



2023

LOVING BEYOND | BOUNDARIES

WELCOME HOME!

We are glad that you can join us today to worship the Lord as one family in Christ. May we continue to trust Him, and glorify Him in all that we do!

SERVING THIS WEEK

Eld Timothy Soh
Brenda Soh
Ng Wen Hooi
Goh Shu Jin
Joo Neo Jaswantlal
Sally Teh
KL Teh
Irene Koh

NEXT WEEK

Why Do You Serve?
Ephesians 2:1-10
ATP Joseph Tee

Lead Ps Wendell Chua

9027 7465

Ps Lawrence Ong

9146 8277

Assis-to-Ps Joseph Tee

9088 0077

Ps Yap Kim Sin (Advisory)

9862 4390

ORDER OF SERVICE

Worship Theme *Partnership*

Prepare for Worship

Prelude

Exalt His Name

Call to Worship
Invocation
Doxology
Opening Hymn
Responsive Scripture Reading
Reception of Members

Psalm 111

Worship in Song

Listen to His Word

The Spirit of Thanksgiving
Philippians 1:1-11

Rev Alby Yip

Response Song

Give to His Work

Offering
Offertory Response

Pray to Him

Corporate Prayer
Pastoral Prayer

Closing Hymn
Benediction
Announcements
Postlude



SERMON NOTES

The Spirit of Thanksgiving Philippians 1:1-11



Introduction

I. ...knows no bounds

II. ...works in partnership with God

III. ...is our relationship with God

Conclusion



Reflections...

WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

Prayer for the New Year

Dear heavenly Father, on this New Year's Eve, thank you for the gift of a new year.

But first of all, thank you for all the grace you lavished on us in the past year. You remained faithful even when we were faithless; You gave us daily mercies, and we needed Your mercy on a daily basis; You delighted in us when we tried to find our delight in anything else but You. Your love is irrepressible, inexhaustible, and inexplicable, apart from what Jesus has done for us.

This is our prayer for the upcoming year. May it be a year filled with getting to know You better and better and better. To know You, and Your Son, Jesus, is the essence of eternal life (John 17:3). By Your grace, take us into deeper intimacy with the whole Trinity.

With the Apostle Paul, we too declare our desire to know Christ—in fresh and new ways; and the power of his resurrection (God the Holy Spirit), and the fellowship born from suffering with Jesus in this world (Phil. 3:10). And we want to cry “Abba Father!”—more often, and with greater joy and confidence. Since it is to Your glory that we boast in truly knowing You, grant us ample reasons to be bodacious in our boasting!

We begin this year confident of Your unfailing love, because Your love is not based on anything in us, but everything in Jesus. In Christ, You cannot love us more and You will never love us less. May Your love propel us into the stories of justice and righteousness You plan to write this year on earth, in our communities and cities. May we dance and suffer, work and pray, serve and love, all to Your glory.

So very Amen we pray, in Jesus' merciful and mighty name.

- Pastor Scotty Smith (Taken from The Gospel Coalition, “A Prayer for the New Year.”)

CHURCH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES



Reception of Members



RE-AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Laraine Lim Yu Hui

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

Yim Yew Chuen
Amelia Lim Siew Lan

CHILD BAPTISM

Lincoln Yim Wei Jie ~ b.30.10.2013
(s/o Mr & Mrs Yim Yew Chuen)

UPCOMING COMBINED SERVICES

@ Sanctuary 1

→ **Watchnight Service**

31st December 2023
9.30pm: Testimony Sharing
10.45pm: Watchnight Service

→ **Combined Ordination &
Dedication Service**

7th January 2024 8.45am
Ordination of ATP Joseph Tee

Prayer Fellowship

**PF takes place every
Wednesday except on public
holidays or as announced!*

3 January 2024
Wednesday @ 8.00pm

Join in prayer together for our
church:

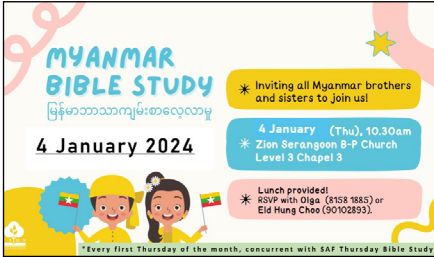
<http://tiny.cc/zionPF2023>

Meeting ID: **865 4863 7670**
Passcode: **017541**

For queries, please contact
Ps Lawrence Ong @ 9146 8277



CHURCH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES



MYANMAR BIBLE STUDY
မြန်မာဘာသာကျမ်းစာလေ့လာပွဲ

4 January 2024

- * Inviting all Myanmar brothers and sisters to join us!
- * 4 January (Thu), 10.30am
- * Zion Serangoon B-P Church Level 3 Chapel 3
- * Lunch provided! RSVP with Olga @ 8158 1885 or Eld Hung Choo @ 90102893.

*Every first Thursday of the month, concurrent with SAF Thursday Bible Study.

MYANMARESE Bible Study (concurrent with SAF Thursday Bible Study)

4 January 2024
10.30am @ Chapel 3

By: Ms Naw Khin Kyi (Judson Baptist Church Singapore)
We invite all our Myanmar friends to join us!!!

Lunch will be provided, RSVP by 1 January: Please contact
Elder Hung Choo @ 9010 2893
or Olga @ 8158 1885

Bible Reading Club

tinyurl.com/zsbiblereading24

Interested in reading God's Word regularly in 2024?
We are opening registration for **Bible Reading Club 2024!**

Those who have signed up this year are also invited to use the link to indicate your preference!

For further queries, contact **ATP Joseph Tee!**

Bible Reading Plan 2024

Week 1 Schedule

1 Jan: Ezra 1 (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/devotionals/read-the-bible/genesis-1-matthew-1-ezra-1-acts-1/>)

2 Jan: Ezra 2 (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/devotionals/read-the-bible/genesis-2-matthew-2-ezra-2-acts-2/>)

3 Jan: Ezra 3 (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/devotionals/read-the-bible/genesis-3-matthew-3-ezra-3-acts-3/>)

4 Jan: Ezra 4 (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/devotionals/read-the-bible/genesis-4-matthew-4-ezra-4-acts-4/>)

5 Jan: Ezra 5 (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/devotionals/read-the-bible/genesis-5-matthew-5-ezra-5-acts-5/>)

6 Jan: Acts 6 (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/devotionals/read-the-bible/genesis-6-matthew-6-ezra-6-acts-6/>)

7 Jan: Ezra 7 (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/devotionals/read-the-bible/genesis-7-matthew-7-ezra-7-acts-7/>)

Fellowship Tea Notice

In light of the upcoming renovation work disruptions, there will be **no Fellowship Tea after 17th Dec (Sun)** until further notice.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

Services	Worshippers & Volunteers
Combined Christmas Eve Svc	327

Combined Christmas Svc	478
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FELLOWSHIP TEA CONTRIBUTIONS

31 Dec	-	-
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WEEKLY OFFERING

General and Missions Fund **\$38,654.80**
(Received 18 Dec - 24 Dec)

Christmas **\$27,906.50**
(Received 25 Dec)



PayNow

UEN: S86SS0063K555

Bank Transfer

DBS Bank Ltd
003-938549-8

BPCIS UPDATE - 31 DEC

Finally, the year ends. We will remember 2023 for several things. India surpasses China as the world's most populous country. Artificial intelligence makes its appearance as ChatGPT and offers both promise and peril. U.S.-China tensions continue. Wars exact heavy tolls in Ukraine and the Middle-East. Global temperatures shatter records.

In Singapore, we give thanks for peace in our land, and food on our table. But we have our challenges.

PLAYING MUSICAL CHAIRS

Two years after COVID restrictions eased, churches in Singapore are finding themselves in rounds of musical chairs. We remember this game as one when we start the music and walk around a ring of chairs. When the music stops, everyone rushes to find a seat. Because there are more people than chairs, a few will be "out" with no seat to land on.

COVID got many walking around to different churches, visiting their online services, savouring sermons and checking out worship styles. The music stopped and visitors either returned to their own church and moved on to another. Some chose to stay online or else drop church altogether. As a result, churches experience a nett gain or loss.

Our BPCIS churches witnessed the following this Christmas:

Adult Baptism: 37

Child Baptism: 20

Reaffirmation: 14

Transfer: 46

All in, 97 communicant members were added to our churches, together with 20 infants or children. Significantly, transfers make up the largest group of new members. Over such increase, we rejoice. However, these numbers do not tell the whole story. What about the missing ones, those who have stopped attending church, onsite and perhaps also online?

As good shepherds (John 10:14), our pastors and leaders will need to account for the number of sheep present or missing. As the round of musical chairs continues, let us all remember those who are "out" and help them find a chair or church they can settle in, find fellowship and grow in worship and service.

BPCIS UPDATE - 31 DEC

OVER TO 2024

During the festive season, I heard a speaker remind us that Christmas is not the whole story. Indeed—it's not true that “man will live forevermore because of Christmas day” as a popular song goes. The story continues with Good Friday and Easter Sunday when life forevermore would be accomplished by Jesus' sacrificial death and triumphant resurrection.

As the new year begins, we look forward to Good Friday when, for the first time, BPCIS churches will meet together (5.00pm) at a “neutral” venue: ACS Independent at Dover Road. Also for the first time, our Chinese-speaking congregations will meet (10.30am) at Faith BP Church at Serangoon Gardens. Transport will be provided from our churches. Watch out for details!

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Pastor David Wong
General Secretary, BPCIS