一个基督徒的标志，并且是教会培训门徒的重要元素之一，但是真正的考验在于这爱是否是真实或虚伪的，是为了自身利益或是把别人放在第一位。

卫斯理的原则“不做任何伤害他人的事，避免邪恶，尽一切可能行善事”帮助我们在生活中操练爱他人。对卫斯理而言，信心和行为是并行的。

我们将在2013年为教会庆祝65周年纪念，并且要以一个相亲相爱的大家庭来庆祝。耶稣说：“我赐给你们一条新命令、乃是叫你们彼此相爱。我怎样爱你们、你们也要怎样相爱。你们若有彼此相爱的心、众人因此就认出你们是我的门徒了。”（约翰福音13:34-35）

这是耶稣向他的门徒所指定的唯一诫命，这也包括了你我。我们彼此相爱的心，能使天下人都知道我们是基督徒。

耶稣制定这项“新的命令”是因为神的子民并没有彼此相爱的心。基本上，耶稣基督是说，“我的门徒应彼此相爱。信我的，就应彼此相爱。追

随我的，应彼此相爱。我的教会成员，应彼此相爱。”

这项命令是新的，因为它不是自私的爱。耶稣指的“爱”是自我牺牲的爱。耶稣通过各项事工表达了这种无私的爱。耶稣经历痛苦和死亡来拯救凡信他和世人。我们的爱也应该是无私的。

这一年里，我们要成为爱的门徒，不仅要爱那些在花菲卫理公会各堂（英语堂，华语堂，广东堂和中国事工）敬拜的弟兄姊妹，我们也应该爱那些已经不在花菲敬拜的弟兄姊妹，爱牛车水社区的居民。

当我们彼此相爱，世界将看到并知道我们是基督徒，而我们是属于耶稣基督的。这源于基督的爱将使我们爱牛车水社区的居民。

身为花菲卫理公会的家庭成员，我们每个人都应尽我们的能力关怀，并将离开教会的弟兄姊妹接回来。让我们一同庆祝，一同“跟随基督，培训门徒”，让众人因为我们的爱而认识到我们都是耶稣的门徒！



# RAISING FUND FOR CHURCH BUILDING

Our current premise at 1 Tanjong Pagar Road serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness to Fairfield Methodist Church. It tells the story of God's divine intervention in how we managed to acquire the old Metropole Cinema for our worship services. It was truly a miracle that a group of senior members and leaders of the church could borrow the required funds from sister churches of TRAC to 'close the building purchase' within a span of just six weeks!

Fairfield Methodist Church began as a chapel in Fairfield Girls' School at 178 Neil Road. The first Sunday School and Worship Service was held on Passion Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1947 in the School Drill Hall – with only a square table covered with a white linen cloth as the worship centre. On the table top was placed a wooden cross crafted by Mr Yeo Ban Guat and a vase of flowers from the "Flame of the Forest" tree.

During those days, we worshipped only as a congregation until Fairfield began as a church on 1<sup>st</sup> February 1948 and started to worship in the school hall with spartan facilities.

We held our last Sunday Service in Fairfield Girls School on 8<sup>th</sup> June 1986 before we moved to 1 Tanjong Pagar Road. It was a major breakthrough when we were able to acquire our current premises in June 1986. God has strategically placed us in Chinatown to serve a community which has many spiritual and physical needs.

The land lease of No. 1 Tanjong Pagar Road expires in the Year 2027. Before that time, the church will need to decide if we wish to continue worshipping at the current premises or find another place to worship.

The option to remain at the current premises means the church must be prepared "to submit a suitable bid" to the Government to retain the premises. Based on estimation, \$10 million will be required to renew the land lease for another 30 years plus some renovation works to be done.

The alternative option would be for the church to find another suitable premise or a piece of land to build a new church building. With the rising land cost in land scarce Singapore as well as high construction cost, it only means that the church must have very deep pockets to consider seeking a piece of land and constructing a new church building.

Bearing in mind that whichever option the church chooses, most premises or land for place of worship is usually granted a term lease of only thirty years which means that our church must continuously accumulate funds to renew land lease every thirty years.

## 教会筹款活动

花菲卫理公会目前的教堂见证了神的信实。上帝显现了神迹，为我们预备金华戏院，让我们在这里敬拜天父。上帝在短短的六个星期内让卫理教会筹得足够的基金以签下租赁合同。

花菲聚会在花菲女子学校开始，并开办于1947年3月23日。当时只有一组主日学和每星期一堂主日敬拜。花菲聚会是在1948年2月1日正式成为花菲卫理公会。

在1986年6月8日，花菲靠着上帝的恩典搬到丹戎巴葛现在的地点。神的旨意是要花菲在牛车水一带服侍贫困的居民。

丹戎巴葛路1号的土地租赁将在2027年到期。在此之前，教会将需要决定，我们是否应该继续在现有的地方敬拜，或是找一个地方。

如果我们选择留在现有的地方敬拜，教会必须向政府提出申请并提交进标价。这估计应该需要大概1000万元以续30年土地租赁合同和一些装修工程。

虽然我们可以找一块适合的土地来建立一间新的教堂，但是，因为教会资金有限，所以我们没法履行这个想法。

我们必须知道所有租借的土地的租赁期限只有30年，而这意味着，我们的教会必须不断地积累资金，以便在每三十年更新土地租赁合同。

在这期间，教会的成员也应为教会提供帮助，使我们有足够的资金在2027年作出决定和计划。

花菲的会众都要承担建立教会的责任。我们将举办不同的活动以鼓励其他机构和朋友给予我们教会支持。我们要借着这些活动来传扬花菲弟兄姊妹之间的爱以及上帝的神迹。

为了这次的筹款活动，我们委员会设计了一本日记。它展示了我们教会中一些摄影师的摄影作品。这体现了他们对主的爱，和服侍主的忠心。

筹款活动包括了高尔夫球比赛和筹款晚宴。我们需要会众的支持。大家齐心协力，委员会相信我们的神是信实的，他必定会引导我们忠心地侍奉他。

While the leaders ponder over the future of the FFMC premises, the members of this church must also play an active part to help FFMC build up our resources so that we will have sufficient funds to make a decision come Year 2027.

It is important that members of FFMC become aware of the need to share the responsibility of securing the premises for worship as a church. Besides seeking regular contributions from the members, the Building Fund Committee will organise projects and events to seek contributions from well-wishers outside FFMC. The Committee hopes to use these events to develop a COMMON HEART within the congregation to uphold the heritage of FFMC and to pass on the culture and values of the FFMC family to the next generation.

The first project organised by the Committee is the production and sales of "REFLECTIONS – THE JOURNAL". This production features

the selected works of FFMC members who are also photography enthusiasts. It is a showcase of their God-given talents and demonstrates their passion to use their gifts to contribute to this Church.

Other events in the pipeline are fun-filled Novelty Golf Outing and Building Fund-Raising Dinner – which will need the active participation from our members.

FFMC had come a long way from worshipping as a small congregation in a spartan environment to worshipping at our current premises at No. 1 Tanjong Pagar Road. With a COMMON HEART, the Committee trusts that God will remain faithful to us to help us be sufficiently prepared to serve Him.



**Alan Tang Keen Fei (邓坚辉)**,  
Chairman – FFMC Building  
Fund Raising Committee (Year  
2012/13)



# The 1-2-3 of Rev Leslie Lim

He is married to **1** wife – Mrs Linda Lim-Chai

He served the Lord as a Missionary-pastor in **2** countries Australia and Singapore.

He has **3** wonderful, lovely children –Lucas (16); Lydia (14) and Leesa (11).

Fairfield Methodist Church is church number **4** the Rev Leslie is posted to. He has served in Bedok Methodist Church, Ang Mo Kio Methodist Church, and Agape Methodist Church previously.

He is the **5th** generation of faithful disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ whose fore-parents served the Lord faithfully as leaders of the local church.

林牧师从小在马来西亚（大峇株巴辖）长大，是主带领他到城市侍奉。牧师的妻子名叫Linda，他们育有三个孩子，他们分别名为Lucas（16岁）Lydia（14岁）和Leesa（11岁）。林牧师在欧洲和新加坡宣教，花菲是牧师服侍的第四间教会。

牧师从1982年至1989年在澳大利亚求学，并开始服侍主的事工，而且他也在维多利亚开始了第一个亚洲教会。林牧师在1992年来到新加坡宣教，并且在一间快速增长的教会服侍。他热心于宣教和门徒培训。

林牧师平常喜欢打乒乓球、羽毛球和排球。他也爱看电影和听流行音乐。

**Q: Rev Lim, tell us more about how you started in ministry.**

Although hailing from a 'kampong', a small town in Batu Pahat, my life-long passions in pursuing the Lord, His missions and making disciples has brought me to big cities. Whilst a student in Australia from 1982-1989, I had the privilege to start a new Christian Pentecostal Ministry, Deakin University Students for Christ, in my university. I was also instrumental in starting up the first Asian church in Geelong, Victoria.

**Q: How did you even find time to study?**

Yes, amazingly I graduated from Deakin University and also Geelong Bible College Australia. Subsequently, I became a full time missionary to Australia as a staff to Vic/Tas Students for Christ holding the post of Deakin University Campus Director.

**Q: What brought you to Singapore?**

In 1992 I came to Singapore as a missionary-pastor to a then new and fast growing church. Since coming to Singapore I have served as a pastor in two different independent churches. I have always a passion for discipleship and missions, and I am blessed to be able to be involved in discipleship, church planting, missions and leadership training in various countries in this South East Asia region.

**Q: What are some of the training you received in preparation for ministry?**

I received my Master of Arts (Biblical Studies)



from Singapore Bible College in 1999 and Master of Divinity from East Asia School of Theology in 2001. When the Centre of Study of Christianity in Asia (CSCA) of Trinity Theological College was birthed in 2001, I was admitted as the first pioneering batch to pursue the Master in Theology (Missions in Asia) and graduated in 2003.

**Q: Having been in several Methodist Churches, do share with us some of your experiences there.**

As a Methodist pastor, I helped launched the Men's Accountability Network in Bedok MC (BMC), the Men's Breakfast Fellowship in Ang Mo Kio MC (AMK MC) and the Men's Fellowship in Agape MC (AgMC). I was the

missions pastor in both AMK MC and Agape MC. I oversee the Year of Missions in AMK MC where more than 20 mission short trips were made and 2 more missionaries sent out, and the church became involved in four more other countries under my mission team. I also count it a joy to be given the opportunity to oversee the young ones like the Young Adults in BMC and the Youth in AgMC.

My TRAC Duties include being the committee member in the Local Preachers Training and TRAC LEAD Prophetic Prayer Team. I am the Chairman of TRAC Crisis Relief Task Force and a committee member of the Board of Outreach and Social Concerns. I am also a member of Methodist Missions Society Personnel Committee.

**LL's favourite quote:**

Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last. (C.T. Studd)

**LL's serious prayer:**

"God grant that I may never live to be useless!" (John Wesley)

**Q: Aside from being in ministry, what else do you enjoy?**

I like to play table tennis, badminton and volleyball. I am also an enthusiastic movie watcher and likes listening to pop music and appreciates arts.



# Building Roots, Bearing fruits:

## *Reflections on Youth Ministry*

Youth ministry, like most other ministries in the church, is a time and labor intensive area of service. This is mostly due to the fact that the average age of the people in this ministry is significantly lower than various other ministries in the church (with the exception of the tots class and children's ministry), and the energy level of the youth is also correspondingly higher. As such, it is understandable that serving in the youth ministry requires a great deal more energy and effort as compared with other areas of service in the church.

Youth work is especially crucial because most of these young people will be experiencing an influx of changes for the first time, not merely the physical aspects but mental and emotional ones as well. These changes concomitantly bring about a struggle for identity and a need to find community, a place for them to belong. The youth ministry thus has a responsibility to foster this community and create a safe place for the youths to be honest about their struggles; a place where they are guided to look to Jesus Christ, in whom they can find their identity, security and all. We do this not just by teaching about Him but by actively modelling a life of fullness, a fullness which comes from Christ, in whom the fullness of God was manifested (Colossians 1:19).

The challenge for us as leaders then, is to constantly demonstrate Christlikeness and model what it means to be transformed by the renewing of our minds (Romans 12:2). It is never only about having a good curriculum but also about becoming leaders that strive for excellence towards God's standards. Since spiritual formation is something that cannot be taught, I am inclined, after reflecting on my service, that the best way to make an impact is to show, not just to tell. As Rev Edmund Chan's oft quoted aphorism states, "Truth does not change lives. Truth applied changes lives". So, as leaders, even as we are people responsible for teaching biblical truth, may we also demonstrate the power of that truth in our lives by living it out, through the Spirit and grace of God working in us.

This, thus, is the youth leader's call: in alignment with the theme verse for next year, that is, Jeremiah 17:7-8 "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when the heat comes, for its leaves remain green and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit." The call to build deep roots is a call to abiding and trusting in Christ (John 15:5), that we may bear fruit (Galatians 5:22-23). This twofold process of learning and living begins with the leaders and is modeled for the youth.

The burden of discipleship and nurturing however, does not merely fall on the shoulders of the youth leaders alone, it is one that the whole church as God's community is responsible for. The idea of modelling is neither a new concept nor one that operates in silo. We need to think about modelling Christlikeness outside our ministry roles, especially for the adults, who may be spiritually more

experienced, to be examples for the younger ones to emulate. Our behavior and attitudes do not merely reflect our individuality, but shapes the culture of our community at large as well, a culture which in turn, will be passed on to the next generation. It is thus imperative to consider what kind of culture we as the church are shaping for the next generation, and take the necessary actions to ensure that it is a culture that we can be proud of passing on.

We live in a world where it is easy to know truth but a million times more challenging to live truth. When the rubber meets the road, it is always so much easier to be comfortable where we are - in passivity and inaction - as opposed to standing up for what God's truth requires of us. It is a call to model for our future generation and shape a culture that they are to inherit, and a call to build deep roots and bear fruit for Christ as a church, by the grace and Spirit of God, for His glory.



**Joshua Loke** is the Chairperson of Youth Ministry. He worships in Fairfield with his family.







## Thanksgiving for Youth Camp 2012 Cultivate!

This year, the youth ministry had our youth camp at the Girls' Brigade Centre. The focus of the camp was cultivate - a call for the youths to build deep foundations for faith and a commitment to walk closely with the Lord and bearing fruit for Him. The image of a tree building deep roots depicts this process of growth for the Christian life, and as in John 12:24, we hope to encourage the process of growth in order that the youth may be as trees bearing fruit.

We thank God for the good weather and the fun that the youth had through the activities and games. The spiritual lessons imparted by our speaker, Mr Adriel Loh from Wesley Methodist Church, were engaging and rallied the youth to a rededication to growing their spiritual life.

We thank God for ministering to the youth at the camp and also pray and look forward to the continued work of the Holy Spirit in the youths' lives for the year ahead!







## From then to now.... 65 years of God's unfailing faithfulness.

1933: Fairfield Chapel started in Fairfield Girls' School at No. 178 Neil Road

1948: First Fairfield Methodist Church (FFMC) Local Conference convened on 1 February with 14 adults and 6 youths. Rev Herbert Kuehn was the first Pastor of FFMC. Peter Lim became Supply Pastor after Kuehns returned to USA.



1957: Fairfield Chapter of WSCS started with Ms Lim Poh Luan as the first President

1977: Ms Kwan Poh San was first missionary to Papua New Guinea with Wycliffe Bible Translators

1985: FFMC Kindergarten started  
Metropole Theatre at No. 1 Tanjong Pagar Road bought over on 22 November with loans and donations from members and sister Methodist churches

1986: First Worship Service at No. 1 Tanjong Pagar Road on 15 June  
Cantonese Service started on 28 September

1987: First Christmas In Chinatown (CIC) was held at Kreta Ayer Square on 19 December. CIC was held annually for the next 10 years

1990: Small Group Ministry started

1991: 43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Dedication Service & Thanksgiving Dinner held on 10 February to commemorate the full payment for the purchase of No. 1 Tanjong Pagar Road

1993: Adopted Mauwake people of Papua New Guinea in August

1996: Yong-en Care Centre registered on 4 September  
Care Cell Ministry launched on 6 October

1998: Mandarin Service started in January  
PowerKids Ministry started  
Glowing Years Ministry (GYM) started on 28 June

2000: Yong-en Care Centre official opening on 25 November

2002: Adopted Yi people of Yunan China on 18 August

2003: Woodlands Preaching Point Inaugural Service on 1 June

2005: No. 1 Tanjong Pagar Road was gazetted by URA on 27 September

2007: Chinese Nationals Ministry started on 18 February  
First complete ALPHA course conducted

2008: FFMC's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

2010: FFMC Kindergarten celebrated 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary

2011: Monthly Corporate Prayer meetings in English and Mandarin started in April  
LCEC adopted the vision for FFMC to be a Disciple-making Church  
Cantonese Service celebrated 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

2012: Started Ministry to injured Chinese Nationals in March

Interviews with respective worshippers and members on why they worship in Fairfield all these years.

GF : Grace Fong



BW : Barnabas Wong



ML: Michael Ly



RW: Richard Wong

**Mrs Angelina Singam**



"I transferred my membership from Paya Lebar Methodist Church to Fairfield Methodist Church in 1975. I have been attending Fairfield for 38 years.

I have made many friends and found many areas to serve. I have always valued the love, friendship, concern and fellowship with members in Fairfield. They have been there for me through my ups and downs in my health and life. They have been supportive and caring and I thank God that I have lived in His promises.

Since I have been serving in WSCS from the age of 18, I find my life being enfolded with prayers. I do encourage all to step up in prayer for there is no better way to prepare yourself to face life and it's different turnings but to acknowledge that only God alone can put things right for us. We should will ourselves to God. Make prayer a priority in your life.

### Field Methodist Church Kindergarten - 1 Anniversary Thanksgiving Graduation 花菲卫理公会幼稚园二十周年感恩毕业



#### How long have you been worshipping in Fairfield?

**GF:** I've been worshipping at Fairfield for as long as I can remember; since I was born. So that makes it around 20 years if you count the time when I was a baby.

**BW:** I have been worshipping in Fairfield Methodist Church for 28 years when I got to know my spouse, Selina Wee who was a member there.

**ML:** We have been worshipping in Fairfield for over a year now. Before this, we lived in Bangkok and we worshiped in Evangelical Church of Bangkok. We returned to Singapore at the end of year 2011.

**RW:** I accepted Christ in September 1972 through a evangelistic rally organised by Military Navigators. Two months later, a friend of mine brought me to this church. I thank God for friends in the church who extended their warm fellowship and help me to transit in my new life with Christ.

#### Why do you worship here?

**GF:** I guess part of the reason as to why I'm at Fairfield is because my family worships here; including my cousin's family and my grandparents. It's special to me, to be able to worship together with my family every sunday. Also, the aunties and uncles who have been integral throughout my walk with God as a child create a warm community that supports and encourages me.

**BW:** Well, I believe it is part of God's plan. Previously, I was worshipping at Emmanuel Evangelical Church. Then God placed Selina into my life in 1984 and we got married in Fairfield Methodist Church in 1989. Since then, I have transferred my membership to Fairfield Methodist Church.

**ML:** We explored a few churches around our area and felt comfortable with Fairfield's style of worship.

The brothers and sisters in Christ here are very friendly. During our first visit, I remembered Jeannette briefed us about the Sunday school program for children. Albert talked to us about Fairfield and introduced us to other members as well. We felt very welcomed and decided to make Fairfield our home church.

**RW:** I guess it is a place where I have good friends whom I could bond and support each other. It is also a place I could have a sense of belongingness, recognition and participation with the church people and the activities.

#### What do you like about the church?

**BW:** It provides warm fellowship, sharing of experiences, encouragement and prayer support for individual and families through care cell or small groups. My family attends the Clementi Care Cell. The Pastors are very friendly and approachable too. There is also ample opportunity for me to serve in the respective Ministries of the Church.

**ML:** We like Fairfield because of its closely-knit community and its long history. People here are friendly and caring. We got to know the church better and our faith has also grown since joining Tuck Meng's cell group. Fairfield has helped us to walk closer with God

**RW:** In many ways, this church is my second home. A place where I grew up. knew and married my wife. Our two sons ( Samuel and Caleb) received their early spiritual grounding through the church school. It is a place I feel very comfortable and blend well with the spiritual and social aspects of the church life.



# Corporate Prayer @ Fairfield

Prayer is the heartbeat of the church. It expresses our total reliance on God and our trust that He will supply all our needs. Prayer invites God to move and change things and people in a supernatural way. Through the years, we have experienced many initiatives sprouting and bearing fruit through prayer. We have also witnessed many breakthroughs and seen lives transformed through prayer.

Corporate Prayer @ Fairfield ("CPF") was launched in April 2011 with the aim of growing as a "Praying" People; a distinguishing mark of a disciple-making church. Church members, regular worshippers and ministry leaders grow in the spiritual discipline of prayer as they gather for the monthly CPF bringing corporately before the Lord the ministry needs and concerns of our church.

Let's keep the oil of prayer flowing. Unite with us in prayer at the monthly CPF; every first Friday in English (except Jun & Dec) and every second Friday in Mandarin. You can also join our faithful intercessors at the weekly Wednesday Prayer Meetings. Our weekly prayer seeks to intercede for people in crisis, the sick, the pre-believing community, our church and nation, as well as to inspire a prayer culture in the church.



## 创造天地的上帝垂听祷告（赛45:11-12），

祷告是一切侍奉的根本，没有祷告就没有侍奉，没有祷告就没有能承担侍奉的人。

教会没有动力是无法成长的，圣灵的能力是最根本最主要的动力。但圣灵随意行，因此我们惟一能做的就是祷告。祷告使圣灵得着与他同工的器皿；祷告使圣灵寻着彰显能力的管道；祷告使我们成为适合上帝使用的人。

教会所需要的，是圣灵所能使用的人——在祷告上有能力的人。圣灵的能力，不是藉着方法流出，乃是藉着人；他不是降临于方法中，乃是降临于人身上，他不是膏抹计划，乃是膏抹人——祈祷的人。

基督徒祷告生活的质与量，是教会增长的潜能与指标。祈祷使人的心灵清新，与上帝和谐，对人體恤，并且把侍奉从冰冷的履行公事的态度中解救出来，以圣灵恩膏的能力与锐利，把每一个工作的轮子推动起来。

但愿我们牢记，为神为人我们所能献上的最大的服事，乃是祷告。因为祈祷所成就的，比劳作所成就的要多得多了。当我们在那里祷告时，上帝便开始行事(约14:12-14)。我们的主在约翰福音14到16章赴刑前最后一次与他所爱的人交谈，足够坦白的告诉门徒，他希望他们祷告。若非借着祷告，他们自己便不能有所成就。他一而再再而三的似乎伸出君王的金杖说，你们求什么呢？我必定答应赐给你们，就是我整个的国家也会给你们啊！能有比这个更伟大更荣耀的应许么？这个应许是为你为我而赐的。我们的主从未如此强调

过他任何的其他应许或命令。这必定是他赐给人类最伟大最美妙的应许。

今日他高坐在荣耀的宝座上，向我们伸出他的权杖。我们岂不当摸着他的杖头，告诉他我们的心愿么？他切望“照着他丰盛的荣耀，借着他的灵，叫你们心里的力量刚强起来。”他告诉我们，自己有否能力，能否结果子，全在乎祈祷。他也提醒我们，我们的快乐也在乎祷告蒙应允。(参阅约16:24)



可是我们仍然容让撒但使我们忽略祷告，使我们相信，靠自己的活动所得的成就，要比靠祈祷的成就多；与世人的交往，胜似向上帝的祈求。我们如此不注意救主多次赐下的邀请、命令、应许实是令人费解。我们若不多方膝跪下，怎敢为基督作工呢？

当我们在荣耀里立于基督身旁，回想我们毕生的经历时，最诧异的一椿事，乃是我们如此忽略了祷告。

请相信我，祷告是我们最高的特权；最严肃的责任；也是上帝放在我们手中的最大的能力。祷告，真实的祷告，是上帝一切所造之物所能行的最高贵、最崇高、最辉煌的行动。时候已到，我们应大声唤醒各人和整个教会，勉励人多来祷告。

请来，参加我们主日早上的晨祷和每月第一、二个礼拜五晚上的祷告会。“求主教导我们祷告”！

## FAIRFIELD METHODIST CHURCH

### CORPORATE PRAYER 2013 SCHEDULE

* DATES	MINISTRY FOCUS
Jan 4	(1) LEADERSHIP / LOCAL CONFERENCE (LCEC / PLT / PPRSC / Nominations) (2) CHURCH ANNIVERSARY
Feb 1	SMALL GROUPS
Mar 1	WORSHIP & MUSIC / CHURCH SERVICES
Apr 5	SMALL GROUPS
May 3	ADULTS (Family Life / Discipleship & Nurture / WSCS / Glowing Years Ministry)
Jun	SCHOOL VACATION BREAK
Jul 5	YOUTH / CHILDREN (Youth Ministry / Boys' Brigade / Girls' Brigade / Children's Ministry / Saturday Powerkids / FPMC Kindergarten)
Aug 2	OUTREACH (Missions / Witness & Evangelism / Outreach & Social Concerns / Yong-en)
Sep 6	(1) SMALL GROUPS (2) LOCAL CONFERENCE
Oct 4	LCEC RETREAT
Nov 1	ADMIN / FINANCE / OPERATIONS (Property / Archives / Finance / Governance)
Dec	SCHOOL VACATION BREAK

Time : 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Venue : Kuehn Hall

\* First Friday of every month (except June / December / Public Holidays)



## WSCS Prayer Meetings

Why do you make time for WSCS prayer meetings, held on every first Sunday of the month @ Room 401?

### Susie Neo

Prayer meeting brings unity. Our fellowship in prayer helps strengthen one another. As we share our tears and our good and bad times in prayer, we see God's personal care for the body.

### Serene Chan

We can praise and pray to God together. Sometimes we have prayer needs. It is good to meet together as women.

### Susan Lai

I believe that when 2 or 3 gather together, God is in our midst. Also a good time to bond with other ladies through prayers. We encourage and edify each other.

### Jeannette Tan

A place of sharing of thanksgiving and prayer needs and support for one another. Also to enjoy worship songs and prepare our hearts to enter into His presence of Him for main service.

### Magdalene Chan

In 1 Thess 5:16-18, God calls us to 1) be joyful always 2) pray continually 3) give thanks in all circumstances for this is the will of God for us. So we come together for prayer for this purpose.

### Mah Koon Sin

It's a joy to gather with our sisters in Christ to sing praises to His name, give thanks, have fellowship and pray for the nations, our country, church and for each other. There are times we pray alone and there are times we need to pray corporately.

### Soon Eng

- Prayer meeting is a sacred time - it is time with GOD. Therefore we have confidence to pray, believing that GOD is listening.
- Jesus says He is present when 2 or 3 gather in His name. There is power in Jesus' name. When we pray in agreement, we can be confident that we will have what we ask of.
- The unity that comes when women meet to praise and pray together is like the dew from heaven that gives life forevermore. Our souls are refreshed again, our faith is strengthened.
- The sheer convenience - it is held in church on every first Sunday of the month at 9.30am, before 10.30am service.



# Mission trip to Orang Asli

From 20-22 December 2012, Dr Toh Kam San led a team of 29 adults and children to minister to the Orang Asli in Temerloh, Pahang. We were divided into three groups and over the three days, we conducted

- \* Children program for about 50 kids
- \* English and computer lessons for the youths
- \* Medical team giving health checks as outreach to the adults/parents

We are grateful to our Heavenly Father for His guiding hands upon each of us. We shared the gospel to the children on the real meaning of Christmas, and 28 children raised their hands to accept Christ.

We thank God for the enriching experience in ministering to the Orang Asli! Undoubtedly, our faith has been strengthened.



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**Jeanette Tan** serves as the Vice President in WSCS. She worships in Fairfield with her husband, Eugene and two children. She has a passion for missions.

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# God's Transforming Grace: A Report On The Filipina Evangelistic Lunch on 2 Dec 12

In Nov 2011, we saw the gleaming faces of 9 Filipina ladies, all of whom are domestic helpers, receiving their "graduation" certificate for the Alpha course at Fairfield Methodist Church.

Following their enthusiasm to want to learn more on God's Word, FPMC WSCS W&E took on the task to facilitate the study of the Masterlife Book with these members on a semi-monthly basis in 2012. Despite the constraints of their time, they came faithfully week after week till the lessons were completed. We could see evidences of spiritual growth in their prayers, faith and dependence on God and their love for one another.

We celebrated the festive season with an evangelistic lunch party on 2 Dec and had them invite their non-Christian friends to join us. A total of 25 (15 Filipinas) attended the event. The party included prayer, praise & worship, ice breaker, testimony, memory verses recitation and a song presentation by the group. We heard how one member was "angry with God" for her unanswered prayers and how her thinking and prayers have been transformed after attending the studies. Another shared on how God has shown His grace towards her and in His timing, brought her closer to Him through the study of His words. Many of us were impressed as they recited all the memory verses they have learnt. We ended the event with Mrs Jeanette Tan, VP of WSCS sharing the Gospel message and making a call for salvation. We saw God's hands at work as 5 ladies out of the 7 guests came forward and responded to the call. Hallelujah! They have also indicated that they will be looking forward to come and join in the studies next year.

All praise and glory to God! We witnessed His amazing transforming powers and love for every individual who yearns to seek him week after week. Through this event, we also see how God empowers as all activities in the programme were planned and led by the members themselves, showing their leadership and teamwork. Despite the limited time to plan (programme was initiated after the 1<sup>st</sup> Exco meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov) they were able to hold the fort and bring joy, laughter, praise and thanksgiving to the hearts of those who were present.

*Psalm 145:6 They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds.*



**Pauline Lim** is the Assistant Co-ordinator of Witness & Evangelism in WSCS. She attends the 10.30am service.



## Baptisms

### A INFANT/CHILD BAPTISM

English Service	
<b>11 November 2012</b>	
1. Ms Kong Mei Xuan Feodora	d/o Mr & Mrs Kong Yew Leong
<b>18 November 2012</b>	
1. Master Chan Kai Man	s/o Mr & Mrs Chan Eu-Keong
2. Ms Chan Sok Mun	d/o Mr & Mrs Chan Eu-Keong
3. Ms Andrea Ly Baoyi	d/o Mr & Mrs Michael Ly Heang
4. Ms Lim Jing En Rachel	d/o Mr & Mrs Ronnie Lim Kok Keong
5. Master Wayne Phua Jun Wei	s/o Mr & Mrs Phua Wei Lee Vincent
6. Ms Megan Low Min	d/o Mr & Mrs Low Cheng Hock
7. Ms See Jie Min Ilyssa	d/o Mr & Mrs See Hock Guan @ Seth
8. Master See Jie Yu Isaiah	s/o Mr & Mrs See Hock Guan @ Seth

Mandarin Service	
<b>16 December 2012</b>	
1. Master Christopher Tang Zhi Hao	s/o Mdm Liem Lie Fung
2. Ms Wang Zi Xi Dawn	d/o Mr & Mrs Wang MoPing



### B YOUTH/ADULT BAPTISM

English Service	
<b>11 November 2012</b>	
1. Mrs Ong-Ngu Siew Ching Betty	
2. Ms Lin Qinying	
<b>18 November 2012</b>	
1. Mr Chan Eu Keong	
2. Mrs Chan-Yeow Hwee Ping Doris	
3. Mr Michael Ly Heang	
4. Mrs Ly-Soon Yuen Cheng Jane	
5. Mr Lo Cham Yue Mike	

Cantonese Service	
<b>23 December 2012</b>	
1. Mdm Ho Ah Mui	
2. Mdm Liew Yoke Fun	
3. Mdm Wan Joei Kay	
4. Mdm Tan Hong Kee	
5. Mr Kwan Fook Lum	



Mandarin Service	
<b>16 December 2012</b>	
1. Mdm Ang Kim Eng	
2. Mdm Ong Chiew Ghim	
3. Mdm Sin Hei Mun	
4. Mdm Yow Choke Nyong	
5. Mr He Yong Shun	
6. Mr Khoo Kiam Poo David	
7. Mr Wang JianGuo	
8. Ms Li YaRu	

## Year-End Thanksgiving Dinner

On 31 December about 200 members and worshippers brought their signature dishes to the annual Thanksgiving Dinner. It was an evening of food galore and we were treated to yummy cuisine. Conversation flowed easily as all of us mingled over food. In the course of dinner, we also welcomed our new pastor, Rev Leslie Lim and his family.

The dinner was best summed up by one church member who said: "The spread here beats any of those in 5-star hotel. This is a good tradition for families to be in church to participate in the Thanksgiving Dinner. Definitely, this event should be held annually."

After dinner entertainment included watching a movie as well as rounds of line dancing. No better way to burn off the calories before all of us proceeded to attend the Watch Night Service.





## New Members

### I. RECEIVED INTO MEMBERSHIP

#### A. By Profession of Faith

##### English Service

#### 11 November 2012

1. Ms Lin Qinying

#### 18 November 2012

1. Mr Chan Eu Keong
2. Mrs Chan-Yeow Hwee Ping Doris
3. Mr Lo Cham Yue Mike
4. Mr Michael Ly Heang
5. Mrs Ly-Soon Yuen Cheng Jane
6. Mdm Yip Lai Kuen
7. Mr Edmund Chiam Seng Tat
8. Mrs Wang-Pussayapibul Nongluck (Nink)
9. Mrs Wee-Lee Bee Ling Adeline

##### Cantonese Service

#### 23 December 2012

1. Mdm Ho Ah Mui
2. Mdm Liew Yoke Fun
3. Mdm Wan Joei Kay
4. Mdm Sum Moon Kum
5. Mr Kwan Fook Lum
6. Mr Ho Hon Chee

### II. TRANSFERRED FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS

##### English Service

#### 12 August 2012

1. Ms Ho Wen Jin Trinity Christian Centre

#### 18 November 2012

1. Mr David Loh Ngiap Wei The Bible Church, Singapore
2. Ms Melissa Tay Hui Lin Centre of New Life

##### Cantonese Service

#### 23 December 2012

1. Mdm Ann Lai Poh Yoke Church of Saint Teresa
2. Mr Cheung Chi-I Irvin Bethesda (Katong) Churchh

## Coming Up Next:

### 27 January

Fairfield's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Combined Service  
Fairfield's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch @ Ban Heng  
HarbourFront Centre

### 28 January

First Local Conference

### 22 February

Alpha Course

### 17 March

WSCS' Adoption Lunch for 10 Female Missionaries

### 31 March

Easter Service

### 19 May

WSCS Sunday

### 30 June

Fairfield Food & Family Day

### 24 August

Fairfield Parents' Night

### 4-15 December

Biblical tour of Jordan / Israel

**Do you  
have a story  
to tell?**

We welcome contributions to Compass. To avoid duplications, please let us know before writing your article or story. Articles should be kept within 1000 words. Submission should include the writer's profile, photo and any accompanying photographs in high resolution format. These can be sent to Mr Yu Heng Kong at [hengkong@fairfieldmc.org](mailto:hengkong@fairfieldmc.org)



## Weddings Of Members

(Solemnisations by Rev Lilian Ang)



Mr Lawrence Che Kok Ho  
& Ms Koh Wan Lin  
25 November 2012



Mr Christopher Chai Chong Jin  
& Ms Wendy Law Su Lin  
7 January 2013

## Death Of Members

### Cantonese Service

1. Mdm Oh Soon Hoe

### Date Deceased

13 December 2012



# 成为培训门徒的教会

accountability of members to one another and a certain intent and drive from the leader of the cell. To help us know what to aim for, the pastors and leaders have identified three key features of a discipling small group:

- A programme where there is both deep sharing of life experiences as well as Bible-based teaching. Scripture is applied and becomes relevant to real life. Members will understand how God works in their lives from day to day. Leaders will help members connect truth with life by learning how to ask questions that encourage active discussion and creating "holy moments" when God's presence and power can be known during group meetings.
- Authentic relationships with trustful sharing of personal issues, honesty, care-giving and active listening to one another. When conflict occurs, members face tensions and disagreements with direct loving communication, rather than letting resentment, hidden emotions, and unresolved anger break up the group. Members want the best for each other, will serve one another and tell the truth to one another in love to help one another grow. They affirm the work of God in each other's lives.
- The culture of the group involves a good balance between mutual caring at their point of need and maturity as well as challenging one another to grow. In caring for one another, group members help each other in the midst of and in recovering from crises. They give long-term mutual support. In challenging one another, they intentionally model Christlikeness and help one another achieve spiritual goals.

Joining a small group like this can be scary! There has to be a certain willingness to move out of our comfort zone to grow together. It is easy to stay the way we are and keep our Christian life restricted to Sunday mornings. It can be hard to take the risk of experiencing the heights of joys and depths of pains that characterize Biblical fellowship. But I believe many of us are not moved by vague plans and nice-sounding suggestions. Rather, we are thrilled by worthy challenges and a clear understanding of what the Bible tells us we can become. We can sense the truth that we need one another in church in a deeper way. Even if we do not feel ready to commit ourselves to a group like this yet, we can start praying about where we are going next in our Christian growth. And as we pray for light on the journey, remember that our faith is not a solo effort – it is a group project! This is a project that should help us to grow in love for God as well as for one another as members of the Fairfield family.



**Ho King Hee**, Chairman of Local Church Executive Committee attends 10.30am service with his wife, Joyce and three children.

## 培训门徒的意义

花菲卫理公会的牧者及领袖认为教会中的每位弟兄姊妹都是被呼召成为门徒的，因此，我们花许多时间思考教会能够如何更好地帮助我们培训门徒并理解当中的意义。我们已建立了丰富的教学资料，并制定了多彩的各人培训方式，培训花菲卫理公会的弟兄姊妹成为门徒。培训门徒的主要因素是帮助我们成为“在一切属灵的智慧悟性上，满心知道神的旨意。好叫我们行事为人对得起主，凡事蒙他喜悦，在一切善事上结果子，渐渐地多知道神。”（歌罗西书1:9-10）作为神的儿女，我们要成为更象天父一样，行他所行的。这种渴慕与神亲近、致力学习象他的目标就代表了我们是他的子民。（彼得前书1:14；约翰一书3:10）

当我们试图理解门徒培训，我们应该把目标放在属灵成熟度上，以及对本地教会的责任与关爱。换言之，我们培训门徒的计划和方法应该使我们能够亲近神和教会。当中，前者是重点所在，而每间教会的门徒培训计划是大同小异的，因此，我们应该在花菲卫理公会的大家庭里，一起学习。这将更好的意识到我们的归属感并引以为豪。

## 小组生活

我在上一期提到，家庭小组能帮助我们在属灵上成长并鼓励大家参与其中。如此一来，我们可以更深层地经历在基督里的团契。在华菲，我们认为家庭小组是门徒培训的关键，正因为如此，我们鼓励大家成为家庭小组的成员。

小组可被定义为3-20人常聚的小型聚会。教会现有的家庭小组包括了，查经小组和跟进小组。儿童部和青年部也有根据年龄层次分配并有教师带领的小组。有许多人带着不同心态和想法来到教会。有些小组主要聚在一起祷告，有的则是查经，也有其他小组通过分享个人在生活上的经历来给彼此提供支持，还有一些小组因为不同的服侍事项（例如，诗歌领唱）而聚在一起。

因为教会涉及到不同的家庭小组，而不是每个家庭小组都拥有共同门徒培训的目标。这是种自然的现象；有些小组并不是很注重圣经中基督团契的重点，因此我们鼓励属此类的小组成员积极参与门徒培训的小组当中。在培训门徒的小组成员应时常互相提醒彼此，有关培训门徒的重点。当一个小组将中心点放在培训门徒的事项上时，小组不仅会有各项有程序的培训节目，并且成员都会在灵命成长方面互相负责与勉励。另外，小组组长也会有一定的魄力和动力。教会的牧者与领袖就针对培训门徒的家庭小组制定了以下三项事项：

- 推广以圣经为基础，并能够让门徒分享生活经历的培训程序。如此一来，我们才能将圣经的教导实行于生命中。小组组长可鼓励成员们在小组当中积极讨论。
- 小组成员建立互相信任、关怀，彼此聆听的良好关系。当小组成员遇到意见不同的时候，与其互相憎恨、吵架，不如以爱互相包容，并一起鼓励和成长。这样一来，他们在彼此的生活中将神的施工确定起来。
- 家庭小组本身的独特文化是在相互关怀以及彼此成熟度上取得平衡。小组成员相互鼓励，一同成长，如此便会渐渐培养出基督的样式，并相互帮助取得灵命上的进步。

我们必须愿意走出自己的舒适地带，并一起成长。安于现状并把自己局限于星期天的敬拜是最简单不过了，但是，我相信我们并不是安于现状的，相反的，我们是勇于迎接挑战的。我相信即使我们还没做好准备，我们仍是可以开始祷告，让神带领我们，而当我们祷告时，我们应切记这并不是个人的功劳，而是大家的功课。这是一项帮助我们在神的爱里成长的工程。

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