

*He is
Faithful*

145 YEARS OF THE LORD'S WORK IN
BETHESDA HALL (BRAS BASAH, ANG MO KIO AND DEPOT WALK)
1864 – 2009

*Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering;
(for **he is faithful** that promised;)
And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:
Hebrews 10:23-24 KJV*

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NOT FOR SALE

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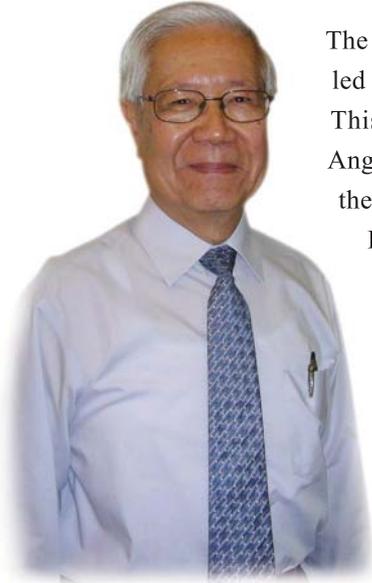
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FOREWORD

*So the church.....
being built up; and going on..... continued to increase.
Acts 9:31 NASB*



The above description was of the church in Jerusalem after persecution led by Saul of Tarsus; she expanded from Judea, Samaria and to Rome. This can, in some way, apply to the formation of our assemblies at Ang Mo Kio and Depot Walk, although we do not face persecution for the faith in Singapore. We were informed in 1981 that the land which Bethesda Hall (at 77 Bras Basah Road) occupied would be acquired by the government. Thus we had to move. In the process, an assembly at Bukit Arang was set up and subsequently the assemblies at Ang Mo Kio and Depot Walk were formed.

This book, *He Is Faithful*, traces in detail how the work at Ang Mo Kio and Depot Walk was started. We see how God, in His sovereignty, led and made provision for us. We also thank God that the godly elders and the assembly members grasped the opportunities as they presented themselves. Together they gave sacrificially and worked to form the assemblies for worship, service and mission. It is humbling and exciting to note how God led each member and group to do the utmost to fulfil what they realised was God's will. They gave their all and God granted them success.

With these sweet Ebenezers in view, we will not rest but will strive to do more by the grace and mercy that He alone can provide. The expiry in 2013 of the present lease of the land of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) will provide us with further challenges and possibilities for redevelopment.

“Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand firm in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Saviour, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever, Amen.” (Jude 24-25)

Lawrence Chan

June 2009

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Council of Elders of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) appointed the History Book Committee to be the Editorial Team for this history book project. The members are Jason Lim (Chairman), Tan Li Sheng (Deputy Chairman), Tan Bee Leng (Secretary), Joseph Lim, Judy Kan, Choy Wai Fann and Tan Kian Huat (Advisor).

The Editorial Team was given the task to write the assembly history covering the period from July 1864 to June 2009, with special focus on the recent 23 years (from 1986 to 2009) since the assembly moved from Bras Basah to Ang Mo Kio.

The following are the objectives:

- To capture the history of the assembly work at Bethesda Hall – people, places, periods and programmes related to the assembly and its growth.
- To provide a historical perspective of the work and a record of the Lord's sovereign help.
- To draw insights from the past in order to carry the assembly into the future.

The Editorial Team enlisted many writers to write the various sections. The writers read through assembly annual reports and newsletters, and interviewed many people to gather information for their assignments. For each section we have an elder contributing as resource consultant to the writer. These writers are Chow Chiew Gee, Elizabeth Wong, Ernie Abbott, Harry Tan, Jason Lim, Joan Sum, Joanna Chia, Josephine Lin, Joseph Lim, Mah Lai Seong, Melissa Fong, Ng Swee Choo, Rachel Hmar, Sonia Khoo, Sum Siew Tak, Tan Hui Qian, Tan Jin Song, Tan Kian Huat, Tan Li Sheng, William Koh and Wong Yong Jian.

The Editorial Team also sent the completed draft to some assembly members for proof-reading and comments. They helped to improve the writing style and flow of all the sections, resulting in a more coherent historical documentation. The proof-readers are Chia Boon Hong, Daniel Thein, Elizabeth Wong, Josephine Lin, Judy Kan, John Kan, Kerriann Chua, Lois Choa, Ng Swee Choo, Sheryl Janet George, Tan Hui Qian and Tan Siet Lim.

Many assembly members responded to our call to send in artefacts and old photographs, some of which are used in this book. The rest are archived in a DVD to be distributed to assembly members during the 145th Anniversary Celebration on 4 July 2009. We acknowledge the assistance of Mui Eng Teck, who helped to compile them into the DVD, and Poon Kum Meng, who contributed many of the most recent photographs in the book.

In attempting to produce a balanced, fair and accurate record of assembly work in the past 23 years, the Editorial Team has done its best to include as many contributions as possible. However as it is not possible to capture every contribution due to space constraints, we offer our apologies to those whose contributions we have omitted.

The Editorial Team thanks everyone for contributing to the realisation of this book. We are especially grateful to Jonathan Lim for designing the cover and to Lawrence Chan for writing the Foreword.

Editorial Team

June 2009



History Book Committee

Front seated (L-R): Tan Li Sheng, Tan Kian Huat, Jason Lim and Joseph Lim

Back standing (L-R): Choy Wai Fann, Judy Kan and Tan Bee Leng

PREFACE

By Jason Lim

... for He is faithful that promised.... Hebrews 10:23 KJV

2009 is a special year for both Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) and Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk). 4 July 2009 marks the 145th anniversary of the Lord's blessings upon those who meet at Ang Mo Kio, many of whom had moved over from Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah). The year also marks the fourth anniversary of the assembly at Depot Walk, a new work started by Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) which will eventually become an autonomous assembly.

As Christians, whenever we look at the various blessings and challenges that come our way, the benefit of hindsight allows us to thank God for them. We thank God for His continued goodness and grace shown to us whenever we face and overcome challenges in the assembly. When showers of blessing come, we thank Him for His love. This book serves to chronicle the ups and downs of the assembly from the time it started in Singapore in 1864 till June 2009.

Prior to this, the assembly's events (during its first hundred years) have been recorded by Matthew Finlay in a book titled *One Hundred Years of the Lord's Blessings* which was published on the assembly's centenary in 1964. *Post-Centennial Blessings of the Lord* was written by Lim Tian Leong and published a year after moving to Ang Mo Kio. There is thus a need to continue this effort to document the events that have since happened and what the Lord has done for the assembly, along with the latest provision of the premises at Depot Walk.

This book also includes personal reflections from several assembly members on how the activities of the assembly, and the challenges faced, have proved to be a source of inspiration for them. It reveals how God has used the various activities of the assembly to bring glory to Himself. Each section in this book shows how the grace of God worked in the hearts of members to inspire them to do even more for Him, and fulfill the Great Commission given by the Lord before His ascension:

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

As a New Testament assembly, we have the vision to be a growing, glowing and going assembly. We want to be growing numerically and spiritually, glowing in witnessing, and going in evangelism.

The Lord has been faithful in helping us to fulfill our mission to be witnesses "*both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*" (Acts 1:8)

We pray and hope that generations after us will find this book helpful in understanding their spiritual legacy, that they will be inspired by the faithfulness of the Lord and believers of the assembly, and that they will find us faithful, just as we have found faithful the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us.

CHAPTER 1

A BRIEF HISTORY OF BETHESDA GOSPEL HALL (BRAS BASAH), 1864-1986

By Jason Lim



Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) – The hall was handed over to the URA on 9 March 1992 and demolished in June 1992



1980 Sunday School Prize Giving Day

The Beginnings

The Brethren Movement in Singapore began on 3 July 1864 when seven believers met to break bread in a place known simply as the Mission Rooms. Their act in remembering the Lord Jesus Christ that Sunday was significant in that they met as a ‘non-sectarian’ assembly of believers in a little room at 108 Bencoolen Street.

These seven believers included Philip Robinson and his wife, and William McDonald and his wife. Perhaps the name ‘Mission Rooms’ represented the hopes of assembly members to propagate the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ among the people on the island through the preaching and evangelical services in the new assembly. J L Wheatley and Sausunan were the first deacons appointed on 4 March 1866 to attend to the ‘temporal affairs’ of the assembly. There was no mention of the appointment of an Oversight in the Assembly Record Book, but Robinson and McDonald preached frequently in the evening services.

A New Building At Bras Basah Road

A decision was reached on 5 August 1866 to erect a new building for the assembly. On that day, a total of \$34.15 was collected for the building fund. Two days later, a contractor was employed to construct the new building in 50 days for \$260. The contractor met his deadline and the last meeting in the Mission Rooms was held on 28 September 1866. The new building, called ‘Bethesda Chapel’, at 77 Bras Basah Road was opened on 30 September 1866 with prayer, and ten believers attended the first Breaking of Bread at 9 am.

It is noticeable that when the assembly met in the Mission Rooms, there was no indication of evening services. The first evening service commenced in the new Bethesda Free Meeting House, the very day it opened on 30 September 1866. However, the premises lacked proper lighting and one can only imagine how dark the interior of the building must have been during the evening services in those early days. On 30 December 1866, the assembly met to discuss the need to raise funds for the building to be lit by gas. An entry in the Assembly Record Book showed that the assembly (later known as Bethesda Gospel Hall)¹ was lit with gas from 20 February 1867. Another matter that was planned by the new Bethesda Gospel Hall was the drafting of a trust deed, in the event that attendance in Bethesda Gospel Hall dwindled to a point that it would have to be dissolved. A draft of the trust deed was passed around the assembly on 31 March 1867 for the members to consider over the following week. On that day, the assembly also agreed to purchase a small plot of land in front of the building which was subsequently included in the trust deed. The trust deed nominated both Robinson and McDonald as trustees of the assembly building. Furthermore, it stipulated that should membership in the assembly be reduced to only two, the building and its assets would be handed

¹ Bethesda Chapel (77 Bras Basah Road) was later known as Bethesda Gospel Hall (Bras Basah) and from mid-1964 as Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah). The building was demolished in 1992.

over to George Müller or the Director of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution (SKI) in Bristol ‘for missionary operations in the Colony of the Straits Settlements’. Over the years, the trustees of the assembly building were changed. McDonald settled in Johor Bahru in July 1866 and Robinson went to be with the Lord while in London on 14 February 1886. In May 1886, McDonald was asked by the assembly to resign his trusteeship. Three other men – Philip Hocquard, Andrew Koenitz and C F Moore – were appointed as new trustees. Moore resigned on 4 February 1895 and was replaced by a British missionary named W G Honywill.

In April 1867, John Chapman, a missionary from Bristol, came from Penang to visit Bethesda Gospel Hall. He preached nearly every Sunday evening from 28 April to 23 June. On 8 May, he baptised Tan See Boo and five other Chinese men. This was to be an important development in the history of the Brethren Movement in Singapore. Tan See Boo, who had left the Presbyterian Mission, subsequently started the first Chinese Brethren assembly in Singapore, the Chinese Gospel Hall², in late 1867.

On 11 August 1867, Alexander Grant and his wife moved to Singapore from Penang. He became the first resident missionary in association with Bethesda Gospel Hall. Grant was a Scottish missionary with the English Presbyterian Church who joined the Brethren after having learnt of the movement’s manner of commemorating the Lord’s Supper in China. The Grants intended to work among the Chinese and European communities in Singapore, and Grant’s first task was to preach at the Sailors’ Home the very afternoon he arrived.

A special church meeting was held at Bethesda Gospel Hall in September 1878 to consider the desirability of providing a home for missionaries passing through Singapore. When Hudson Taylor of the China Inland Mission and a party of missionaries arrived in April 1879 en route to China, they had to stay at the home of J L Wheatley, an assembly deacon. Wheatley applied to the colonial authorities in Singapore for a piece of land to build a Mission House that month. Grant became the first missionary to occupy the Mission House at 92 Neil Road (later 417 New Bridge Road) after it was completed on 20 July 1882. The Mission House³ proved to be a haven for missionaries from many countries. An adjoining house was later rented for use as the Neil Road Gospel Hall which eventually moved to Pasir Panjang to form the Pasir Panjang Hill Brethren Church.

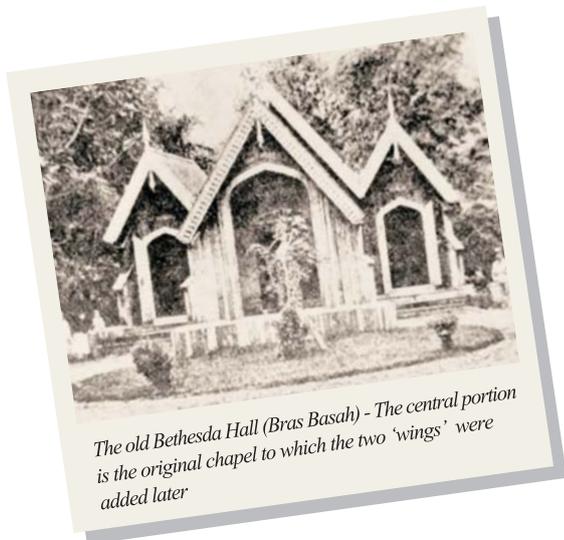
In the last years of the 19th century, George Müller and Hudson Taylor made stopovers in Singapore, enjoying fellowship with the believers at Bras Basah and sharing in the ministry of the Word.

² The Chinese Gospel Hall was previously known as “Hok-im-koan”. The church was formerly situated in North Bridge Road. Five converts (Chinese) were baptised on 8 May 1867.

³ The Malay-speaking (Peranakan) assembly has its beginning in 1947 at the Mission House.

Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) Through The Years

Between 1866 and 1914, Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) was a fast-growing assembly. In a report to the *Echoes of Service* in October 1914, Handley Bird wrote that 'as far as I have been able to learn, the assembly at Bethesda is the only local church of professed Christians that attempts any aggressive work in the open air amongst the English, Malays, Tamils and Chinese that crowd our streets, as it is the only witness in the great gaol here'.



In 1933, the assembly hall was enlarged and the building completely renovated at the cost of \$5,500 contributed by assembly members and friends. When the new hall was ready, it was opened by Mrs S D Price, the oldest member of the assembly. Speeches were given that day by Ernest Tipson, S S Adams and R Austin. Lechmere Clift closed the service with prayer.

In 1936, Bethesda Katong Church was opened by Wee Thiam Seng who also donated the land at 17 and 19 Pennefather Road to the assembly. The extension work in the Katong district started in 1932 with a Sunday School in a rented house at 618 East Coast Road.

During the start of the Japanese Occupation of Singapore in February 1942, Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) was taken over by the Japanese military. It was released to the assembly on 24 May but all the European members were taken prisoners. After the end of the war in August 1945, the assembly resumed its evangelistic outreach activities and new assemblies sprang up in Frankel Estate, Bukit Panjang, Toa Payoh, Balestier and Bukit Arang.

More than 800 saints were baptised at Bethesda Hall and received into fellowship of the assembly from July 1964 to June 1985, apart from those who came from other churches to identify themselves with the assembly.



Wedding of Wong Tuck Keong and Elizabeth Choy (1984)



CC Meeting in the garage (1985)



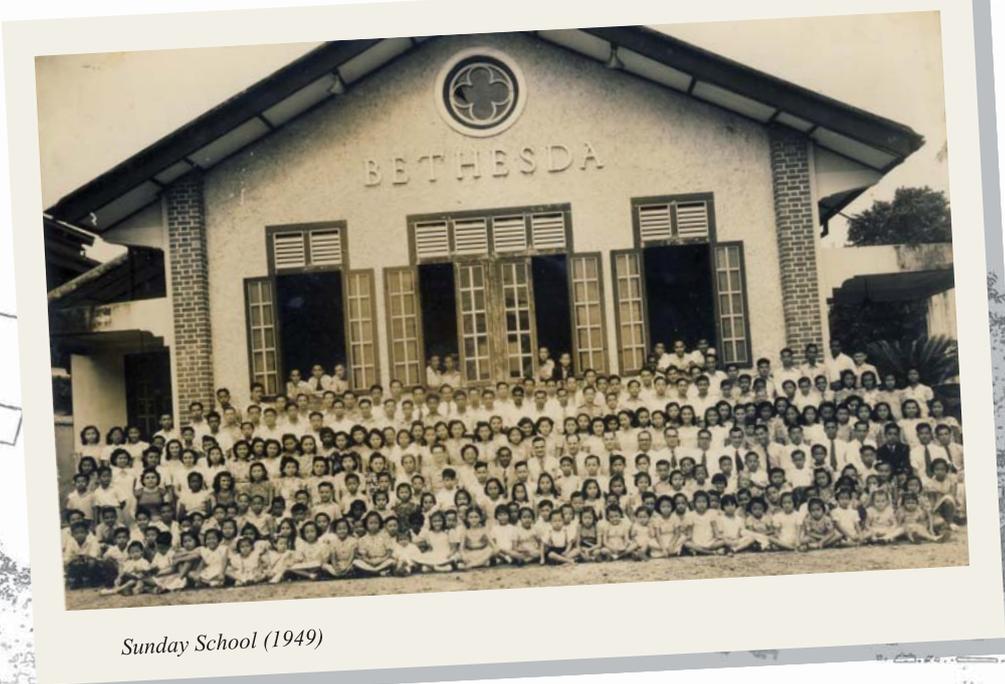
YP - Junior Department (1984)



Wedding of Boon Chuan Jian and Lim Yen Ling (1985)



The last service at Bras Basah with Lauw Kim Guan on 15 February 1992



Sunday School (1949)



Moving On...

On 10 June 1981, the property at 77 Brash Basah Road was acquired by the Urban Redevelopment Authority. However, Bethesda Gospel Hall was allowed to continue using the property on a Temporary Occupation Licence. In 1982, the Geylang Gospel Hall⁴ property was acquired by the Housing and Development Board. On 24 April 1982, the elders of both assemblies appealed to the Government for a piece of land to replace the two acquired properties. The Government then gave both assemblies a 30-year lease of a vacant piece of land at Ang Mo Kio Avenue 4 where they could establish a new meeting place. The lease would take effect from 22 February 1983.

A Building Committee was appointed with Lawrence Chan, Khoo Oon Soo, Lim Tian Leong and Tan Jing Poi (Bethesda Gospel Hall), and Goh Swan Loon and John Ho (Geylang Gospel Hall) as members. Outreach plans for the new Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) in 1985 included kindergarten work, Daily Vacation Bible School, gospel rallies, school meetings and tuition classes. On 17 March 1986, Tan Jing Poi wrote in the *Bethesda Newsletter* that the building was in the final stages of completion and 'soon it will be our new home'. The first Breaking of Bread Service was held at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) on 13 July. The Dedication Service was held shortly after on 26 July.

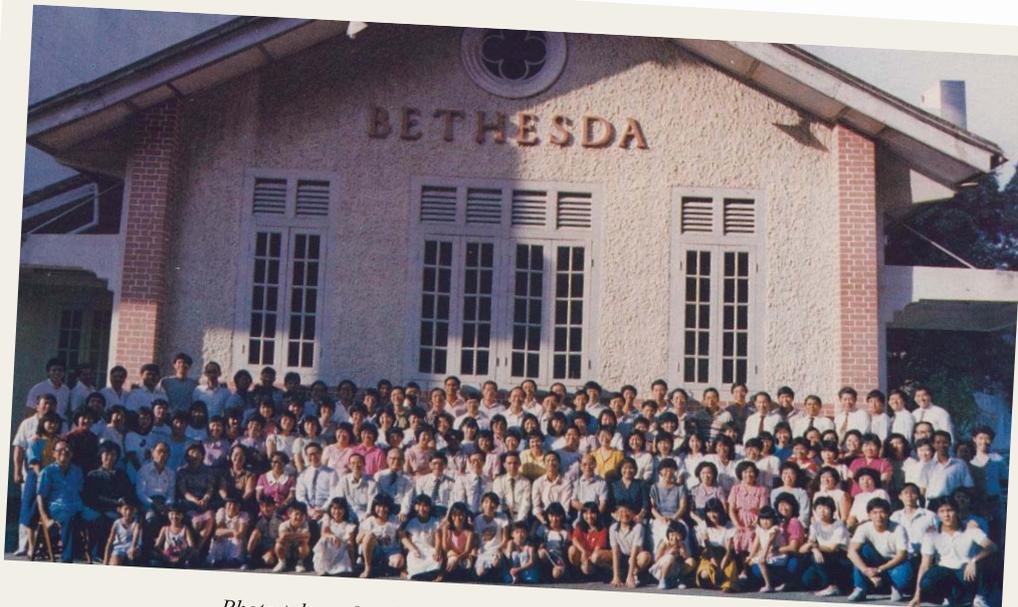


Photo taken after the last annual meeting on 17 August 1985

⁴ The congregation meeting at Geylang Gospel Hall moved to Bethesda Church, Bukit Arang on 22 July 1983. The Chinese congregations meeting at Bras Basah Road moved to Ang Mo Kio.

CHAPTER 2

BETHESDA HALL (ANG MO KIO) SINCE 1986

By Tan Li Sheng



Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) in 1986



The lift had a good view through the glass panels



A four-storey structure with a basement extension at the former courtyard area was added on 1 April 1996



Wedding of Nathaniel Sim and Grace Stephanie Teo (2009)



Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio)



Easter Conference (2009)

First Moves

A new chapter in the history of the assembly began when the saints from Bethesda Bras Basah gathered in the new hall at Ang Mo Kio Avenue 4 on 13 July 1986 for the first time to break bread. More than 500 believers turned up for the worship service on that historical date. Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio)⁵ bore the development cost of \$2,776,988. Gifts were received from various groups and members, including \$400,000 from Geylang Gospel Hall and \$115,167 from the Cantonese Assembly. Many members had given much to the Lord for the erection and furnishing of the new hall. A Thanksgiving and Dedication Service was later held together with the Singapore Gospel Halls (Hokkien Speaking Assembly) on 26 July 1986. It was attended by 700 believers, including representatives from eight other local assemblies. However the real work of the Lord was just beginning.

The early years of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) demonstrated the difficulty of translating vision into practical reality. Prior to the move, the assembly had prepared for the challenges of the new place in various ways. Five new elders were commended – Lee Kok Onn and Adrin Loi in 1984, Eric Choa, S V Ramalingam and Wong Tuck Keong in 1985. Plans had been made for kindergarten work, tuition classes for the neighbourhood children, fellowship meetings for schools in the vicinity, more home fellowship groups in Ang Mo Kio, Daily Vacation Bible School and Gospel Rallies. In addition, two joint-assembly Committees had been set up: the Building Services Committee and the Premises Upkeep Committee. The latter sought to organise teams of helpers from the three assemblies to clean the multi-storey building each week. Members were encouraged to ‘be mobilised, motivated and moved to witness and work for the Lord’ in the church’s new location.

Early Challenges

First steps were taken in various ventures. For example, a team of nine – Stephen Lee, Godfrey Ong, Daniel Woon, Victor Yeo, Edmund Yong, Susan Kwan, Lee Guat Lian, Alice Tan Lee Hua and Jessie Yuen – went to Perth for a two-week evangelistic outreach programme among the assemblies there. It was organised in conjunction with the itinerary of S V Ramalingam, who had been invited by the Perth assemblies to minister and preach the Word of God in June 1987. A Japanese brother (Tsunetaka Fujiwara) and three sisters (Hiroko Nakamura, Mikiko Morita and Akiko Minamide) from the Izumi Christ Assembly in Japan visited Bethesda Hall from 4 to 11 January 1988, initiating a new dimension of fellowship among Asian assemblies. From 20 – 24 September 1988, a team comprising of Lim Tian Leong, S V Ramalingam, Wong Tuck Keong, Tan Chee Hwee, Tan Kian Huat, John Ching, Chong Lai Wah, Michelle Loh and Janice Chan attended the 2nd Southeast Asia Christian Conference 1988 hosted by the Korean assemblies. That eventually led to the assembly hosting two international Christian Conferences in 1990 and 1997.

⁵ The Elders of both the English and Chinese assemblies met on 20 December 1982 and agreed on the development of the land by Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) for joint use by both assemblies. The new Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) is also used by the Chinese Assembly (Mandarin and Hokkien) and the Cantonese Assembly.



Visit from Izumi Christ Assembly to meet elders of Singapore assemblies (1988)



Welcome address by Lim Tian Leong at CC 1990



Display on assembly work in Singapore

The traditions of the Assembly Family Camp and the Assembly Youth Camp continued. The first Youth Camp – with the theme ‘Let Us Run’ – was organised from 15 to 19 December 1986 at Christ Church Secondary School. Godfrey Ong, Sim Chear Wah, Charlie Tan and Doris Woon were the camp teachers. Similarly, the first Daily Vacation Bible School at the new premises was held in March 1987 where Tay Kim Swee, Charlie Tan and Doris Woon taught.

However, the annual records showed some areas of concern, mirroring the difficulties faced by the assembly at its new premises. 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, with levels at the former dropping by 50% from an earlier average of 100 after the move to Ang Mo Kio. 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’.

Concerns were also raised over the number of members who left immediately after the Breaking of Bread Service without staying for the ministry of the Word. In addition, the total collection dropped drastically, continuing a trend which began in fiscal year 1983/1984, and reached a situation where a dire appeal had to be made in 1988 after the assembly had been operating at a deficit for several years. Thankfully, the Lord prompted members to respond positively and the following year saw the total collection rising by almost 50%, stabilising the finances of the assembly.

Not all new initiatives were implemented successfully but several, such as the tuition programme and kindergarten, became firmly established as core outreach activities which have continued to the present. The cleaning roster idea proved unworkable and contract cleaners were hired to take over the upkeep of the premises in May 1988. Gospel rallies held in May-June 1988 with the Asia Evangelistic Fellowship (AEF) in conjunction with their regional Love Singapore Mission were poorly attended. The time for the weekly Sunday evening Gospel Service was changed from 5 to 6 pm in the same year in the hope of improving attendance, but this did not solve the problem. In the same vein, a new evangelistic outreach was started with weekly Gospel Meetings at 6 pm at the old Bras Basah premises in December 1988 under the direction of S V Ramalingam, Chua Teck Koon (Sr), Tan Jing Poi, Tan Chee Hwee, Chia Boon Hong and Charlie Tan. The results were encouraging, with weekly attendances averaging 70 and a few souls saved.

In contrast, the progress made on new initiatives to teach the Word of God was very encouraging. In January 1989, Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) 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. The materials were written by the elders. A total of 215 believers divided into 23 groups were involved with the CEP at its inception. Together with the Sunday School, the assembly had over 400 being instructed in God's Word every Sunday morning – a tremendous achievement that has endured to this day, for which we praise God. At the same time, the Mailbox Bible Correspondence Course (MBCC) started with an office at the old Bras Basah premises. The Emmaus Bible Correspondence Course (EBCC) was later added in 1998 when Adrin Loi was appointed as the Regional Director for Singapore. The success of the CEP led the elders to shelve their plans for the Pastoral Group Programme, with the expectation that the need for mutual pastoral support amongst members would be realised through the CEP.

The Assembly In The 1990s

As the assembly moved into the early 1990s, we began to be more settled in the new premises and, with the Lord's help, were able to embark on new projects with a greater sense of confidence. In 1990, the assembly hosted the 4th Christian Conference for Asian assemblies in Singapore for the first time. A total of 315 participants from Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Singapore attended, with invited guests from Australia, Burma, New Zealand, Thailand and the United States. The guest speaker was Boyd Aitken who spoke on the theme 'Christian Discipleship Today'.

After the conference, many foreign participants extended their stay and were hosted by assembly members in their homes. Permanent friendships were made that have remained to this day. That year also saw the first Easter Missionary Conference during which Arnold Doolan from Portugal and our own S V Ramalingam spoke. The Prayer Voices also put on 'a grand exhibition of the Lord's work by His servants in other lands'.

A chapter in the history of the assembly was closed when the last service took place at the old Bras Basah premises on 15 February 1992 at 5.45 pm. At this 'Praise and Thanksgiving Service', the guest speaker was Lauw Kim Guan. The old premises were handed over to the Urban Redevelopment Authority on 9 March 1992 and demolished in June. In the same year, campers travelled by air, for the first time, to Penang for the Assembly Family Camp. The theme was "Be a Barnabas, Yes!" The 1992 annual report noted that following that camp, attendance at the Assembly Prayer Meeting increased to more than 100 since the move to Ang Mo Kio. Gospel meeting attendance also increased to an average of 100, rising to 150 when there was a baptism service. The total collections year on year also continued on an upward trend.



*Christian Conference 90
- BAMK Elders giving song item*



*Harry Tan delivered the Welcome Address
at the CC 97*

The assembly calendar of annual events settled into a comfortable regularity: Workers' Retreat on New Year's Day, Sunday School Anniversary, Easter Conference, Assembly Family Camp, Senior Christian Gathering, Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Annual Meeting, Kindergarten Graduation Service, Daily Vacation Bible School, Assembly Youth Camp, Christmas Gospel and Christmas Day Service and finally the Watchnight Service to finish the year. In between these fixtures, there were various special ministry meetings by visiting speakers and the yearly Gospel Rally, which eventually found its regular July slot in the calendar. From time

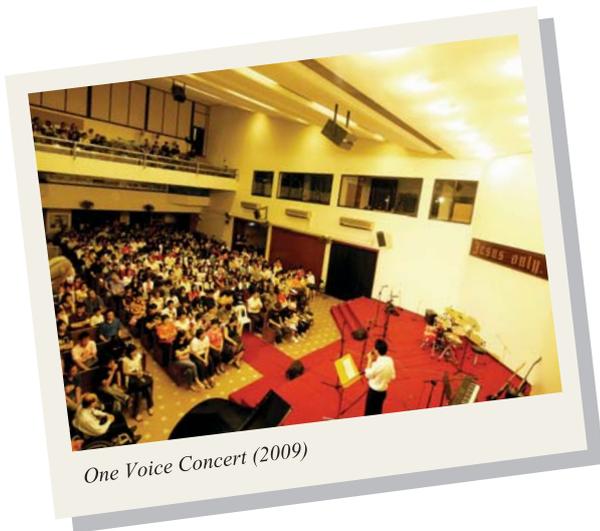
to time, new outreach initiatives surfaced such as the screening of evangelistic film shows *Like A Roaring Lion* and *A Father, A Son and A 3-mile Run* in April-May 1993. Increasingly, members began to travel overseas as individuals or in teams to learn of the work of the Lord and to preach His Word in other lands.

However, alongside these developments, seeds of unease began to grow concerning developments within the rest of Christendom and the assembly movement in particular. The 1992-1994 annual reports contained much caution against liberal theology, neo-brethrenism and decreasing interest in 'Assembly Distinctives'.

The report for 1994 cited the apostasy of liberal theology, the charismatic and ecumenical movements, and reflected a move towards tightening control of participation at the Lord's Supper. The report stressed the practice of Letters of Commendation from visitors, who desire to participate in the worship and remembrance meeting or failing which, the need for a member to vouch for the visitor. However, to this day the assembly continues to receive those whom Christ also received to the glory of God (Romans 15:7).



More than 350 believers attended the CC 97



Into The Next Decade

The year 1995 marked the tenth anniversary of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) and served as a useful point for the assembly to review its progress in the Lord's purposes for the past decade. Overall, the ten years had been fruitful and eventful years of blessing, each year being crowned with the Lord's goodness. Certainly the Lord's hand of blessing had been seen as the total number in fellowship had risen from 500 to 700. New outreach ministries in the neighbourhood such as the kindergarten work, the tuition programme and the Boys' Brigade had

become firmly established. The CEP and Sunday School had grown numerically. The Youth Meetings were also well attended. Links of fellowship had also been extended to Asian assemblies in the region through conferences and visits by our own assembly evangelists, teachers and commended workers.

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 at the former courtyard area. It was completed on 1 April 1996. The four storeys added an extra 480 square metres in space. From 12 – 16 August 1997, the assembly hosted the 6th Christian Conference with the theme 'Hold Fast What Thou Hast' (Revelation 3: 11). More than 350 brethren from Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Singapore participated.



Moving forward into the last five years of the century, the assembly began to consider the purchase of a new piece of land for the work of the Gospel. The Lord had continued to bless in terms of increased membership, to the point that the 1996 annual report noted that 'the extra aisle seats in the main hall were well occupied' at the worship and remembrance meetings, and that average attendance had now reached 550. Similarly, a 'noticeable increase' in the number attending the prayer meeting during school holidays was also reported. The number undergoing baptism also more than tripled to 39 that year, while more believers from other churches were received into fellowship. Attendance continued to grow in 1997, with 600 gathering around the Lord's Table on Sunday mornings, and it was noted that some CEP groups began to meet for dinner before each prayer meeting to encourage each other to attend.

Towards the end of the century, the assembly recognised more than ever its dependence on the Lord and His grace. The annual report for 1999 stated that:

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.

Financial difficulties and regional turmoil in the wake of the Asian Financial Crisis caused the Assembly Bible Camp for that year to be held in Singapore, at YWCA Fort Canning Lodge, instead of overseas – a reminder of the blessings of our Lord's protection for us in Singapore amidst the difficult and turbulent times.

At the turn of the new millennium, the Lord graciously added another 62 members to the assembly. This was a 100% increase from the annual average in the 1990s. The annual report called for more members to step forward in partnership to take up their share of the burdens of the assembly, rather than stand by as spectators watching others doing the work of the Lord. With such a large membership, it was easy for members to leave much of the work to a core of 'elite servants' and settle into a comfortable routine of attendance of the basic meetings on Sunday. The assembly, it seemed, needed a new set of challenges to move forward as a united body in the next phase of the Lord's plan for its work and growth.

The New Millennium: Challenges And Change

The early years of the new millennium provided major new challenges, which the Lord sent and allowed to happen in order to renew our focus on Him. On hindsight, these challenges helped us return to the basic meaning of being a local church and rededicate ourselves to live out this meaning, in all our interactions and our doings, as members of that body. Tough times ahead were heralded by the passing of our dearly loved and much respected elder, Lim Tian Leong, on 25 August 2002. He had done much to keep the assembly together and had served the Lord with great distinction in his final years on earth, even whilst battling a painful cancer.

Soon after this, in 2004, we suffered a great sadness and setback when some brethren disagreed over the proper way to hold New Testament Church Principles, or 'Assembly Distinctives'.

The pressure had already been building for some years prior to 2004. Our co-operation with other assemblies in an Inter-Assembly Gospel Rally with the theme '*Festival of Celebration*' in August 2001 revealed the differences in practices and styles between ourselves and other Brethren assemblies. Some brethren, including some in the leadership, wanted the assembly to practise a fellowship that was more in line with the Exclusive Brethren. These included the requirement to wear head covering by the ladies in all our activities and to discontinue the use of cuplets for the wine at the Lord's Supper which had been introduced at the time of the SARS crisis in 2003. Sadly, the group planned for a departure unknown to either the assembly or the elders and left the assembly suddenly in August 2004 to set up their own meeting.

The split left in its wake a shocked and fractured assembly, and a crisis that severely tested the leadership. After numerous Council meetings, a few of which ended in the wee hours of the morning, strategies were worked out to control the damage. The elders met with the deacons and the leaders of the various activity groups. Confused and discouraged members were counselled in restaurants, homes, schools, offices and even HDB void decks. Exhortations were given from the pulpit on the need for love and forgiveness, and articles encouraging the brethren were published in the assembly newsletter.

A *Position Paper* encapsulating the assembly's position on New Testament principles and practices, and defining essentials and non-essentials of the Christian faith was expedited and issued. The 48-page document, entitled *Together in Unity* and broken into eight chapters with four appendices, distinguished clearly the fundamental, important and non-essential issues such as Baptism, the Lord's Supper, Assembly Reception and Fellowship, Assembly Worship, Prayer and Ministry, Assembly Leadership, Christian Conduct and Specific Issues on Doctrine. Following the release of the Paper, the elders, through the Sunday Morning Ministry, expounded on and further clarified the issues covered in the *Position Paper*.

Through it all, the Lord was good in holding the assembly together and we can now gratefully say that the 2004 split is well behind us.

Back To Basics: Pulling Together And Moving On

The sad and painful episode of the unprecedented split was used by the Lord to teach us some hard lessons. We learned about the sin of pride – the pride in ourselves as a New Testament assembly that made us condescending and condemning towards other Christian groups and blind to our own failings before the Lord. The pride of individual spiritual superiority led us to form factions around our own interpretations, which was contrary to the teaching of ‘preserving the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace’ and ‘speaking the truth in love’. We also learned about the sin of complacency and self-satisfaction with our own achievements, as the sudden split exposed our over-reliance on a few individuals to do the Lord’s work. Thankfully, the Lord was gracious and He stirred His people to respond to the challenge by stepping forward to serve in critically affected areas such as the Young People’s Ministry (YP). In the crucial months, many parents of the youth stepped in to fill the gap. We were able to pull together and carry on with one mind, always conscious of the need to humbly submit to one another, and to obey the Lord’s commandment to love as He loves. May we learn from this episode to henceforth distinguish the fundamental from the non-essential issues, so as to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

The assembly continued to explore new opportunities to carry on the Lord’s work of reaching out to the lost, and how to involve the whole assembly in this crucial aspect of our collective church life and testimony. We continued to focus on the basics of being a local church: devotion to the Lord Jesus and, through the transforming work and enabling power of His Spirit, to express His love for the people of the world in our own neighbourhood. Our traditional strength in the study of God’s Word had to result in practical changes in our lives and in our interactions with those who lived around us. Two new projects energised the assembly towards these goals. First, a number of pioneers moved over to begin a new outreach work at Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk), a building which the Lord had graciously provided for us after several years of diligent search by the Building Committee. Breaking of bread services, Sunday School and CEP classes at Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) formally began in March 2005, although outreach work among youth and children from the neighbourhood had already commenced in September 2004.



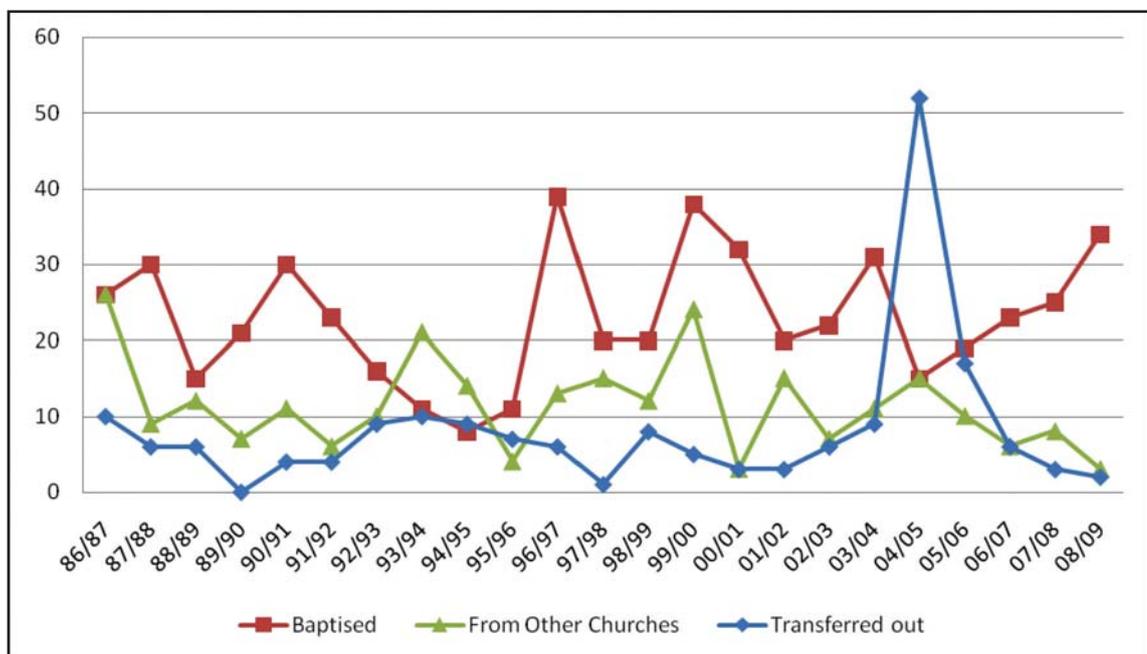
COPA-OAR Trip To Malacca (2009)



COPA-Cooking Class at Depot Road

The second major project was undertaken in 2007, when Bethesda Hall embarked on a new Comprehensive Outreach Programme for the Assembly (COPA). This programme signalled the beginning of a completely new approach towards evangelism, in particular, the mode of reaching out to people living in the Ang Mo Kio and Depot Road communities. There was a need to reach out to those living in our neighbourhoods as many of them remained relatively untouched by the Good News, and their other needs largely unmet by the assembly. COPA reviewed our existing outreach efforts in relation to how they could be made more engaging and accessible to our non-Christian neighbours. COPA also introduced a number of new outreach initiatives, such as talks, health screenings, blood donation drives, Easter and Christmas performances at the community club, and short tours out of Singapore, and sought to revive a number of existing efforts such as the weekly Gospel Meeting and annual Christmas Service. These activities were specifically directed at building relationships with the unsaved souls in the neighbourhood.

Growth Of The Assembly⁶



Redevelopment And Lease Extension

The 30-year lease of the HDB land which Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) occupies will expire on 21 February 2013. This is less than four years away. In view of this, the elders have appointed a Lease Renewal Committee to look into fund raising and the application for the lease extension to the relevant authorities.

With the rapid growth in both the English and Chinese assemblies which share in the use of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio), the facilities require redevelopment to cater to the expanding membership. A Joint Building Committee comprising representatives from both assemblies was set up. Both assemblies have agreed to share the redevelopment and the lease renewal cost based on a co-ownership formula.

⁶ From July 1986 to June 2009, the total number baptised at Bethesda Hall is 529. After taking into account those who transferred in and out, the net increase in membership is 605. The total membership captured in the assembly register is 831.

The collaboration between the English and Chinese assemblies will extend to other areas as well. Both assemblies have set up a Joint Community Services Committee to explore avenues of providing social services to reach out to the community and to influence them to the Christian faith. New facilities will have to be developed for the Community Service ministry.

Pressing On To The Finish

Looking ahead to the time we have left before the Lord returns, it is clear that as an assembly, the Lord has called us back to our first love – for Himself, for each other, and for those still outside His kingdom. In His grace, we have been given another chance to humble ourselves and to see beyond our failings, to be forgiven and rekindled to worship and serve Him with our hearts united as God’s family. We have stepped forward in faith and dependence on Him to make a fresh effort at bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to our community. Forgetting the things that are behind, reaching on to the things that lie ahead in our Lord’s good purpose for us – we press on together, straining towards the goal, for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Let’s unite our hearts together for our God and King,
And to our faithful Saviour we bring:
Allow Him the room to move in everything we do,
And He will surely carry us through.

Let’s unite our gifts together in God’s family,
And to our endless Giver we sing:
Let me take your hand, and we will run this race together
With the Author of life at our reins.

And we’ll march on in the power of His Spirit,
We’ll be sure and steadfast as we worship at His feet,
We’ll be one in vision, one in Christ – together on our knees,
One in vision, one in Christ – for all the world to see.



CHAPTER 3

ASSEMBLY LEADERSHIP: ELDERS AND DEACONS

By Ng Swee Choo



The Council of Elders

Front seated (L-R): Sum Stew Tak, Wong Tuck Keong, Harry Tan, Chong Kim Chow, Khoo Oon Soo, Tay Kim Swee, Tan Kian Huat and Adrin Loi
Back standing (L-R): Victor Ng, Andrew Kwan, Daniel Thein, Tan Chee Hwee, Ho Kuang Cheng, Tan Jing Poi, David Goh and Eric Choa



The Diaconate

Front seated (L-R): Jeffrey Jee, Edmund Yong, Ng Lee Peng, Daniel Skelton, Stephen Chang and George Varughese
Back standing (L-R): Aaron Wong, Ang Siew Hock, Colin Leong, Keith Wan, William Chew, Alex Mathews, Tan Hin Oon, Kan Shik Lum and Tan Soo Hoon

The Elders

With the famous ‘JESUS ONLY.’⁷ plaque in the Main Hall lifted up and firmly in place, twelve elders were appointed. They were Lawrence Chan, Eric Choa, Chong Kim Chow, Chua Teck Koon (Sr), Khoo Oon Soo, Lee Kok Onn, Lim Tian Leong, S V Ramalingam, Tay Kim Swee, Albert Wong, Wong Tuck Keong and Daniel Woon. These elders and about five hundred people broke bread for the first time in the new premises at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) on 13 July 1986.

According to the *Position Paper*, ‘it is noteworthy that God designs assembly eldership to be in the plurality. In plurality, there is counsel and it prevents pitfalls that come from one-man control leadership’. The ages of those in the Oversight vary as it was recognised in 1982 by the Oversight then that a large Oversight comprising elders of different ages would combine youth, zeal and enterprise with maturity, experience and knowledge, as well as ensure effective continuity in the assembly leadership. Wong Tuck Keong was the youngest elder appointed at twenty eight years of age. Before his call to the Oversight, he had served as a deacon from January 1981 to February 1985.

Leadership Renewal

The turning point of leadership renewal that led to further growth of the assembly was the departure of James Hanam for Canada on 10 March 1980. Prior to that, there were only three elders, namely, Lim Tian Leong, James Hanam and Lawrence Chan. After James Hanam and his family migrated to Canada, Albert Wong joined the Oversight in 1980 and he was soon followed by Chong Kim Chow, Daniel Woon and Khoo Oon Soo on 7 Sep 1980.

In the Records of the Elders’ Meeting on 7 November 1980, Lim Tian Leong, as the Chairman of the Elders, proposed to increase the number of elders and deacons to provide adequate spiritual leadership and pastoral care in the assembly.

Following that, many brothers responded to the challenge and call to join the Oversight. They were Chua Teck Koon (Sr) (1980), Tay Kim Swee (1983), Adrin Loi and Lee Kok Onn (both in 1984), S V Ramalingam, Wong Tuck Keong and Eric Choa (all in 1985).

The elders noted that although many were baptised and received into fellowship from July 1974 to June 1984, those attending the worship services had not increased significantly owing to the loss of members arising from lack of a pastoral ministry. They recognised the need to have more under-shepherds to pastor the flock. God’s gracious provision of more elders led to an increased and sustained weekly attendance of the saints in the assembly.

⁷ The motto “JESUS ONLY.” was first hung up by Philip Robinson in the original Bethesda Chapel at 77 Bras Basah Road.

After moving to Ang Mo Kio, there were further changes in the leadership. Harry Tan Siew Ann and Peter Wee Huat Leong became members of the Oversight in 1987. Sum Siew Tak joined the Oversight in August 1988. Adrin Loi rejoined the Oversight in late 1988 after a long leave (on account of his studies in the United States). Albert Wong resigned from the Oversight in 1988 and Chua Teck Koon (Sr) was called home on 3 February 1992 while he was an elder. Between the years 1992 and 1994, five more brethren were called to shoulder and share in the burden of under-shepherding God's people: Tan Kian Huat (February 1992), Vincent Chang Shian Shee (January 1993), Gan Kee Pin (March 1994), Victor Ng Eng Kok (April 1994) and Wong Kok Seng (March 1994). Of these five men, only Tan Kian Huat and Victor Ng remain as elders. Vincent Chang resigned in May 2000, Wong Kok Seng in May 2002, Peter Wee on 25 August 2004 and Gan Kee Pin in September 2004. Of the latter four, only Wong Kok Seng remains in the assembly even though he spends most of his time in Vietnam. Other elders who have left the Oversight include Lawrence Chan, who stepped down on 11 July 1998 for health reasons, Lee Kok Onn, who resigned on 14 March 1999 to identify with another assembly, and SV Ramalingam, who resigned on 25 April 2008 for personal reasons.

Remembering A Beloved Elder

Lim Tian Leong was called by God to under-shepherd His people on 1 June 1966. A man steeped in the Word and passionate about the work of God, he was regarded by many as the leading teacher in the assembly. He managed the Assembly Training Class from 1969 to July 1987, and was the Chief Coordinator of the CEP from its inception in 1989 to 1995. He was also remembered as a man of prayer, unceasing in his intercession for the saints, naming each one before the Lord. Due to his deteriorating health, he resigned from the Oversight on 5 May 2002. He lost his battle to cancer but gained instead his place in glory with the Lord on 25 August 2002, after faithfully serving his Master for 44 years. He was hospitable towards all visiting speakers and guests and extended the same warmth



of fellowship to church members. Many would surely remember him for the Christmas lunches or dinners he graciously provided to show his appreciation for their partnership in the Lord's work.

New Elders In The New Millennium

On 9 November 2003, the Lord called Tan Chee Hwee, David Goh and Ho Kuang Cheng to the Oversight. Tan Chee Hwee and Ho Kuang Cheng had been deacons prior to their call. When the extension work at Depot Walk began on 6 March 2005, Harry Tan, Eric Choa and Sum Siew Tak were tasked to oversee the work there. Ho Kuang Cheng joined them in January 2008.

While there is no formal one-to-one mentoring for all newly appointed elders, there is mentoring on a group basis. A new elder is given various assignments and activity groups to supervise. He reports at the monthly Council meetings. The new elder sits in situational counselling and discipline meetings and observes how the older and more experienced elders go through the paces for such matters. However, when assigned complex pastoral matters, the new elders will team up with the more experienced ones as there is "safety in the multitude of counsellors".

The search for new elders to join the Oversight is an on-going process as the older elders retire due to age and failing health. On 9 November 2008, the Lord appointed Andrew Kwan Kok Tiong, Tan Jing Poi and Daniel Thein Boon Hin (at Depot Walk) to share in the pastoral ministry. These men had served as deacons prior to their call to be elders.

List Of Elders From 1986

Name	Period of Service
Adrin Loi Boon Sim	Since November 1984
Albert Wong	1980 – 1988
Andrew Kwan Kok Tiong	Since 9 November 2008
Chong Kim Chow	Since 7 September 1980
Chua Teck Koon (Sr)	16 November 1980 – 3 February 1992
Daniel Thein Boon Hin	Since 9 November 2008
Daniel Woon	7 September 1980 – 18 March 1989
David Goh	Since 9 November 2003
Eric Choa	Since 16 March 1985
Gan Kee Pin	6 March 1994 – 26 September 2004
Harry Tan Siew Ann	Since 6 March 1987
Ho Kuang Cheng	Since 9 November 2003
Khoo Oon Soo	Since 7 September 1980
Lawrence Chan	16 June 1977 – 11 July 1998
Lee Kok Onn	16 November 1984 – 14 March 1999
Lim Tian Leong	1 June 1966 – 5 May 2002
Peter Wee Huat Leong	6 November 1987 – 25 August 2004
S V Ramalingam	1 January 1985 – 25 April 2008
Sum Siew Tak	Since 7 August 1988
Tan Chee Hwee	Since 9 November 2003
Tan Jing Poi	Since 9 November 2008
Tan Kian Huat	Since 9 February 1992
Tay Kim Swee	Since 16 July 1983
Victor Ng Eng Kok	Since 3 April 1994
Vincent Chang Shian Shee	3 January 1993 – 1 May 2000
Wong Kok Seng	6 March 1994 – 5 May 2002
Wong Tuck Keong	Since 16 February 1985

While Shepherds Watch Over Their Flock

In discharging their primary responsibility of protecting and guarding the flock against false teachings, the Oversight stays attentive to the happenings in the assembly and pays careful attention to what is taught by various speakers. All teaching materials used in the various activity groups are screened. Both speakers and chairmen of all meetings are carefully selected.

The elders also spend time debating over various doctrines, issues and policies. The decisions arrived at are meticulously recorded in the minutes and summarised in the *Position Paper* released to the assembly members. While elders cannot and do not police every activity group, they trust that each assembly member will emulate the noble Bereans who were able to discern the truth by searching the Scriptures.

Pastoral care entails a direct ministry to individuals in the assembly. ‘Elders are among the flock and the flock among the elders’, said Tan Kian Huat. The elders’ work does not only involve attending the Council meetings, as required of members of a board, but also to be actively engaged in the body life of the assembly as workers so that they are able to feel the heartbeat of the assembly.

At Council meetings, potential problems are raised and discussed. If the problems are pressing, special meetings will be arranged to handle them. There have been occasions when the elders are called by members encountering problems in their family, for instance, marital conflicts, difficult children and quarrels among siblings. By God’s grace, they have often had the joy of seeing these problems resolved through counselling and prayerful intervention.

One area of pastoral ministry that proves a constant challenge to the under-shepherds is in the area of visitation. A systematic visitation programme which was revived by Lim Tian Leong and his team at Bras Basah could not be sustained due to lack of time and pressures from work, family and the ministry itself. However, visitation is currently done on a need basis to the sick, elderly and bereaved at wakes or as a combined effort with assembly members when specific needs are made known.

The pastoral ministry is demanding. To shepherd the great diversity of members within the flock requires insight, skill and patience which only the Holy Spirit can impart. As stewards over God’s heritage, elders need encouragement too. While they have prayerful and spousal support, confidential matters are often borne alone and with only the support of the rest of the elders. To encourage one another, the elders meet monthly to pray and give reports of the progress of the activity groups that they oversee. They also make visits to elders who are unwell, exhort each other online, take the load from fellow elders when the need arises and submit to each other.

According to Tay Kim Swee, one of the most challenging tasks of the Oversight is that of making decisions that could affect the assembly as a whole. As an example, he cites the renewal of the lease of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) in 2013. The elders are aware that the assembly aims to be a community church – a ‘Growing, Glowing and Going Assembly’, which is the Oversight’s vision for the years ahead. However, the extent of the assembly’s involvement in community activities has to be carefully monitored because the elders will be bringing the assembly spiritually, physically and financially into the future. Decisions have to be made carefully to maximise opportunities for evangelism and avoid unnecessary commitment to programmes which could lead to unwise expenditure that may burden the assembly.

Though there is teamwork and support for each other, the work of an under-shepherd can be lonely and the burden, heavy. At one point or another, almost every elder had wanted to lay down his rod and staff. But what keeps them going when the going gets tough? Khoo Oon Soo says it best: ‘Three loves – love for the Lord, love for the Lord’s people and love for the lost’.

In the final analysis, pastoral care is an art learned from the Chief Shepherd Himself, our Lord Jesus Christ. The assembly is His assembly. 'JESUS ONLY.' Lawrence Chan observed astutely that there is a full stop after these two treasured words. This, he said, emphasises that our worship and service are to be of Him and for Him alone so that God only will be ultimately glorified.

The Deacons

The word *deacon* is a transliteration of the Greek word *diakonos*, which means one who serves or ministers. It was applied to a household slave who waited on tables. The *diakonos* of the New Testament assembly is a minister officially appointed by the assembly. His ministry supports the pastoral leadership.

The Acts of the Apostles gives us both the genesis of the diaconship and essential insights into the qualities of deacons. The manner of selecting and consecrating the deacons in the infant church verified the importance of the office. The guidance of the Holy Spirit was sought in the forming of the office and in the selection of men to fill it. By the end of the apostolic period, the office of deacon was well-established in the life of the church and has continued till today. The main ministry of deacons is 'to attend to the temporal matters of the local assembly such as finance, welfare of staff and workers and maintenance of the church premises'.

Besides attending to the temporal needs of the assembly, the deacons also keep in contact with missionaries overseas. Ng Lee Peng in the Annual Report 1992/1993 recorded that: 'We have often received news from overseas missionaries informing us of their problems, needs and requests for prayer support. With the Lord's enablement and in accordance with the responsibilities entrusted to us, we desire to apportion the funds to the Lord's servants accordingly. It is our prayer that no missionary in our list be neglected so that each one can concentrate fully in ministering God's Word'.

Today, the deacons meet monthly to allocate the collections for the Evangelistic and Missionary Funds.

The Deacons Of The Assembly

Name	Date of Commendation
Aaron Wong	7 December 2003
Alex Mathews	5 November 2006
Ang Siew Hock	2 November 2008
Collin Leong Weng Tuck	3 April 2005
Daniel Skelton	7 December 2003
Edmund Yong	1981
George Varughese	6 October 1996
Jeffrey Jee Kim Tian	3 April 2005
Kan Shik Lum	1982
Keith Wan	1 February 2009
Ng Lee Peng	11 May 1980
Stephen Chang Chun Kuan	13 December 1992
Tan Hin Oon	5 October 2008
Tan Soo Hoon	17 August 1980
William Chew Chok Hon	7 December 2003

Those Who Had Previously Served As Deacons

Name	Period of Service	Reason for Leaving
Alex Loh Chong Kang	1985 to 1995	Overseas posting
Andrew Kwan Kok Tiong	24 Dec 2006 to 9 Nov 2008	Called to the Oversight
Andy Low	1978 to 1987	Migrated
Boey San Fei	5 Jun 1994 to 2 Jan 2008	Personal reasons
Cheong Yuen Whye	1968 to 31 December 1991	Retired
Chia Boon Hong	1979 to 1999	Health reasons
Daniel Thein Boon Hin	Aug 2006 to 9 Nov 2008	Called to the Oversight
Dieu Eng Hock	1982 to 1989	Migrated
Gan Kee Pin	1984 to 6 Mar 1994	Called to the Oversight
Godfrey Ong	1983 to 1989	Personal reasons and later left the assembly
Gordon Kwan Sow Kuen	1984 to Nov 2005	Migrated
Ho Kuang Cheng	Dec 1992 to 9 Nov 1993	Called to the Oversight
Joseph Sng	1982 to 31 Dec 1992	Personal reasons and later went to another assembly. He returned in 2005
Ng Siew Kiang	Apr 1994 to 1999	Personal reasons
Patrick Wee Huat Bee	Mar 1994 to 10 Oct 2004	Personal reasons and later left the assembly
Richard Moo	1985 to 1987	Personal reasons and later left the assembly
Samuel Wee Tien Wang	Aug 1996 to 25 Aug 2004	Personal reasons and later left the assembly
Tan Chee Hwee	1982 to 9 Nov 2003	Called to the Oversight
Tan Jing Poi	1982 to 9 Nov 2008	Called to the Oversight
Tan Kian Huat	1984 to 9 Feb 1992	Called to the Oversight
Tay Kim Tee	1965 to 30 Sep 1995	Health reasons
Victor Ng Eng Kok	Dec 1992 to 3 Apr 1994	Called to the Oversight
William Koh Lok Kiang	1985 to 1987	Overseas studies
Wong Kok Seng	Dec 1992 to 6 Mar 1994	Called to the Oversight

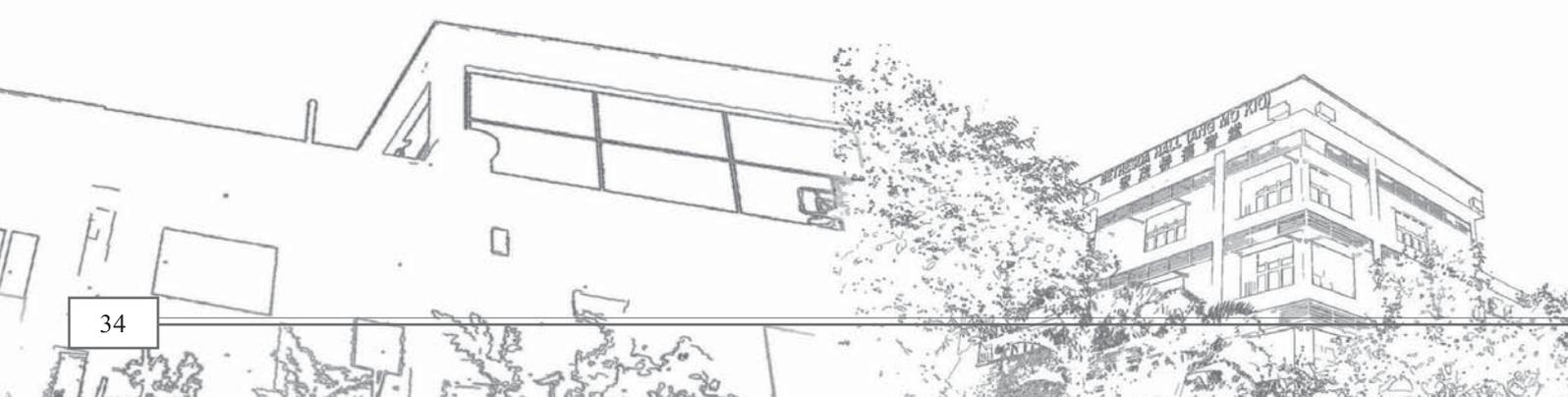
As the Lord's stewards, the deacons have the yearly responsibility of preparing the annual budget. They try to keep expenditure within the budget and to spend expediently, cutting costs wherever and whenever possible. The late Tay Kim Tee, the Honorary Treasurer of the assembly from 1972 to 2002, was best remembered for his fastidiousness towards the assembly accounts. He never failed to finalise the monthly statement of accounts by 4 pm on the last Sunday of every month. He was the first member to arrive at the hall every Lord's Day at 7 am until he was taken ill. His love for the Lord and His people was evident through his conscientious effort to keep the assembly accounts and to ensure that the Lord's workers received their monetary gifts on time. He was called home on 8 September 2002.

Since the first Breaking of Bread Service on 13 July 1986, the bread and wine have been prepared by Wong Tuck Keong and his wife Elizabeth. The deacons, however, assist in the distribution of the elements at the Breaking of Bread service. Chia Boon Hong recalls that unlike the hall at Bras Basah Road, the new hall at Ang Mo Kio has a concourse and a side wing on the left of the main hall (facing front). This meant that the old way of passing around the plates and cups had to be modified. Many deacons found this to be quite a challenge, and would at times, lose their bearings; the plates and cups would then have to be redirected sometimes to the amusement of the congregation.

The deacons also recruit helpers among the assembly members to assist in the ministries assigned to the Diaconate such as providing the weekly refreshments on Sundays as well as on special occasions, counting the offerings each Sunday, floral arrangements and even housekeeping. For these dear members, we are grateful.

While the work of a deacon has often been associated with the stewardship of the temporal and material aspects of the local assembly, they are not confined to such matters only. The duties of the deacons in the days of the apostles were evidently larger than a ministry of waiting on tables, as in the case of Stephen and Philip who ministered to spiritual needs as well. Daniel Thein, Kan Shik Lum, Tan Jing Poi, Aaron Wong, George Varughese and Andrew Kwan have ministered the Word after the Breaking of Bread service. Others teach in the Sunday School and yet others lead in the CEP and Youth Group. Almost all have at one time or another shared the Word at the Tuesday Prayer Meeting. Nine deacons, Tan Kian Huat, Tan Chee Hwee, Wong Kok Seng, Victor Ng, Ho Kuang Cheng, Gan Kee Pin, Tan Jing Poi, Daniel Thein and Andrew Kwan, having shown their attitude of having a shepherd's heart in the ministry, have been exercised to further assume the office of an elder.

And for the remaining deacons, *'those who serve well... gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith which is in Christ Jesus'* (I Timothy 3:13).



CHAPTER 4

MAIN MEETINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY

By Joseph Lim & William Koh



Worship Meeting at BAMK



Special Gospel Meeting



Worship Meeting at BDW



Assembly Prayer Meeting at BAMK



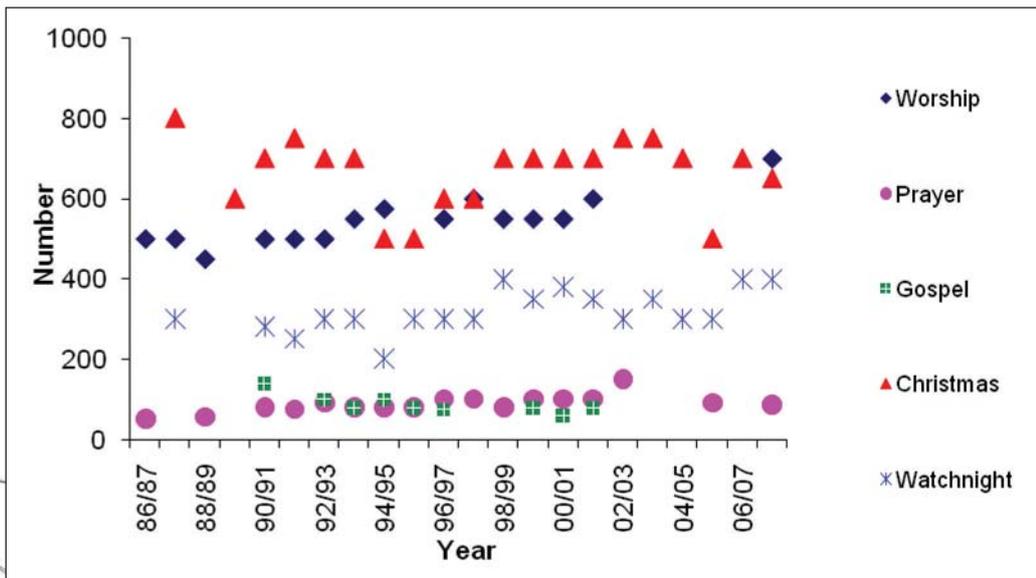
Breaking of Bread (Tamil Meeting)

The Body Life Expressed

The Word of God recorded that members of the early church ‘devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer’ (Acts 2:42). The body life of the assembly is most visibly expressed in the various gatherings of God’s people for worship, teaching, prayer and proclamation of the gospel. Based on New Testament church principles, the assembly holds three weekly meetings – Breaking of Bread Service, Assembly Prayer Meeting and the Gospel Meeting. In this age of busy work schedules, jet-setting executives and online social networking, there is a danger of the Lord’s people abandoning the discipline of gathering regularly in His presence for mutual edification and encouragement, a discipline that is all the more needful as we see the day approaching (Matthew 18:20; Hebrews 10:25).

The chart below shows that attendance at assembly meetings has fluctuated over the past 23 years since we moved to Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio). There seems to be a lack of consistency in participation, especially for the Gospel and Prayer meetings. We thank the Lord that despite this, He overrules all and has been pleased to use these meetings to bring blessing and refreshment to those who attended, building up His people and bringing the lost into His kingdom. Apart from the regular weekly meetings, many saints have also been encouraged and revived by special occasions when God’s Word was preached. These include special ministry meetings by visiting teachers, the Easter Conference, the Annual Meeting, the Christmas Service as well as the Watchnight Service.

Attendance At The Main Meetings Of The Assembly



The Breaking Of Bread And Ministry Of The Word: Blessings In Communion And Learning

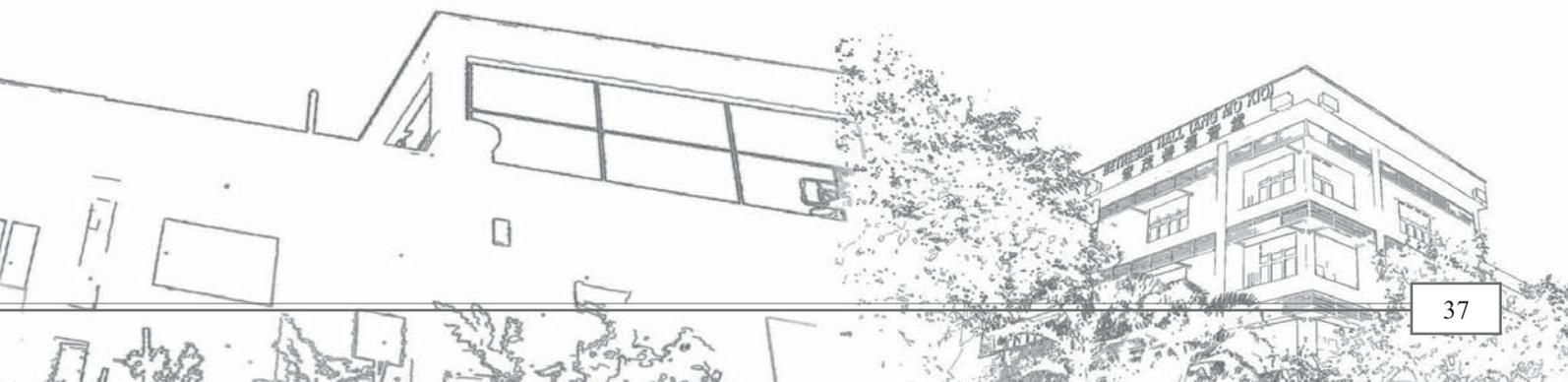
The first Breaking of Bread Service at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) was held on 13 July 1986. This simple gathering to remember the Lord has continued to be the most well-attended of all the weekly assembly meetings. Ng Lee Peng recalled that the first Breaking of Bread Service was a day of excitement and anxiety, as everybody wanted to be early so that they could secure a parking lot in the new church compound and get a good seat in the main hall instead of at the concourse. The Ministry that morning was taken by W A Peterson, who spoke on 'The Lord of Lords'. However, many members were more preoccupied with fanning themselves due to the poor ventilation in the hall. There was some 'murmuring' about the shortage of fans and the poor design of the building after the meeting. However, one brother was overheard telling his wife that 'we come to worship God, never mind the perspiration'! It was indeed a positive attitude, and the elders and deacons were quietly taking notes on how to improve the environment. For those who showed patience and longsuffering, the long-awaited day of air-conditioning finally arrived on 7 November 1993.

Over the past 23 years, assembly annual records showed that attendance at the Sunday morning worship varied from a low of 400 to a high of 600, leading to all seats in the hall being filled. This pattern of attendance seemed fairly established, given the constraint of space. By God's grace and through His miraculous provision for a new testimony at Depot Walk, the Breaking of Bread Service at Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) commenced on 6 March 2005 with about 70 brethren in attendance. With a current membership of 500 at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) and 200 at Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk), the combined number of 700 is a testimony to the Lord's faithfulness in the extension of His kingdom manifested in the local church.

Although the Breaking of Bread Service has generally been well attended, assembly records mentioned areas of concern, such as members leaving before the Ministry of the Word. There was also recognition of the need to be mature in leading of worship and in the appreciation of the silent moments in between. Indeed, there is encouragement in noting newer and younger brothers offering sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving in worship to the Lord. On this point, Tan Ah Beng, when asked for his reflection, said:

It makes my head turn and brings a smile to my face whenever a younger brother stands up to share during morning worship. Some of these were toddlers when we started worship in Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) and here they are, filled with spontaneity and sincerity before the Heavenly Father. They add a dash of freshness to our remembrance feast!

The reception of many visiting brethren and their participation at the Lord's Table has also been a feature of this service. The assembly has been privileged to receive Christian visitors from all over the world to the worship meeting over the past years, in accordance with Romans 15:7, 'Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God.'



Members have been blessed by the ministry of God's Word through both local and overseas speakers in the last 23 years. Indeed, we thank the Lord for the many 'giants of faith' who have faithfully ministered from His Word to bring encouragement and edification to His saints. A number of them have since been called home to be with the Lord. These include Lim Tian Leong, G D James and Benjamin Chew, as well as visiting speakers from overseas assemblies such as W Wilson, Arnold Doolan, William MacDonald, Boyd Nicholson (Sr), Stan Warren, Geoffrey Bull, Jean Gibson, Matthew Finlay and Koh Ting Tew.

From the United States and Canada came Fred Kosin, Doug Kazen, Niger Lee, J B Nicholson (Sr), J B Nicholson (Jr), Jim Craig, William Yullie, Donald Norbie, Jack Fish, Harold Summers, Joe Reese, Joe Mikhael, Boushra Mikhael, Ron Chin, Randy Amos, Alexander McEachern, Jim McCarthy, Robert McLuckie, Francis Quek, Wade LeBlanc, Tan Pheng Theng, David Reid, Ken Fleming, Larry Price, John Bjorlie, Jim Fleming, Keith Keyser, David MacLeod, Gil Vargas and Alex Strauch. From the United Kingdom, we gladly welcomed Jim Baker, Peter Ferry, Jim Allen, Jim Naismith, Stan Warren, Boyd Aitken, John Levett, Michael Browne, Roy Hill and Ian Burness. We also had from Australia, W A Peterson, Donald Chan, Ian Irvine, Stephen Chase, W G Stott, William McVey, Charles Wigg, Mitchell Kilpatrick, and Alastair McGregor. From New Zealand we had Alf Chote, Harry Erlam, Fred King and Colin Graham. From India there were M A Joy, Yesudhasan Jones, John Thomas, John Kurian and George Dawson. From Malaysia we had Wong San Tosh, Ung Kim Cheng and Charles Lingam. From Hong Kong there were John Short and Thomas Yiu. We also had Ronnie Tung from Myanmar and Dave Harvey from the Philippines.

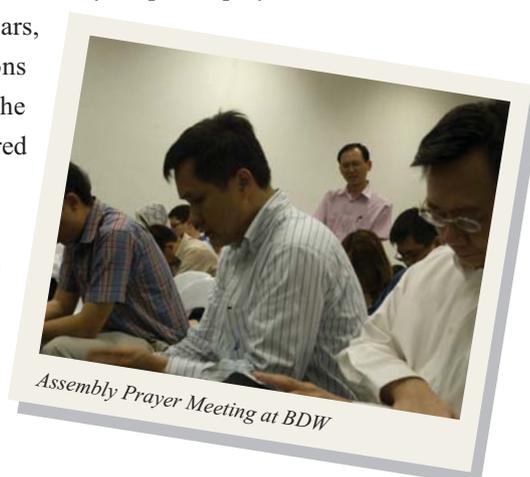
Visiting speakers from the local churches and assemblies included Bobby Sng, Chew Pin Kee, Ernest Chew, Wong Wai Chow, Wilson Gwee, Jimmy Chew, Stanley Wong, Thomas John, Eric Ang, David Yap and Andrew Lim.

The long list of visiting brethren from overseas and other assemblies who have ministered the Word in our local church does not imply any lack in the exercising of the gift of teaching and exhortation by brothers in the assembly. The 2007/2008 annual report showed that 32 assembly speakers took the morning Ministries in Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio and Depot Walk). We thank God for enabling many brothers in the assembly to serve Him in these challenging times.

Prayer Meetings: Challenges In Lifting Our Spiritual Powerhouse

The Tuesday prayer meetings continue to be the source of weekly corporate prayer. As mentioned earlier, attendance at these meetings has fluctuated over the years, often rising after some particularly challenging sessions of ministry or after an assembly camp, and waning as the spiritual fervour has worn off. The attendance has hovered at a range of 80 to 100 members each week.

The following extracts from the annual reports for some of the years from 1986 provide fascinating glimpses of the spiritual fervour as exemplified in the numbers attending the assembly prayer meeting:



There has been a significant drop in the number of intercessors at our Assembly Prayer Meetings since we moved over to our present premises. The average attendance has fallen to about fifty but we have been encouraged by a better turnout since June 1987. (1986/1987)

Alas we noted the attendance was dismal. It was as low as 40 sometimes. (1987/1988)

We saw a slight improvement in the attendance... still the number interceding was inadequate in relation to the 600-700 in fellowship because the average attendance was about 50-60 only. (1988/1989)

Though the attendance is low, the Lord is still interested to listen to the prayers of His people. (1990/1991)

But since our last Assembly Family Camp, this has increased to more than 100. (1991/1992)

We thank the Lord for the faithful 80 to 100 saints who gather every Tuesday evening to seek the Lord's face and blessing. (1992/1993)

The desire for prayer is commendable, for without prayer no work can truly be undertaken for the Lord...The average attendance was about 100. (1996/1997)

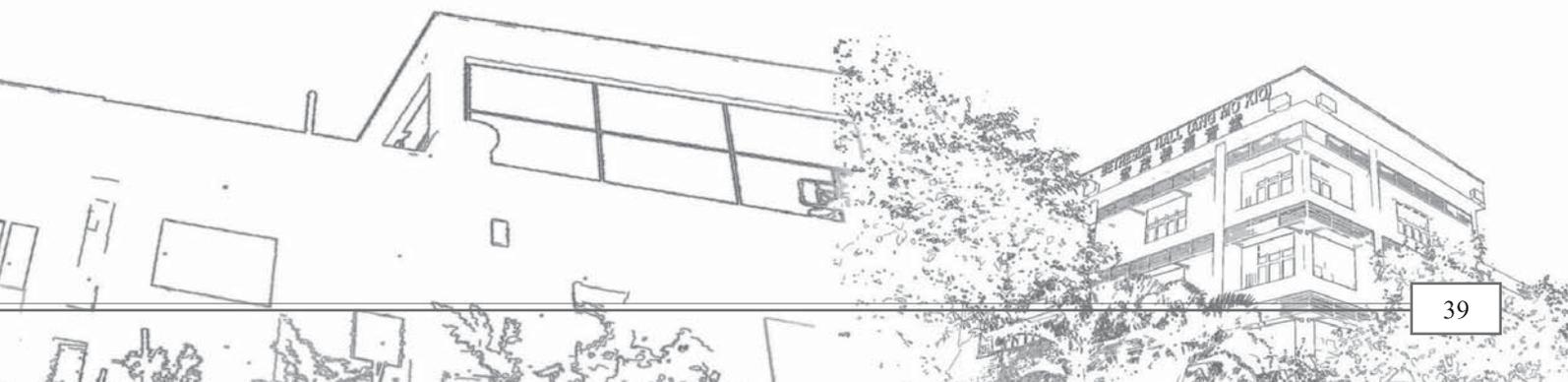
It is a high and holy privilege for the 100 saints that gathered weekly... we were very encouraged to see more young people attending and participating. (1999/2000)

Over 100 faithful saints gathered weekly on Tuesday night for prayer. (2001/2002)

Our weekly Tuesday prayer meetings continue with more than 150 assembly members. (2002/2003)

Almost 80 – 100 brethren went home blessed knowing that they have walked a little step closer with the Lord. (2005/2006)

From January 2008, a separate prayer meeting started at Depot Walk although the brethren from the two locations gather on the first Tuesday of each month for a combined prayer meeting. Currently, attendance at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) is about 50 while Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) averages 30.



Gospel Services: An Affirmation To Propagate The Gospel

The weekly Gospel Service held each Lord's Day evening is a regular affirmation of the assembly's first objective to propagate and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to assist in the extension of His Kingdom. Over the years, efforts have been made to improve attendance for this meeting. These included changing the starting time from 5 pm to 6 pm in 1988 and encouraging participation from the various RFGs to present singing items. From 1988 onwards, gospel services were held at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) and Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) until the latter was discontinued on 23 February 1992 as the premises had to be handed over to the Urban Redevelopment Authority on 9 March 1992. It was demolished soon after. It was recorded that the attendance at Bras Basah was 'most encouraging... with a weekly attendance of 70, resulting in the salvation of a few souls'.

While the work of preaching from the pulpit has continued faithfully every week, the participation of assembly members has been uneven during the last two decades. Looking back, we read in the annual report of 1986/1987 that 'attendance has not been as good as expected... except for special gospel services, such as those with baptism service'. It was also recorded that attendance fell 'as low as 20' on some weeks. In the annual report of 1995/1996, it was noted that the average attendance of 80 was a 'sad reflection on the spiritual state and fervour and concern for the gospel'. On a sober note, the 1999/2000 annual report stated that 'the attendance at times of less than 60 raises much concern with the possibility of discontinuing it... It is a hard decision'. Throughout those two decades, average attendance stayed mostly below 100. The elders decided against closing the meeting and urged members to keep the gospel meeting going.

With the launch of the COPA initiative in 2007, participation has improved as various ministry groups such as the CEP, RFG, AYG and SS have been encouraged to participate in the outreach efforts. Refreshments served at the concourse area have provided more time for interaction over a cup of tea after the closing prayer. The creative efforts to present the Gospel through songs, slide shows and even skits have been heartening, and this new sense of ownership has resulted in renewed interest and a significant increase in attendance.



Baptism service held after the Gospel Meeting

The Gospel Service offers a wonderful opportunity for us to witness the Lord's grace and mercy in the lives of His children who go through the waters of baptism. Over the years, the baptism services have usually seen higher attendances as family members and friends invited to attend and witness the public testimonies of their loved ones usually turned up in full force. Since 1986, 529 members have been baptised (an average of 23 per year) in Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio). The first baptism service at Ang Mo Kio was conducted on 19 October 1986, when eight believers went through the waters of baptism.

Special Ministry Meetings: The Wonderful Privilege Of Hearing God’s Word

Many in the assembly do not really appreciate the wonderful privilege to hear God’s Word so freely and ably expounded by His servants who come from all corners of the globe. Assembly records show that a total of 64 teaching sessions have been conducted since 1986, an average of three per year. These teachers have ministered mostly on weekday evenings on topics such as prophecy, discipleship, family life and ministry skills, as well as expound on books of the Bible, such as Revelation, the Minor Prophets, Titus and Philippians. A total of 32 visiting teachers have taken these meetings from 1986 to 2008 and some have even visited more than once. They include W A Peterson, Stan Warren, Geoffrey Bull, J B Nicholson (Sr), J B Nicholson (Jr), Boushra Mikhael, Keith Keyser, William Yuillie, Jack Fish, Mitchell Kilpatrick, John Thomas, David MacLeod, Alastair McGregor, Donald Norbie, Alf Chote, Ian Irvine, Jean Gibson, William MacDonald, Joe Reese, Roy Hill, Jim Baker, Boyd Aitken, Harold Summers and Gil Vargas. Attendance at these evening meetings ranged from 60 to 300, with most sessions seeing a group of 150 and above.

Special Ministry Meetings At BAMK Since 1986

	Date(s)	Speaker	Topic
1986	21 – 22 Feb 1 – 7 & 9 – 12 Jul	Geoffrey Bull W A Peterson	The Meaning Of Discipleship (Matt 10:38-39) The Book Of Revelation
1988	19 – 26 Jun	W A Peterson	The Minor Prophets
1989	12, 14 & 17 Jun 23 & 25 Jun	Stan Warren W A Peterson	The Acts Of The Apostles Israel/Jordan/Egypt Slides And High Priest Garments
1990	13 – 15 & 20 – 22 Jun	Geoffrey Bull	Habakkuk And 2 Timothy
1991	10 – 13 Jun	J B Nicholson (Sr)	Does It Pay To Pray (Luke 18:1)
1992	22 – 24 Jan 3 – 5 Jun 20 Jun 3 Aug	W A Peterson Ian Irvine J B Nicholson (Jr) Ian Irvine	The Glories Of Solomon’s Temple And Demonstrations Of The High Priestly Garments The Book Of Philippians The Christ, The Church, The Cross And The Coming Again (Matt 16:13-28) How The Lord Will Deal With The Armies Of The World Powers At The Final Stage Of Armageddon While He Woos And Wins Israel Back To Himself (Zech 12 And 14)
1993	10 & 12 Feb 28 & 29 Mar 15 & 16 Apr 4 & 5 Jun 14, 16 – 18 Jun 4 – 6 Aug 10 – 12 Nov	WA Peterson David Mishkin Alf Chote Donald Chan J B Nicholson (Sr) Jean Gibson Ian Irvine	The Songs Of Solomon Uniqueness Of Christ Worship Predicament And Praise Of Paul And The Characteristics Of Christian Co-workers (2 Cor 2 And 3) Faith (Heb 11-13) Study On Cults The ‘Four Mysteries And Answers’ Of The Family Dilemma
1994	2 Jun 4 & 18 Jun 16 – 17 Jun 22 Jun	Ron Chin Jean Gibson Jean Gibson Jean Gibson	James 4 Commitment In Teaching And Being A Spiritual Reproducer [Ministry For CEP Leaders, SS Teachers And Youth Leaders] Principles For Determining God’s Will; Interpersonal Relationships Commitment In Leadership [Ministry To Youth Leaders]
1995	7 – 9 Jun 2, 5 – 8, 12, 14 – 15 Jul 15 Jul	Harold Summers William MacDonald Jim McCarthy	NA The Different Versions Of The Bible; True Discipleship; How To Study The Bible How To Teach Effectively

Date(s)	Speaker	Topic
1996 8 – 9 Mar	Fred Kosin	Feast In The Wilderness; Fear In The Water
12 – 14 Jun	Boyd Aitken	The Workman Approved; The Man Of God Equipped; The Servant Crowned
5 – 6 Jul	J R Baker	Colossians 1:1-11
16 & 18 Nov	Boyd Aitken	How To Study The Bible; How To Teach The Word Effectively; And The Importance Of Living Out The Word Taught
11 – 13 Dec	Joe Reese	Christ Loved the Church (Eph 5:25)
1997 12 – 14 Mar	W A Peterson	The Church; Church Life And Fellowship; Christian Priesthood
2 – 3 Apr	Jim Allen	The Judgement Seat Of Christ (1 Cor 3 And 2 Cor 5)
11– 12 Jun	Ian Irvine	Building With Nehemiah
20 – 21 Aug	J B Nicholson (Sr)	Elijah: Spiritual Depression; Job: Spiritual Oppression
1998 15 – 16 Apr	Alf Chote	Jude
3 – 5 Jun	Mitchell Kilpatrick	Progress Of The Gospel In The Acts Of The Apostles
22 Jul	Peter Ferry	How To Study The Bible
3 – 5 Dec	Jim Baker	Some Aspects Of Solomon's Temple
1999 14 – 15 Apr	Fred Kosin	The Believer Suffering For The Faith
16 – 19 Jun	Joe and Ann Reese	Family Life Seminar
2000 19 – 20 Jan	W A Peterson	Jeremiah
3 & 12 Jun	Joe Reese	Consider Your Ways (Haggai); An Abundant Entrance (2 Pet 1:11)
2001 18 – 20 Apr	Ken Fleming	Centering Your Life In Christ (Phil 1- 3); Modelling Your Life After Christ (Phil 1- 3); Progress In Your Life Towards Christ (Phil 1- 3)
13 – 15 Jun	William Yuillie	The Lord And His Own (Jn 13)
2002 30 – 31 Jan & 1 Feb	Roy Hill	His Incarnation; His Temptation; His Transformation
12 – 14 Jun	Boushra Mikhael	The Book Of Malachi As It Applies To Our Present Times
2003 6 Dec	Joe Reese	NA
13 Dec	Joe Reese	How To Overcome Lust [Ministry For Men Only]
2004 16 – 18 Jun	Donald Norbie	The Book Of Titus
1 – 3 Dec	Larry Price	The Book Of Philippians
2005 8 – 10 Jun	Jack Fish	Life Of Faith: Noah (Heb 11:7); Abraham (Heb 11:8-12); Jacob (Heb 11:21)
30 Nov & 2 Dec	Roy Hill	Prologue To John's Gospel
3 Dec	Roy Hill	Workshop On Preachers And Preaching (2 Tim 4:2)
2006 7 – 9 Jun	John Thomas	Prophecy
29 – 30 Nov	Harold Summers	Some Biblical Perspectives On The Middle East Today
2007 6 – 8 Jun	Alastair McGregor	An Incident – Jeremiah And The Field (Jer 32); A Character – Joseph (Gen 37, 44 And 45); A Parable – The Workers In The Vineyard (Matt 20)
1 Dec	David Reid	Hermeneutics
5 – 7 Dec	Keith Keyser	Zephaniah
2008 4 – 6 Jun	David MacLeod	Worship In Heaven (Rev 4 And 5)
3 – 5 Nov	Gil Vargas	Equipping The Saints: Worship – Looking Upward (To God) (Jn 4:23 And Col 3:1-4); Looking Inward (To The Church) (Matt 28:19 And 20:3, 3 Jn 4 And 2 Tim 2:2); Looking Outward (To The World) (Rom 10:14-15 And Mk 1:17)
2009 15 – 17 Apr	Roy Hill	Facing Trials; Fighting Temptation; Faith & Works - Studies In James
6 Jun	Alexander Strauch	Elders' Seminar

The Easter Missionary Conference: Remembering The Lord's Death, Burial And Resurrection

The first Easter Missionary Conference at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio), on the theme 'Resurrection', was held on 17 April 1987 with Lee Kok Onn and Peter Wee as speakers. Since then, it has been organised annually. The conference usually spans two days featuring between one and three speakers. The Bethesda Choir would usually be in attendance. The focus of these meetings 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 benefited from challenging messages given by our own brethren as well as invited speakers such as Arnold Doolan, Douglas Kazen, W A Peterson, Randy Amos, Jim Allen, Alf Chote, Kenneth Fleming, M A Joy, Ung Kim Cheng and Ian Burness.

Easter Conferences At BAMK Since 1986

Date(s)	Speaker	Topic	Musicals Presented
28 & 30 Mar 1986	Lawrence Chan, Bobby Sng & Chia Boon Hong	NA	NA
17 April 1987	Lee Kok Onn & Peter Wee	Resurrection	He Lives (by Joe E Parks)
1 April 1988	Philip Tan & G D James	Lifestyle Evangelism: Methods And Motivation	Risen As He Said
24 – 25 Mar 1989	Ung Kim Cheng & Lim Tian Leong	His Humiliation And Headship	No Other Lamb
13 April 1990	Lawrence Chan & Khoo Oon Soo	Because He Lives	Up From The Grave
29 – 30 Mar 1991	S V Ramalingam & Arnold Doolan	Vision And Mission – What Is Your Ambition?	Alive
17 – 18 Apr 1992	Lee Kok Onn & Harry Tan	Old Things Passed Away ... All Things Become New (2 Cor 5:17)	The Last Week
9 – 10 Apr 1993	Doug Kazen & Peter Wee	In These Last Days	Near The Cross
1 – 2 April 1994	W A Peterson	The Cross Was Thine And The Throne Is Thine	He Lives (by Bruce Greer)
14 – 15 April 1995	Randy Amos	Three Major Aspects Of The Death And Resurrection Of Christ	He Lives (by Joe E Parks)
5 Apr 1996	Peter Wee	Jesus, Far Above All	From Glory To Glory
28 – 29 Mar 1997	Jim Allen	Resurrection Of Christ (1 Cor 15:1-48); Return Of Christ (1Cor 15:50-58)	I Am The Resurrection
10 – 11 Apr 1998	Alf Chote	The Cross And The Christian: The Disciple Of The Cross (Lk 9:18-26); The Soldier Of The Cross (1 Tim 2:1-4)	Into His Presence
2 – 3 Apr 1999	S V Ramalingam	The Gains Of The Tree (Isa 53:10-12); The Gains Of The Tomb (Jn 11:25-26); The Gains Of The Turnout (Jn 14:2-3)	He's Still The Lamb
21 – 22 Apr 2000	Alf Chote	Gleanings From The Garden: The Garden Of Tears; The Garden Of Triumph	The Night Before Easter
13 – 14 Apr 2001	Kenneth Fleming	Missions In Today's Context: The Changes In The World Of Missions; The Challenge Of Christianity; The Cry Of A Suffering World	Medley Of Songs

Date(s)	Speaker	Topic	Musicals Presented
9 – 30 Mar 2002	M A Joy	Cornerstone And Living Stones (1 Pet 2:5-6)	Love Sent A Sacrifice
18 Apr 2003	Khoo Oon Soo & Lawrence Chan	The Cross Life: Challenges Of The Cross Life; Ministry Of The Cross Life	Behold The Risen Saviour
9 Apr 2004	Harry Tan & S V Ramalingam	The Cross And The Believer; The Resurrection And The Believer – The Meaning, Miracle And Mission Of Resurrection	Rise Again
25 Mar 2005	Tan Kian Huat & Adrin Loi	The Three Hours Of Darkness; The Triumph Of The Resurrection	Lamb Of God
14 Apr 2006	Ung Kim Cheng	The Creatures Connected With The Easter Celebration: The Lamb That Was Slain; The Dogs That Were Silenced	Majesty
6 – 9 Apr 2007	Ian Burness	Mission And God; Mission And The Local Church; Mission And Me; Mission And The World	Medley Of Songs
21 Mar 2008	Kenneth Wong	God's Great Cross- Purpose: The Disposition Of The Cross In Christian Life (Jn 12:24) – 'If It Dies'; The Exposition Of The Cross In Church Life (Jn 12:32) – 'If I Be Lifted Up'	The Old Rugged Cross Made The Difference
10 Apr 2009	Roy Hill	The Road To Calvary And The Road To Emmaus.	In Christ Alone

The Annual Meeting: Thanksgiving To The Lord For The Year In Review

The Annual Meeting is usually held in October for the 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 meeting would include a message, usually given by an elder, 'singspiration', prayers offered by some brothers, song items, the report by the Assembly Secretary, a slide presentation on the past year's events and end with a buffet dinner. The attendance for the Annual Meeting ranged from 100 to 250 throughout the years.



Easter Conference



Christmas Service

Christmas Service: Singing The Message Of Nativity

The highest attendance of each year's events is undoubtedly the assembly's Christmas Service held either on Christmas Day or on Christmas Eve (whenever Christmas Day falls on the Lord's Day). Over the past 23 years, the service has attracted attendance figures of between 500 to a high of 800. This event serves to bring the saints together for a time of praise in remembrance of God's greatest Gift, and also provides an opportunity for the proclamation of the good news to unbelievers. Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) held its first Christmas Eve Service in 2008 with more than 200 attending. One highlight of this commemorative meeting is the Christmas cantata or musical rendered by the Bethesda Choir. A list of the Christmas cantatas presented in the past years and the speakers for each year is provided below.

Christmas Meetings Since 1986

Year	Musicals Presented	Speakers
1986	Celebrate Jesus	S V Ramalingam
1987	Son Of The Highest	Jimmy Chew
1988	The Heavens Declare	Lawrence Chan
1989	NA	Lee Kok Onn Thomas John (At Bras Basah)
1990	The Night The Angels Sang	Peter Wee
1991	Christ Is Born	Harry Tan
1992	Promise Of Peace	Thomas John
1993	Angels Songs	Ian Irvine
1994	Love Came Down At Christmas	Wong Tuck Keong
1995	In All Of His Glory	Peter Wee
1996	He Came To Us	Harry Tan
1997	The First Noel	William Koh
1998	The First Light	Lim Tian Leong
1999	From The Realms Of Glory	Tan Chee Hwee
2000	Did You Know	S V Ramalingam



Year	Musicals Presented	Speakers
2001	Start At The Manger	Khoo Oon Soo
2002	Christmas – More Than A Story	Joe Mikhael
2003	Dawn Of Redeeming Grace	Tan Kian Huat
2004	Come Let Us Worship The King	Lee Kok Onn Harry Tan (At Depot Walk)
2005	Emmanuel: Celebrating Heaven’s Child	Ho Kuang Cheng Harry Tan (At Depot Walk)
2006	There Is A Bethlehem	Andrew Premsundar
2007	Bethlehem Morning	Sv Ramalingam
2008	The Love Of God At Christmas	Harry Tan Tan Kian Huat (Christmas Eve Service At Depot Walk)

Watchnight Service: The Joy Of Gathering To Close The Year

At the close of each year, assembly members gather to reflect on the year that has passed, and to be exhorted and challenged to face a new year. This meaningful tradition from Bras Basah days has been carried over to Ang Mo Kio. Usually the meeting is attended by 300 to 400 believers who are willing to forego their sleep to join in the count-down to the New Year. The 11 pm meeting is preceded by coffee supper at 10 pm. The speaker will time his message to end a few minutes before midnight, giving the chairman sufficient time to facilitate the count-down. In some years, we have had special song items presented by small groups such as the ‘Male Voices’ or some young people’s groups. There is the special joy of gathering together as brothers and sisters to close the year with warm handshakes, and greet one another a ‘Blessed New Year!’





Senior Sunday School Teachers (BAMK)

Front seated (L-R): Pauline Phua, Chua Bee Joo, Choy Wai Fann, Lim Geok Kim, Ng Swee Choo, Helen Wong, Sim Mee Foong, Janet Lim and Alisa Mak
 Middle standing (L-R): Thomas Phua, Daniel Skelton, Matthew Madasmy, Teo Jia Yin, Wong Wai Yin, Julia Chew, Christina Tay, Jayna Ting, Ong Siew Huey, Pang Seow Fei, Evelyn Leong, Leong Chee Tiek, Francis Toke and Stephen Chang
 Back standing (L-R): David Chua, Keith Wan, William Chew, Kui Tuck Meng, Edmund Yong, Ang Siew Hock, Johnny Fan, Sim Chear Wah, David Kwan and Jeffrey Jee
 Not in photograph: Andrew Premsundar



Junior Sunday School Teachers (BAMK)

Front seated (L-R): Alice Tan, Mary Law, Shirley Ong, Ng Yoke Yin, Koh Mei Ling, Theresa Koo, Violet Chew, Geena Suresh and Lim Mei Lin
 Back standing (L-R): Janice Chan, Brenda Wong, Susan Chan, Grace Chow, Mau Yoke Leng, Cheong Mun Yee, Tan Mui Lan, Michelle Leong, Chan Ai Lin, Sarah Daniel, Helen Teo, Doris Chang, Janet Teo and Skelton Yi-En
 Not in photograph: Kelly Kok and Juniper Chang

Introduction

Christian education has been a part of church life since its formation from the time of the apostles (Acts 2:42). It is incumbent upon believers to study the Word of God, to be able to 'rightly divide the word of truth' (2 Timothy 2:15) and to be able to give a reason for the hope within us (1 Peter 3:15). Christian education is therefore a life-long education. As a part of assembly life, Christian education has taken many forms and expressions over the years. These include the Assembly Training Class (ATC), the Assembly Youth Group (AYG), the Ladies' Group, the Men's Bible Class, the Sunday School (SS), the Christian Education Programme (CEP) and the Basic Training Class (BTC).

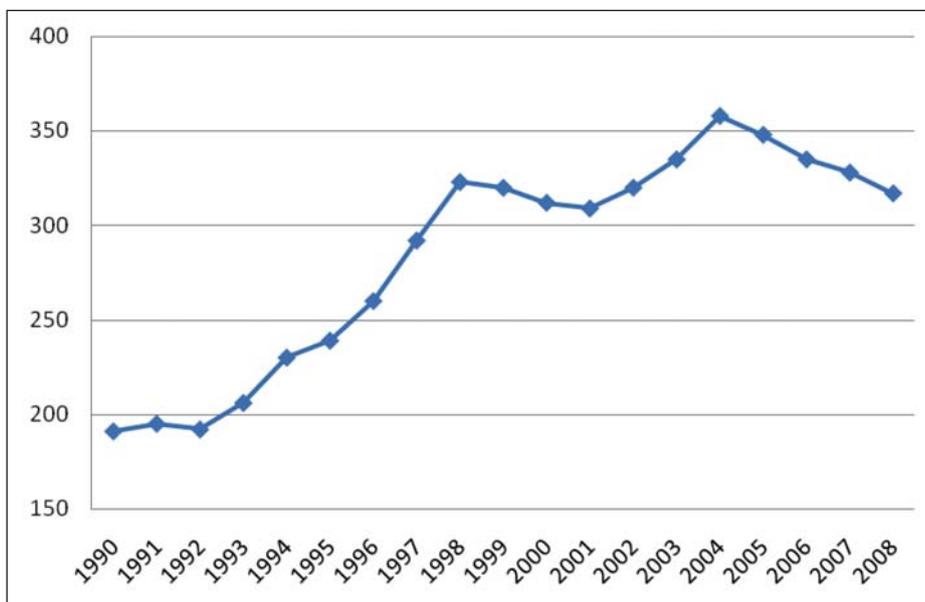
The Sunday School (SS) is the most enduring aspect of Christian education. It started with the beginning of the assembly in 1864 in Bencoolen Street. Gaw Synn Ghee, who started teaching in SS since 1936 soon after he was baptised at the age of 16 commented, 'I believe in the Sunday School ministry. It gives me great joy to see these scholars coming and so keen to learn. I am thrilled whenever someone tells me that he was once in my Sunday School class and to see him going on serving the Lord.' Gaw Synn Ghee continued teaching SS even after the assembly moved to Ang Mo Kio and stopped about 10 years ago because of problems with eyesight.

The widow of the late Lim Tian Leong, Lim Chin Chin, who started teaching in the SS since 1986 and stopped because of her husband's failing health, shared her reflection as a teacher:

It is challenging to teach in Sunday School, to make the lessons interesting to the girls, week after week. The joy of the Lord keeps us going, to be patient in directing their attention to the Word when they become distracted.

Since moving to Ang Mo Kio, the SS has grown in size. The trend of the average annual attendance from 1990 to 2008 is shown in the chart below:

Average Sunday School Attendance



Structure And Syllabus

The SS is divided into two sections: Juniors and Seniors. This structure parallels the Singapore school system, except for the separation of the male and female students at the Senior levels. The Junior SS has used materials published by Gospel Light since 1994. From 1995, materials from Gospel Folio Press became the standard, with modification made to the materials in the student's guide for K1, nursery and pre-nursery scholars. The Senior SS, however, draws up its own syllabus.

The number of classes has increased over the years, from a low of 42 in 1990 to a high of 67 in 2007. The SS is now located at both Ang Mo Kio and Depot Walk with the SS work commencing at Depot Walk on 6 March 2005. In 2008, the average number of students in Ang Mo Kio was 241 and 76 in Depot Walk. The number of classes in Ang Mo Kio was 47 and 16 in Depot Walk.

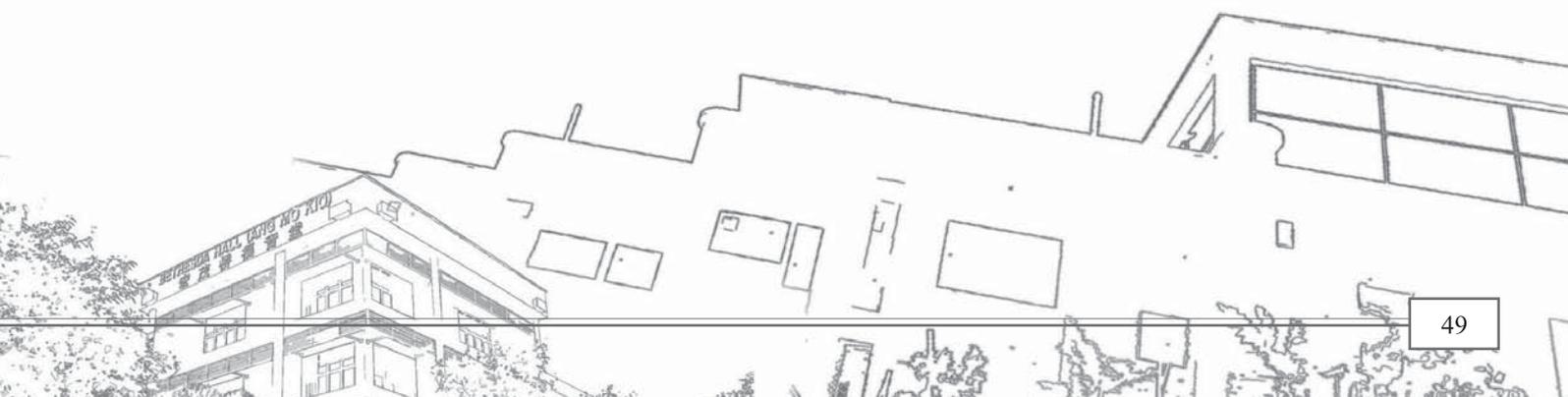
Social Events

The SS had been organising an annual outing each year except in 2003, when it was cancelled due to the outbreak of SARS in Singapore. Usually the outings are to places of interest or venues that have plenty of space for games to be played, as these are the main elements of the programme. Locations that have served well as destinations for the outings are Bukit Batok Nature Reserve, MacRitchie Reservoir, Labrador Park, National Community Leadership Institute, Boys' Brigade HQ, Eco-Lake Botanic Gardens, Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Secondary School, Anglo-Chinese Junior College and Paya Lebar Methodist Girls School. The outings provide a platform to bring the Gospel message to parents and friends of the SS scholars. In 2006, the outing was a combined event with the YP and Children's Corner (CC) at the sports field of ACJC. Divided into groups based on age, different speakers from the assembly addressed each group.

Seasonal Events

Christmas is a time when the different sections of the SS would come together for a smorgasbord of events. Over the years, these have included games, carol singing, musical presentations by scholars, film shows and puppet presentations. One essential feature of the Christmas Special, as it is now called, is a Gospel message, usually given by different speakers from the assembly. The SS would be separated into juniors and seniors with a different speaker for each group. There are also special programmes during Easter.

The SS Anniversary and Prize Giving is traditionally held on the first Sunday of the March school holidays. This is a time when prizes are presented for good attendance in the previous year. On average, about two-thirds of scholars would receive prizes for attendance, with more than a quarter of the prizes being classified as 'Roll of Honour', which are for scholars who have not missed a Sunday in the entire year. Musical items are presented by the scholars and the Gospel message is given.

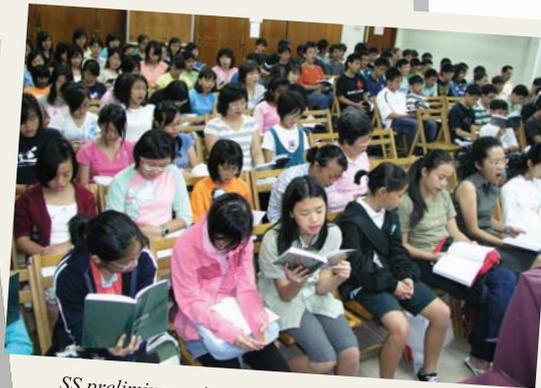


Superintendents

The SS is overseen by a General Superintendent. The General Superintendents since we moved to Ang Mo Kio have been: Khoo Oon Soo (1987-88), Chua Teck Koon (Sr) (1988-91), Khoo Oon Soo (1991-1995), Sum Siew Tak (1995-2000), Ho Kuang Cheng (2000-07) and Stephen Chang (since 2007). Chua Teck Koon has overseen the SS at Depot Walk since its inception in 2005.



SS Outing (2009)



SS preliminary singing at BAMK



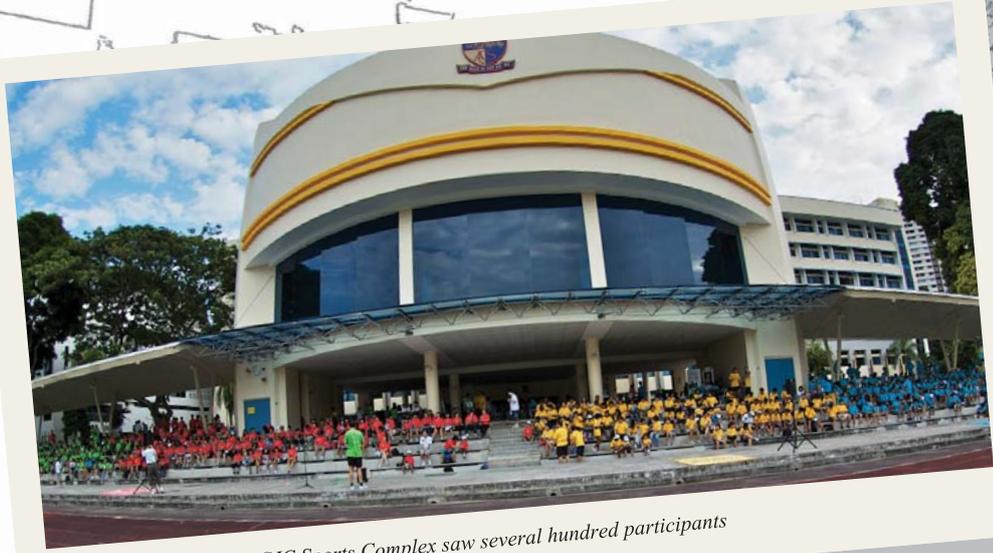
SS Anniversary – Scholars giving an item



SS preliminary singing at BDW



Junior SS (BAMK)



Family Day (2008) at ACJC Sports Complex saw several hundred participants



Sports Day (2007) with track events



Family Day (2008)



Family Day (2008) – Cheering for their team



Family Day (2008)



Senior SS (AMK) item during SS Anniversary (2007)



SS (DW) item during SS Anniversary (2007)



Junior SS (AMK) item during SS Anniversary (2007)

Reflections Of Some Superintendents

Ho Kuang Cheng, superintendent from 2000 to 2007, when asked about his time as the General Superintendent, had these comments:

As the superintendent, I am very thankful to the Lord for having enabled me to do the work, especially in seeing that He has always provided teachers every year. I have been very much encouraged to have faithful teachers and also helpful assembly members to do relief teaching. We have never lacked anything. I experienced great joy in seeing the 'once active' boys and girls move on from SS to serve the Lord in the assembly.

Chua Teck Koon, the superintendent of Depot Walk since 2005, when asked about something memorable, had this comment:

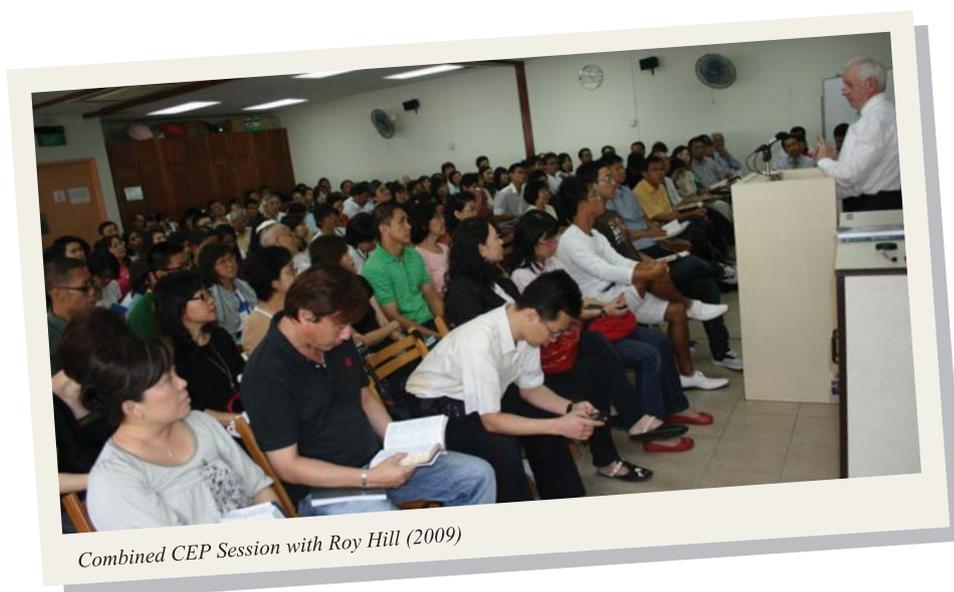
Taking charge of the Sunday School has been a challenging and an encouraging experience. I have been particularly encouraged by a scholar who invited her friend to the Sunday School. In her quiet way, she has become an 'Operation Andrew' in bringing her friend. Her friend who comes from a non-Christian family has since been consistently attending Sunday School. She, in turn, brought another friend to the Sunday School. Certainly, both of them in their own ways have become heroes for the Lord!

Stephen Chang, the current superintendent of Ang Mo Kio, made this comment:

Teaching a child in the Sunday School is like making a cake with all the right ingredients well mixed and finally well baked. It is indeed a team effort between the Junior and Senior sections of the Sunday School. This 'cake' will be handed over to our assembly's CEP programme where they will be taught in greater depth the doctrine and all other Christian values, and eventually this 'cake' becomes well decorated and presented, perfected for the testimony for the Lord. The most satisfying outcome a teacher can get is to see the scholars' change of attitude for the better towards themselves, others and God, and to see scholars eventually serving the Lord in various ministries.

Christian Education Programme (CEP)

In 1987, it became apparent to the elders of the assembly that a thorough review of the existing Christian education ministry – comprising the Assembly Training Class (ATC), the Assembly Youth Group (AYG), Ladies' Group, Men's Bible Class, Regional Fellowship Groups (RFG) and the Sunday School (SS) – was needed. The review was carried out by a committee appointed by the elders under the chairmanship of Kan Shik Lum. Other members of the committee were Boon Chuan Jian, Sim Chear Wah, Choy Wai Fann, Loh Choon Cheong and Tay Siew Lian.





Sunday School Teachers (BDW)

Front seated (L-R): Sijia Alexander, Suzanne Wong, Chew Kheng Lian, Sum Siew Tak, Poon Yam Kitau and Patricia Lam
 Middle standing (L-R): Ho Lay Choo, Elsie Wong, Loh Geok Bee, Sum Geok Tee, Loh Choon Cheong, Chua Yen Ching and Irene Choa
 Back standing (L-R): Chua Teck Koon, Alex Loh, Alexandra Mathew, Kelvin Chan and Lee Chong Kiat



CEP Leaders (BDW)

Front Row (L-R): Wong Tet Keong, Mah Lai Seong, Tan Lie Leng, Choa Geok Eng and Peter Fong
 Back Row (L-R): Ho Kuang Cheng, Alex Kwok, Harry Tan, Sum Siew Tak, Boon Chuan Jian and Joseph Sng
 Not in photograph: Kan Shik Lum, Aaron Wong, Collin Leong and Lynn Wong



CEP Leaders (BAMK)

Front Row (L-R): Koh Liang Hwee, David Goh, Wong Yong Jian, Robert Hmar, Tan Jing Poi, Tan Kian Huat and Chia Boon Hong
 Second Row (L-R): Ng Kim Khoon, Joshua, Kumar, Gerald Sim, Gurusamy, Lim Heng Tong, Alex Mathews, Aloysius Ong and Tan Chee Hwee

Third Row (L-R): Law Gin Lieng, Matthew Tang, Irene Chua, Jenny Alex, Margaret Ng, Sally Wong, Khoo Pek Har, Akiko Tan, Tan Shook Wah, Amy Tan and Margaret Chia

Back Row Standing (L-R): Chan Man Wong, David Kwan, Choy Wai Mun, Kenneth Chua, Ng Siew Kiang, Choong Kit Soon, Vincent Teo, Nathaniel Sim, Young Kim Chye, Kelvin Ng, Adrin Loi, George Varughese, Kasi, William Koh, Felix Lim, Linus Tan, Jason Lim, Khoo Boo Cheong, Calvin Koh, Khoo Oon Soo, Suresh Philip, Mak Yew Chong, Andrew Kwan, Joseph Lim, Wong Tuck Keong, Mau Teck Hwee, Chong Kim Chow and Choy Boon Yew

Not in photograph: Chang Chew Kient, Chang Chew Lik, Chong Lai Wah, Daniel Tok, Dennis Loh, Diana Lau, Pamela Gan, Peter Chow, Peter Wong, Raymond Wee, Soo Chai Chew, Tay Siew Lian, Tay Teng Hwee and Yong Jyh Fong





Tamil CEP Group



CEP Group in BAMK



CEP meeting in BAMK



Mothers in CEP



CEP meeting in Eudokia Bookshop



CEP Discussion Group



CEP Group in BDW



CEP Group in BDW



Sisters' CEP Group in BDW

The committee's brief was three-fold. First, it had to evaluate the effectiveness of the existing Christian education ministries. Second, it needed to identify the educational needs of the assembly members. Third, it had to make recommendations, with reasons, to meet the identified needs, together with any interim measures to cater for those whose needs were not being met.

The committee, appointed on 6 June 1987, met several times over the following months. It recognised that formal Christian education in the assembly effectively ended when a scholar reached the age of 19. The committee also noted that parents of children in the SS would be waiting for them every Sunday to finish their classes. This waiting time was seen as an opportunity that could be profitably used to further Christian education.

The committee's proposal was deliberated and accepted by the Council of Elders on 21 September 1987. The elders accepted that there was a need to have a continuing Christian education programme for all ages which would consist of a syllabus of core topics spanning several years. The education would be carried out in small groups with a set of notes provided for each topic. The groups would be divided by age range: 19-22 year-olds, 23-34 year-olds and those over 35. The 19-22 year-old group syllabus would be for three years whereas the other two groups would have a six-year syllabus. The elders accepted that the format for the AYG and ATC should remain unchanged. They also decided that the new programme – called the Christian Education Programme (CEP) – should commence in January 1989.

The elders assumed the responsibility of writing the notes for the first year of operation of the CEP. Thirteen topic areas were identified and the responsibility for organising the content of the materials was assigned to elders to develop the lesson materials.

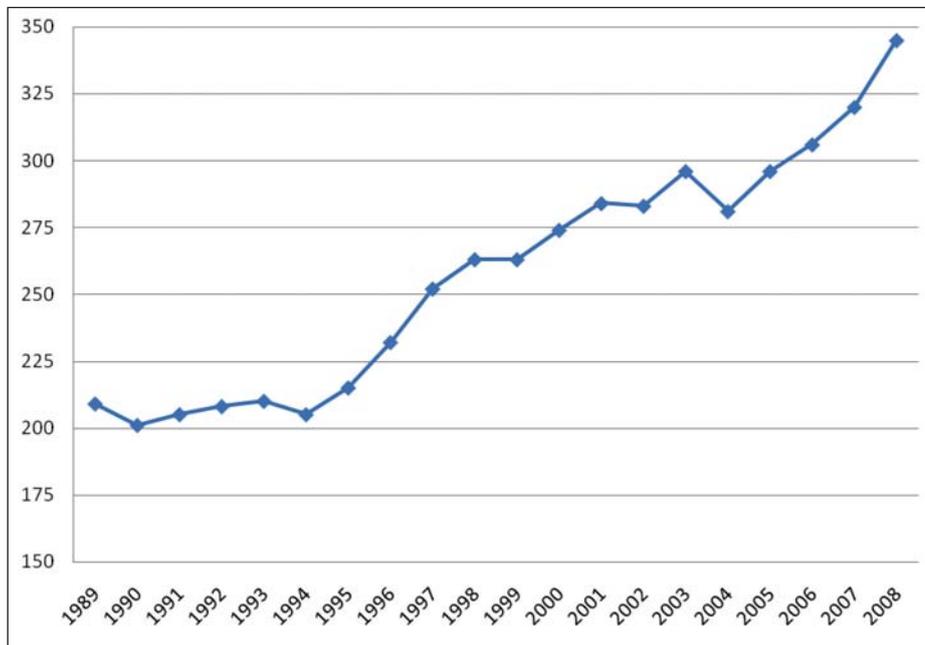
The 13 topics areas assigned to responsible elders

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Assembly Testimony – Eric Choa | 8. Evangelism – S.V. Ramalingam |
| 2. Bible Characters – Chong Kim Chow | 9. Family – Chua Teck Koon (Sr) |
| 3. Books Of The Bible – Wong Tuck Keong | 10. Important Word Studies – Albert Wong |
| 4. Christian Living – Tay Kim Swee | 11. Ministry – Lim Tian Leong |
| 5. Church History – Khoo Oon Soo | 12. Prophecy – Lawrence Chan |
| 6. Contemporary Issues – Harry Tan | 13. Skills – Lee Kok Onn |
| 7. Doctrine – Daniel Woon | |

At a subsequent meeting, the elders decided that the three-year syllabus for the 19-22 year-old group would not include items 5 and 12 from the above list.

The first CEP class started on 1 January 1989 with 23 groups. The average weekly attendance throughout that year was 209. After 1989, the average weekly attendance ranged from a low of 201 in 1990 to a high of 215 in 1996. Since 1996, there has been a steady growth with an average weekly attendance of 306 in 2006/2007. This includes the CEP at Depot Walk that commenced in March 2005. The average attendance is around 70% of the number in the register.

Average CEP Attendance (BAMK & BDW)



Since its inception in 1989, there have been three CEP Coordinators: Lim Tian Leong (1989 – 1994), Khoo Oon Soo (1995 – 2005) and Tan Kian Huat (since 2005). In 2005, CEP also adopted the motto ‘Impacting life through Christian education’ which has three main objectives: evangelism (Mt 28:19-20), teaching and discipleship (2 Tim 2:2 and 2 Pet 3:18) and the body life or fellowship (1 Cor 12:26-27).

Review And Revision

In September 1998, nine years after the CEP programme started, a review was carried out. The Review Committee was chaired by Khoo Oon Soo with members Boon Chuan Jian, Frankie Cha, Vincent Chang, Eddie Teo, Wong Tuck Keong, Tay Siew Lian and Ng Siew Lian.

There were six terms of reference for the Review Committee. First, it had to revise all the CEP topics. Second, it needed to specify the scope of each topic. Third, it sought to ensure that there would be no duplication of material or topics across the whole multi-year syllabus. Fourth, it was given the task of recommending books of the Bible for systematic study. Fifth, it had to recommend reference materials. Sixth, the committee had to consider the possibility of having lesson materials placed on-line for CEP members.

The Review Committee restated that the main aims of the CEP were to facilitate the systematic study of the Word of God, to expose members to a wider spectrum of topics related to the study of the Word of God, to experience the body life of believers within each group in the context of the assembly life and activities, and to emphasise the need to have life application of weekly lessons.

To achieve these aims, the Committee made a number of recommendations. First, the syllabus cycle should be reduced from six years to five as this will facilitate better management. Second, the various topics covered should be divided into three headings: core, selective and miscellaneous. Core topics are those fundamental for church and Christian growth, and are to be covered every year. Selective topics are important, but need to be covered only in alternate years. The miscellaneous topics are those that are not as well-defined and do not fit into the above categories. Other recommendations included the addition of a memory verse and life application section to the notes. The feasibility of having the CEP lesson notes available on CD-ROM was rejected on the basis of cost. The notes are now available on the Internet. At the time of writing, a committee is working on a new syllabus for the years 2010 to 2014, which will be the 5th syllabus cycle.

External Recognition

Roy Hill, the Chairman of the UK Assembly magazine *Precious Seed* (2003 Vol 58, Issue 4), wrote about the CEP thus:

Perhaps one of the best Bible Class programmes that I have witnessed in line with the above is that at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio), an assembly in Singapore. Here, on a Sunday morning after the Breaking of Bread, there are twenty-seven Bible Study classes running concurrently. A gifted and experienced believer leads each class. The Elders map out a programme of study over a five-year period. Each subject has a set of notes prepared, printed and circulated in advance and each of the classes then discusses the subject and the notes for about an hour. Each class has a certain similarity of believers in it, e.g., some are for young believers, new converts, single ladies, married ladies, elders, seniors, married couples, etc. The discussions are naturally varied but always enthralling. In this large assembly, seven hundred in fellowship, Bible Classes are a unique and powerful tool for instruction and encouragement.

Effects On Members

The success of the CEP, if success is the correct word, may be attributed to several factors. First, there is the fellowship of believers which is rooted and established in the Father and in the Lord Jesus (1 John 1:3), coupled with the mutual support that comes with fellowship. Second, there is a common love for the Scriptures and wanting to know the Word of God. Third, there is the desire to know more of God through His Word.

This is borne out by the many reports printed in the *Bethesda Newsletter* over the years. Common themes of these reports are: fellowship, encouragement, learning, helping and spiritual enrichment. It has not been unusual for some CEP groups to arrange outings; these have ranged from kite flying, fishing trips, BBQ nights and visiting pet farms to a long weekend in Bintan.

Visiting Speakers

When we have visiting brethren, the assembly would sometimes take the opportunity to invite them to teach at the CEP open sessions. Visiting brethren who have spoken at the CEP include Roy Hill, W A Peterson, Ian Irvine, Alf Chote, Boyd Aitken, Joe Mikhael, Joe Reese, Larry Price, J B Nicholson (Sr), J B Nicholson (Jr), Jean Gibson, Ron Chin, Keith Keyser and Alex Strauch.

Workers' Retreat

The annual Workers' Retreat, held on the first day of the year, has superseded the SS Teachers' Retreat and the CEP Leaders' Retreat. The first retreat was held on 2 January 1989 at the Garden Hotel, Singapore. It was also the 39th SS Teachers' Retreat.

Themes Of The Past Retreats And The Speakers

Year	Venue	Theme	Speaker
1989	Garden Hotel	Relevance Of Christian Education In The S'pore Context	Wong Wai Chow
1990	RELC	Learning And Teaching (Ezra 7:10)	Harry Tan
1991	RELC	The Joy Of Service	Khoo Oon Soo
1992	OMF Auditorium	Faithfulness And Fruitfulness In Service	Lee Kok Onn
1993	Boys' Brigade HQ	Be Careful How He Builds (1 Cor 3:10)	Video: Howard Hendricks
1994	Boys' Brigade HQ	Discipleship	Ian Irvine
1995	Garden Hotel - 2 Jan	Consecration And Perseverance (Rom 12:1,2 And 1 Cor 15:58)	James Khoo
1996	Garden Hotel	Challenges Of A Leader	Harry Tan
1997	Singapore Bible College	The Word And The Teacher	Khoo Oon Soo
1998	Golden Landmark Hotel	Reflections And Rediscovery	Lim Tian Leong
1999	SICC	A Teacher's Accountability	John Benjamin, Khoo Oon Soo, Lim Tian Leong, Sum Siew Tak, Tan Kian Huat And Samuel Wee
2000	NUS Faculty Club	"Rightly Dividing The Truth" (2 Tim 2:15) And "Commit The Truth To Faithful Men" (2 Tim 2:2)	SV Ramalingam And Wong Kok Seng
2001	Ngee Ann Polytechnic – Staff Hub	The Seven Laws Of The LEARNER – Teaching To Change Life	Khoo Oon Soo, Ho Kuang Cheng And Andrew Sng
2002	NTUC Lifestyle World – Downtown East	Meeting The Challenges Of Christian Education In The 21 st Century	Ernest Chew
2003	YWCA Fort Canning Lodge	Looking Back And Looking Ahead	Khoo Oon Soo And Harry Tan
2004	Paramount Hotel	Steadfast Together With One Accord (Acts 2:42-47 And 3 John)	Lee Kok Onn And Kenneth Wong
2005	Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk)	One Mind, Same Love (Phil 2:2)	Harry Tan
2006	Serangoon Gardens Country Club	Servant With A Heart (2 Kings 5:26)	Ho Kuang Cheng And Tan Kian Huat
2007	Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk)	"Witnessing, Being A Witness" (Acts 1:8)	Khoo Oon Soo
2008	Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk)	A Faithful Heart (1 Cor 15:58)	Kenneth Wong
2009	St. Andrew's Junior College Chapel	Equipping (Eph 4:12)	Tan Chee Hwee

Reflections

The late Cecilia Lim wrote in an article during the CEP Symposium 2 in December 2004:

We are thankful to the Lord for CEP. From the weekly lessons I had gleaned a wide range of topics and study materials. Some of the unique ones included study on “Valleys of the Bible”, “Mountains of the Bible”, “Types in Levitical Offerings”, “Homiletics” and many more.

Fong Ban Lee who has attended CEP for more than 15 years commented:

I find the CEP lessons a good way to have a systematic study of the Scriptures. The comprehensive curriculum provides me with a balanced view of biblical teachings. From the frank and thought-provoking interactions with fellow members, there is also mutual encouragement and prayer support, in addition to listening to others share their encounters of the Lord.

Assembly Training Class (ATC)

The ATC has its origins in 1969 when the assembly was meeting at Bras Basah Road. Lim Tian Leong was its Coordinator. The aim of the ATC was to cover the whole Bible in two years. The class in 1987 consisted of 30 baptised members of the assembly and they met in the basement of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio). In 1989, Lim Tian Leong relinquished the leadership of the ATC to assume new responsibilities in the CEP. The coordination of the class was taken over by Lee Kok Onn.

The format of the ATC comprised about 30 minutes of singing before an invited speaker gave an overview of the topic for study. The group then separated into smaller groups for active discussion. Members of the group take turns to lead the discussion, as well as being a scribe tasked with writing a concise summary of the discussion. The whole session usually lasted about one hour and forty minutes.

ATC Curriculum

The syllabus consisted of such topics as discipleship, prophecy, the local church, facts of life, witnessing to other faiths, mission, evangelism, an overview of the Old Testament and New Testament. These lessons were intensive as they covered the whole Bible in two years. There are also two papers the participants are required to submit every year.

Replacement And Revival

When the assembly moved to Ang Mo Kio, the attendance of the ATC was initially 30. By 1992, the average attendance was down to 10. The success of the CEP, with its much measured pace of study, meant that there was a difficulty in attracting new members to the ATC. The elders saw that the purpose of the ATC could also be met by the CEP. Consequently, in 1993, the ATC was replaced by the BTC.

However, the ATC was revived in 2006 with Tan Kian Huat as its Coordinator. It formed a new mandate based on the principles of 2 Timothy 2:2, ‘the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also’. Those ‘who are able to teach others’ are those who lead in the CEP, SS, YP, Boys’ Brigade, Girls’ Brigade, Ladies’ Group and others. From 2008, the ATC is opened to all baptised believers.



ATC – Christian Leadership Module

The revised ATC course was initially run on a Sunday morning but it was moved to a Saturday afternoon in 2008. It now runs in a modular fashion with eight to ten lessons for each module. The modules covered from 2006 to 2009 were: ‘The Seven Laws of the Learner’, ‘Ministry and Skills’, ‘Teach and Preach the Word’, ‘Biblical Counselling’, ‘Advanced Biblical Counselling’, ‘Christian Leadership’, ‘Biblical Portrait of Marriage’ and ‘Biblical Foundations for Child Training’.

The Basic Training Class (BTC)

The BTC started in January 1993 under the joint supervision of Harry Tan and Lawrence Chan. The purpose of the BTC was to cater to the needs of new converts and young believers as there were some difficulties in channelling them directly into a CEP group. The initial group consisted of seven members. Within a year, however, this number had increased to 30.



BTC in BDW

BTC Syllabus

The initial syllabus for the BTC consisted of lesson material produced by the Fairhaven Bible Chapel of California. The material had a wide usage among the assemblies in the United States. There were three basic modules as authored by Jean Gibson: (1) Follow-up principles, which consisted of 12 lessons on *Basic Follow-up*; (2) New Testament Church principles, which consisted of 13 lessons on *The Dynamic Church*; and (3) Discipleship principles, which consisted of 13 lessons on *Living Discipleship Principles*. The students who participated in the BTC found the first module helpful but the second and third modules too advanced for them. This led to a revision of the syllabus. Eventually, module 2 was replaced by 13 lessons on *Basic Christian Training* by Jean Gibson and module 3 was replaced by *Assembly Principles* from *Christ Loved the Church* by William MacDonald.



BTC in BAMK

In the second part of 1996, the syllabus was further revised. The books used were found to be a blessing to many, but the level of education required for preparation, reading and answering the questions was sometimes beyond those attending the BTC. With this in mind, the book, *Twelve Bottles of Milk for New Believers* by C E Tatham replaced the previously-used materials. A further revision in 1999 saw the BTC having two terms. Term 1 consisted of 25 lessons on Basic Follow-up using *Twelve Bottles of Milk for New Believers*. Term 2 consisted of 25 lessons on *Basic Christian Training* by Jean Gibson.

In 2001, there was yet another change in the syllabus. Term 1 comprised lessons on Basic Follow-up using *Guide for Christian Living* by William MacDonald published by Emmaus. Term 2 comprised lessons on *Basic Christian Training* by Jean Gibson. From 2006, the syllabus used was *Basic Christian Training, Intermediate Christian Training* and *Advanced Christian Training*. All of this material was produced by Jean Gibson.

Growth And Development

The BTC, in 1993, started with a handful of students. By 2000, this had grown to 50 students on the register, with an average attendance of 40 each Lord's Day. The assembly annual report for the BTC often had the words, 'although number alone is not a sure sign of the Lord's approval, it is a good indication that the programme has been greatly blessed by the Lord with genuine interest from the participants'.

Although the original intention was to cater for believers, the BTC also attracted some non-believers who were interested in learning the truth about the Lord Jesus Christ. With this in mind, a strong emphasis on the message of the Cross was reiterated at the end of every lesson, with a challenge to a personal faith in Christ. As a result, a number of participants have been converted.

During 1994/1995, an attempt was made to include the young people from the Sunday school in the third section of the BTC for baptism classes but this proved to be ineffective. Instead, separate classes were held for those interested in baptism. Yet, throughout the time the BTC has been running, many of those attending have been moved to obey the Lord by going through the waters of baptism.

In 2001, Lawrence Chan, assisted by Eric Choa and Victor Ng, started BTC 2 to meet an obvious need for something after BTC. The material used was *Intermediate Christian Training* and *Advanced Christian Training*. In March 2005, Khoo Oon Soo took over the coordination of BTC from Harry Tan and Tan Lie Leng when they moved with other saints to begin the work at Depot Walk. At the same time, BTC 1 and BTC 2 were combined. The weekly average attendance was then about 25.

Reflections

Harry Tan gave the following comments on the BTC:

The idea for BTC arose out of the pressing need to provide a simple diet of basic bible lessons for new believers and seekers. It amazed me to see how the Lord used simple basic bible truths to convict and convert the souls of many who sat quietly through BTC year after year. Truly, the gospel is the power of God for salvation to all who believe, and the faithful and prayerful teaching of the scriptures avail that power to many seekers who have attended BTC at Ang Mo Kio and Depot Walk.

Assembly Christian Education Committee (ACEC)

Each of the various groups that make up the jig-saw of Christian Education in the assembly has a well defined syllabus to follow and this is no accident. The Assembly Christian Education Committee, formed in 2000 under the chairmanship of Khoo Oon Soo, has the responsibility of overseeing all the teaching activity groups of the assembly to ensure that there is no duplication of syllabi. Duplication of syllabi was a real problem before the ACEC was formed; a number of the youth would attend two or more activity groups where the duplication would be noticeable. The Christian Education curriculum produced by the ACEC is submitted to the elders for approval, ensuring that it would meet the needs of the assembly members. The chairmanship of the committee has been passed to Tan Kian Huat since 2005.

CHAPTER 6

FELLOWSHIPS IN THE ASSEMBLY

By Mah Lai Seong



RFG Representatives

Front seated (L-R): Richard Ting, Pauline Wong, Melly Sim, Jenny Wan and Jeffrey Jee

Back standing (L-R): Edmund Yong, Daniel Thein, Ernie Abbott, Adrin Loi, Ang Siew Hock, Kenneth Khong, David Kong and Tan Hee Chin

Regional Fellowship Groups

The Regional Fellowship Group (RFG) programme started in 1971, with James and Pauline Hanam as coordinators. As the assembly was large, it was difficult for members to know each other well enough to support and care for one another in a meaningful way. In the spirit of Hebrews 10:25 *'meeting together... encouraging one another'*, each RFG created opportunities for church members living near one another to meet in an informal way to foster closer ties and strengthen fellowship.

There are four objectives in the RFG programme. First, the programme aims to foster a happy family spirit as children of God amongst members who live in the same district by meeting in the homes of its members. Second, the RFG aims to inculcate a sense of belonging, as members get to know one another better. Third, RFG meetings offer opportunities for members to show love and concern for one another and foster closer relationships. Fourth, the RFG aims to provide an opportunity to study God's word and for assembly members to assist one another to grow spiritually, building each other up in the most holy faith.

A brief development of the groups according to where one lived is listed below:

RFG Formations Since 1986

Year	Formation/Cessation of Various RFGs
1986	Ang Mo Kio, Bedok, Bedok Reservoir, Dover, Hougang, Jurong, Marine Parade, Potong Pasir, Serangoon, Telok Blangah, Whitley and Zion
1987	Bedok and Bedok Reservoir merged
1988	Yishun formed
1991	Zion closed
1996	Woodlands formed, Potong Pasir was renamed Eunos
2002	Sengkang-Punggol formed
2006	Family Group
2008	Telok Blangah Closed

The elders who have overseen the RFG are: the late Chua Teck Koon (Sr) (1986-89), Peter Wee (1990-92), Daniel Woon (1993-96), Peter Wee (1997-2003) and Adrin Loi (since 2004).

Each RFG is represented by a leader who attends the RFG Committee Meeting once a quarter to provide feedback on the progress of the group. In each RFG, there is an elder or deacon to assist them in their activities. Activities conducted in the various groups include Bible studies, discussions on subjects relevant to Christian living, get-togethers for meals, excursions to places of interests and visitation among members. RFG members also support each other during times of bereavement, assist in wedding preparations for members and provide transport for members to assembly meetings.

The first combined annual RFG Dinner was held at the Regional English Language Centre (RELC) at Orange Grove Road in August 1988. A total of 360 attended the dinner. A Gospel message was preached by Stanley Wong, with the Cross Connection, a singing group, presenting an item. It was an enjoyable evening of fun, games and a bible recitation contest featuring Psalm 23.

From 1989 onwards, a decision was taken to pair up the 12 groups with each paired group organising its own annual gathering. Many appreciated these smaller get-togethers as they fostered closer fellowship and

friendship among the saints from different groups. It was also an occasion for witnessing to unsaved family members. In 1997 all the groups were activated to support the Christian Conference in August. Members helped with hosting, housing, transportation, coordination and administration.

In August 2005, 270 members attended a combined RFG meeting held at Depot Walk. After some singing and a few 'ice-breaker' games, the three panellists comprising Khoo Oon Soo, Kenneth Wong and Harry Tan took turns to address the audience on the topic 'Handling Family Crisis'. During the Question-and-Answer session, many pertinent and interesting questions were posed to the panel. After the meeting, fellowship among those present continued around the lunch table.

Efforts were also made to involve the groups in the weekly Gospel Outreach Meetings. Each group would have an opportunity each year to present song items at the Gospel Service on the third Sunday of each month. Since the commencement of meetings at Depot Walk in 2005, the RFG programme now helps to facilitate the meeting of members of the two assemblies. With the launch of COPA in 2007, all groups have been paired up to take charge of five Gospel Services each year. The groups are also encouraged to join the COPA Visitation Programme and visit members who have been irregular in attendance or who have been absent. Where appropriate, RFG members would also contribute articles to the Assembly Newsletter to share their experiences and the blessings they have received from their groups.

Chua Teck Koon on attending RFG:

I have been attending the RFG for more than 20 years. The sharing of personal experiences and how God has worked in our lives draw us closer. The RFG setting allows us to get to know each other better, and once we know one another better, we can pray intelligently for one another. The support and encouragement provided by the RFG help to build the bonds of unity in the face of challenges and obstacles. All of us go through challenging phases in life such as sickness, being first-time parents or problems related to the work place. The thought that we are supported in prayer is an effective source of encouragement; we know that we are not going through this all alone.

A younger member, Kenneth Khong said:

At RFG meetings, I have fellowship with families; I go to members' houses where we share experiences; I can get advice from older believers; I also have the opportunity to interact with older and younger people, and in some ways, my perspective on life is broadened by this experience. Once a year we also hold combined meetings with other groups and again we get to know several more families and believers better. Surely this is what the Lord means by fellowship.

In 1993, Amy Wong, a member of the Hougang RFG, shared her experience of being in the RFG:

On 18 February 1993, my father died of cancer. It was most heart-warming to see so many Hougang RFG members present at the last night of my dad's wake. They came after their monthly RFG meeting. Their fellowship was deeply felt. I know that if I had not come to the RFG meetings for the past few years, I would not have even informed anyone in Bethesda concerning my father's death. The RFGs, by virtue of their small size, are able to allow quiet members like me to speak up and share. Although it may take some time, I feel that time spent with the Lord's people will not be put to waste.

In a 2008 interview, Mrs Sek Loong Kwong said: ‘RFGs help us keep close to one another and have good fellowship’. Mr and Mrs Sek are the most elderly couple in the Hougang RFG.



Combined RFG Meeting (AMK & Punggol)

Family Group

Though officially registered with the assembly on 1 June 2006, the Family Group (FG) started in 1997 with three or four families meeting regularly with the objective of promoting spiritual growth in the Lord through meaningful fellowship and mutual encouragement in the things of the Lord. The FG also has an outreach objective, which welcomes other families to join the FG and be enriched spiritually by the fellowship. The group’s programmes are family-focused, catering to the needs of adults, teenagers and children.

Initially, the FG met at the homes of its members. As the number grew, the group started to use the Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) premises from 2006. By 2007, the FG consisted of 16 families with a total of 71 members (32 adults and 39 children and teenagers).

Thursday Bible Fellowship

The Thursday Bible Fellowship (TBF) had its seed sown during the annual Senior Christians’ Gathering organised by Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio). The turnout at this gathering was very good and the participants had a good time. However, it was not possible for interaction at a more personal level. The late Charlie Tan suggested a more regular get-together for the senior Christians. The Senior Christian Fellowship (SCF) started its first meeting on 8 December 1988 at Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah). The turnout was encouraging and the participants enjoyed themselves. They had more time to talk to each other as the meeting was informal in nature. Moreover, a weekly gathering meant that they could look forward to meeting up with one another every week instead of waiting till the next annual Senior Christians’ Gathering. The SCF had a light programme to preserve an informal and friendly atmosphere. Prayer and the singing of favourite hymns and choruses featured strongly in the meeting. Charlie Tan also led the handicraft demo-cum-practice sessions which included projects such as the creating of greeting cards and making of fabric photo frames and gift boxes.

In 1990, the SCF was renamed TBF since the weekly meeting is on Thursday. The emphasis also shifted to fellowship around the Word of God. Though the TBF is open to all, most of the 20-25 people who attend regularly are aged between 50 and 70 years old. After the Bras Basah premises were acquired by the Government, the TBF meetings were held at the Neil Road Chapel as it was considered more accessible then. After six years there, the TBF moved its meetings to Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) in 1998 without suffering any impact on attendance. In fact, the number grew from about 20 in Bras Basah to reach its peak of 46 in 1996.

The late Chua Teck Koon (Sr) was associated with the TBF since its inception and nurtured it during its initial years. Since 1992, Lee Chin Ghee has been faithfully leading it with an elder of the assembly as advisor. The brethren who led in the Bible studies included the late Lim Tian Leong, Wong Peng Sang and S V Ramalingam. More recently, those who have been leading the group in Bible studies are Robert Hmar, Lee Chin Ghee, Matthew Tang, Daniel Panneersalvam, Kurien Kurian and Edmund Yong. Evelyn Hanam and Tan Leng Chooi also participated in the TBF committee while Mazie Chia has faithfully helped in playing the piano for the meeting. Sisters in the TBF take turns to provide refreshments.

The TBF regularly organised day-trips and luncheons to foster bonding among members. These included trips to Kukup (1992), Kota Tinggi (1994), Batam (1995), Malacca (1997) and the annual buffet lunches. The fellowship among members is also strengthened when they prepare for song items at the annual Senior Christians' Gathering.



Senior Christians' Gathering

The annual Senior Christians' Gatherings are occasions held to show gratitude to God for the testimony of the assembly's senior members. Since 1978, those aged 50 years and above have been invited to these gatherings hosted by the elders and deacons. For those who attend, it is a time to meet with one another, sing favourite hymns and choruses and enjoy fellowship around a meal. The gatherings also celebrate the birthdays of members born in the month in which the gatherings are held. From 2009, due to the increase in the number attending the Senior Christians' Gathering, the cut-off age has been revised upwards to 60 years and above.

Senior Christians' Gatherings Since 1988

Year	Date	Venue	Speaker	Theme
1988	22 Oct	Lai Meng Restaurant	NA	NA
1989	NA	Home of Low Seow Meng	NA	NA
1990	17 Feb	RELC	Gaw Synn Ghee	Keep On Working For Him – Aspects Of Caleb's Life
1991	19 Jan	Bethesda Bras Basah	WA Peterson	God Knows
1992	19 Sep	Teochew Garden Restaurant	Lauw Kim Guan	NA
1993	NA	NA	GD James	NA
1995	18 Feb	Pine Tree Town And City Club	Tan Ban Keng	NA
1996	2 Nov	SICC	Gaw Synn Ghee	NA
1997	11 Oct	SICC	Lim Tian Leong	Abide In Me And I In You (Jn 15:4a-5b)
1998	12 Dec	YWCA Fort Canning Lodge	Alf Chote	NA
2000	22 Jan	YWCA Fort Canning Lodge	WA Peterson	NA
2000	12 Aug	The City Bayview Hotel	Charles Britton	The Life Of Caleb
2002	23 Nov	SICC	Harry Tan	One Thing (Mk 10:21; Lk 10:42; Jn 9:35; Ps 27:4 and Phil 3:13)
2004	21 Feb	Serangoon Garden Country Club	Peter Wee	Peace Like A River (Isa 48:18)
2005	19 Mar	Bethesda DW	Chong Kim Chow	Psalm 92:12-14
2006	22 Apr	Thomson Village Delights	Yeoh Ewe Chye	NA
2007	12 May	Thomson Village Delights	Tay Kim Swee	God As Our Saviour, Guide And Hope
2008	21 Jun	SICC	Khoo Oon Soo	The Christian Generations

Ladies' Group And Sisters' Ministry

The older women likewise, that they be reverent in behaviour... teachers of good things.... that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.
Titus 2:3-5 NKJV

The Ladies' Committee was formed in April 1982 for sisters to come together for fellowship and to have Bible study. This ministry also aimed to help members work together in love, looking to the Lord as their Leader and Guide. With Chong Lai Wah as the Chairperson, the committee organised activities such as Bible studies, talks, seminars, educational films and the annual retreat for the Ladies Group. In 1985, the Committee started a Wedding Sub-committee to help couples in their wedding preparation. The scope was later extended to render help, whenever possible, to those who needed assistance. Boon Yen Ling, Tay Lai To, Chow Chin Choo, Ann Lee, Lee Jin Hwa, Ng Swee Choo, Ong Su Ping, Choy Wai Fann and Theresa Koo were in the Ladies' Committee from 1982 to 1989.

After moving to Ang Mo Kio in 1986, Titus 2:3-5 was adopted as the aim of the Ladies' Group. In addition to book studies, the monthly bible studies covered topics like 'Women of the Bible' and life issues such as coping with stress. Between five and 20 ladies attended these meetings, with quarterly talks attracting about 20 participants. During the year, 32 ladies attended the seven weekly sessions on 'Reaching Women' which aimed to train women to serve. Courses and sessions were also held for families. A total of 114 men and women attended the four weekly sessions on 'Christian Parenting' and the three sessions on 'Christian Homes' were also well received by the 98 who attended. In the year 1986, two public talks were organised. While about 300 turned up for the talk on 'How To Be Lovers For Life', only 18 attended the talk on 'How To Care For The Elderly'. The Ladies' Group rounded up the year with a time of worship and fellowship on 22 November 1986.

In 1987, the Ladies' Group continued with their monthly bible studies. A special Ladies' Night was held at the end of each quarter. The year 1988 started with a sharing session by three visitors (Hiroko, Mikiko and Akiko) from Japan on 7 January. The late Maud van Hien was the invited speaker for a meeting held on 24 February 1988. She spoke, with warmth and grace, on the subject of Prayer. She also shared her testimony to encourage the group. The group then decided to replace the monthly bible studies with the screening of James C Dobson's film series 'Focus on the Family'. As the monthly bible studies of the Ladies' Group suffered from poor attendance in 1989, the committee prayed about its role for the sisters in the assembly and decided to go into recess from that year.

By God's grace and with much thanksgiving, the ministry was re-launched as 'Sisters' Ministry' on 4 January 2003 after a year of praying and planning. The first Sisters' Ministry Committee comprised Tan Lie Leng (Chairman), Akiko Tan, Amy Tan, Cecilia Lim, Chew Kheng Lian, Chua Bee Joo, Helen Teo, Janice Chan, Keyna Goh, Margaret Chia and Ng Swee Choo. The Committee presented the five aims for the Sisters' Ministry to 92 sisters in attendance. First, the Ministry aimed to encourage sisters to grow to spiritual maturity. Second, the Ministry wanted to promote edifying friendships among sisters. Third, the Ministry sought to create opportunities for sisters to discover, develop and exercise their gifts. Fourth, the Ministry wanted to encourage married sisters in their roles as wives and mothers. Fifth, the Ministry would support assembly evangelistic activities.



Sisters' Ministry Committee

*Front seated (L-R): Jayna Ting, Roselin Liew, Ng Swee Choo, Suzanne Wong and Janice Chan
Back standing (L-R): Helen Teo, Margaret Chia, Koh Mei Ling and Amy Tan*



Ladies Ministry (BDW)

*Front seated (L-R): Christine Yeo, Margaret Lee, Poon Kwun Wah, Anne Yam and Patricia Gim
Back standing (L-R): Choo Siew Lian, Seah Seow Lan, Jenny Kwon, Tan Lie Leng, Loh Geok Bee and Alice Lee*

Since 2006, Ng Swee Choo has been co-ordinating the Sisters' Ministry at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) while Tan Lie Leng moved to Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) to start the Ladies' Meeting, focusing on outreach.

Sisters' Ministry meetings were held fortnightly with attendance ranging from 60 to 65 in 2003. The sisters were given questions to prepare at home before meeting on Saturday afternoons. They would break into small groups of about 10 to share what they discovered in their personal bible studies and how they had been challenged to practise biblical truths. They would also spend about 10 minutes in prayer for each other and take turns to share their 'Quiet Time' meditations. At the end of the discussions, sisters gather for a closing summary talk given by one of the discussion leaders. After a year of meetings, to encourage more participation from the audience, the programme was modified such that one sister from each group presented a short summary of her group's discussion on specific questions.

In 2003, the Sisters' Committee began planning for the Friendship Support Programme to reach out to different groups of sisters such as the senior sisters, mothers with young children, foreign and single sisters, newcomers and newlyweds or young couples without children. About 60% of those attending the Sisters' meetings participated in this programme. In 2004, five support or care groups were formed. Members of each group made effort to contact periodically those to whom they were reaching out, either via telephone, email or visitation. The groups also held informal fellowship meetings. In June 2005, the Newcomers Group merged with the Foreign Students Group. The Newlyweds Group was disbanded due to a lack of workers and poor response from the sisters. The Support Group for Young Mothers held a gathering on 8 January 2005 where Tina Tan shared on 'Caring for Dyslexic Children' and Tan Siet Lim conducted a session on flower arrangement.

In support of the Assembly's Gospel Rally 2003, a sisters' prayer group was held from 6.30pm to 7pm on the three nights of the rally. The prayer group prayed specifically, by name, for 32 unsaved invited guests. The Friendship Support Group for Newcomers also worked with the Assembly Gospel Rally Committee to reach out to the newcomers. This collaboration continued for subsequent years.

After completing the study on 'Discovering God's Will' in 2004, the sisters embarked on the study of the Gospel of Matthew. The study on Matthew 19 took a different form, with Khoo Oon Soo giving the closing summary followed by a forum. Khoo Oon Soo, Tan Kian Huat and Chong Kim Chow then took questions from the many assembly members who attended as they sought answers to their perplexing questions on divorce and remarriage. For subsequent years till the end of 2007, the sisters continued with book studies on Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther.

A retreat at the Garden Hotel in July 2005 provided a time for reflection, spiritual renewal and fellowship with one another, amidst group sharing, games and food. A total of 109 sisters from Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio and Depot Walk) attended. 'Making a Difference - Living on a Higher Plane', based on the Sermon on the Mount, was the theme of the Retreat.

From January 2005, a Ladies' Meeting was held each Wednesday at Depot Walk among a handful of sisters who sought to reach out to ladies in the neighbourhood through regular bible studies. One activity they engaged in every fortnight was door-to-door tract distribution in the neighbourhood. Although the attendance is currently low, these sisters are not deterred, trusting the Lord that their labour is not in vain.

A new segment called 'Wellness' was introduced in 2006. From nutrition for the elderly to first aid, these practical skills were creatively taught by nurses from the Singapore Nurses Christian Fellowship.

Overall, the sisters who participate in this ministry are encouraged to discover, develop and use their spiritual gifts. In the meeting at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio), many sisters who have not been leaders took up the challenge and gave closing summaries after each bible study session. Other sisters have given of themselves quietly and sacrificially, responding to needs that have been made known. Such needs included visiting those who were unable to attend meetings due to illness, praying for the Gospel Rally and providing refreshments for other assembly activities such as the Sports Day. The Lord indeed has blessed both individual sisters and the assembly as a whole through the Sisters' Ministry.

Special Talks Organised By The Sisters' Committee

Period	Topic/Panel and Speakers
1988	James Dobson's film series 'Focus On The Family'
10 Sep 1988	'Blossoming For God' by Eileen Kuhn
16 Nov 1996	'Polished Corner-Stones Psa 144:12' by Blanche Aitken
10 Apr 1999	'God's Telephone Number Jer 33:3' by Jenny Kosin
8 Dec 2001	'How To Cope With Life' by Blanche Aitken
15 Jun 2002	'Biblical Perspective Of A Godly Woman' by Nadia Mikhael
5 Apr 2002	'The Bible Is God's Word, Our Guidebook For Godly Living' by Evelyn Hanam
16 Aug 2003	'Hospitality' Panel: Wong Oi Kwan, Doris Chang and Amy Tan
3 Oct 2003	'Hospital Visitation' Panel: Alice Lee, Chong Lai Wah and Choy Wai Fann
10 & 13 Dec 2003	'Nurturing Spiritually And Emotionally Healthy Teenagers' and 'How Sisters Can Support The Lord's Work In The Assembly' by Ann Reese
14 Feb 2004	'Good Stewards Of Time' by Suzanne Wong
24 Apr 2004	'Stress Management' by Helen Wong
4 Sept 2004	'Caring For The Elderly' Panel: Mary Law, Chong Hwei Chi and Chong Lai Wah
12 Mar 2005	'Parents' Role In Education' by Chua Yen Ching
25 Jun 2005	Workshop For Youth (Sisters)
30 Jul 2005	Sisters' Retreat - 'Make A Difference Matt 5:13-14' by Tan Lie Leng
10 Sept 2005	'Quiet Time Meditation' by Loh Geok Bee
4 Mar, 24 Apr, 1 Jul & 9 Sep 2006	Video on 'Three Chairs' by Bruce Wilkinson
17 Mar 2007	'Caring For Dependent Parents With Joy' by Lee Jin Hwa
7 Apr 2007	'Women's Role In Missions And Outreach' by Mrs. Ian Burness
30 Jun 2007	'Autumn Of Life - Its Charms, Challenges And Conquests' by Leong King Teng
8 Sep 2007	'Prayer' by Chong Lai Wah
15 Sep 2007	Evangelistic High Tea - Tan Soo Hock with Video on 'Flying Away From Superstitions'
29 Mar 2008	'Mary - Reverencing God' by Chua Yen Ching
10 May 2008	'Miriam - Speaking With Kindness' by Lee Jin Hwa
28 Jun 2008	Sisters' Retreat - 'A Devoted Heart' by Leong King Teng
2 Aug 2008	'Jochebed - Encouraging Love For Children' by Chong Lai Wah
20 Sep 2008	Evangelistic High Tea - 'Health In The Golden Years' by Chong Kim Chow
7 Feb & 25 Apr 2009	Workshop - 'Women And The Lies They Believe In'
7 Mar 2009	Evangelistic High Tea - 'Dementia' by David Yong and gospel message presented by Khoo Oon Soo

CHAPTER 7

MISSION AND OUTREACH

By Josephine Lin



Commended Workers (based in Singapore)
L-R: Andrew Sng, Tay Kim Swee, Edmund Yong,
Daniel Panneersalvam, Robert Hmar and Kurien Kurian



Mission Group
Front seated (L-R): Suzanne Yeo and Yeo Peck Choon
Middle row sisters standing (L-R): Elizabeth Wong, Betty Jee, Amy Tan, Reni Kurien, Lily Bok, Lim Wee Sang
and Stephanie Grace Sim.
Back row brothers Standing (L-R): Wong Tuck Keong, Jeffrey Jee, Tan Chee Hwee, Kurien Kurian and
Andrew He

Commended Workers

Paul and Barnabas were sent off after the church prayed and confirmed that the Lord wanted them set apart for the work He had called them to do (Acts 13:1-3). In the same way the assembly recognises those whom the Lord has set apart for His work, and commends them into service. This is done after much prayer, consultation and counsel to confirm the leading of the Lord.

On 7 July 2003, to formalise the assembly's policy and practice, the elders released a document '*Policy and Practice for Commendation of Workers*'. It establishes the guidelines for actions in counselling, commending and caring of workers commended by our assembly to the ministry. It also states the responsibility of the assembly to our commended workers and the means and limitations of missionary support. In addition, the document provides guidelines for evaluation of the work and status of the workers so that the local missionary fund is distributed in a responsible manner. The responsibility of the commended workers and their commitment to the commending assembly are also highlighted.

The following workers were commended after the move to Ang Mo Kio: Edmund Yong (1992), Robert Hmar (1993), Peter Wee (1993), Daniel Panneersalvam (1999), Kurien Kurian (2005) and Andrew Sng (2006).

Robert Tan's commendation was, with great sadness, revoked on 10 October 1993 when he was found to be promoting charismatic teachings. From then on, the elders required all commended workers to sign a letter of undertaking, once every two years, stating that they shall subscribe to the *Constitution of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio)* by practising and preaching in accordance with the whole counsel of God as contained in the *Statement of Faith and Practices of the Assembly*.

Daniel and Doris Woon resigned on 1 October 1997 and relocated to Perth, Australia. Their contributions to the assembly were much appreciated. G D James was called home on 24 July 2003. He had served faithfully, preaching the gospel to millions worldwide through the Asia Evangelistic Fellowship (AEF) he founded, and had been a commended worker for 52 years. Charlie Tan was called home on 24 July 2006, having been a commended worker for 55 years. He served in the Peranakan Assembly, children's ministry and the Scripture Union. Peter Wee resigned on 25 August 2004 and left the assembly suddenly. He had served as an elder and a bible teacher in the assembly. Many assemblies in Malaysia also benefited from his bible teaching. Choy Wai Fann resigned on 31 March 2007 to take up a teaching position in Temasek Polytechnic. She had served in many areas helping and mentoring young people and sisters. SV Ramalingam resigned as a commended worker on 25 April 2008 for personal reasons. He had served faithfully as an elder and evangelist, preaching the gospel in many places for more than two decades.

The present commended workers are Sonny Ng, Shirley Holland, Tay Kim Swee, Edmund Yong, Robert Hmar, Daniel Panneersalvam, Kurien Kurian and Andrew Sng. Sonny and Shirley have been serving overseas for more than two decades. The other brothers are based in Singapore, and they make frequent trips to minister overseas. They are actively engaged in the work of the assembly. This is in addition to the specific areas of ministry to which the Holy Spirit has called them.

List Of Workers Commended Since 1950

Name	Years
Andrew Sng Kok Keong	Since 6 August 2006
Charlie Tan Kim Hye	1 April 1951 – 24 July 2006
Cheong Kok Eng	1964 – March 1967
Choy Wai Fann	18 April 1982 – 31 March 2007
Daniel and Doris Woon	22 December 1985 – 1 October 1997
Daniel Paneersalvam	Since 18 July 1999
Edmund Yong Yit Lin	Since 9 February 1992
G D James	1950 – 24 July 2003
Kurien Kurian	Since 17 April 2005
Nellie Yeo	August 1965 – October 1970
Peter Wee Huat Leong	3 January 1993 – 25 August 2004
Robert Hmar Zohminglien	Since 14 February 1993
Robert Tan	June 1965 – 10 October 1993 (Withdrawn)
Shirley Holland	Since 27 June 1982
Sonny Ng Thiam Soon	Since 19 March 1978
S V Ramalingam	6 January 1980 – 25 April 2008
Tay Kim Swee	Since 14 September 1986
Tommy Cheong	29 June 1969 – 18 October 1987

Prayer Voices And Mission Group

Supporting workers and missionaries overseas appear to be a natural extension work once the foundation and groundwork for sending workers have been laid. When Wong Tuck Keong perceived a need for the assembly to be an encouragement to missionaries commended from local and overseas assemblies, he first contacted Charlie Tan, one of our commended workers. Charlie encouraged the formation of a small prayer group and thus the ‘Prayer Voices’ (PV) was born in 1979. Wong Tuck Keong then approached R E Harlow of Christian Missions in Many Lands, Inc (CMML) who provided the group with *The Missionary Handbook* for them to contact overseas missionaries. The group corresponded with selected missionaries, met to pray for them on the first Lord’s day of each month and extended practical fellowship. In addition, members of PV were also encouraged to read *Echoes of Service* to familiarise themselves with various aspects of missionary work.

By 1987, the group had already established missionary contacts globally, covering the continents of Asia, Australia-New Zealand, Europe, Africa and North and South America. Prior to 2001, the objectives of PV were three-fold. First, it would pray for missionaries. Second, it would be mission-minded. Third, it would promote mission awareness. After 2001, these objectives were expanded to include participation in mission trips and sharing in the mission work with monetary gifts and other resources.

In addition to praying, the PV also tries to meet the missionaries with whom they have made contact. This led to the assembly sending teams to visit the missionaries. The aim was to help its members to develop a deeper interest and a sense of awareness of world mission. Over time, other assembly members have been included in their mission exposure trips and participation at Christian Conferences.

In 2000, the PV changed its name to the Mission Group. The objectives have become more specific even though there is little change in the nature of its activities. The Mission Group organises mission trips on a regular basis, encouraging assembly members to visit the mission fields, observe the work done, share their testimonies, encourage the workers and pray more specifically for the workers and his work.

Some Missions Trips Since 1987

Year	Date	Purpose	Participants
1987	30 May – 14 Jun	Visit Perth, WA assemblies and engage in evangelistic work together with S V Ramalingam	S V Ramalingam, Godfrey Ong, Daniel Woon, Victor Yeo, Edmund Yong, Alice Tan, Jessie Yuen, Lee Guat Lian and 2 others
1988	24 – 30 Sep	Visit assemblies in South Korea and attend the Southeast Asia Christian Conference	S V Ramalingam, Charles Lingam, Tan Chee Hwee, Tan Kian Huat, Wong Tuck Keong, John Ching, Chong Lai Wah, Janice Chan and Michelle Loh
1991	9 – 11 Nov	Visit the work among the Senoi people in Cameron Highlands	Galvin Chia, Kam Yew Chong, Alex Loh, Ng Siew Kiang, Tan Chee Hwee, Wong Tuck Keong, Edmund Yong, Choy Wai Fann, Diana Lau, Juline Soh, Cindy Tan, Jenny Tan, Suzanne Tan, Tan Kian Huat, Akiko Tan
1992	20 – 25 Apr	Mission exposure to Pattani, Thailand	Choy Wai Mun, Eddie Teo, Sunny Wong, Wong Tuck Keong and Yeo Chee Hiang
1993	11 – 22 Jul	Teaching English at an Evangelistic English Camp and other areas in Java	Patrick Wee, Tay Kim Swee, Edmund Yong, Yeo Chee Hiang, Choy Wai Fann and Yeo Sian Yong
	20 – 29 Nov	Ministry in assemblies in the Philippines	Bok Tai Keng, Chan Man Wong, Tan Chee Hwee and Tan Kian Huat
1994	26 Nov – 5 Dec	Medical and dental mission in the Philippines	Steve Chia, Charles Lingam, Derek Loh, S V Ramalingam, Joseph Sng, Anthony Yip, Edmund Yong, Robert Hmar, Suzanne Tan, Deborah Woon and Janice Yip
1995	Jul	Intensive English Camps in Solo and Kediri, Indonesia	Bok Tai Keng, Glen Low, Yeo Chee Hiang, James Yim, Edmund Yong, Robert Hmar, Lim Wee Sang, Choy Wai Fann and Yeo Sian Yong
	9 – 17 Dec	Ministry and evangelistic meetings in Chiang Mai, Mae Aw and Mae Chan, Thailand	Stephen Chang, Gan Kee Pin, Jonathan Lingam, James Yim, Tan Chee Hwee, Amy Tan, Lim Wee Sang, Peter Wee and Seow Hoe Lay
1998	18 – 23 Sep	Mission exposure in Cebu Island, Philippines	Daniel Paneersalvam, Tan Chee Hwee, Wong Tuck Keong and Lim Wee Sang
1999	23 Sep – 2 Oct	Medical and dental mission in Cebu, Philippines	Stephen Chang, Lim Wee Sang, Lim Yi-Jia, Christina Chang, Kew Nguk Fah, Mary Law and Tan Chee Hwee
2000	Mar	Guitar and children ministry training in Cambodia	Chan Wai Kiong, Melvin Foo, Andrew Sng, Vincent Tham, Daniel Wee, Diana Lau and Seow Hoe Lay

2001	12 – 18 Jan	Attend the dedication service of the new hall at Pakna-an in Cebu, Philippines	Chan Man Wong, Tan Chee Hwee and Wong Tuck Keong, Lim Wee Sang, Lim Geok Kim and Suzanne Tan
	30 Nov – 9 Dec	Dental Cum Medical Mission in Siem Reap and Phnom Penh, Cambodia	Lim Wee Sang, Monique Goh, Lim Yi-Jia, Robert Hmar, Hmar Pik Yee, Peter Wong, Kew Nguk Fah, Mary Law, Loy Seow Kheng, Amy Tan. Ong Ming Ann, Suzanne Tan, Young Kim Chye, Rachel Hmar, Linus Tan, Lucius Tan, Lucas Tan and Tan Chee Hwee
2004	15 – 22 Sep	Conduct a 4-island gospel ministry in Cebu Island – Philippines	Robert Hmar, Kurien Kurian, Tan Chee Hwee and Wong Tuck Keong
2005	6 – 16 Aug	Test and fit reading glasses to the villagers at JiJieZe and DaPingDi in Kunming, China	Choy Wai Fann, Ng Siew Lian, Diana Lau, Koh Liang Hwee, Robert Hmar, David Leng, Grace Leng, William Chew, Ng Kim Khoon and Kenneth Khong
	12 – 22 Aug	Conduct discipleship training course and assist in the building of Harvest Training School in Pyin Oo Lyin, Myanmar	David Goh, Daniel Goh, Kurien Kurian, Poon Kum Meng and Wong Tuck Keong
	26 Oct – 4 Nov	Conduct seminar on “Biblical Church” in Kalay Myo, Myanmar	David Chua, Kenneth Khong, Kurien Kurian, Aaron Wong and Wong Tuck Keong
	21 – 30 Nov	BYMET to expose youth to overseas missionary work in Cambodia	Choy Wai Fann, Toh Wei Hong, Olivia Soh, Nathanael Chia, Andrew He, Lucius Tan, Choy Weng Yin, Rachel Hmar, Valerie Kwan and Yeo Hui Min
	18 – 29 Dec	Conduct medical and dental outreach through the Lalitpur and Kathmandu assemblies and to conduct screening and health talks at the new Horizon Academy in Nepal	Families of Tan Chee Hwee, Robert Hmar, Khoo Boo Cheong. Chan Man Wong, Eugene Fan, Kenneth Khong, Joanna Chia, Mary Law, Suzanne Tan and Lim Wee Sang
2006	8 – 16 Apr	Minister the Word among the youth and to attend the official opening of the Training Centre in Myanmar	Wong Tuck Keong, David Goh, Daniel Skelton, Jonathan Chua, Kurien Kurian, Poon Kum Meng and Daniel Goh
	24 Nov – 3 Dec	BYMET to expose youth to overseas missionary work in Cambodia	Amanda Teo, Lisa Loh, Chang Li Ling, Natalie Ong, Amos Chew, Matthew Chia, Jordan Tan, Toh Wei Hong, Ong Ming Ann, Teo Jia Yin and Choy Wai Fann
2007	16 – 21 Jun	Eye-Care mission trip in Bohol Island, Philippines	Doris Chang, Chang Li Ling, William Chew, Chew Kheng Lian, Choy Wai Fann, Koh Liang Hwee, Koh Kai Kee, David Leng, Grace Leng, Robert Hmar, Hmar Pik Yee, Rachel Hmar, Diana Lau, Wendy Mui, Lilian Ng and Teng Heng Chew
	25 – 30 Nov	Conduct a medical and outreach at Lalitpur, Kaplan assemblies and New Horizon Academy in Kathmandu, Nepal	Robert Hmar & family, Steven Tan & family, Tan Chee Hwee, Amy Tan, Lucius Tan, Lim Wee Sang, Aloysius Ong, Nathanael Chia, Melissa Fong, Mary Law, Peter Wong, Wong Pei Yui, Peter Chow, Chow Chiew Gee, Wendy Mui and Sonia Khoo

	30 Nov – 9 Dec	BYMET to expose youth to overseas missionary work in Cambodia	Hooi Ming Ann, Toh Wei Hong, Andrew Sng, Dawn Sng, Robyn Tan, Brandon Chan, Jonathan Lim, Lucas Tan, Benjamin Chia, Timothy Lim, Hilary Chia, Jethro Leong, Titus Chong and Joanna Chia
2008	15 – 25 Nov	BYMET to expose youth to overseas missionary work in Cebu, Philippines	Wong Tuck Keong, Tan Ah Beng, Kurien Kurian, Andrew He, Joel Boon, Olivia Soh, Constance Chong, Teresa Lee, Poh Shi Ting, Naomi Tan and Magdalene Fong.

Bethesda Youth Mission Exposure Trip (BYMET)

From 21 to 30 November 2005, the first BYMET team of 10 members comprising mainly of youth, led by Choy Wai Fann and Toh Wei Hong visited Cambodia to see Ong Ming Ann who was teaching English at the Canaan Technical School in Phnom Penh from June 2005 to July 2006. She had taken over from Toh Wei Hong who was teaching from March 2004 to July 2005. That visit signalled the beginning of Bethesda Youth Mission Exposure Trip (BYMET). The year-end short-term mission trip provided the youth with insightful exposure to missions and missionaries. The following year, another BYMET team visited Cambodia. The youth who returned from the mission fields shared their well-documented journals with other youth at the Assembly Youth Camp. The months spent on pre-trip preparations also helped them to be able to see and learn beyond the sights and sounds of a different environment to gain a deeper understanding of mission. One youth prayed at the departure lounge of Changi Airport, ‘Lord, we know this short trip is not going to change Cambodia but let Cambodia change us, forever.’

The two successful trips served to heighten the interest in mission among the youth. In November 2007, another group of believers formed the 3rd BYMET team to visit Cambodia. By now, BYMET had become an annual event that the youth looked forward to participating in. The elders decided to transfer the responsibility of organising the BYMET from the Assembly Youth Group to the Mission Group.

The 4th BYMET team visited the Philippines from 15 to 24 November 2008, covering Bohol Island, Cabilau Island, Iloilo City, Guimaras Island and Cebu City.

Poh Shi Ting who went on the trip to the Philippines wrote this reflection:

During this 4th BYMET trip, I’ve experienced a lot. I saw how many small assemblies have grown to bigger assemblies. I realised the importance of starting small. This is because even with a big building for meetings but a small number of believers, it will still feel empty. Therefore we need to continue to consistently share the Gospel and encourage the people around us to trust in the Lord and join the church. During one of the house visitations, we visited a believer whose siblings were Sunday school teachers. They shared their testimony and I was encouraged by them. It challenges me to think of becoming a Sunday school teacher in the future! BYMET is not just another overseas trip to me, but a trip to see the wonderful work of the Lord in the Philippines.



BYMET to Cambodia (2007)



*Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio)
Medical / Dental Mission Trip
Medical Dental Mission to Nepal (2007)*



Visit to Kampong Chhnang, Cambodia (2008) to paint murals for Sangkhim Canaan School

Assembly Evangelistic Committee (AEC)

The fervour for evangelism galvanised three groups of workers, namely the ushers, counsellors and tract distributors to form the Assembly Evangelistic Group (AEG) in 1979. The determination to evangelise was also reflected in an issue of the *Assembly Newsletter* in 1985 which reported that the AEG would adhere to its aims even after it moved to Ang Mo Kio. Following the move, it continued to provide a platform for members who were keen to help in the work.

In a 1992 report, the aims of the AEG were spelt out. First, it wanted to support other activity groups when they planned evangelistic programmes. Second, the AEG would motivate assembly members to participate in the Lord's Great Commission by organising evangelistic programmes to build awareness and to provide opportunities to serve. Third, the group would prepare those who may want to evangelise, but did not know how, through training classes.

March 2000 saw the formation of the Assembly Evangelistic Committee (AEC) to replace the AEG. Many former AEG members joined as the Committee members. The purpose of this change was to have an overseeing committee to coordinate the various aspects of evangelistic work of the assembly. Other outreach activities coordinated by the AEC included the Assembly Youth Committee, Boys' Brigade, Choir, Mailbox Bible Correspondence Course, Sunday School, Mission and Tuition.

The Counselling and Follow-up Department under the AEC also changed its name to the Counselling and Nurture Department. Following this, it initiated a recruitment drive and enlisted new counsellors, especially from among the youth. It also conducted a counsellors' training course every year from 2003 to 2005. Other initiatives were the organisation of the Dedication Nights prior to the annual Gospel Rallies and a series of combined counsellee's get-together sessions.



Gospel Rally 2008 – The Great Escape



One Voice Concert (2009)

The first major outreach project of the AEC was the Combined Assembly Rally of the Brethren churches titled ‘Festival of Celebration 2001’. Held from 24 to 26 August 2001 at the Singapore Indoor Stadium, the speaker was Bill Newman. For all three nights, an average crowd of 7,000 to 8,000 people attended the meetings. Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) was assigned 63 people to follow-up with after the event.

On 1 January 2007, the assembly launched the COPA at the Workers’ Retreat. The COPA has the theme ‘Witnessing ... and being a witness’, seeking to reinvent six existing evangelistic activities in the following areas: Visitation; Christmas Service; Easter Service; Gospel Meetings; Annual Gospel Rally; and the CC, CEP, SS and YP programmes. It also introduced new areas for outreach - Medical, Dental and Eye-care (MDEC) Outreach; Read-to-Me Programme; Talks, Film Shows and Seminars; Activities with Residents’ Committees; Organised Activities for Residents (OAR); and Bethesda Day Care Centre.

In a 2007 year-end review, it was noted that the results of COPA had been very encouraging. More people were attending the weekly Gospel Services with the various RFG and CEP groups facilitating on different weeks. An unprecedented number of feedback forms from visitors were received for future contact after the 2007 Gospel Rally, and many of the assembly members had been involved in one or more of the 12 areas highlighted in COPA. COPA has indeed opened multiple doors for many more assembly members to be involved in evangelising to those around them.

List Of Gospel Rallies Since 1986

YEAR	EVANGELIST	THEME FOR GOSPEL RALLY
1986	G D James	Door Of Life (Jn 10:9)
1988	G D James	Love Singapore Mission
1989	W A Peterson	Came And Coming Soon
1992	Peter Ferry	Life
1995	Jim McCarthy	So Great A Salvation
1996	S V Ramalingam	Alive Forever
1997	G D James	Profit That Lasts
1998	Peter Ferry	Life's Crossroads-The Greatest Decision!
1999	Wade LeBlanc	There Is Hope
2000	G D James	Life's Destiny
2001	No rally in July as the assembly was involved in the Festival of Celebration	
2002	Koh Ting Tiew	Desires Of Your Heart
2003	S V Ramalingam	Peace For The Heart
2004	Khoo Oon Soo	He Took My Place
2005	S V Ramalingam	Love Is A Five-Letter Word
2006	Peter Ferry	Light From Heaven
2007	Harry Tan	The Way Of Man
2008	Wong San Tosh	The Great Escape

Tract Distribution

Tract distribution takes place every second Sunday of the month between 1.30pm and 3.30pm. A group of assembly members together with AEG members go door to door to distribute tracts and to witness when the Lord grants the opportunity.

A detailed review in 1995 recorded that there were no fixed number of members for the tract distribution as the work relied solely on available volunteers. An average of eight participants helped out each week and the group covered one HDB block per week. In the 1995 review, it was reported that based on an estimated 300 HDB blocks in the Ang Mo Kio estate, it would take the AEG more than 20 years to visit

every household in the whole estate. However, in His grace, God had provided workers for this. During the annual Assembly Gospel Rally, many households had been contacted through the tract distribution programme. A 1996 report mentioned coverage of 50 blocks of flats in the Ang Mo Kio estate and three shopping centres - Takashimaya, Bishan Junction 8 and Yishun 10.

Counselling Work

The counselling department has a weekly roster of three counsellors for the assembly's Gospel Meetings. The department provides and prepares its members to counsel unsaved inquirers as well as those who may respond to the Gospel at the Gospel Meetings. It is also responsible for providing counsellors for the Annual Gospel Rally organised by the assembly. The counselling department is divided into seven teams - six teams for those counselling in English and one to counsel in Mandarin. Each team is led by a supervisor.

Besides being on standby during Gospel meetings, the most important work of the Counselling Department is the follow-up of inquirers at the Gospel Rallies and Gospel Services and those who respond through tracts given out by the Tract Distribution workers. Counsellors carry out follow-up work through various methods such as letter-writing, phone calls, personal visits and Bible studies. If appropriate, some of those respondents may be directed to BTC, SS, YP, CEP and Boys' Brigade.

Ushering

Ushers prepare the hall, direct people to seats, assist visitors and act as doorkeepers to ensure that the weekly Assembly Gospel Service runs smoothly. In 1996, the Usher Committee members were Alvin Teo (co-ordinator), Richard Ting (recruitment), James Yim (AEG representative), Wong Sau Fong (welfare), Patricia Lim (secretary) and Wong Wai Meng Lynn. They were supported by ten other members. There are now four teams of ushers, each under a leader. In 2008, the leaders are Alvin Teo (who remains the coordinator), Richard Ting, Kenneth Chua and Kenneth Khong.

Puppet Ministry

The Puppet Ministry made its debut in March 1994 at the 130th Sunday School Anniversary and Prize Giving. It was spearheaded by Tan Chee Hwee and the committee used a single puppet to present a performance on the topic of 'Fruitfulness'. It was warmly received by the 200-strong audience. The group continued to use this as a platform for ministry, receiving 10 engagements in the same year, including an evangelistic mission trip to the Bilibiran Christian Church in the northern outskirts of Manila, the Philippines, in early December 1994.

The Puppet Ministry Committee believes that this is an exciting and interesting area of service for young people and provides a good opportunity to present and teach God's truth in a way that might reach different audiences. The Committee often bases its scripts on one truth or teaching of the Scripture, emphasising and reiterating it throughout the puppet show. The Puppet Ministry has been highly effective in bringing the Gospel to younger children. A 1998 report documents the success of this ministry, notes that the group has been presented with opportunities to share the Gospel through Puppetry at external locations like the Boys' Brigade Charity Night at Orchard Road and at the Eastmen Childcare and Development Centre in Bedok Reservoir Road.



Tract Distribution Team
 Front seated (L-R): Angie Yeo, Violet Sujatha, Kuehsamy - Sim Seow Lan, Jenny-Alex and Karen Chee
 Back standing (L-R): Yeo Chee Hiang, Ng Kim Khoon, James Yim, Tan Chee Hwee and Kurien Kurian



Counselling Team
 Back standing (L-R): Andrew Sng, Daniel Panneersalvam, Ng Swee Choo, Edmund Yong, Tay Kim Swee, Robert Hmar and Kurien Kurian
 Front standing (L-R): Tay Lai To and Hmar Pek Yee



Usher Group
 L- R: Kenneth Chua, Alvin Teo, Richard Ting, Matthew Chia, Lucius Tan and Kenneth Khong

Filipino Ministry

Since its inception on 19 February 1995, the Filipino Ministry has truly been used mightily by the Lord as an evangelistic outreach to domestic helpers in Singapore. Chaired by Tay Kim Swee, it started as a small ministry attended by 20 to 25 Filipino Ministry workers and Filipinas on every third Sunday of the month from 11 am to 12.30 pm. It has since grown to include an additional meeting on the first Sunday of the month from May 2000.

Each meeting starts with singing songs to praise God, followed by a twenty-minute sharing from the Word of God where the Gospel is preached. Studies have included books of the Bible and Bible characters such as Abraham, Sarah, Joseph and Dorcas, and the book titled *Twelve Bottles of Milk for New Believers*. Workshops are also conducted, dealing with 'Problems of Christian Living' and Christian living topics like 'Handling Money', 'Handling Relationships', 'The Language of Love' and 'Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts'. After the short sharing, the group will break for a time of discussion and this creates opportunities to allow them to come to know the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. The meeting gathers again before ending at 12.30pm.



Even after the Filipinas have left Singapore upon the expiry of their employment contracts, the yearly reviews released in 2000 and 2001 reported that they remained faithful to God. In addition, the ministry has seen newcomers joining them and souls being saved. The 1997/1998 review reported that at least 30% of the Filipinas attending were Christians and they had invited their friends to the Tagalog Evangelistic Meeting on 17 August 1997. In 1998, two Filipinas accepted Christ during the Christmas Evangelistic Meeting where Daniel Panneersalvam spoke. In 2002, the Christmas Evangelistic Meeting facilitated by Robert Hmar drew a crowd of 50. They were also regular in attending other activities such as picnics and cookery sessions organised by the Filipino Ministry as reported in 2005 and 2006. The year 2007 also saw the faithfulness of the Filipinas in making time to attend the meetings held on Sundays even though these were their only days off.

Tamil Ministry

In 1993, Daniel Panneerselvam started visiting homes and hostels of Tamil-speaking foreign workers with the gospel. Soon, several bible study groups were started with favourable responses. A small number started to attend the worship meeting at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) and the number increased when the ministry messages were translated via headsets into Tamil.

On 18 October 1998 the group started weekly evangelistic meetings at Little India (Tekka) along Race Course Road. As more arrived from India to work in Singapore, the Lord added more people to this outreach work.

On 18 July 1999, the group began to meet for the CEP conducted in Tamil. Initially the study materials were based on Emmaus Books in Tamil. They were replaced by the assembly CEP materials after these had been translated into Tamil.

On 3 January 1999, Kathirvelu and Rajandran Stanley were among those who were baptised. Since then, more have been added through baptism and transfers from other churches. Over the years, about 30 people have been saved through the Tamil Ministry. While some have returned to India after their work contract expire, the number has continued to grow steadily. Several brethren have taken up permanent residency, adding stability to the work. Some of these brothers, who have shown leadership qualities, have met with the elders on several occasions to discuss the Tamil Ministry. On 4 January 2009, the first Tamil Breaking of Bread Meeting was held with 29 believers. On 1 May 2009, six believers were baptised, the first baptism after commencing their own Breaking of Bread Service. The responsible brothers for this ministry are Kasi Govindarajan, Gurusamy and Daniel Panneerselvam.



Tamil Ministry

Front row children (L-R): Joel, Samuel, Daniel, Magdalin, Samyutha, Elisabeth, Kishore, Joseph, Timothy, Esther and Joshua
Middle seated (L-R): Saratha, Subulakshmi, Chithra, Paul, Alice, Maria Pushbam and Karthika,
Back standing (L-R): Vijaya, Joshua, Chris, Guru, Tobias, Abraham, Edwin, Kasi, John Bosch, Arul Mani, Sasi Kumar, Sugumar,
Daniel Panneerselvam and Sarah

CHAPTER 8

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

By Wong Yong Jian and Joanna Chia



Children's Corner Workers (BDW)

Front seated (L-R): Brinda Sng, Andrew Sng, James Yim, Lisa Loh, Vincent Lim and Jane Lim

Back stand (L-R): Jessie Sim, Christina Poon, Sarah Sng, Eve Ang, Susan Teo and Kelvin Teo



Assembly Youth Committee (BAMK)

Front seated (L-R): Vincent Tham, Tan Jin Song and Nathaniel Sim

Back standing (L-R): Olivia Soh, Linus Tan, Fong Ban Lee, Tay Lin Hwee, Tan Chee Hwee and Teresa Lee



Youth Workers (BDW)

Front seated (L-R): Tan Li Sheng, Eric Choa, Andrew Sng, Kenneth Khong, William Hooi and Hooi Ming Ann

Back standing (L-R): Lydia Choa, Mallory Kwok, Choa Geok Eng, Choy Wai Fann, Jordan Tan, Joel Boon, Jonathan Boon and Ivan Khoo



Assembly Youth Committee (BDW)

L-R: Eric Choa, Joel Boon, Tan Li Sheng, James Yim, Kenneth Khong, William Hooi and Andrew Sng

Suffer Them To Come Unto Me: The Children's Corner Work

'To evangelise, to nurture and to integrate the children into the body life of the assembly' is the objective of the Children's Corner (CC) ministry, as Andrew Sng puts it. Starting out as no more than a small neighbourhood club for kids prior to the move from Bras Basah, the CC ministry has grown and remains one of the evangelistic ministries that allows members to have the opportunity to impact children spiritually. Few would remember the early years but there can be no denying that the holding of children's events and activities has been the hallmark of the CC ever since its beginning.

Regular Programme

The growth of the CC ministry from 25 children in 1986 to about 60 today at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) can only be attributed to the Lord's grace in giving the increase. The CC programme has always been centred on children and their needs, as can be seen from the creative and interesting lessons held every Saturday at the basement level of the church premises. The children are engaged through a variety of activities such as singing, handicraft-making and personal interaction time with the CC workers when they play games together. In a report, CC worker Linus Tan observed that the enthusiasm of the children and their receptiveness to the gospel and the Word of God were amazing and having the opportunity to impact them spiritually inspired him to carry on.

Experiences of captain's ball games, shooting hoops at the playground basketball court, playing table-tennis on make-shift tables or simply enjoying a more relaxed board game indoors continue to be part of the CC after-lesson culture as both workers and children are able to interact in various activities in a friendly and caring manner.

Special Events

Special events spice up the CC yearly schedule, and these usually leave lasting impressions on the workers and the children, as well as the children's parents. Whether it was the biscuit-decoration competition in 1989 or the Family Day of 1992, the CC ministry has always strived to reach out to the parents of the children as well. However, evangelising the children remains a key objective and a highlight was the three-night Children's Gospel Rally in July 2002. Held in conjunction with the Assembly Gospel Rally at that time, a puppet show on the first night and an in-house musical-skit 'The Prodigal Son' on the following two nights gave many children and workers the chance to serve God and invite their friends to hear the Good News. In keeping with the evangelism objective, the year 2003 saw the creation of the Children's Choir which drew its twenty-five members from the CC. These special events enabled the CC to grow spiritually and numerically.

Responding To Challenges

Over the years, the CC has had its fair share of challenges. The year 2003 was a particularly challenging year. The SARS epidemic had caused the CC to close for three weeks in line with the nationwide move to curb the spread of SARS. The CC re-opened in April only to see its high attendance of eighty children drop to fifty. This period of worry was soon forgotten, however, during the excitement of the YPCC Games Day at East Coast Park on 6 September 2003. A highlight of the activities that day was sandcastle building by the CC and the YP. YP involvement in the CC ministry became a weekly affair with the introduction of youths to be assistants for a scheduled time period. Supervised by Kenneth Chua, this initiative helped to foster better relations between the YP and CC and alleviated manpower shortages. It has continued ever since because of the good response.

The next year also saw a revival of the Chinese New Year visitation by the CC workers to the families of their charges which allowed them to extend Christian care and encouragement to the families. On 5 June 2004, the Family Night was revived after a lengthy respite of ten years. It was held at the Serangoon Gardens Country Club, bringing the children, youth and their parents and relatives together for what would become one of the key events in the CC calendar in the years to follow. More recently, on 6 September 2008 the CC together with YP and BB organised another Family Night at the Jumbo Seafood Gardens Country Club. Tan Soo Hock gave the message in Mandarin on the theme 'The Banquet'.



Children's Corner



Song item presentation by CC

Going Forward

In recent years, more young people are taking on the challenge of becoming CC workers. Having seen the need and the potential of a child who is brought up with God's word, Melissa Wee, Teresa Lee and Linus Tan were exercised to join the CC as workers to guide the sixty children in the path of righteousness, along with older workers like Vincent Tham and Fong Ban Lee at the helm.

Vincent Tham, who has been in CC since 1992, said, 'The CC ministry is an outreach work that requires faithful and committed workers to reach out to the children with the Gospel. It is wonderful to have many good co-workers who have helped me to stay on in the ministry. Moreover, it is so wonderful to see the children grow spiritually and physically. Most importantly, without God's mercy, grace, blessings and providence, I would have just quit many years ago.'

Let No One Despise Your Youth: The Young People's Ministry

The timeless battle for the hearts and minds of youth is on-going and, in this respect, memories of the myriad of activities organised by the various workers in the Young People's (YP) ministry come easily to mind. The YP ministry is the other main institution of the AYG that caters to the spiritual needs of our young people today. Since its inception, the aim of the YP has always been based on EFG, that is, Evangelism, Fellowship and Growth. There is also leadership development as the youth are challenged to follow Jesus Christ. Ultimately, the objective is for them to integrate into the body life of the assembly.

The Early Years

The early days at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) are best remembered for the times when the YP engaged in the various activities organised by the Recreation Outreach Committee (ROC) of the Youth Group. Besides on-going sporting activities like soccer and captain's ball, events like the Fruit and Cocktail Competition and Run-With-A-Friend cross-country run in 1988 fulfilled the 'Outreach-Through-Recreation' aim of the ROC. Together with the five-week Study Programme held before the year-end school exams and Free Tuition Programme, they were instrumental in reaching out to young people in the neighbourhood. A Youth Musical Rally 'A Friend Forever' was held in July 1989 at the DBS Auditorium. In July 1993, another Youth Musical Rally, 'The Great Pretender', was held at the PUB auditorium. These events were memorable not just because they were held outside the church premises but also because they brought the YP members closer together as they laboured for the Lord.

For most of the early days in Ang Mo Kio under the AYC Chairmanship of Joseph Sng (1986-88), and Clarence Chua (1989-93), the YP ministry continued to prosper by the grace of God. The nurturing of the youth in the truth of God's Word was never secondary to the fun and games so commonly associated with the YP. As former AYC Chairman Joseph Sng said in an earlier report, there was 'the need not just to teach the word but really live it out by sharing our lives with the members' so that 'they can then see how these words are actually practised and begin to fully understand and be impacted'. There were retreats for both the Senior and Junior Departments, yearly events that were eagerly anticipated by the youth. These retreats, lasting from a day to a few days, took place at various locations around Singapore and provided a conducive environment for the learning of His Word and interaction with the YP workers. Many will recall the days of going to primary schools, Sentosa's Scripture Union Campsite (1988) as well as what was once known as Lee Rubber Bungalow at Pasir Panjang.



Children's Corner Workers (BAMK)

Front (L-R): Lim Geok Kim, Teresa Lee, Rebecca Koh, Constance Chong, Tham Wai Sim and Vincent Tham
 Back (L-R): Tay Lin Hwee, Linus Tan, Melissa Wee, Marc Tan and Fong Ban Lee



Youth Workers (BAMK)

Front seated (L-R): Seetho Mun Yee, Stephanie Sim, Olivia Soh, Akiko Tan, Esther Wong and Rachel Hmar
 Back standing (L-R): Mervyn Tan, Nathaniel Sim, Daniel Tok, Wong Yong Jian, Tan Jin Song,
 Matthew Chia, Kenneth Chua, Thomas Phua and Tan Chee Hwee
 Not in photograph: Grace Koh, Joanna Chia and Michelle Tok

Challenges Of The 1990s

Still, challenges continued to surface. YP worker Ng Siew Kiang recalled that dwindling attendance was one of the problems which led to the decision to merge the Senior 1 and 2 groups in 1994. As the 1994-95 Chairman of the Assembly Youth Committee (AYC), Felix Lim also found that there were three major challenges faced by the workers in the 1990s. The 'people factor' challenge was one which saw the youth, many who came from non-Christian homes, having to justify the amount of weekend time spent at church. Felix also added that it was a great challenge to come up with interesting programmes week after week, not to mention ensuring that these programmes met their spiritual, psychological and physical needs. The need of positioning the YP as an attractive assembly outreach programme to youth was the third challenge. The workers overcame this by encouraging members to invite their friends, a practice that has persisted till this day and contributed to the growth of the YP.

In response to these challenges, the AYC Chairman from 1996-2000, Samuel Wee, undertook an unprecedented series of outings, workshops, open forums, projects and activities from 1996. Many would remember fondly the discussions about the character of a disciple of Christ that happened every Saturday when William Macdonald's *True Discipleship* was used as bible study material, as well as the many Emmaus textbooks used thereafter. There was also an emphasis on personal and corporate evangelism which could also be seen in the many outings and activities as well as the street-evangelism sessions. Besides the after-meeting sessions of mini-soccer and captain's ball held every week, few can forget the experience of the Youth Carnival in 2001, an event which saw the combined efforts of the Bethesda group of churches in reaching out to the lost. Andrew Sng took over the AYC Chairmanship from 2001 to 2006. From 2007 onwards a separate AYC was appointed for Ang Mo Kio and Depot Walk with Tan Jin Song and Andrew Sng chairing respectively.

Into The New Millennium

Even though a good number of YP workers left the assembly suddenly in August 2004, the Lord preserved His work by raising many assembly members to meet the needs of the YP ministry. Akiko Tan, Daniel and Michelle Toke, David and Keyna Goh, Jason Phing, Thomas Phua and William Hooi moved in to fill the void. David Goh stood in as interim YP coordinator before Nathaniel Sim took over in 2007 and Tan Jin Song was appointed Chairman of AYC (Ang Mo Kio) with effect from 2007.

During those critical weeks in August of 2004, Andrew Sng, the AYC Chairman, together with Tan Kian Huat, the AYC Advisor, had spoken to workers planning to leave in an attempt to persuade them to stay on. They were not successful and the focus shifted to working with a team of new workers to comfort and assure the distraught youth. Numerous new activities were initiated by David Goh, such as dinner gatherings at the homes of the elders, a special youth section in the newsletter, special talks and outings. Through the combined effort of parents and workers, the YP has continued to be a vibrant ministry of young people living for the Lord.

Over the years, workers discerned that children moving from the CC to the YP found the transition difficult. The annual YPCC Games Day was an initiative undertaken to meet this challenge. It continues to be a day of interaction and bond-building between the YP and CC members. The launching of the YP@CC Helpers Programme in 2005 provided the youth an opportunity to help out in the CC work as an assistant. This initiative saw several youth deciding to stay on as permanent CC workers. It continues to be a popular programme today. The forging of closer bonds between the YP and CC also went beyond the confines of

the church grounds when the Wild Goose Race was held in 2006, during which youth and children alike traversed the island in mixed groups to search for clues. The combined Sports Day held at Anglo Chinese Junior College involving the Sunday School as well as the YP and CC in 2006 was another inter-ministry collaboration development. The day-long event saw a large turn-out of 600 of which a third were newcomers. This mega-event was replaced by the Assembly Family Day in May 2008 involving the whole assembly, when more than 700 gathered for a day of games, track and field events and fun. Newcomers who attended the Family Day were invited to the Assembly Gospel Rally.



Youth meeting at BAMK



Soccer match



Youth Camp (2006)



Youth in Mersing, Malaysia (2008)



Strengthening bonds through building sandcastles in Mersing (2008)

Going Forward

Since then, the YP ministry has grown strongly, registering good attendances each week. Although the majority of the youth are from families already in the assemblies, youth from outside continue to be added through the continued efforts of the youth and the workers. Special events like the Assembly Gospel Rally and activities like the Games Day during school holidays also serve as platforms for evangelistic outreach for the YP. From 2005 to 2007, the YP were able to obtain permission to use the premises vacated by Kebun Baru School to play games like soccer and basketball.

Today, the YP continues to be a place where young people learn and practise the truths in God's Word, a place where hearts and minds are continually moulded to be more like Christ. It continues to be a ministry where the need for committed workers and strong leadership is great. In an age where the youth are continually bombarded with the distractions of the world, the continued provision of a place of refuge and refreshment in the things of God is imperative.

Akiko Tan who joined the YP since August 2004 summarises youth ministry in her reflection.

I came to know the Lord when I was 17 and I can identify with the struggles of a Christian youth. The challenges of youth today are not dissimilar to youths in our day. Youth Ministry gives me the privilege of reaching out and working with young people, mentoring them to become future leaders and influencing them to follow the Lord. There is no greater joy than to see a youth being transformed, becoming interested in bible study, getting involved in assembly life, obeying their parents and walking close with the Lord. Every individual youth has great potential in them. As youth workers, we help them to realise the potential when they surrender their will to our beloved Lord Jesus. They can become an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity (1 Timothy 4:12).



BB Officers

*Front seated (L-R): Janet Lim, Daphne Chiam, Tay Kim Swee, Stephen Chang, Robert Hmar and Vijaya Madasamy
Back Standing (L-R): Andrew Sng, Alex Loh, Yeo Ann Kian, Francis Toke, Nicholas Ong, Johnny Fan, Wesley Ng and Timothy Lim*



GB Officers

L-R: Tay Kim Swee (Adviser and Chaplain), Melissa Fong, Koh Mei Ling, Amy Tan, Vivien Phay, Choy Wai Fann and Lynette Khong

Out Of The Hall And Into The Schools: The Boys' Brigade (BB) Ministry

In 1989, the elders started exploring new avenues to reach out to the youth of the neighbourhood through the BB Ministry. In July 1991, an opportunity arose when Glory Joy Christian Church handed over the 43rd Company at Yishun Secondary School to the assembly. The initial team comprising Eric Choa, Adrin Loi, Samuel Koh, Choy Wai Mun, Eddie Teo, Victor Chiam and Yeo Chee Hiang worked for many years in the ministry. Others such as Stephen Chang are still active. The primary aim was to be an 'evangelistic mission through... leadership and friendship'. Activities such as drills, Christian education, outdoor activities, badge work and Bible Quiz introduce the BB boys to the Christian Faith. Invitations are extended to the boys to join in assembly evangelistic events, YP, Daily Vacation Bible School (DVBS) and youth camp.

From 2000 to 2003, the 51st Company at Mayflower Secondary School and the 29th Company at Mayflower Primary School were added to the BB ministry. From 2003 to 2007, manpower shortage was severe and Alex Loh, the Chairman from July 2004 to June 2006, raised the possibility of closing down one of the companies. In 2006, Alex Loh asked for prayer that we will persevere and not faint as we are representatives of Bethesda Hall upholding our Christian integrity and testimony in the schools. However, God in perfect timing provided younger helpers - former BB members such as Andrew He, Joel Chew and Aaron Toke. The Lord continues to uphold the helpers, even as manpower shortage remains the biggest challenge.

With the 2007 COPA initiatives renewing the focus on reaching out to the community, the BB is very strategically placed. By helping the boys develop holistically and reaching out to their families, the BB fulfils the Great Commission of going out and making disciples, teaching the boys to observe all that Christ has commanded us during His life on earth, when He Himself taught, nurtured and attended to needy humanity.

Some 17 years of faithful and committed service by assembly members have resulted in countless boys being touched by the love of Christ. Quite a few BB members have come to faith in Christ, joined the assembly or continued to serve in the BB. Many of these were brought up in other religious backgrounds.

Looking to the future, Alex Loh felt that:

The ministry should focus on the service rendered to the schools around the Ang Mo Kio vicinity. This will help the community to reap some benefits and get to know the Christians assembled at Ang Mo Kio. The other is for the young people to devote some of their time to this work. This will help the youth to practise their belief in practical ways.

Integrating BB members into the assembly proved to be a challenging task. Robert Hmar, who served as BB chaplain from 1999 to 2003 and who has served as Secretary from 2004, noted:

In general the adult members of our assembly are supportive and interactive whenever the BB boys join our assembly activities. But the younger members (YP and SS boys) cannot relate to them as well as expected. This could be a result of the differences in upbringing and socio-economic background.

Manpower shortage was a perennial challenge. Aaron Toke, a helper since 2002, noted:

The main challenge is the lack of younger helpers. While having older and wiser people around to guide and lead is beneficial, the boys are more willing to open up to the younger officers. The problem is that nowadays fewer and fewer people are willing to sacrifice their Saturday mornings to spend time with the BB. The BB is also a youth ministry that should not be overlooked just because the activities do not take place in our church. These boys would otherwise never hear of the gospel as most of them come from broken families or are often alone at home.



BB (Yishun Secondary School)



BB (Mayflower Primary School)



BB Expedition to Malaysia



GB (Mayflower Primary School)



BB Enrolment service

Every Girl A Leader: The Girls' Brigade (GB) Ministry

The idea was mooted in 1999 for a GB company to be set up in Mayflower Secondary together with the 51st Company of the BB. It finally came to fruition in Mayflower Primary as the 57th Company after three years of waiting and preparation. This young ministry has a ready team of faithful sisters committed to reaching out to the young girls with the love of God. The activities aim to disciple girls to 'seek, serve and follow Christ' through community work, drill, song, art and Bible competitions, devotions and badge work. On top of all these activities, GB workers help the girls through family problems, and the stresses of growing up in a worldly society. Looking at its role in the assembly, Lynette Khong, the Captain of the 57th Company since 2003, shared:

The fact that the GB work brings the church into the school, and believers into the lives of the girls, continues to be the driving force for us. Most of the girls hear of and experience the love of God for the first time through the GB programme. This is a wonderful open door into the public school!

Despite the heavy sacrifice required, the workers rejoice when the girls get excited to learn and grow more, and especially when girls come to faith in Christ and begin to grow spiritually. Truly, in the words of Lynette Khong, this ministry is one that meets 'the vital needs of the girls through the life and witness of the workers'. In the future, the ministry hopes for closer ties between the Company, school and assembly and for the girls to join the SS and CC. Areas of new work in schools such as St Nicholas and in the Depot Walk area are being considered. Reflecting on the future of the Company, Lynette Khong said that the 'programmes will help the girls grow physically, intellectually, socially and spiritually. We help the school by running a good programme so that we will continue to have a place in the school. This will then give the girls more opportunity to become followers of Jesus Christ - our greater goal.'

CHAPTER 9

LITERATURE MINISTRY

By Tan Jin Song and Chow Chiew Gee



Library Staff BDW

Front row seated(L-R): Lynn Wong, Ann Yam, Jasmine Yeo, Mah Lai Seong, Poon Kwun Wah, Boon Yen Ling, Ivy Sim and Rhoda Ng

Back row standing (L-R): Aileen Fong, Aaron Wong, Vincent Lim, Alex Kwok and Boon Chuan Jian



Library Staff BAMK

L-R: Melissa Fong, Grace Ng, Ng Lai Fun, Boon Wee Gee, Evelyn Fong, Susan Loy, Claris Chua Puay Yin, Bernice Wong, Dora Chia, Seow Lan and Kelvin Ng

Not in picture: Ng Siew Lian, Toh Wei Hong, Kenneth Chua and Hannah Sim

Overview

The Scriptures urge us to give attention to exhortation and doctrine (1 Tim 4:13), but the word that appears before these two is the word 'reading'. Our assembly has long recognised the power of the written word. As God's co-labourers, many of us have had the joy of participating and reaping the blessing of projects that focus on the written word. These typically involve communicating the insights and teachings of earnest and learned men and women to the saints through their writings. This is done both with a mind to exhort and encourage, and also to bring the good news to those who might otherwise not be able to receive the teaching of God's Word.

Promoting Reading: The Library Ministry

Starting a library appeared achievable. It seemed a fitting place to start a process of creating a conducive reading environment among our SS scholars as well as opening up an avenue to provide excellent reading materials to the saints.

Indeed, the Library work at Bethesda Hall, run by a library committee currently under the chairmanship of Kelvin Ng (for Ang Mo Kio) and Aaron Wong (for Depot Walk), has humble beginnings. In Bras Basah, it was housed in the wooden garage away from the main hall, with books stacked in old but sturdy wooden shelves. The move to Ang Mo Kio saw it being allocated a room on the second floor, next to the assembly office, with a holding capacity of about 1,000 books.

Earlier records are unavailable but by 1987, the total number of books had exceeded 1000. They comprise mainly Bible commentaries, books related to Bible doctrines as well as Christian fiction and children's books. The library membership was 304, although the bulk of loans were by children under the age of 12 with a higher demand for fiction and books for young people. Membership increased to 374 in the following year but there was still a marked lack of readership amongst adult assembly members.

Membership climbed to 580 by 1991. This could be due to the expansion of the library which saw the number of books doubling over the period of time. To cater to younger members who attended our YP meetings, the library also stayed open at certain hours on Saturdays. By 1993, an average of 80 books was being borrowed every month. As the CEP also delved into topical studies, it was observed that books related to the CEP topic for the week would be in demand. In view of this, the committee began to make a conscious effort to meet the needs of the assembly members by purchasing more relevant materials to help in the study of CEP topics.

Around 1993/1994, the Library implemented a computerised system to manage loan and membership data more effectively. With this system, borrowing is a breeze. A member could either use an official library card with an identification bar-code or his or her Identity Card.

In 1997, the Library also got a new 'home' moving to its current area. Today, the library boasts a repository of more than 2500 books, as well as numerous audio and visual materials that are available for loan. Messages from Sunday morning ministries as well as various special meetings such as camp talks have been recorded and included as part of its audio resource. The Library has also seen generous contributions from members. At the time of writing, membership stood at 681.

Good Books At Good Prices: The Eudokia Bookroom

The idea of an assembly bookshop was first mooted by the late Lim Tian Leong, but it really started with the Sunday book table on which books were displayed for sale. From 1992 to 1994, the Sunday book table purchased materials in bulk from the United States. The assembly also bought books from Everyday Publications to support the weekly CEP lessons. In 1994, God opened the way for the assembly to acquire a shop house at Block 163 Ang Mo Kio Ave 4, across the road from the church building.

In February 1994, some believers in the assembly registered Eudokia Pte Ltd to operate the book shop by renting the shop house from the assembly. The original directors were Lim Chin Chin, Annie Seetho, Wong Tuck Keong and Elizabeth Wong. Members have easy access to a real bookshop where good Christian literature can be bought at affordable prices. It also became a 'presence' in the community where evangelistic outreach work could take place. The bookshop was appropriately named 'Eudokia', meaning 'Goodwill' (Luke 2:14).

The motto of Eudokia was 'Good books at good prices'. Indeed, much 'goodwill' was generated among Eudokia patrons. It quickly became a popular haunt for assembly members and it was not uncommon to find them volunteering to work in the bookshop. The bookshop proved to be not just a place of learning, but also provided an outlet and a platform to many believers for fellowship and service.

In June 2005, the shop house was sold and the revenue from the sale was used to repay members' loans for the new work at Depot Walk. A month later, the bookshop was relocated to the former quarters occupied by Wong Tuck Keong and his family at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio). In February 2006, the directors of Eudokia officially transferred their shares to The Steward Company of Singapore Ltd. Eudokia is now a wholly owned subsidiary of The Steward Company. The present directors appointed by the Council of Elders are Annie Seetho, Harry Tan, Chang Chew Kient, David Goh, Andrew Kwan and Wong Tuck Keong.

Going The Distance: The Mailbox Bible Correspondence Course (MBCC)

The potential of the written word is limitless. Efforts to bring the Word to the saints through various forms of the literature ministry continue to reap rich spiritual returns among the believers at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio). However, many also saw the potential of the power that the written Word can have in reaching out to those who may not have the opportunity to come under the sound of the gospel. For this reason, the MBCC ministry was taken up with the faith and conviction that the Lord could and would work - unseen by the human eye - through this ministry.

The MBCC work started in February 1988 with a committee appointed to look into the possibility of co-ordinating Bible correspondence courses in Singapore with the Queensland Mailbox Bible Club (QMBC). The Advisor to the committee was S V Ramalingam, while the late Chua Teck Koon (Sr) served as Chairman. This was followed by a visit to Singapore in July 1988 from the director of the QMBC, Beres Northcott. Eventually, it was decided that the QMBC was to partner as a 'postman' to the MBCC participants in Singapore and Malaysia. A working office was set up and within two months, more than 100 people in Singapore had signed up for the course.

In 1990, the MBCC took on the Malaysian mail work formerly operated by the QMBC. This led to a sudden and substantial workload increase that was handled by full-time workers and volunteers. Sim Seow Lan and Priscilla Chua faithfully and diligently ensured the effective operation of MBCC. In 1992, the MBCC work in Malaysia was handed over to the newly established Emmanuel Mailbox Course under the QMBC in Kuching, Sarawak.

In its 1991 report, the MBCC recorded that the purpose and objective of the work is to 'open up a whole new sector of the unreached hitherto left largely untouched by more traditional forms of face-to-face evangelism'. A big challenge was increasing the number of students enrolled for MBCC. In view of this, the MBCC committee streamlined the courses to make them more suitable and engaging for different age groups such as 'Story Time' for children aged seven to ten and different courses catering to teenagers in 1993. There was also the issue caused by a large number of 'inactive' students. At the end of June 1993, while the total enrolment stood at 2,158, only 645 could be considered 'active' students.

However, numbers alone do not tell the whole story. As early as 1991, more than 150 students indicated that they had come to trust the Lord through the course. The MBCC report for 1993/1994 indicated that members from drug rehabilitation centres run by Christian organisations had signed up for the course. In 1995/1996, many Filipino domestic helpers in Singapore also wrote about how they had learnt valuable lessons from MBCC and how they had also trusted in the Lord. The latter group also made up the bulk of the enrolment from 1997 to 1998, making up 60% of the 934 students enrolled.



MBCC / EBCC



Eudokia book room



Newsletter



Emmaus & MBCC Committee

Front seated (L-R): Wong Tuck Keong, Tan Chee Hwee and Tan Soo Hoon
 Back standing (L-R): William Chew, Robert Hmar and Kurien Kurian



Newsletter Committee

L-R: Tan Jin Song, Wong Tuck Keong, Rachel Hmar, William Koh, Sonia Khoo and Khoo Oon Soo
 Not in picture: Chow Chiew Gee and Judy Kan

Taking The Emmaus Road: The Emmaus Bible Correspondence Course (EBCC)

In January 1998, Adrin Loi was appointed Regional Director for the Emmaus Bible Correspondence Course (EBCC) in Singapore after Pasir Panjang Hill Brethren Chapel relinquished their responsibility to distribute the course in Singapore. The same MBCC Committee chaired by Tan Kian Huat was tasked to oversee the Emmaus Bible Correspondence Course. Robert Hmar took over the role of Regional Director in 2001.

Slowly but surely, the MBCC/EBCC was finding its 'niche' areas. From 1999 to 2000, the target groups comprised mainly students, foreign workers and the BB. The same year under review also saw an increase in the monthly average of active students to 470 compared to 297 previously. In the following year, the increase in enrolment continued, and 282 students indicated that they had received salvation as a result of doing the course.

With the rise of Internet usage, the course has been put online. However, these are not well-designed and there is no dedicated website yet. Nonetheless, the objectives of MBCC/EBCC continue to remain relevant today. While traditional modes of 'paper and pen' might seem archaic to some, the tried-and-tested method of the MBCC/EBCC can continue to impact and influence lives.

On 26-29 March 2007, the assembly hosted the ECS-ASIA Conference for the Emmaus Regional Directors of Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Jim Fleming, the International Coordinator, ECS Ministries, spoke at the special Emmaus Night on 28 Mar 2007.

On 21 August 2008, George Khalil, the Emmaus Regional Director for the Arabic work based in Nazareth, Israel spoke at the Special Emmaus Night. Emmaus Bible School (EBS) sends out many Emmaus courses all over the Middle East and equips many churches and schools with study materials, books and Bibles.

In Touch With The Saints: The Newsletter Ministry

The bi-monthly newsletter was started in January 1982 to keep members informed and updated about assembly activities and meetings, and to encourage members in their spiritual life through articles and testimonies. The initial black-and-white typewritten copy has undergone numerous facelifts. It is currently professionally laid out and printed in four colours, sporting an attractive layout to reach out to the different age groups in the assembly.

Besides the articles contributed by various assembly members, selected articles from different Christian magazines such as the *Counsel, Truth and Tidings, Christian Missions in Many Lands, Uplook, Assembly Testimony* and *Believer's Magazine* have also been reprinted with permission.

It is the continual prayer of the Newsletter Committee that the newsletter would contribute to the saints' spiritual growth and bring glory to the Lord's Name. Lawrence Chan served as the Chairman of the Committee from 2001 to 2008. In his words, 'our prayer is that the newsletters might encourage believers and instruct others to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ to be saved'. This embodies the main mission of the newsletter. William Koh takes over as the chairman from 2009. The newly-constituted committee hopes to bring the newsletter to the next level, even as it serves as a communication tool to inform and inspire the members of the assembly.

CHAPTER 10

CAMP MINISTRY

By Tan Hui Qian



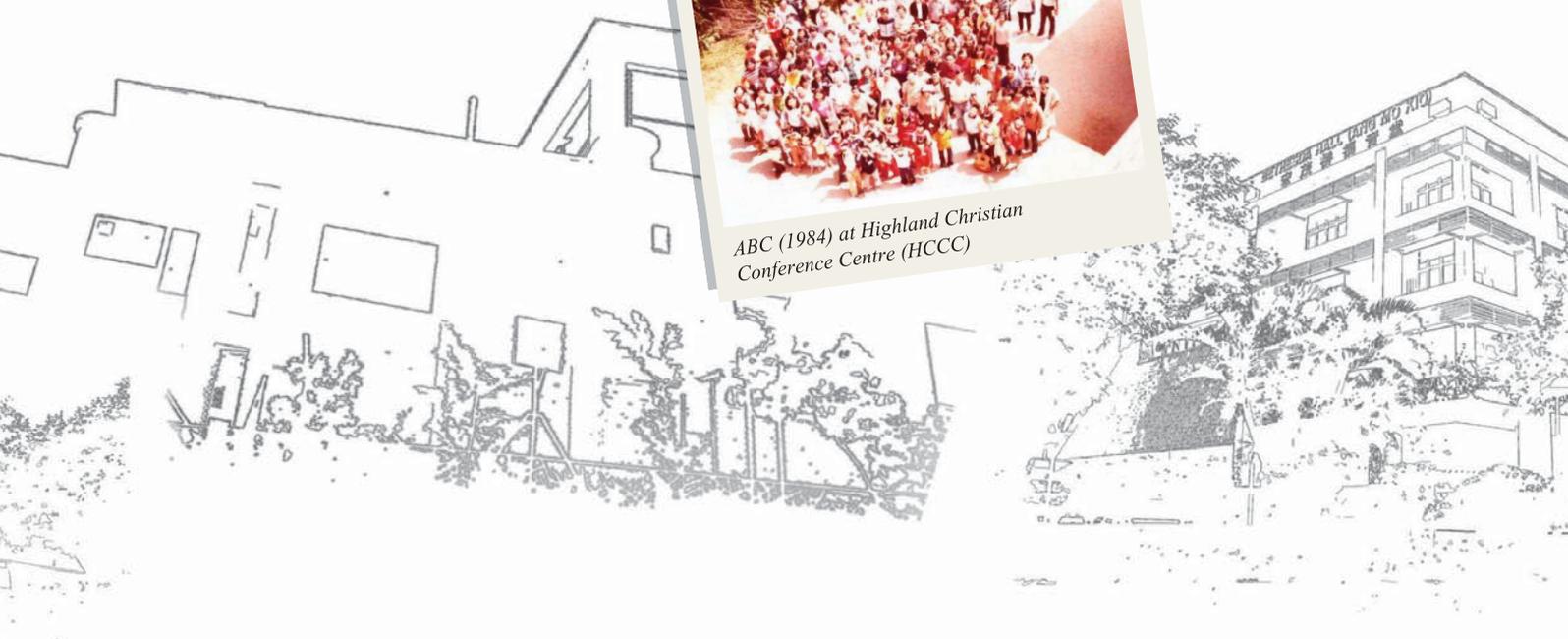
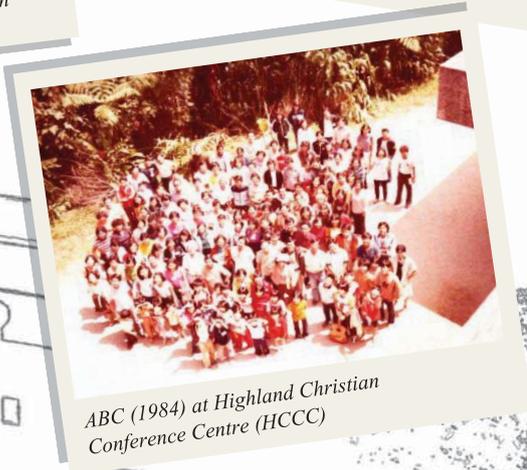
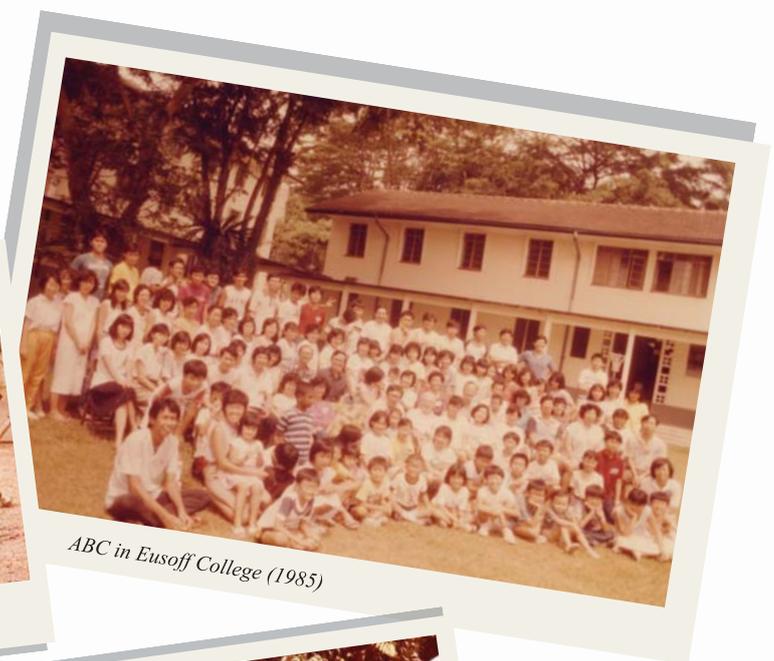
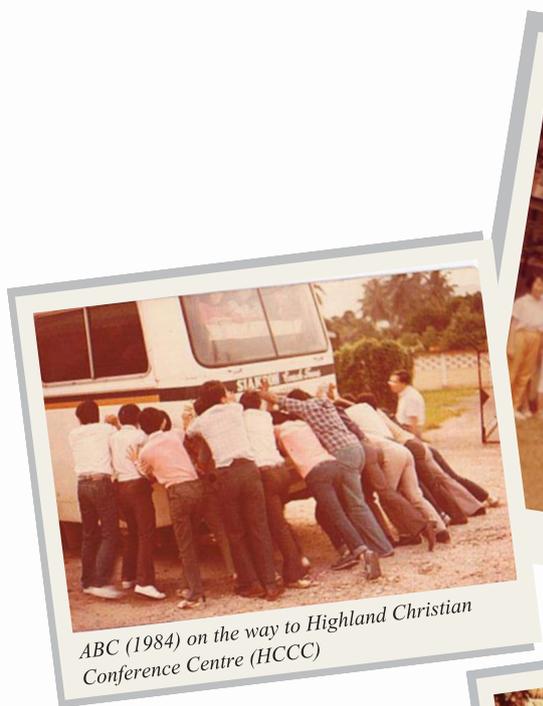
ABC (2008)



ABC (2006)

Assembly Bible Camp (ABC)

The Assembly Bible Camp tradition began in Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) in 1979 and continued after the move to Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) in 1986. The ABC is an annual affair held during the June school holidays to allow for the participation of the whole family. In 1997, the 19th Assembly Family Camp was renamed the Assembly Bible Camp so that younger members would not feel left out. The camp was for all assembly members to come together to study the Word of God and for fellowship. The week-long stay-in camp has been held every year since 1979 except in 2003 due to the SARS outbreak. That year, an Assembly Bible Retreat was held in its place with talks using audio messages from past conferences, taking place every Tuesday and Wednesday during the June school holidays.



Camp Environment

Camps in the past were a lot less comfortable than those in recent memory. From 1979 to 1989, camp accommodation was characterised by dormitory-style living, and meals and cleaning-up were not catered. The campsites were not hotels but Christian convention centres. In 1985, the camp was even held in Eusoff College, Singapore's first and only university hall of residence for women. Conditions in general were spartan to the extent that some campers at the 1989 camp in Cameron Highlands attempted one afternoon to catch two chickens for dinner that night!

In 1990, at the 12th Assembly Family Camp, for the first time, campers were introduced to a life of luxury at Shah's Beach Resort, Malacca, replete with service staff and air-conditioned huts for each family or group of four. However, some campers felt that the added privacy and freedom of smaller group housing came with the trade-off of a loss of interaction because each family or small group was sequestered in its own little hut. Food became less of a concern and more of a highlight. Gushing over durians and satay is a regular feature in accounts of various camps and some campers even admitted to alarm over the fast disappearing food at the buffet tables.

Getting To Camp

Over the years, camp committees had strived to make the annual camp memorable. This was not only in terms of the campsite *per se*, but also in the process of getting there. The Assembly Bible Camp committees had taken campers to the campsites via buses, planes and ferries.

The most common mode of transport was by bus. Far from being mundane, stories of bus trips to and from the campsite contained enough drama to fill sheets. The perennial plagues of bus journeys - traffic jams, bus breakdowns and bus drivers getting lost - taught campers to be patient and tolerant. Oftentimes these minor hold-ups would result in excellent examples of the first being the last! One particularly noteworthy incident occurred on the journey back to Singapore after the 22nd Assembly Bible Camp in 2000. A sister in Bus No. 3 had left her passport with another sister in Bus No. 1 which was an hour ahead of Bus No. 3. However, God allowed the air-conditioner in Bus No. 1 to break down, thus stalling the bus for 1 hour which allowed Bus No. 3 to catch up. This enabled the sister to reunite with her passport before the Checkpoint, testifying to God's hand at work.

The 14th Assembly Family Camp in 1992 was the first camp that included a plane trip. The chronicler of the camp for the Bethesda Newsletter wrote that 'logistically, it was a nightmare, but Wong Tuck Keong was incredible in his organisational abilities, and the journey to and fro went with hardly a hitch'. 'Hardly a hitch' was an understatement in human terms - 11 campers nearly got left behind in Penang as the airline company had left their names out of the passenger manifest. However, God once again demonstrated His grace and the 11 campers were allowed to board.

In 1997, the campers travelled by ferry to Tanjung Pinang, Indonesia, for the 19th Assembly Bible Camp. Ten years later, in 2007, the Assembly Bible Camp once again took a boat ride, this time to Batam for the 28th camp. God's journey mercies continued as the campers 'conquered' land, air and sea. He clearly displayed His power and His love. Surely we can wholeheartedly say with the hymn writer, 'my heavenly Father watches over me'!



ABC 2008 - Morning Exercise



ABC 2008 - Campers' Nite



ABC 2008 - Durian party



ABC 2008 - Young campers

Camp Themes And Speakers

The camp themes were always chosen to challenge campers, such as ‘Do It the Real Way’ in 1989, ‘Be A Barnabas, Yes!’ in 1992, ‘Wake Up!’ in 2000 and ‘Born Rich but Living like a Pauper’ in 2008. The themes would be piercing, seeking to spur campers on to progress in their Christian life.

The assembly had been blessed in being able to find speakers for each camp, some of whom even returned for repeat engagements. These included W A Peterson, J Boyd Nicholson (Sr) and Joe Reese. In addition, the 14th Camp in 1992 saw the inclusion of a Cantonese speaker - Ong Paak Loey - for the Cantonese-speaking saints and elderly relatives of campers. Since then, the Cantonese group has held its annual bible camp together with the English-speaking assembly.

Blessings From Assembly Bible Camps

Many found the camps a respite from the flurry of daily life and welcomed the one week in June as a time to be recharged spiritually not only through the talks but also through fellowship with assembly members. Fellowship during camps was highly facilitated through Bible studies, dorm devotions and the constant contact campers have with one another. During those periods, campers shared their experiences and their lives with each other, prayed together, sang together, encouraged one another and built each other up. It was observed that during the 20th Assembly Bible Camp, there were dorm devotion groups that did not end their devotion till 1 am, even though ‘lights out’ was at 11 pm!

Assembly Bible Camps also possessed another unique aspect as they allowed for inter-generational interaction. At the 2001 Bible Camp, what proved memorable for many were the ‘cross-generation captain’s ball’ matches. Tan Li Sheng, then a young whelp, recalls being ‘physically overmatched by the ‘Uncles’ who quite readily demonstrated their ball skills and top-notch fitness’. Joanna Chia made a similar observation in the 2004 camp when she recounts having ‘the privilege of mingling with the young children and the older ones, parents and relatives’.

The Assembly Bible Camps created a strong sense of Christian camaraderie. It was often under the influence of such an atmosphere - the company of fellow Christians and repeatedly coming under the sound of God’s Word - that many individuals were led to a fuller understanding of God.

List of Assembly Bible Camps since 1986

Year	Theme	Venue	Adult Teacher	J3 Teacher	J2 Teachers	J1 Teachers
1986	Practising Christian	HCCC	Peter Wee	Ho Kuang Cheng	Charlie Tan	Vicki Yaw and Mah Lai Yeng
1987	Master’s Touch	Methodist Centre Port Dickson	Khoo Oon Soo	Charles Lingam	Charlie Tan	Doris Woon and Vicki Yaw
1988	Pattern To Christ	HCCC	WA Peterson	Tan Kian Huat	Tan Chee Hwee	Mah Lai Yeng and Alice Tan
1989	Dot It The Real Way	HCCC	Stan Warren	Tan Kian Huat	Tay Kim Swee	Karen Mah and Mrs Paul Lim

Year	Theme	Venue	Adult Teacher	J3 Teacher	J2 Teachers	J1 Teachers
1990	Mirrors And Windows	Shah Beach Malacca	Geoffrey Bull	Robert Hmar	Charlie Tan	Karen Mah, Lim Ai Lin and Alice Tan
1991	Koinonia	HCCC	J B Nicholson Sr	Tay Kim Swee	Edmund Yong	Mah Lai Yeng
1992	Be A Barnabas Yes!	CCC Penang	J B Nicholson Jr	Wong Kok Seng	William Chew	Lim Yean Wah and Mah Lai Yeng
1993	Maranatha	Le Village Kuantan	Nicholson Sr	Tan Ah Beng	Gan Kee Pin	Jan Boey and Alice Tan
1994	Man Of God	Village Park Plaza Malacca	Jean Gibson and Ron Chin	Tay Kim Swee	Stephen Chang	Poon Yiam Kiau and Mah Lai Yeng
1995	Glory In The Lord	Bayu Beach Port Dickson	Harold Summers	Eddie Teo	Choy Sai Choong	Jan Boey and Mah Lai Yeng
1996	Be Still And Know That I Am God	Paradise Resort Malacca	Boyd Aitken	Tan Kian Huat	Samuel Wee	Poon Yiam Kiau and Alice Tan
1997	Trim Your Lamp	Royal Palace Tanjong Pinang	Ian Irvine	Tay Kim Swee	Stephen Chang	Lim Yean Wah and Loh Geok Bee
1998	A New Commandment	Holiday Villa Kuantan	Mitchell Kilpatrick	Samuel Wee	Tan Ah Beng	Amy Tan and Seow Hoe Lay
1999	God's Chosen People	YMCA Singapore	Joe Reese	Ho Kuang Cheng	Gan Kee Pin	Pauline Lim and Alice Tan
2000	Wake Up	Regency Hotel Port Dickson	Joe Reese	Daniel Panneersalvam	Andrew Sng	Poon Yiam Kiau and Yim Siew Mei
2001	Are You A CIA?	Puteri Resort Malacca	William Yuillie	Frankie Cha	Collin Leong	Chua Yen Ching and James Yim
2002	Be Christ Centred	Le Cemara Desaru	Boushra Mikhael	David Chua	David Goh	Poon Yiam Kiau and Chua Yen Ching
2004	Discover Recover Rediscover	Golden Legacy Malacca	Donald Norbie	David Goh	Justin Goh	Koh Mei Ling and Chua Yen Ching
2003	NOT HELD DUE TO THE SARS EPIDEMIC					

2005	Great Is The Mystery Of Godliness	Bayview Hotel Malacca	Jack Fish	Wong Tuck Keong	Kurien Kurian	Shirley Holland
2006	“Watch therefore for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come”	Glory Beach Resort Port Dickson	John Thomas	Daniel Thein	Andrew Sng	Anna Leong
2007	Kings In Training	Holiday Inn Resort Batam	Alastair McGregor	Stephen Chang	Tan Ah Beng	Amy Lee
2008	Born Rich But Living Like A Pauper	La Castle Katerina – Batu Pahat	David MacLeod	Kurien Kurian	Andrew Sng	Shirley Holland
2009	“The 11th Commandment”	La Castle Katerina – Batu Pahat	Alex Strauch	Goh Lay Guan	Chan Man Wong	Tay Lai To

Daily Vacation Bible School (DVBS)

As Bethesda Hall grew in membership, it became evident that there was an increasing number of ‘little’ people in the church. From literally a handful of children in the Junior 1 section of Assembly Bible Camps, the Junior 1 section soon became quite a handful. Apart from the weekly SS and CC ministries, the assembly also continued the tradition from Bras Basah of organising a ‘children’s day camp’ for these very young ones every year - the DVBS.

Today, the DVBS is held during the school holidays in November. However, in the early years of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio), it was actually held in March. The switch to November came after a long hiatus (1989-1993) during which there was no DVBS. It was revived in November 1994. Following this, there was another long period without DVBS until it was revived in 2001. Despite these changes, however, the three-day format and the average attendance of more than 100 children were some of the hallmarks over the years. Another constant was the dedicated team of committee members, teachers and group leaders who would always give their full effort to show the Lord Jesus’ love to ‘all the children of the world’ who stepped through our gates during the three days of DVBS. As the records over the years show, organising DVBS was no simple task and, until recently, did not feature as an annual event on our assembly calendar.

There is no doubt that the older members of God’s family play a key role in creating a fun and safe environment for our DVBS students to learn about and experience God’s goodness for themselves. Accompanying the little ones to the toilet, making sure their hands are clean at lunchtime, helping them finish up their handicraft pieces ‘properly’, making big actions and facial expressions during singing sessions and the tricky task of enforcing discipline - these are chores that faithful and tireless DVBS helpers who volunteer year after year engage in. It is also an encouragement to see many youth stepping forward to serve as craft helpers or assistant group leaders. Not only are their enthusiasm and energy most refreshing



DVBS (2006)



DVBS (2007)

and infectious, DVBS provides an excellent training ground for them to take their first steps in exploring and developing their spiritual gifts through service to the Lord.

Many students of the DVBS would be first-time visitors to our church hall. Thanks to the work of the Holy Spirit, their parents are often willing to allow them to spend their holidays in a 'Christian school' environment. DVBS provides a wonderful opportunity to expose these little children to the good news of the gospel and to the warmth of God's family for the first time in their lives. Very often, the children would be most willing to put up their hands at the end of the bible lesson when the teacher asks 'who wants to accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord?' Izumi Tan was one of them. In his testimony he wrote: 'As a young child, I was afraid of dying and especially going to hell. When I was 5 years old, I understood that I was a sinner and needed Jesus to save me from my sins. It took place at a DVBS when I asked Jesus into my heart.' Although not all of them may be truly ready to understand and to accept the Lord (which is another challenging task for our counsellors to figure out), we trust that the seeds would have been sown for others to water and harvest in God's good will and timing.

List of DVBS Since 1986

Year	Date	DVBS Theme	DVBS Teachers
1987	16 – 18 Mar	Discovering God’s Love	Tay Kim Swee, Charlie Tan and Doris Woon
1988	14 – 16 Mar	Lost And Found – Joy	Yeo Oon Boo, Tay Kim Swee, Godfrey Ong and Ong Su Ping
1990	12 – 14 Mar	A Friend Forever	NA
1991	9 – 11 Dec	The Unchanging Love Of God	Charlie Tan and Wong Tuck Keong
1993	24 – 26 Nov	A Friend Who Loves (Jn 15:13)	Boon Chuan Jian and Andrew Sng
1994	23 – 25 Nov	Jesus Loves	Andrew Sng, Karen Wee and Patricia Lim
2001	27 – 29 Nov	Turn Around	David Goh and Loh Geok Bee
2002	3 – 5 Sept	My Forever Friend	Loh Geok Bee and Suzanne Wong
2003	2 – 4 Dec	I Am The Way, The Truth And The Life	Tan Chee Hwee and Keyna Goh
2004	14 – 16 Dec	Good News	Stephen Chang and Anna Leong
2005	29 Nov – 1 Dec	Champions For God	Andrew Sng and Loh Geok Bee
2006	28 – 30 Nov	Do What’s Right	Kenneth Wong and Poon Yiam Kiau
2007	27 – 29 Nov	Come Follow Me	Leong Chee Tiek and Pauline Phua
2008	25 – 27 Nov	Little Ones With Big Faith	Amy Lee and Goh Lay Guan

Assembly Youth Camp (AYC)

Apart from the Assembly Bible Camp, the other great highlight of the year for camps is the annual Assembly Youth Camp. Starting from humble beginnings as a one-day retreat at the East Coast People’s Association campsite in 1986, and morphing through several different forms (such as separate Senior and Junior Department Retreats in 1988), the Youth Camp has since come a long way with 158 campers attending the most recent one in 2008.

The key distinction between the Youth Camp and the Bible Camp is the energy and enthusiasm of the young participants who are capable of going without much sleep, attending all the talks and Bible studies and still having the energy for organised games and to squeeze in their own ‘unofficial’ games and singing sessions whenever the camp programme allows. For the youth, free and easy time is filled with activities instead of resting and sleeping.

The youth are also more able to ‘rough it out’. For most of the 1990s, camps were held at local venues (such as St Thomas Secondary School, Singapore Bible College and Scripture Union Campsite at Sentosa) with fairly spartan facilities, no air conditioning, sleeping in classrooms with mattresses only. Of course, we should not forget the Herculean effort of a very critical group of people: the camp cooks with their ‘mobile kitchen’, marshalled by the ever-capable and dedicated Chong Lai Wah. Campers were treated to a full six meals each day with tea breaks and supper sponsored by parents.

The first time the Youth Camp ventured overseas was in 1996, where Joe Reese from Canada served as camp teacher at Cameron Highlands Christian Centre (HCCC). Kenneth Khong remembered that the ‘hazardous’ mountain trek during that camp helped to reinforce in a very practical way how believers are called to press on and shine as lights in their everyday walk with the Lord. From 2002 onwards, the camps were consistently held at various locations in Malaysia, such as Resort Lautan Biru in Mersing where campers enjoyed the luxury of air-conditioned dorms but also the risks of airborne-transmitted germs. Nathan Wong, one of many who fell sick in 2002, recalled how his illness gave him the opportunity to see God’s love in action as the sick were prayed for and also well taken care of - in his own case, he ‘even had the privilege of having another brother’s blanket!’ Truly we are thankful to the Lord for having taken care of our campers all these years, and also for providing wonderful camp doctors such as Hmar Pek Yee, Robert Hmar, Wong Pei Yuin and Calvin Koh to look after the campers.



Youth Camp 2007



Youth Camp 2008

Most of the time, Youth Camp would begin with loud and enthusiastic singing the moment the bus doors close, accompanied by guitars from the back row and dashing any adults' hopes of catching forty more winks before reaching the campsite. During the camp, however, the youth would also find themselves paying close attention and giving serious thought to the Word of God. It would be taught in the morning talks by the camp teacher, followed by small group bible study. In the evening there would be interesting workshops covering practical topics that interest the youth, such as friendships, entertainment and fashion, music, communication, money and temporal possessions, the Internet and the generation gap.

In the 2007 and 2008 youth camps, the Olympic Bible Quiz was introduced by Tan Kian Huat. Campers were challenged to memorise an entire book of the bible. Many youth took the challenge to recite the four chapters of Philippians (2007) and five chapters of James (2008). Many campers started memorising weeks before the camp began.

Youth Camp is also a time for the rest of the assembly to pitch in with special treats or organise special activities and to show their love and care for the young ones among us. These activities included a Campers' Night Special organised by Harry Tan and Lie Leng in 1993; Flying Fox and Rappelling at the BB/GB Campsite at Sembawang in 1995; Kaya Toast at Bedok South Secondary School courtesy of Adrin Loi in 2000; hiking, durians and the 7th Heaven beach front regatta in 2006 and many other special treats which would not have been possible without the greatly appreciated involvement and contributions of the assembly members. From 2004 onwards, all camp helpers look forward to attend the Camp Thanksgivings and send-offs for the camp teachers held on the following Sunday after the camp.

Most importantly, however, beyond all the games, food and fun, campers would always recall and treasure the time spent with God, and listening to Him through His Word. In the daily talks carefully prepared by the camp teachers, the bible study discussions during which leaders ask probing questions, the morning quiet time and the nightly dorm devotions, Youth Camp creates a special environment for young people to draw closer to the Lord in their personal relationship with Him.

During the baptism interview of some youths, the elders have discovered that many pointed to youth camp dorm devotion as the turning point of their spiritual life. The youths had been challenged to think carefully about their commitment to obey the Lord in salvation, discipleship, baptism, service, evangelism and fellowship with other believers in the assembly.

Youth Camp also provides opportunities for leadership development. There are opportunities for service in leading the games groups, bible study groups, dorm devotions and singing sessions. Many younger campers would be paired with older ones to lead in bible study. The mentoring relationships often continue after the camp is over. Younger campers are rostered to lead in prayers before meals. Campers also submit designs for the camp T-shirt. The camp theme song is also composed by campers.

Matthew Chia, a games group leader in the 2005 Youth Camp shared his experience in the assembly newsletter soon after the camp:

As a games group leader my responsibilities included ensuring participation of all members in my group, including the younger ones and first-timers. I have learnt that when God gives us a task, he will equip us with what is necessary to complete it. Through this camp, I feel that I have learnt at least a little bit more how to lead a group. During one bible study session, my leader reminded us that we were the oldest male group other than the adult group and that we had to set good examples for the younger ones to follow. We are constantly being watched, by the younger ones, by adults and also by God.

It is always a joy to see youths returning from camp, physically tired but spiritually recharged and ready to face the New Year ahead, with the flame of God's love burning passionately in their hearts and a renewed desire to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.



Tallest man-made structure (YC 2007)



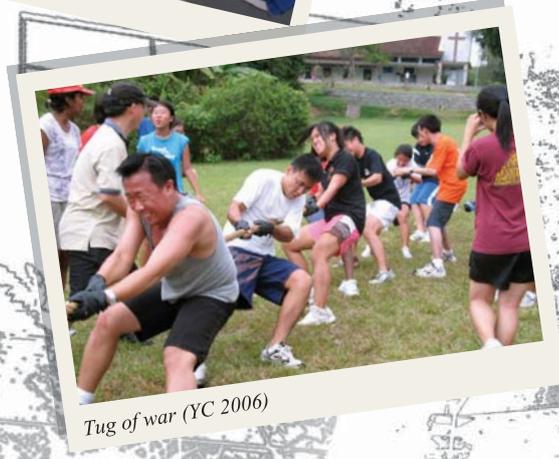
At the beach (YC 2008)



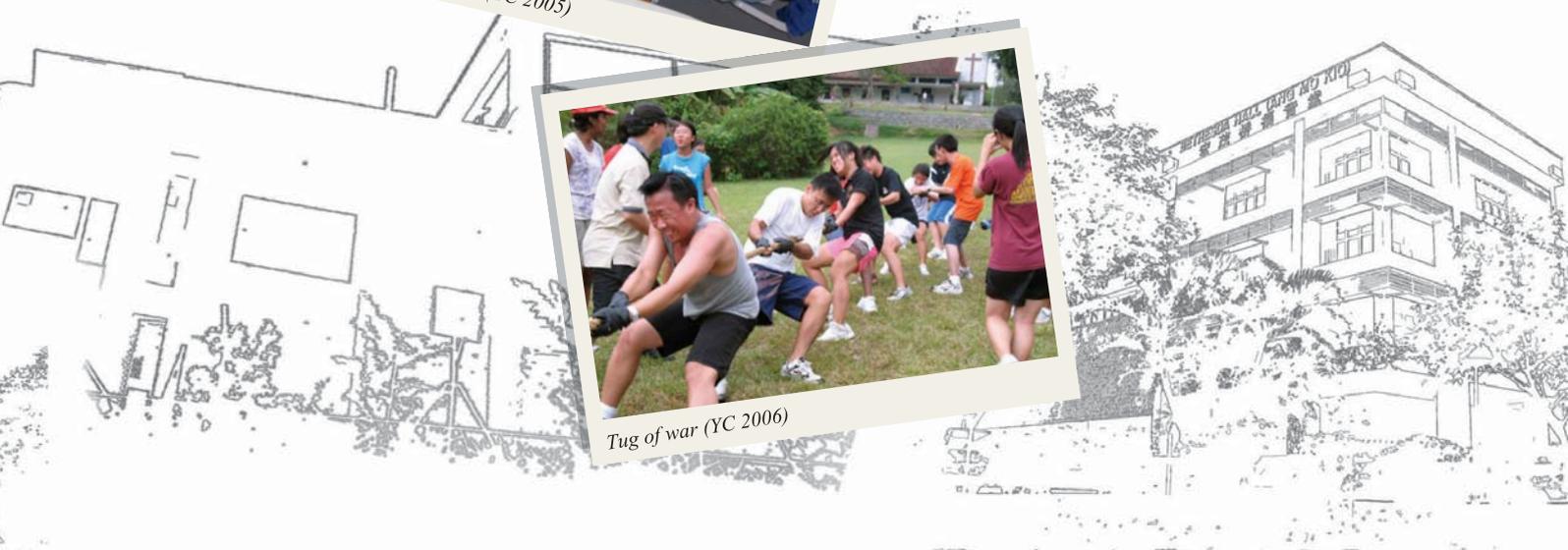
Meal time! (YC 2005)



Highest point (YC 2005)



Tug of war (YC 2006)



List Of Assembly Youth Camp Since 1986

Year	Venue	Theme	Teacher (s)
1986	Christchurch Secondary School	Let Us Run	NA
1988	Bukit Batok Secondary School	Our Joy And Our Strength	Godfrey Ong, Andrew Sng and Sim Chear Wah
1990	Fuchun Secondary School	Like A Thief In The Night	Priscilla Chia, Andrew Sng, Tay Kim Swee and Clarence Chua
1993	St Thomas Secondary School	Jesus Christ Is The Author - He Begins And He Finishes	Galvin Chia, Choy Wai Mun and Patrick Wee
1994	Sentosa NTUC Beach Huts	Let Us Press On	Tay Kim Swee
1995	BB/GB Campsite	A Good Change	Andrew Sng, Wong Kok Seng and Harry Tan
1996	HCCC	Let Down Your Nets	Joe Reese
1997	Singapore Bible College	Put On The Armour	Vincent Chang (YP) and Heng Chee Tiek (CC)
1998	St Thomas Secondary School	A Chosen Vessel	Tay Kim Swee
1999	St Thomas Secondary School	True To My Word	Harry Tan
2000	Bedok South Secondary School	The Burning Heart (Luke 24:32)	Ung Kim Cheng
2001	ACS Primary (Ah Hood Rd)	Bought With A Price (1 Cor 6:20)	Boyd Aitken
2002	Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing	Out Of Weakness (Heb 11:34, 1 Cor 1:27)	Joseph Mikhael
2003	Presbyterian High School	Know Him (Philippians 3:10)	Joe Reese
2004	Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing	Complete In Him (Col 1:20)	Larry Price
2005	Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing	Know What You Believe And Why	Roy Hill
2006	Methodist Centre Port Dickson	In Step With Christ (1 Peter 2:21)	Harold Summers
2007	Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing	THINK (Philippians 4:8)	Keith Keyser
2008	Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing	By Faith (Hebrews 11)	Gil Vargas



Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Staff

Front row (L-R): Sharon Lee, Serene Lim, Teresa Lee, Janet Low, Lynette Khong, Iris Tang, Evelyn Chua, Margaret Chee, Jasinta Jacob and Maureen Lee
 Back row (L-R): Janice Wang, Sheena Tan, Christy Koh, Doris Chia, Annie See Tho, August Neo and Margaret Pang



Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten Staff

L-R: Chong Siew Wan, Huang Ying, Suzanne Wong, Fiona Ang, Amy Lee, Pauline Yeo, Sharon Tan, Tay Lai To and Hsai Hsiao Sha



Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten – Management Committee

L-R: Lynette Khong, Tay Siew Lian, Sim Mee Foong, Elizabeth Wong, Lim Mei Lin, Andrew Kwan, Yeo Ann Kian, Peter Wong and Wong Tuck Keong



Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten – Management Committee

L-R: Amy Lee, Suzanne Wong, Sum Siew Tak, Alex Kwok, Yim Siew Mei, Mah Lai Seong, Chua Yen Ching and Aileen Fong

Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) Kindergarten

Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) Kindergarten was registered with the Ministry of Education on 17 July 1986. Preschool education was fast becoming an established and important tool in the development of social and cognitive skills in young children, acclimatising them for life in primary school a few years later. Recognising this, the elders had decided to start a kindergarten with the aim of reaching out to children and their parents in the neighbourhood. Being a Christian kindergarten, children coming through our gate were given every opportunity to hear the Gospel – a central prerogative given every child alongside his or her educational needs.

On 5 January 1987, five months after it was registered, the kindergarten finally opened its doors to 174 children. The Supervising Committee was chaired by Lawrence Chan and Lee Chin Ghee was the Supervisor. The latter continued in this capacity until March 2007, when he was succeeded by Wong Tuck Keong. To cope with the large number of children, two sessions were opened with four classes in each session. The kindergarten took in children from different backgrounds between the ages of 3 and 6. The first year of its operation was exciting and challenging as it was a new ministry. Much hard work on the part of the kindergarten staff made the first year a success.

The popularity of Bethesda Ang Mo Kio Kindergarten grew rapidly over the ensuing years. By 1991, it was running at full capacity with a total of 246 pupils. The main challenge faced by the kindergarten the first decade following its initiation was the issue of pre-school teachers leaving for other job opportunities. It was difficult to retain teachers as there was a high demand for pre-school teachers at day-care centres where the pay was better. However, over the years, the Lord was certainly gracious in providing new teachers to cover the posts of those who left.

Maintaining the kindergarten ministry continues to be a challenging task. The staff recognise the important role that the families of the children play in the education of the child. On this issue, Yvonne Chong, the principal from 1987 to 2008, said:

We recognise how important it is for us to work with families in the interest of the children under our care. It is also our belief that when the home and school work closely together, the child is likely to feel secure and will enjoy coming to school. One of the ways to involve parents is to invite them to join us during our outings. Most parents are even prepared to take leave from their work to help us out in the various school events. The outcome has certainly been positive as we see the children's confidence and sense of belonging growing.

The Supervising Committee has undergone changes over the years chaired by various brothers in turn, namely, Chua Teck Koon (Sr), Harry Tan, Victor Ng, Sum Siew Tak, David Goh and Andrew Kwan. Some members of the assembly have also taken up teaching positions in the Kindergarten such as Amy Lee (now principal of Bethesda Depot Walk Kindergarten), Mah Lai Yeng, Lynette Khong, Ruby Goh, Teresa Lee, Annie See Tho, Florence Chee, Carol Goh, Sara Sng, Priscilla Chia and Alice Tan. Lynette Khong, Teresa Lee and Annie See Tho are still teaching at Bethesda Ang Mo Kio Kindergarten today. The dedication of these Christian teachers is encouraging and stands as a testimony to both their colleagues and the little ones they teach.

The standing of Bethesda Ang Mo Kio Kindergarten as an institution providing quality pre-school education was recognised in the wider community. In 1989, the then Singapore Broadcasting Corporation aired a story on how children in the kindergarten celebrated Teacher's Day. The kindergarten was also ranked amongst the top ten kindergartens in Singapore by December 1991, according to the February 1992 issue of *Young Parents* magazine.

Despite the massive amount of administration work that had to be handled in the first few years of the kindergarten, the evangelistic efforts of the teaching staff continued unabated. From its second year of operation, the kindergarten began to channel many of its pupils to participate in the DVBS held during the school holidays. Another mainstay of the kindergarten's calendar, which started in 1994, is the Easter Special Meeting. This event would feature a message given by one of the elders or a visiting speaker. In addition, the Kindergarten holds Parent-Teacher Meetings regularly during which the parents of children in the kindergarten are invited to meet and talk with their children's teachers. Yvonne Chong also adds that:

Kindergarten children are invited to attend Children's Corner and Sunday School. I am glad that many of them are still attending the church and some are serving in the youth ministry. The annual Easter and year-end concerts are good opportunities to reach out to the parents through the songs and drama by the children.

Through the kindergarten activities, many children and their families were introduced into the community of Christians at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio). Christina Yee was one such parent who, through her children, came to know Christ and has now been a member of our church for the past 5 years. She recalls her experience:

It was in 1993 when I first set foot on our church grounds when I enrolled the last three – Joshua, Isaac and Maria – of my four children in the kindergarten classes. The first time my family entered the church was to attend Joshua's graduation ceremony. My Catholic husband was initially antagonistic about stepping into a Protestant church but he had to attend our son's graduation. I did not embrace my husband's faith. I somehow knew the Christian God was my God but never had a personal relationship with Him even though I recited the sinner's prayer in 1986. On an occasion, I got acquainted with Jan Boey, the Sunday School Superintendent, who suggested I worship at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) and join the Mother's group led by Ng Swee Choo. She also promptly arranged for all my four children to be placed in Sunday School. Although my children attended Sunday School regularly and eventually grew to accept the Lord as their Saviour, I was still caught up with my career. In the year 2000, the Lord dealt with me and told me that I needed to turn my heart to Him and to accord Him first priority in my life when He preserved my life twice. I knew I had to dedicate myself to Christ.

For Christina Yee, the kindergarten ministry played an instrumental role in her spiritual journey. Her story illustrates how this ministry can be an effective avenue for outreach.

From 1996, a new set of challenges emerged. The kindergarten needed to adapt to the changing needs of children in Singapore so as to stay relevant and attractive. Excursions, field trips and programmes with a focus on hands-on learning are now frequently organised for the children. The need for the continuing education of the teachers was also recognised and the assembly began sponsoring teaching staff for Diploma courses in pre-school education.



National Day Celebration



Computer Enrichment Class



Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten



Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten



Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten



Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten



Playground

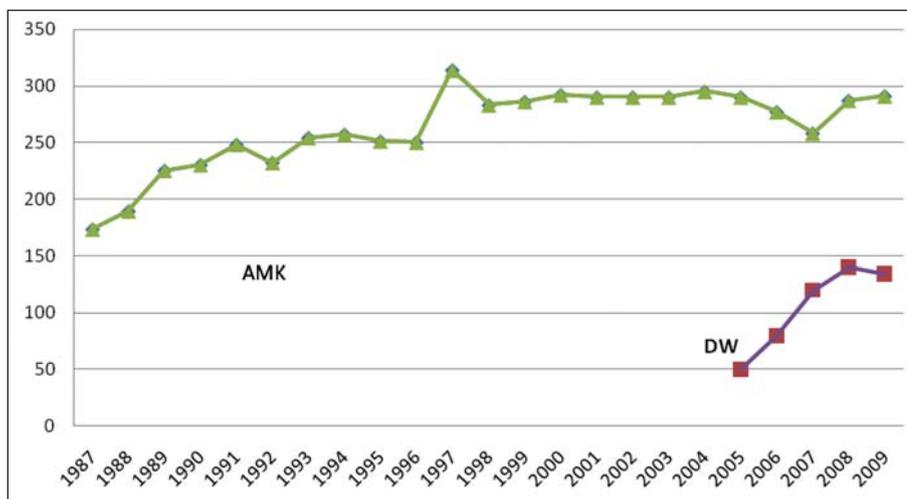


Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation (2008)

The number of classes and registered children have also increased through the years. In 1987, the Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) Kindergarten had 174 children in four classes. With the extension of the tower block, the number of classes increased to six. By 2008, there were 287 children at Ang Mo Kio which were divided into seven classes for each of the two sessions.

In 2006, the AMK Kindergarten organised the first Sunshine Camp during the June school holidays as an evangelistic outreach to K2 children. A total of 60 children attended the camp. At a retreat in 2007, the AMK Kindergarten adopted a new vision, mission and philosophy to cope with competition from other kindergartens and the expectations of parents. Based on Proverbs 22:6, the vision is 'to be a trusted kindergarten, with a nurturing environment where each child learns to develop to his/her full potential'. The mission of the kindergarten is 'to provide a holistic education through quality teaching in a conducive environment'. The philosophy is to 'value every child as a unique individual, gifted from God'.

Number Of Children Registered In Bethesda Kindertartens



Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) Kindergarten

The experience at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) paved the way for the establishment of a new kindergarten work at Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk). Approval from the Ministry of Education was granted in May 2004 and the Bethesda (Depot Walk) Kindergarten opened its doors to 48 pupils with Amy Lee appointed as Principal and Andrew Kwan as Chairman of the Supervising Committee. Amy Lee recalls:

Anything that we start from scratch is a big challenge. Depot Walk is no different. Strategically, the kindergarten is not well-located because it is blocked by two temples and cannot be seen from the main road. It is also not too near residents. A public survey was also conducted which showed more need for elderly care than kindergarten work. However, once the Committee members had all agreed to start the kindergarten at Depot Walk after much prayer, there was no looking back... God had sent very dedicated teachers who work closely with me in the planning. God has also led many church members to help out. Some have contributed resources, preparing lunch for the teachers, others have helped out in the cleaning and wrapping of books. We also had young sisters who helped out in the first two months with the nursery classes. They have laboured together with my teachers and it is an encouragement to the teachers as well as to the parents.

The kindergarten makes an active effort to keep in touch with the families of the children through newsletters and emails. A 'Back to School' programme was also initiated to encourage parents to be actively involved with the teachers in the education of their children. The COPA outreach initiative of the assembly also partnered the kindergarten to organise a trip to Kukup in 2007 for the families of those in the kindergarten and CC. After the trip, the parents of one K2 child from the kindergarten joined the BTC and they have been coming regularly. Their daughter is also attending SS. The evangelistic outreach in the kindergarten has received encouraging responses. Some kindergarten children are also currently attending the CC and SS. According to Amy Lee, the grandmother of a K2 boy is now attending the Sisters' Meeting on Wednesdays and is enjoying the weekly fellowship. Even non-believing teachers have been invited to attend the yearly gospel rally in July and the annual Assembly Bible Camp, which resulted in one of them accepting the Lord.

The Kindergarten Ministry which began from Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) has now extended to Depot Walk. Through the grace of God, the kindergarten ministry has continued to be a form of outreach to children and their parents and by God's grace we believe that the ministry will continue to reach out to more people.

Free Tuition Programme

The Free Tuition Programme was one of the first few practical evangelistic initiatives that was started by Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio). It was launched in February 1987 to meet the needs of the neighbourhood children. A large proportion of the families in Ang Mo Kio could not afford to send their school-going children for tuition classes and so the Free Tuition Programme was one they gladly turned to. The motivation behind the work was to minister not only to the educational needs of the children but, eventually, their spiritual needs as well.



Tuition Ministry (BAMK)

Front seated (L-R): Boey Sock Heng, Ann Chua, Margaret Ng, Judy Han, Lydia Yap and Catherine Lim

Back standing (L-R): Chan Man Wong, Chan Kwee Yeow, Edmund Yong, Chen Song En, Ang Siew Hock, Kenneth Chua and Wong Tuck Keong



Tuition Ministry (BDW)

Front (L-R) Lois Choa, Tan Hui Qian, Joan Sum

Back (L-R): Ho Kuang Cheng, Patricia Lam and Marcus Put



A Tuition Class in session

The first Tuition Programme Committee comprised of Wong Tuck Keong (Chairman), Yvonne Chook, Gan Teng See, Chua Teck Koon (Sr), Goh Lay Guan, Tay Siew Lian and Carol Yeo. According to Wong Tuck Keong, the major challenge faced by the committee was to find members who were willing to sacrifice two hours of their time each weekend to provide free tuition. Among other things, methods of publicity, which educational level and what subjects to teach in the tuition programme were some of the important considerations that the Committee had to examine.

The painstaking planning of the first committee was rewarded with an enrolment of over 60 students with 14 tutors who taught English and Mathematics, the two important core subjects of Primary Six and Secondary One pupils. Wong Tuck Keong recalled the 'dedication of the Christian tutors who conducted the tuition weekly and faithfully as unto the Lord' and that it 'helped many to obtain good grades, especially the Primary Six pupils'. The success of the Free Tuition Programme did not come without difficulties. The very fact that the tuition was free resulted in quite a number of students taking the service for granted and absenting themselves from time to time. Many of the students who came for the tuition programme were exceedingly weak in their subjects and needed personal help and attention. This meant that they needed one-to-one tutoring and the number of tutors was simply insufficient for this. It was also difficult to get students to join the CC and YP programmes. However, as an evangelistic initiative, the committee organised outings for the students with games and picnics in order to create a non-threatening environment in which the gospel could be shared.

Many of the initial problems persisted but there were also many blessings. Through the Free Tuition Programme a few students were added to our fellowship, with some even volunteering as tutors in the same programme from which they benefited. Wong Tuck Keong once ran into one student at the market place, now in his tertiary studies, who had attended the tuition programme in Secondary One and who was very impressed to know that the tuition work still continued. The evangelistic efforts of the tutors also paid off – one student's entire family came to know the Lord and are now attending the assembly meetings.

The year 1988 saw the highest enrolment in the history of the tuition programme with 85 students in 17 classes. Mathematics and English also began to be taught at the Secondary Two level. Although there were no firm restrictions as to the level being taught as these were based on the initial response from the neighbourhood children, the committee decided in the following years, however, to target the upper primary school category (Primary 4 to Primary 6). Several new tutors answered the call to serve in this demanding field. These were Chan Wai Kiong, Cheng Yoke Meng, John Ching, Peter Chow, Anthony Tay, Chandran Siew Kim, Cheng Mun Yee, Lim Ai Lin, Madasamy Krishnavijaya, Shirley Ong, Margaret Soh and Caroline Tan. Wong Tuck Keong also handed over the reins of the Committee to Chong Kim Chow in 1992.

Enrolment numbers began to fall in the subsequent years from 1989 onwards and reached a steady average of about 30 to 40 students who were taught by 10 to 13 tutors. Typically, there would be a high enrolment at the beginning of the year but this would drop significantly after a few months. Some possible reasons included a lack of manpower, resulting in a high student-teacher ratio and students' needs not being met. There was also a lack of skills to cope with the students' behavioural problems. Ang Siew Hock, who became Chairman of the committee in 1996, commented that 'the pupil-to-teacher ratio is large in some classes and we were not able to provide the quality of tutoring that we would have liked to. We also lacked

in-house counselling expertise to deal with the students' needs beyond the subject matter, for example, poor behaviour and motivation as well as attention deficit'. In addition, there was growing scepticism among parents that good services could not come free.

In the mid-1990s, the programme faced competition from the Chinese Development Advisory Council (CDAC) centres. These centres began sprouting up around the neighbourhood, drawing away some of the students. It was inevitable that parents would compare the quality of the Free Tuition Programme with that of CDAC. Most of our tutors were untrained in pedagogical skills. However, the burden that the tutors had for those they served should never be underestimated, as Chong Kim Chow so aptly put in his 1992 report on the tuition work: 'These little souls are already in a rat race. We have to direct their steps on to a heavenly path'. The committee also arranged for educational talks to be delivered to the students as well as their parents by education professionals in our church like Helen Wong and Chua Yen Ching. Tutors themselves attended talks by Dolly Sng and Christina Yee on how to better help their students learn more effectively. Vincent Tham was also invaluable in teaching tutors how to evangelise to children. On a few occasions, the Free Tuition Programme Committee invited Christina Yee to give special talks to parents and students on preparing for the Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE).

The leadership for the tuition work was passed on from Ang Siew Hock to current chairman Chan Man Wong in 2000. Man Wong has been a tutor since 1998. Over the last eight years, the tuition work has seen a slow but steady growth. Though the number of students each year fluctuates, the Free Tuition Programme has had a sufficient track record to establish itself in the neighbourhood.

In 2005, the Free Tuition Programme began at Depot Walk to serve children in the Telok Blangah, Bukit Merah and Redhill areas. The Tuition Programme at Depot walk is headed by Ho Kuang Cheng who is supported by the following members who have volunteered as tutors at one point of time or another: Patricia Lam, Tan Hui Qian, Jeremy Khoo, Cynthia Chia, Karen Chin, Jordan Tan and Lee Tong Heng. Enrolment grew from seven students to 25 in the second year. The students that came for tuition were significantly older than those in Ang Mo Kio, with most of them in secondary school. The youth leaders such as Andrew Sng and Tan Chee Hwee were instrumental in reaching out to the students who were predominantly boys and did not come from a Christian background. They were very interested in basketball and would come for tuition just so they could enjoy a game after. Recognising this, Tan Chee Hwee and Jeremy Khoo would play with them but not before making them sit down for an occasional bible study. As a result, these boys have become more open to the Word and have begun participating periodically in the youth activities.

Tuition work is a difficult ministry and the lack of apparent fruit can be discouraging. Tutors are responsible to help their students improve their grades and at the same time, they also have to be a testimony to them. It is hard trying to balance both tasks. As Chong Kim Chow reminded us in his 1993 report, 'We must not lose sight of the Person. It is the Lord's work and He will supply the necessary grace. It remains for us to answer the call and be faithful.' The tuition work continues to be one of the key evangelistic ministries of the assembly because it is a service that will allow Christians to permeate the community and witness to non-believers through practical means. Practical ministry is important because it is the only way through which believers can most effectively reach out and touch the lives of people with the love of God that is in them.

CHAPTER 12

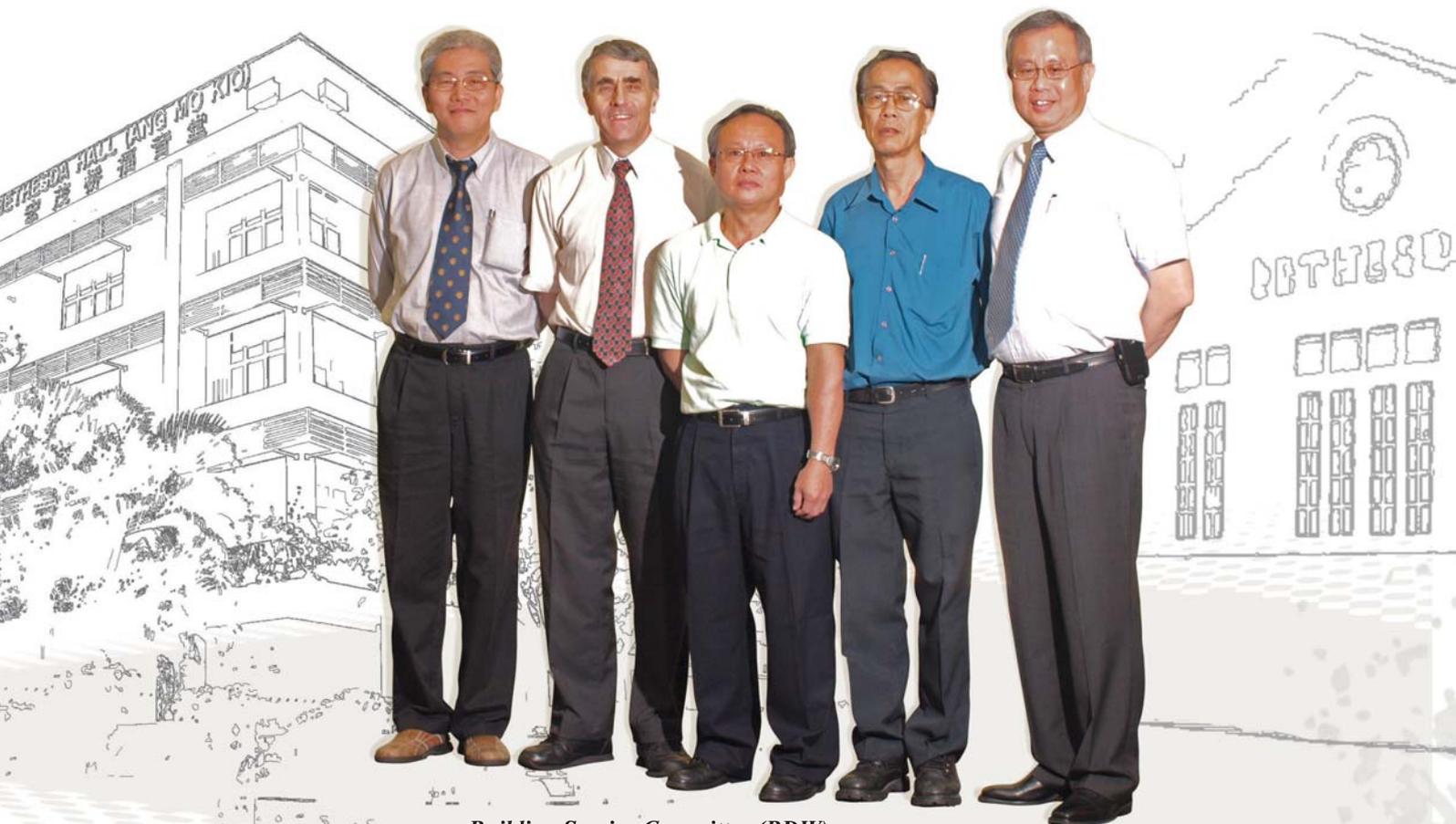
SUPPORT MINISTRIES

*By Melissa Fong, Sonia Khoo
and Elizabeth Wong*



Building Service Committee (BAMK)

L-R: Wong Tuck Keong, Kuehsamy, Alvin Teo, Kok Weng Chong and Francis Toke



Building Service Committee (BDW)

L-R: Harry Tan, Ernie Abbott, Steven Tan, Anthony Yip and Kan Shik Lum

Introduction

Just as every building needs strong support structures - often unseen to the naked eyes – so too our assembly. Like the unseen steel rods holding up the building, the support ministries would uphold the church by doing background work which may not be visible to many people.

Building Services Committee (BSC)

The Building Service Committee takes charge of the physical maintenance of the church ensuring the microphones and air conditioners work well every Sunday.

Set up in 1986 when the assembly relocated from Bras Basah to Ang Mo Kio, the Committee ensures that we can have trouble-free meetings throughout the week. In addition, they help the assembly control the cost of maintaining the church building. Instead of hiring electricians, plumbers and cleaners, which can be costly, there are a group of volunteers from the BSC who help to maintain the church building.

The three key areas are the Public Address (PA), Plumbing and Electrical Departments. The PA Department operates and maintains the various sound systems in the church building. Besides tirelessly turning up each Sunday to facilitate the Breaking of Bread and Morning Ministry, they are also there to manage the sound system for choir practices, church weddings, kindergarten graduations, Gospel Rallies and other meetings. The Plumbing Department consists of volunteers who are tasked with clearing choked toilet bowls. Their job scope also includes ensuring that water and drainage systems are in good working order by changing the taps and pipes where necessary. Professional plumbers are hired only if the BSC cannot handle the problem. The Electrical Department deals with cleaning the air conditioners and repairing equipment such as lighting, fans and kitchen appliances.

The hard work of the BSC has gone a long way to keep the cost of maintaining the church building within budget. However, they face many challenges. For example, the BSC lacks fresh blood. The present pool of 23 people needs to be enlarged. In view of the numerous sacrifices to be made and effort that one has to put in, church members may be reluctant to take up the responsibilities.

Crèche Ministry

There is a special group of loving and caring ladies who minister to the needs of the extra-young in church. This is the Crèche Ministry, which started in 1986.

The aim of the Crèche Ministry is to encourage mothers to attend the morning ministry whilst leaving their young children in the safe hands of sisters who have volunteered their time and services in this ministry. The secondary objective is to provide the children with a suitable learning environment for God's Word on a Sunday morning. In its initial stage, this ministry saw a weekly attendance of approximately 70 to 80 children. However as the years went by, the weekly attendance gradually declined to approximately 18.



The PA Group

L-R: Terry Tan, Kok Weng Chong, Keith Sun, Jimmy Seow, Kuehsamy and Kui Tuck Meng



Crèche Ministry Coordinators
Evelyn Leong and Chua Yen Ching



Bethesda Hall Office Staff
L-R: Mary Yeo, Wong Tuck Keong and Steven Tan

The children are subdivided into two groups – the toddlers’ group for children under the age of three and the children’s group for those aged four to ten years old. The Crèche Ministry is supported by about 30 helpers today. Lucy Chua, the Chairperson for the Crèche Committee from 1986 to 1990, recounted that this ministry was a wonderful platform for her to get to know other assembly members, mainly mothers, better. Many mothers during that time were thankful to the crèche helpers because restless children can cause a distraction during morning worship. Thus, the crèche helpers would help to ease the mothers’ load by caring for the children as they attend the children’s special programme or the crèche.

The Bethesda Choir

The Bethesda Choir has its roots dating back to the days of Bras Basah. Choir Director Lee Chin Ghee led the 27-strong choir family from 1986 to 1995. From the very first performance – ‘He Lives’ by Joe E Parks on 19 April 1987 for the Easter Gospel Service – until now, the choir has been performing inspiring cantatas faithfully for a number of Assembly Gospel Rallies, every Christmas Gospel Service, Christmas Service, Easter Service and Easter Gospel Service. Lee Chong Kiat has been choir director since 1996.

Lee Chong Kiat commented:

As Choir Director, I have continued with this vision and with the further aim to motivate the young people in our Assembly to come forward, to help develop their musical talents and just enjoy singing together for our Lord. The past years have at times been stressful but ultimately enjoyable and I trust that all the members similarly share the joy of learning the pieces together and singing in the choir at whichever occasion the Lord provides.



Choir

*Front Row (L-R): Tan Choon Huang, Alice Wee, Emilia Fan, Keyna Goh, Amy Lee, Lydia Choa, Chow Chiew Gee, Ng Swee Choo and Ann Lee
 Middle Row (L-R): Jenny Leong, Rachel Hmar, Melissa Wee, Choa Geok Eng, Susan Tan, Lilian Ng and Pauline Wong
 Back Row (L-R): James Yim, Andrew Kwan, Cedric Tan, Raymond Chan, Jeremy Ng, Lee Chong Kiat, Peter Chow, Tan Li Sheng and Mervyn Tan*

The Choir meets every Monday from 7.45 pm to 9.15 pm except during the month of June. The singers have to practise the cantatas for 48 weeks every year. Unfortunately, the number of singers has decreased significantly over the years to 22 members. Those who have heard the choir when it had over 40 members during its peak certainly know that there is a need for more choir members.

Music can be the key to ‘unlock’ the unbeliever’s heart. Making music and melody unto the Lord is a necessary ingredient in a believer’s spiritual life (Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16) and can be used by the Holy Spirit to bring a believer closer in worship and adoration for the glory of God. It can bring God’s Word to the heart of the unsaved whose ears would be deaf otherwise.

From 2008, the Choir has taken on external engagements to perform at homes, hospitals and community clubs bringing Christmas and Easter cheer to many beyond the church walls.

Refreshment Ministry

The Refreshment Group was started in 1986 when Jean Chan and Chong Lai Wah saw the need to prepare food after morning ministry for assembly members. Since then, the refreshment group has increased its number of helpers which adds up to approximately 50, with Chong Lai Wah as the Coordinator. The areas of their ministry include providing crunchy biscuits, coffee and tea after morning ministry, tuna and egg sandwiches that are delicious appetizers after the evening gospel services and the savoury beehoon or rice with sapid side dishes, cooked by Chong Lai Wah and Daisy Yip, for assembly activities such as Easter and Christmas services, CEP and SS teachers’ meetings, Annual General Meetings, Annual Gospel Rallies and Watchnight Services.

Over the years, the group has been dependent on God’s grace, working hard to fulfil their service towards the Lord, sharing the responsibilities entrusted to them. Looking ahead, one challenge the group faces is the recruitment of more young helpers to continue in the footsteps of those who have served before them. Anyone who has a willing heart is eligible to join this refreshment ministry. It is worth remembering that a cup of cold water given in Jesus’ name will bring a reward (Matthew 10:42).



The Assembly Office

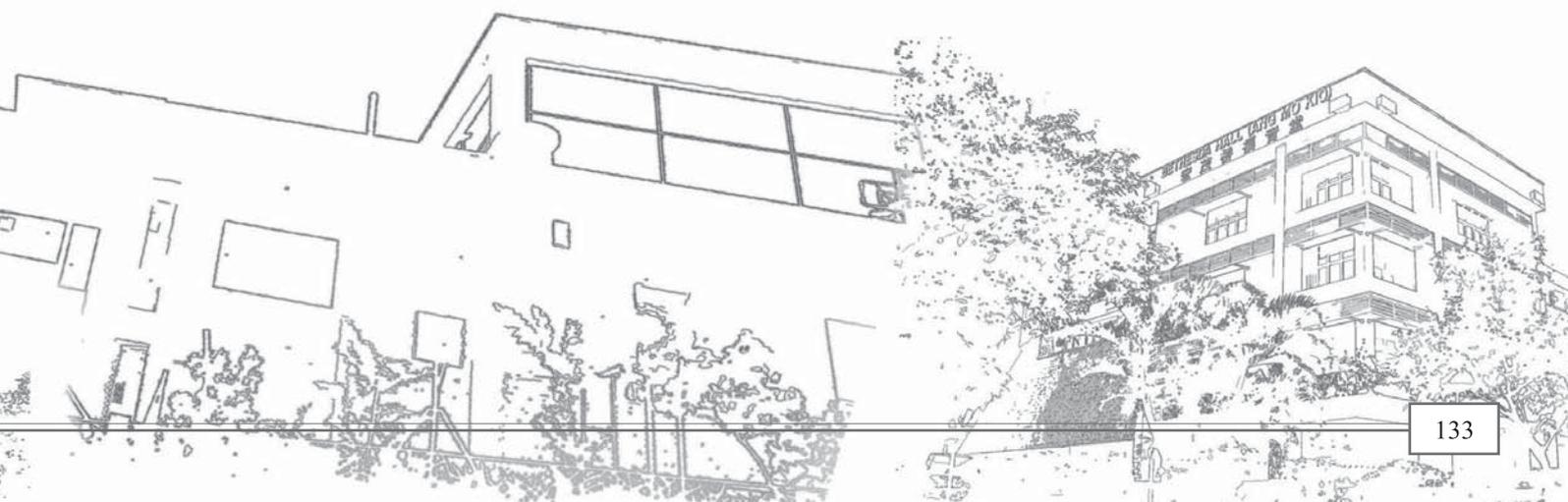
In Bras Basah, the administration of the assembly was mainly carried out by volunteers coordinated by the late Lim Tian Leong and the late Tay Kim Tee. Monthly prayer diaries and minutes of meetings were coordinated by Lim Tian Leong and these were copied using the duplicator. We thank the Lord for many faithful sisters who also helped out from time to time. Towards the middle of 1985, with the enormous amount of administration work due to the impending move to Ang Mo Kio the following year, the Council of Elders decided that there was a need to employ a full-time administrator and a clerk to handle administration and the site coordination works with contractors, government bodies and suppliers during the construction of the new church building.

In July 1985, Wong Tuck Keong was appointed the Administrator, an appointment he still holds today. His wife, Elizabeth, joined him as a clerk from September 1985 to 1988 and continued working part-time until July 1989. Jenny Tan then took over as clerk from August 1989 until February 1993. Elizabeth Wong then returned to help on an ad-hoc basis until the appointment of Pauline Wong, who served from May 1996 to 2007.

In January 1994, A Murthe was appointed the General Purpose Officer but he resigned in December 1995. In June 1996, the assembly employed Mary Yeo as the accounts clerk, and she has faithfully served till today. At the time of writing, the post of clerk is still vacant. Andrew He joined the staff to help in the assembly office from June 2008 prior to going for further studies at Ngee Ann Polytechnic in 2009. Since March 2005 Steven Tan has been employed as the Maintenance Officer for Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk).

Reflections

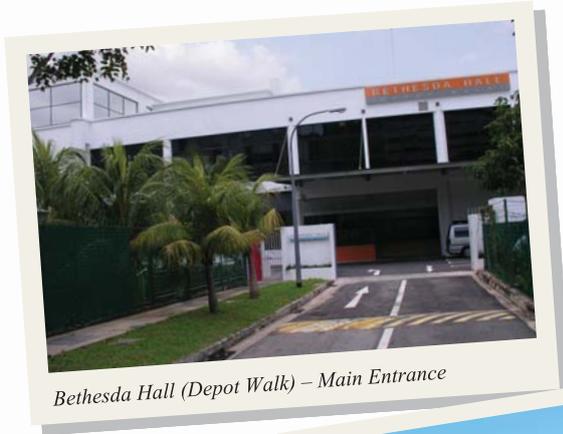
‘You can give without loving. But you cannot love without giving’. This quote by Amy Carmichael reflects the Lord’s constant reminder to love our fellow believers. This is the reason why support ministries play an essential role in maintaining the assembly’s spiritual growth. Support ministries present opportunities for the people of God to show love through giving and sacrifice, and many have been blessed through those who labour quietly behind the scene.



CHAPTER 13

CHURCH PLANTING AT BETHESDA HALL (DEPOT WALK)

By Sum Siew Tak and Joan Sum



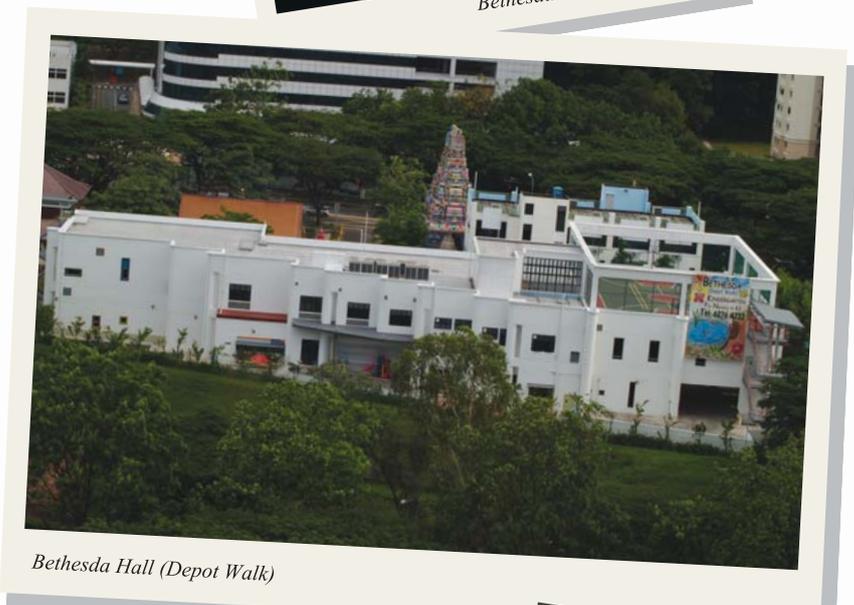
Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) – Main Entrance



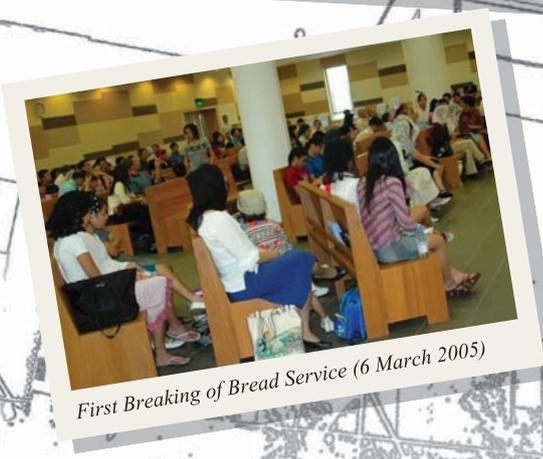
Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk)



Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk)



Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk)



First Breaking of Bread Service (6 March 2005)



Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten

History Behind Depot Walk

The story of Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) has been, and still is, an exciting testimony of God's faithfulness in answering prayers of the saints. Today when believers come together to worship, have fellowship and serve in Depot Walk, they will remember the exciting historical events that took place. Its very existence is a unique demonstration of the goodness of God and the work of His mighty hand.

In the 1990s, keeping in view that the lease for Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) would expire in 2013, the assembly had participated in bidding for HDB plots, hoping to develop a new place of worship to extend the gospel work or to serve as a replacement for Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio). However, none of them was successful, as competition from other churches had driven the land prices beyond \$6m. This would be the cost of a plot of HDB land that was earmarked for church use, with a standard size of 3,000 square metres and plot ratio of 1.4. Most of the bids submitted by the Building Committee were below \$2m.

During the property boom in the 1990s, land prices were high. By 1996 the Building Committee and the elders began to be doubtful as to whether it would be good stewardship to bid for vacant land at such high prices. The Building Committee began to look at acquiring old buildings to develop for church use.

On 26 April 2001, an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) was convened. The agenda was to consider a proposal from the Building Committee to negotiate the purchase of a private property – to revise upward the maximum approval sum to \$2 million and to have authority from the assembly to negotiate for a loan (if necessary) to purchase a property.

The private properties under consideration were the former Mandarin Theatre at Kallang Bahru and the Golden Sultan Theatre at Jalan Sultan Plaza. The Building Committee after viewing both properties had recommended the Mandarin Theatre as suitable. The EGM voted to revise the limit upward to \$10m. This was a breakthrough and the Building Committee was then able to negotiate more proactively with potential sellers.

However, God closed this door and there was no success. The Seller had asked for a much higher price and the deal was cancelled after negotiations fell through. The Seller was not keen to proceed as there was a need to obtain a change of use for the building and for the land to be redesignated to a place of worship before the deal could be sealed. The elders began to explore various other options, even musing over the possibility of co-developing industrial land with business owners who are assembly members and then leasing a floor from them.

In September 2001, the Lord sent another opportunity. A piece of property at 10 Depot Walk, used by the Board of Commissioners of Currency of Singapore (BCCS), came up for sale. The property agent had initially offered the place to Andrew Kwan's company. However as the industrial building is sandwiched between a large Hindu temple and two Chinese temples, it was noted that there was a good possibility to change the use from industrial building to a place of worship. After consulting with Tan Kian Huat, they quickly alerted Sum Siew Tak who chaired the Building Committee.

The Building Committee immediately viewed the property at 10 Depot Walk and had a good opinion of the site. The building was in excellent condition and it had a balance of 89 years in the 99 year-lease.

Industrial property prices were at a low and demand was especially low after the 911 incident when the World Trade Centre in New York was attacked. The Building Committee decided to submit a bid. By God's grace, the assembly was successful in the bid.

This was despite the many conditions governing the exercise of the Option to Purchase because Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) was not registered as a society and was under the Commissioner of Charities. As such, written approval from the President was needed for the sale and purchase as well as written approval from the Minister of Finance, a requirement under the Companies Act. In addition, written approval from the relevant authorities was required for the permanent change of use, and we also needed satisfactory replies from solicitors and various government departments.

Submission Of Bid And Waiting For The Lord's Answer

Immediately prayers went up from the saints, asking the Almighty God to move the minds of those in high places. He who directs the affairs of the world heard all these prayers. After several months, the government gave its in-principle approval for the change of use to a place of worship.

Meanwhile, there was a need to raise \$8.49 million to purchase the building and land at Depot Walk. After emptying the building fund, there was a deficit of \$7.1 million.

The Council of Elders wrote an open letter to the assembly on the financial need for this project. Ministry messages focused on the biblical principles of giving to the Lord. The assembly was encouraged to remain steadfast and keep trusting that He would enable the believers to raise the funds needed without having to resort to bank loans. Everyone in the assembly rose to the challenge and gave sacrificially. Within three weeks, in answer to much prayer, members gave their savings, made monetary pledges, and committed interest-free loans for this project. The tabulated sum from the returned feedback forms and the amount in the building fund stood at \$7 million. With this assurance from the assembly, the option of purchase was exercised on 2 January 2002. This left a balance of another \$1.49 million to be raised in another three months before the completion of the purchase.

DP Architects was engaged to help in the submission of documents to the relevant authorities for the change of use. Other submissions were also made to various government departments for approvals. Ideas were sought from members on what they would like to see in a new church building. It seemed like an impossible task to clear so many hurdles. A delay from any one department could have derailed the entire project. Thanks be to God for causing the government departments to grant all the necessary approvals for 10 Depot Walk. The purchase was completed on 13 June 2002 with full payment made, without the need for bank loans at all!

However, there was still more to be done. Additions and Alterations (A&A) works were necessary to make the place suitable for our outreach work and provisional planning approvals were needed to facilitate the finalisation of the re-zoning of the land to a place of worship. An additional minimum sum of \$2.4 million was required on top of the amount needed to repay the members. Once again, God was in control and the

A&A works were carried out during a slump in the construction industry. He also provided a good team of architects, structural engineers, quantity surveyors and mechanical and electrical engineers who were not only professional in their work but were Christians labouring in the interests of the assembly.

The change of use of Depot Walk to a place of worship was completed when the re-zoning of Depot Walk was granted on 7 March 2003⁸. Permission to start work was given on 24 September 2003. As the A&A works progressed, there was much excitement and anticipation. The enclosed building with its thick walls and bullet-proof windows was gradually transformed to one that was more airy and had better acoustics. The rooftop was transformed into a place where young people could play games. The Kindergarten took shape with its colourful designs. There were spacious areas for interaction and activities. On 4 August 2004, the building was completed and Temporary Occupancy Permit (TOP) granted.

For the repayment of the members' interest-free loans, free-will offerings by members and the sale of the bookshop unit across from Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) and the property at 15A Jalan Rama Rama contributed significantly. The timing of the sales was also under His sovereign control. The property at 15A Jalan Rama Rama fetched a good price because it was sold en bloc with the adjoining properties in the estate to a developer. By June 2006, all the members' loans were fully repaid, ahead of the loan period.

The Lord indeed brought the assembly through this exciting journey of faith in acquiring and preparing a new place of testimony for Him. Through it all, we learnt to trust Him and thus saw the wonderful display of His riches and goodness towards His people.



Christmas outreach at Depot Heights Shopping Centre



Wedding of Peter Chow and Teo Chiew Gee at Depot Walk (13 June 2007)

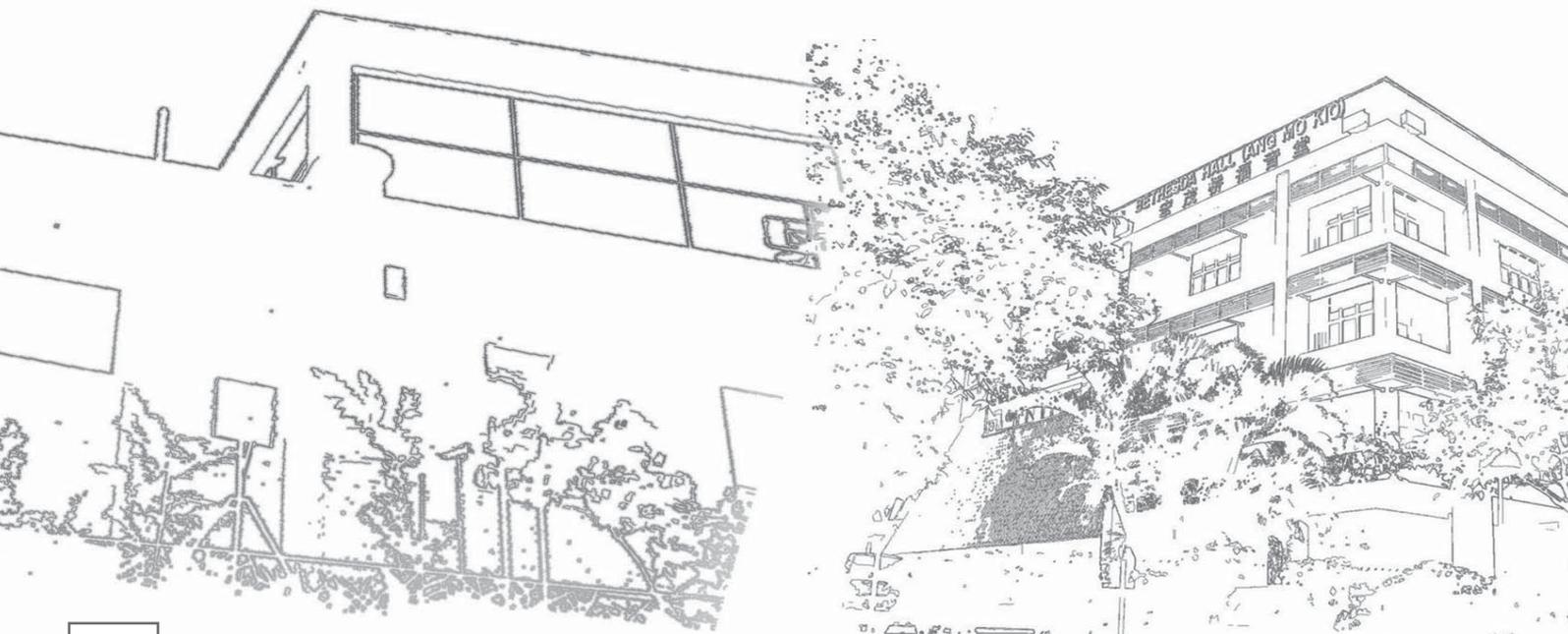
⁸ Amendment to the Master Plan approved by the Minister of National Development for rezoning of Lot 2343, Mukim 1, at Depot Walk from Light Industries Zone at a plot ratio of 1.4 (gross) to Place of Worship (Approved on 7 March 2003). The Rezoning notice by Chief Planner on 30th May 2003, Indenture of supplemental lease made on 2 July 2003 issued by Collector of Revenue (On President's command) which provides and the use of the demised land as a place of worship with a gross plot ratio not exceeding 1.28 only.

Beginning Of A New Testimony At Bethesda Hall Depot Walk

The building however is not the church. For us, a local assembly of God's people, the journey has only just begun. He has worked in the hearts of the people to raise the funds and resources for His work. The assembly looks to Him to continue His work in them and to touch the lives of people through Him and His Word in this new place of testimony. Outreach work commenced in various areas such as tuition, the YP, CC, SS, CEP and the Depot Walk Kindergarten. Programmes catering to the needs and interests of youth were set up. Free guitar and cycling classes that commenced in August 2004 served as a platform to reach out to the youth in the neighbourhood.

In particular, a three month cycling class resulted in the basketball ministry being set up as the boys that joined the cycling class were interested in basketball. The gospel was shared with these boys. In addition, students who attended tuition at Depot Walk were invited to join the YP and SS programmes. Gospel tracts were also handed out to them in the form of bookmarks.

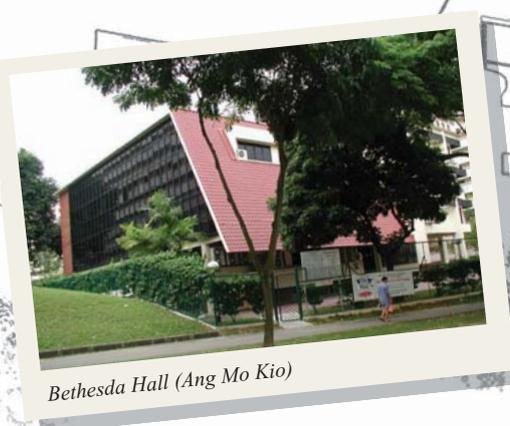
Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) had its first Breaking of Bread Service on 6 March 2005 with about 70 members and their families present. It also held a Thanksgiving and Dedication Service on 2 May 2005 and started Prayer Meetings on Tuesday nights from January 2008. Preparations for Prayer Meeting were done through the weekly Prayer Times which is a compilation of the prayer needs of the assembly.



CHAPTER 14

THE STEWARD COMPANY OF SINGAPORE LTD

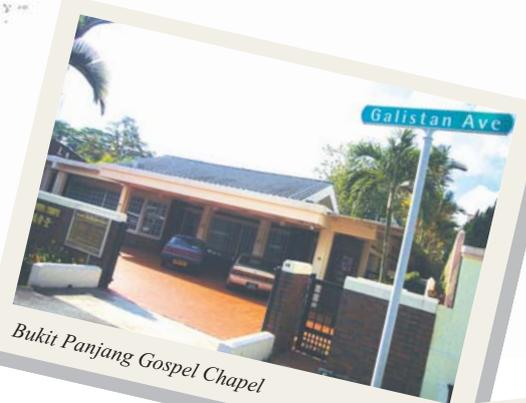
By Tan Kian Huat



Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio)



Bethesda Church (Bukit Arang)



Bukit Panjang Gospel Chapel



Bethesda Kindergartens



Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk)



Eudokia Bookshop

Background

The Steward Company of Singapore Limited (TSCS), a company limited by guarantee, was incorporated on 20 September 1970 to hold the properties owned or leased by Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) in trust for the assembly.

Prior to the incorporation of TSCS, the Council of Elders of the assembly meeting at Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) appointed three elders to act as trustees for properties owned or leased by the assembly. From 1966 to 1969 a number of the elders left the assembly to return home to Australia or to identify with other assemblies in Singapore. As a result, the number of elders was reduced to only three and some of the trustees for some properties had left the assembly, making it inconvenient for the remaining elders to safeguard the interest of the assembly meeting at Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah).

Acting on legal advice, the then elders (Lim Tian Leong, James Hanam and Robert Tan) incorporated TSCS. In the following few years, the respective trustees of various properties owned or leased by the assembly transferred the properties to TSCS.

On 22 January 1973, two properties transferred to TSCS were 12 Galistan Avenue, Singapore 669686 (used by Bukit Panjang Chapel)⁹ and the Flat at 15A Jalan Rama Rama¹⁰, Singapore 329095.

On 8 January 1975, the company leased a piece of land at Serangoon (now known as Serangoon Avenue 3) from the trustees of the estate of a member of the assembly, with the intention of developing a new hall at the Serangoon land as a replacement for Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah Road). The assembly's lease of the land at Bras Basah Road was expiring soon, and the elders had learnt that the new owners of 77A Bras Basah Road had submitted plans to the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) to redevelop the land. It was planned for the assembly from Bras Basah Road to move into the Serangoon premises when the time came to move out of the Bras Basah Road premises. When the new building at Serangoon was completed, a small group from Bras Basah started meeting there, and subsequently Bethesda Church (Bukit Arang)¹¹ became an autonomous assembly and soon grew in number so that there arose a need for alternative premises for the assembly that was soon to move out of the Bras Basah premises.

⁹ This property was given by the late sister Nancy Wee, a member of Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah), for use as a place of worship. Sunday School work began there in November 1959.

¹⁰ Late sister Oh Choon Sioh committed herself to purchase this property but was short of cash to pay the balance. She approached the Elders to offer the property to Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) on condition that the assembly paid the balance due for the property and that she should be allowed to continue to use one of the rooms as her home till her home call. The Elders accepted the offer in order to commence a Sunday School in that district in the late 1960s.

¹¹ The 99 year-lease commenced on 1 June 1972.

In 1983 Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) developed the new Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) on the HDB land parcel along Ang Mo Kio Avenue 4. The assembly from Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) moved into the new premises on 13 July 1986. In 1994, the assembly purchased a shop house at Block 163 Ang Mo Kio Ave 4, just across the road from the church building. The property was rented to Eudokia Book Room until it was sold in June 2005 for \$760,000.

In June 2003 the flat at 15A Jalan Rama Rama was sold under an en-bloc sale at the price of \$750,000. The proceeds from the sales of the Jalan Rama Rama flat and the shop house helped to partially repay members' interest-free loans made to the assembly for the purchase of the property at 10 Depot Walk which was acquired by the assembly in 2002.

TSCS holds the titles to all the church properties, including Bethesda (Ang Mo Kio) Kindergarten, Bethesda (Depot Walk) Kindergarten and Eudokia Book Shop. The ownership of Eudokia Book Shop was transferred to TSCS in February 2006.

601 Ang Mo Kio Avenue 4

On 10 June 1981, the Commissioner of Lands gave notice to the owners of the property at 77A Bras Basah Road and to Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah), the lessee, that the property was being compulsorily acquired under the Land Acquisition Act for a public purpose. The government allowed Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) to continue to use the place under a temporary occupation licence until further notice, at a monthly rental of \$213.

The elders of various assemblies in Singapore represented at the Combined Elders' Quarterly Meeting on 24 April 1982 decided to write a letter of appeal signed by all the representative elders to the President of Singapore, Prime Minister and Minister for National Development to provide an alternate site to replace Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah).

As the Commissioner of Lands had also given notice of acquisition to the Singapore Gospel Halls, the owner of the property at Geylang Lorong 29, the Housing and Development Board (HDB) offered to both Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) and Singapore Gospel Halls (Hokkien speaking assembly) a vacant plot land at 601 Ang Mo Kio Avenue 4 for a joint development in late 1982. The elders of both assemblies met on 20 December 1982 and agreed on the development of the land by Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah) for the joint use of both assemblies. The cost of the development was \$2,776,988, paid entirely by the Bras Basah assembly. The lease was for 30 years commencing on 22nd February 1983.

In 1996, the assembly [Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio)] developed a tower extension block to add more space for the expanding activities of the assembly using the building. The cost of development was \$954,180.

10 Depot Walk

In 2002, the property at 10 Depot Walk, formerly used by the Board of Commissioners of Currency, Singapore, was purchased in the name of TSCS for \$8 million. The land was re-zoned by the Government for a place of worship, and the building underwent additions and alterations to convert it for use as a church building, as a possible replacement building should the lease of the property at 601 Ang Mo Kio Avenue 4 not be renewed on expiry in 2013. It is now the home of Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk). The total cost of the project was \$10,801,495, including the purchase price and the costs of the additions and alterations. The lease of the property is for 99 years from 2nd March 1992.

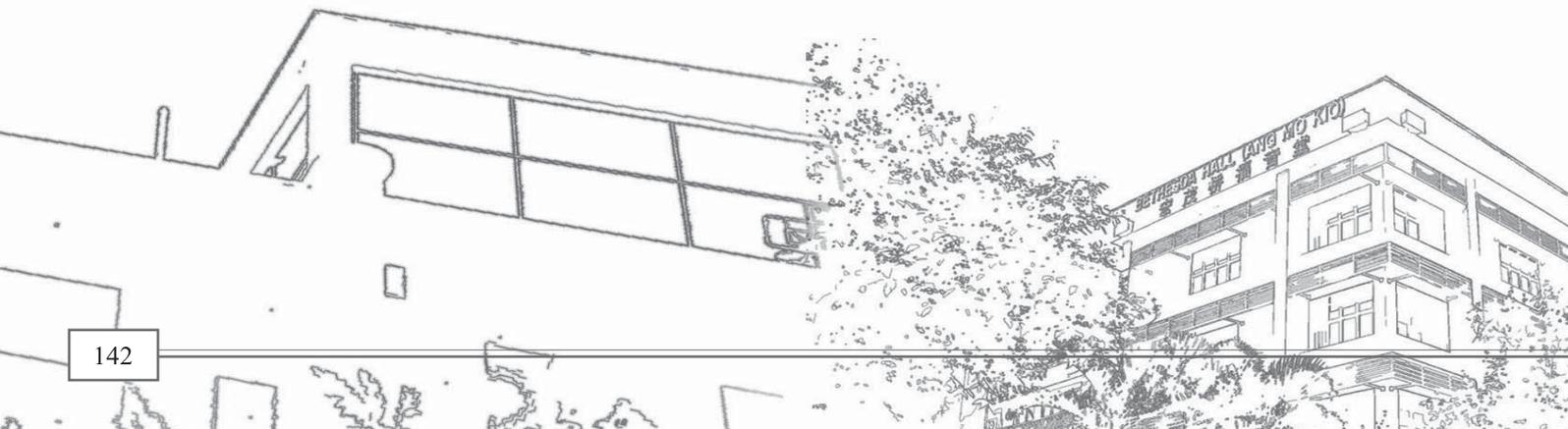
Registration As A Society

Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) was registered as a charity under the Charities Act soon after the Act was passed. However, since it was an unincorporated association, it was not possible for it to hold property in its own name, and properties were acquired in the name of TSCS.

After the purchase of the property at Depot Walk, and upon the advice of lawyers and accountants, the elders decided to register Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) as a society, which would be a registered legal entity able hold property on its own. On 4 February 2005, the revised constitution of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) was approved by the Registrar of Societies.

Future Developments

Following the evangelistic zeal of Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah), the assembly continues to look for opportunities to establish new places of testimony and worship. The recent development at Depot Walk has taught the assembly many lessons, both practical and spiritual. Throughout the past 145 years, the faithful Lord has provided, time and time again, to meet all the financial commitments through the sacrificial giving of His people. He has also opened doors to various authorities in granting the approvals needed for the work. Knowing what He has done and can do, the assembly looks forward to the next phase of development, which will be to extend the lease and redevelop Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio). Soon after that, Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk) would become autonomous as the work there matures. Both independent assemblies will continue to press forward, as the Lord leads, to start new places of worship in other parts of Singapore.



CHAPTER 15

LOOKING FORWARD

By Harry Tan



Lunch fellowship (BDW)



Fellowship meeting of newly baptised members (2007)



Community Outreach to senior citizens

Looking Back

Looking back at our short history of witness and labour at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) since July 1986, we are much indebted to the Lord for His faithfulness to us throughout our pilgrim journey. In the pages of this book, we place on record for posterity the testimony of God's unlimited grace upon the assembly. Although we have attempted to include as much as possible, some names and activities may have been left out to keep the book within reasonable length. Nevertheless the true record of all work done in faith is in the Lord's books in heaven, and such labour will never be forgotten nor lose its reward.

We began by recounting briefly the major milestones of over 120 years of faith and witness at Bras Basah since 1864. It involved events and names of God's people we have never had the opportunity to meet here on earth, yet we have a special kindred spirit with them through the eternal bonds of Calvary. Their examples of faith and godliness provide a godly heritage for us to follow. They formed for us a part of the great cloud of witnesses in heaven who have gone before us, cheering us on and encouraging us in the challenges that we have faced at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio).

In the record of the work at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio), we recount our many blessings and name them one by one. Throughout our journey, through good times and bad, we thank the Lord for his unfailing love and unceasing companionship, which has spurred us onwards with faith, hope and love. As it was with the early apostolic church so we too have sought in our activities to devote ourselves steadfastly to the four pillars of assembly witness and testimony as in Acts 2:42 namely: the Scriptures, Saints, Saviour and Spirit.

Scriptures: A Word-centric Assembly

We began early in our history of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) with the launch of the CEP at assembly level to get the Scriptures into the life and witness of the assembly. It was a difficult challenge to start, maintain and sustain the CEP, but it formed one pillar of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) which helps us to be a Word-centric church. For all its shortcomings, the Lord has used the CEP to feed, encourage and equip the saints for the building up of the body of Christ at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio).

Fellowship: Love And Mutual Support Of Saints

The second pillar is the fellowship of the Saints which has been faithfully promoted and sustained through the fellowship groups in the CEP, YP and RFG. Many instances of love, mutual support and encouragement are often experienced in these groups. Close ties of love and friendship have been forged in the furnace of trials and troubles with many burdens shared through the fellowship of the saints in smaller RFG and cell groups through the Lord and His Word.



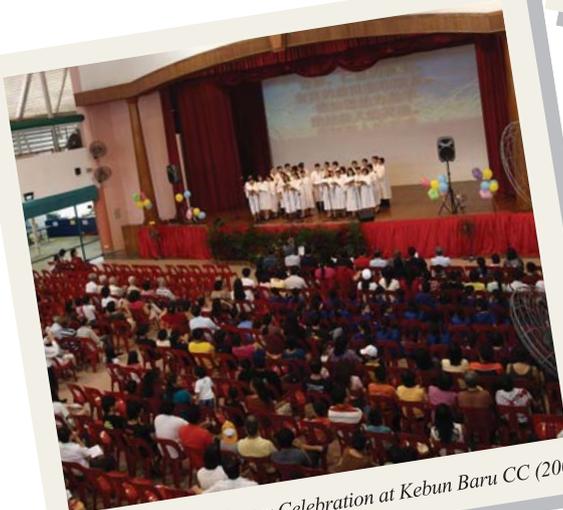
Christmas Celebration at Kebun Baru Community Club (2007)



Medical, dental and eye check at Bethesda Hall



Christmas Performance At Kebun Baru CC (2007)



Bethesda Choir at Easter Celebration at Kebun Baru CC (2009)



Blood donation at Bethesda Hall (AMK)

In particular, during the severe trials of division and split in the assembly in 2004, we saw how wonderfully the Lord preserved and strengthened us by drawing us closer to one another through the CEP, YP and RFG. Many saints rose to the challenge and took on teaching and leadership roles that were suddenly made vacant by those who left us. Though we were much weakened by the split, the Lord preserved us and delivered us from the folly of becoming a closed and exclusive assembly. We were humbled and refined by the Lord for He allowed this setback to prepare us for greater challenges to follow.

Meetings: Worship, Prayer And Gospel

Needless to say, the real strength of Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) lies in the next two pillars: the Saviour in the breaking of bread, and the Holy Spirit in the prayer meetings of the assembly. The weekly remembrance feast and prayer meeting are and will always be the highlight of the life of our assembly. We acknowledge how much we love the Lord and how much we depend on Him for strength and labour through our constant participation in these two vital weekly meetings. Despite our weaknesses and failings, we are constantly refreshed and revitalised by the Lord whenever we avail ourselves to worship Him collectively and wait on Him in prayer for the work and witness in Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio).

Throughout our stay at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio), we have consistently sought to be a witnessing assembly to lost sinners around us. With the recent launch of COPA, we have taken an overview of our evangelism to our Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and the rest of the world. In unexpected ways, the Lord has enabled us to be a beacon of the gospel in Singapore and the region around us through our many short-term mission trips of recent past.

Even As He Is Faithful

At the end of this account, we have embarked on a new chapter in our journey of faith with the extension work at Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk). Since March 2005, about 70 members and their families making a total of 150 saints from Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio), launched a small beginning of Christian witness and testimony at 10 Depot Walk, surrounded by three temples of other religions. Surely the Lord must have placed us there for a strategic purpose to be a beacon of light for the glorious gospel of Christ (2 Corinthians 4:4). As we spread the gospel seed in this challenging neighbourhood, we take heed of the words of the Lord to the assembly in Philadelphia 'I know your works. See I have set before you an open door and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, but have kept My word, and have not denied My name.' (Revelation 3:8). This statement was true of those who have gone before us from Bethesda Hall (Bras Basah). May it likewise be true of us at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) and Bethesda Hall (Depot Walk), by the Lord's grace and mercy as we carry the torch of the assembly witness, run the race of faith, fight the good fight, finish the course and keep the faith. It is our desire that future generations that come after us may read this account and consider us worthy to be part of the great cloud of witnesses cheering them on. May the Lord help, keep and enable us to be faithful even as He is Faithful until His Return. Maranatha!



Find Us Faithful¹²

We're pilgrims on the journey
Of the narrow road
And those who've gone before us line the way
Cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary
Their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses
Let us run the race not only for the prize
But as those who've gone before us
Let us leave to those behind us
The heritage of faithfulness passed on through godly lives

Chorus:

Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful
May the fire of our devotion light their way
May the footprints that we leave
Lead them to believe
And the lives we live inspire them to obey
Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful

After all our hopes and dreams have come and gone
And our children sift through all we've left behind
May the clues that they discover and the memories they uncover
Become the light that leads them to the road we each must find

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Heb 12:1-2 NKJV

¹² Song lyrics by Steve Green

1986

13 Jul	The first breaking of bread service at Bethesda Hall (AMK). Theme: "The Lord Of Lords". Speaker: W A Peterson. More than 500 attended.
	The first gospel service at Bethesda Hall (AMK). Speaker: Tan Jing Poi. Chairman: Joseph Sng. 80 attended.
18 Jul	Called Home to Glory: Tan Tah Koon.
26 Jul	Thanksgiving & Dedication Service held jointly with the Hokkien Assembly. 7 representatives from other assemblies in Singapore & Johor Bahru participated. Speaker: Lim Tian Leong on Ephesians 4:12, Chairman: Lawrence Chan. 700 attended.
30 Aug	Annual Meeting. Theme: 2 Tim 2:15 & Heb 8:5. Speaker: Daniel Woon. Chairman: Eric Choa. 250 attended.
14 Sep	Commended to the Lord for full-time service: Tay Kim Swee.
27 Sep	Holy Matrimony: Francis Chia Wing Kwong & Tan Juan Hing.
10 – 12 Oct	1 st Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: "Door Of Life" John 10:9. Evangelist: G D James. Chairmen: Chia Boon Hong, Joseph Sng & Andy Low. Song items by Bethesda Choir, The Cross Connection & the Male Voices. Testimony by Boey San Fei, Andrew Sng & Tan Ah Beng. About 235 attended nightly. 17 people were counselled.
19 Oct	Baptised: Rosaline Shathabhai Chandran, Priscilla Chua Soon Eng, Brinda Kow Ah Hoon, Tan Bee Hua, Wendy Tan Siew Kiau, Cheng Yoke Meng, Ong Kuan Hock & Eric Teo Guan Bock.
25 Oct	Holy Matrimony: Sim Chear Wah & Lim Mee Foong.
26 Oct	Assembly Training Class Night. Theme: "Are You Ready". Speaker: Andrew Lim.
1 Nov	Assembly Retreat at Outram Sec School. Theme: "We Love, We Care, We Build" Eph 4:15. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Purpose: Opportunity for fellowship with saints. 80 attended.
29 Nov	Senior Christians' Gathering at the home of Low Seow Meng & Peggy. Theme: "The Lord will guard your going out & your coming in" Ps. 121:8. Speaker: G D James.
15 – 19 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp held at Christ Church Secondary School. Theme: "Let Us Run". Teachers: Godfrey Ong, Sim Chear Wah, Charlie Tan & Doris Woon.
20 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Vincent Ooi Yew Leng & Tay Siew Siong.
25 Dec	Christmas Service. Speaker: S V Ramalingam. Chairman: Eric Choa. 600 attended.
28 Dec	Baptised: Koh Boon Hwa, Lim Yi Jia, Eddie Teo Ban Heng, Yaw Tong Meng, Patricia Eng Yee Guey, Lily Koh Bee Gan, Michele Wong Liang Li & Sandy Yeo Lay Hoon.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Speaker: Albert Wong. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. 300 attended.

1987

5 Jan	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten started. 4 classes (2Nur, 1K1, 1K2) of 86 children for AM session & 88 children for PM session with 10 staff.
14 – 15 Jan	Special Ministry by W A Peterson on "Charismatic Sign Gifts".
Feb	First Free Tuition Programme was launched for Primary 6 & Secondary 1 with 14 tutors. About 60 students registered.
4 Feb	BAMK registered as a charitable organisation under the Charities Act.
6 Mar	Commended to serve as elder: Harry Tan Siew Ann.
7 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Cheng Yoke Meng & Cheong Mun Yee.
15 Mar	123 rd Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-giving. Theme: "The Challenge & The Crown". Speaker: Albert Wong. 96 prize-winners, 20 received the Roll of Honour. 330 attended.
16 – 18 Mar	Daily Vacation Bible School (DVBS). Theme: "Discovering God's Love". Teachers: Tay Kim Swee, Charlie Tan & Doris Woon. Average 170 children attended daily.
17 Apr	Easter Conference. Speakers: Lee Kok Onn & Peter Wee on "Resurrection".
Apr / May	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Mary Law Moi Chan, Vincent Chang Shian Shee, Lucy Chang, Tan Leng Ghee, Bessie Tan Puey Teck, Lily Wee, Lee Siew Ngan, Cecilia Lim Teck Chin, Catherine Lim Teck Kim, Sunny Wong Siew Wah, Pauline Wong Swee Hoon, Henry Soh Yew Chong, Audrey Soh Ngik Fah, Lee Soo Siang, Anthony Tay Kim Seng, Kenneth Wong Choo Leong, Doris Wong Ah Ying, Daisy Khong Lay See, Lim Foo Keong & Lim Guat Khim.
16 Apr	Holy Matrimony: Ho Kuang Cheng & Loo Lay Choo.

26 Apr	1 st Assembly Fellowship Night cum dinner to enhance fellowship.
26 Apr	Baptised: Christina Cheng Hoon Siong, Teo Kah Bee & Wee Eng Siang.
1 May	Holy Matrimony: Steve Chia Soo Wan & Priscilla Chua Soon Eng. Holy Matrimony: Jeffrey Jee Kim Tian & Betty Yuen Peck Hong. Holy Matrimony: Aloysius Ong Tah Bek & Shirley Wong Poh Ying.
9 May	Holy Matrimony: Ho Theam Kwee & Chan Wai Ying.
10 May	Baptised: Jean Chew Poh Pek, Julia Lee Guek Lian, Alice Lee Woon Chang, Wendy Wong Foong Chun, Susan Lau Meng Tat, Loh Shaw Kong & Vera Tay Teck Huat.
12 May	Senior Christians' Gathering at Fairfield Methodist Primary School. Speaker: Lawrence Chan.
27 May	Called Home to Glory: Chia Hock Khee.
30 May	Holy Matrimony: Joseph Sng Kok Wah & Sara Ang Siew Hwee.
3 – 17 June	Mission trip to Perth, Australia. Participants: S V Ramalingam, Stephen Lee, Godfrey Ong, Daniel Woon, Victor Yeo, Edmund Yong, Susan Kwan, Lee Guat Lian, Alice Tan & Jessie Yuen.
6 – 13 June	Assembly Family Camp at Port Dickson Methodist Centre. Theme: "The Master's Touch". Teachers: Khoo Oon Soo, Charles Lingam, Charlie Tan & Doris Woon. 104 attended. Committee Chairman: Tay Kim Swee.
23 Jun	Called Home to Glory: Chong Saw Ee.
27 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Rivelino Goh Boon Ing & Dorcas Chan Hui Leng.
5 Jul	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Wong Peng Sang, Irene Wong & Valerie Wong Yin Meng (Malaysia).
26 Jul	Baptised: Chong Ai Chi, Foo Wei Chuen, Susan Gan Su, Elaine Oh Poh Leng, Jasmine Wong Liang May, Chan Wai Kiong, Julian Lauw Joo Lim, Lim Chon Jioh & Tan Geok Seng.
25 Aug	Called Home to Glory: Chia Boon Leong. Annual General Meeting (AGM) chaired by Lim Tian Leong. 58 attended.
29 Aug	Annual Meeting. Theme: Psalms 103 & 65:1-2. Speaker: G D James. 280 attended.
18 Oct	Called Home to Glory: Commended worker Tommy Cheong.
21 – 23 Oct	Senior Citizens' Camp. Venue: Sentosa SU Campsite.
21 Oct	Holy Matrimony: Fong Ban Lee & Evelyn Tan Gek Lan.
24 Oct	Holy Matrimony: Goh Teck Hua & Ling Lai Lei.
4 Nov	1 st Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Concert. Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Chua Teck Koon (Sr).
6 Nov	Commended to serve as elder: Peter Wee Huat Leong.
29 Nov	Baptised: Ruby Chia Cheng Siew, Lim Yi-En, Phebe Pon Yeng Kit, Lau Meng Tat, Kenneth Lim Kian Lie, William Oh Cheng Tong, Johnny Fan Kow Feng & Fan Mei Ling.
5 Dec	Senior Christians' Gathering at Fairfield Methodist Primary School. About 100 attended.
16 Dec	Called Home to Glory: Julian Lauw Joo Lim.
19 Dec	Youth Gospel Rally. Speaker: Tan Kian Huat.
19 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Kelvin Chan Keen Ngai & Betsy Chwee Tih Foon.
25 Dec	Christmas Service. Theme: "World without Christ". Speaker: Jimmy Chew. Chairman: Lawrence Chan. 800 attended.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Topic: Exodus 12. Speaker: Lee Kok Onn. 300 attended.

1988

1 Jan	Sunday School Teachers' Retreat at Shell Sports Club. Theme: "Towards Excellence In Sunday School". Speaker: Peter Wee.
3 Jan	Baptised: Foo Jang Inn, Pristine Lee Seok Yim, Kok Weng Chong & Daniel Wee Tien Sing.
16 Jan	Holy Matrimony: Andrew Lim Chai Heong & Liew Mui Fong.

20 – 22 Jan	Seminar by W A Peterson. Topic: "Success & Failure Of Leadership Based On The Life Of David". About 145 attended.
12 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Put Man Wai & Winnifred Soh Hock Hee.
13 Mar	124 th Sunday School Prize-giving. Theme: "Praise & Thanksgiving". Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Maud Van Hien gave away the prizes. 350 attended.
14 – 16 Mar	DVBS. Theme: "Lost & Found - Joy". Teachers: Yeo Oon Boo, Tay Kim Swee & Godfrey Ong. 110 attended. Committee Chairman: Chan Kwee Yeow.
20 Mar	Baptised: Lim Sock Hwa, Rebecca Tan Chit Lee, Kong Kin Seng, Johnny Ten Thiam Funn & Yeo Ann Kian. Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Chow Lai Kuen, Jean Lee Chow Bee, Ong Tock Leng, Alice Poon Gim Hee, Nancy Koh Beng Soon, Madasamy Valiappan.
1 Apr	Easter Conference. Theme: "Lifestyle Evangelism". Speakers: Philip Tan & G D James. 300 attended.
27 – 30 Apr	Special Ministry by Geoffrey Bull. Topic: "Sermon on the Mount".
4 – 7 May	Special Ministry by Geoffrey Bull. Topic: "Miracles of the Lord & His Second Coming".
17 May	Holy Matrimony: Jason Lee Yong Chong & Celia Yeoh Say Leng. Holy Matrimony: Madasamy s/o Valiappan & Krishnavijaya d/o Suppian.
4 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Kok Weng Chong & Foo Jang Inn.
11 – 17 Jun	Assembly Family Camp at HCCC, Cameron Highlands. Theme: "Patterned To Christ". Teachers: W A Peterson, Tan Kian Huat, Tan Chee Hwee, Alice Tan & Mah Lai Yeng. 140 attended. Committee Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong.
18 Jun	Love Singapore Mission at NTUC Conference Hall. Evangelist: G D James. Chairman: S V Ramalingam. Song Leader: Joseph Sng.
19 – 26 Jun	Special Ministry by W A Peterson on "Minor Prophets".
26 Jun	Baptised: Jana Aw Soh Kuan, Koh Geok Eng, Jennifer Than & Joyce Wong Foong Choo.
Aug	Queensland Mailbox Bible Correspondence started. Committee: Chia Boon Hong, Dieu Eng Hock, Ng Lee Peng, Tan Chee Hwee & Tan Soo Hoon.
3, 10 & 24 Aug	Communication Seminar. Instructors: Lee Kok Onn, Peter Wee, Lim Tian Leong, Khoo Oon Soo, Flora Wee & Irene Wong.
5 Aug	Commended to serve as elder: Sum Siew Tak.
6 Aug	Holy Matrimony: Lim Cheng Huat & Joyce Leow Jin Bee.
13 Aug	1 st Combined RFG Evangelistic Dinner held at Pin Hsiang Restaurant (RELC). Speaker: Stanley Wong.
28 Aug	Baptised: Chong Yiau Chi, Lotus Isabella Lim Mei Hua, Tiffany Lim Tian Poh, Beverly Wong Yin San, Fiona Yeo Li Choo & Wong Toon San.
10 Sep	Ladies' Retreat at Garden Hotel. Theme: "Blossoming For God". Speaker: Eileen J Kuhn.
13 Sep	AGM chaired by Lim Tian Leong. 62 attended.
17 Sep	Annual Meeting. Theme: "His Name". Speaker: Peter Wee. Chairman: Chong Kim Chow. 150 attended.
20 – 24 Sep	Southeast Asia Christian Conference held in Seoul, Korea. Participating countries: Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore & Taiwan. Participants from our assembly: John Ching, Lim Tian Leong, S V Ramalingam, Tan Chee Hwee, Tan Kian Huat, Wong Tuck Keong, Janice Chan & Chong Lai Wah. Participants from other assemblies: David Tan, Richard Lai & Charles Lingam.
24 – 30 Sep	Mission trip to Seoul to visit assemblies to teach & preach God's Word. Participants: S V Ramalingam, Tan Chee Hwee, Tan Kian Huat, Wong Tuck Keong, John Ching, Chong Lai Wah, Janice Chan & Michelle Loh.
1 Oct	Holy Matrimony: Tan Ah Lim & Susan Kwan Moh Lan. Holy Matrimony: Wong Toon San & Tiffany Lim Tian Poh. Holy Matrimony: Kuehsamy s/o Ponnusamy & Sim Seow Lan.
2 Oct	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Irene Koh Tiam Ong & Wong Oi Kwan.
8 Oct	Holy Matrimony: Mui Eng Teck & Wendy Wong Foong Chun.
22 Oct	Senior Christians' Gathering at Lai Meng Restaurant.
3 Nov	2 nd Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert. Speaker: Peter Wee. Chairman: Chua Teck Koon. Jean Chan presented certificates to 55 K2 graduands.
8 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Eric Choa Beng Liang & Koh Geok Eng.

12 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Roland Kam Yew Wai & Cecilia Low Wei Leng.
14 Nov	Farewell: Chook Kum Seng & Yvonne relocated to Melbourne, Australia.
19 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Tan Ah Beng & Teo Siet Lim.
26 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Hum Whye Chow & Ng Mui Hwa.
4 Dec	Gospel meeting resumed at Bethesda Hall (BB). Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Chia Boon Hong.
5-9 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at Bukit Batok Secondary School. Theme: "Jesus, Our Joy & Our Strength". Teachers: Godfrey Ong, Andrew Sng & Sim Chear Wah. Committee Chairman: Clarence Chua.
8 Dec	First Thursday Bible Fellowship meeting held at Bethesda Hall (BB). 20 attended.
14 Dec	Called Home to Glory: Henry Thein.
24 Dec	Christmas Eve Service. Speaker: Lawrence Chan. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. 500 attended.
31 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Stephen Chang Chean Seng & Christina Cheng Hoon Siong. Watchnight Service. Speaker: S V Ramalingam. Chairman: Tay Kim Swee. 250 attended.

1989

1 Jan	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Victor Ng Eng Kok, Kathleen Ng & Michelle Loh Soon Lin. CEP commenced with more than 200 attending.
2 Jan	1 st CEP Retreat at Garden Hotel. Theme: "Relevance Of Christian Education". Speaker: Wong Wai Chow. 64 attended. Holy Matrimony: Joseph Lee Poh Sing & Tham Yee Lin.
7 Jan	Holy Matrimony: Yaw Kay Whai & Vicki Wong Sui Kum.
14 Jan	Holy Matrimony: Andrew Sng Kok Keong & Brinda Kow Ah Hoon.
22 Jan	Baptised: Stacy Loh Soke Yee, Evelyn Leong-Foo Chiou Chin, Leong Chee Tiek & Robert Hmar.
23 & 25 Jan	Special Ministry by W A Peterson on "Israel/Jordan/Egypt & High Priest Garments".
11 Feb	Holy Matrimony: Steven Tan Tian Bee & Loo Chin Imm.
5 Mar	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Chng Hung Kee & Florence.
11 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Eric Wee Hian Teck & Chow Lai Kuen. Holy Matrimony: Steven Leong Yee Choy & Michelle Ho Yoke Leng.
12 Mar	125 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-giving. Theme: "Press Towards The Mark". Speaker: Vincent Chang. Nellie Gaw gave away the prizes.
19 Mar	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Paul Ho Kok Chee & June Ho Moi Chin.
24 – 25 Mar	Easter Conference. Theme: "His Humiliation & Headship". Speakers: Ung Kim Cheng, Lim Tian Leong & Peter Wee.
9 Apr	Called Home to Glory: Khoo Tiang Hock.
23 Apr	Baptised: Jasmine Ho Yin Chun & Lee Meow Leng.
19 May	Senior Christians' Gathering at the home of Low Seow Meng & Peggy.
27 May	Holy Matrimony: Lee Chong Kiat & Amy Poon Lai Kiew.
3-9 Jun	Assembly Family Camp at HCCC, Cameron Highlands. Theme: "Do It The Real Way". Camp teachers: Stan Warren, Tan Kian Huat, Tay Kim Swee, Karen Mak & Pauline Phua. 105 attended. Committee Chairman: S V Ramalingam.
11 Jun	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Andrew Tan Aik Joo.
12, 14 – 17 Jun	Special Ministry by Stan Warren (UK). Topic: The Acts of the Apostles.
18 Jun	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Wong Kok Seng & Annie Wong Choy Ying.
25 Jun	Baptised: Michelle Leong-Ho Yoke Leng, Tan-Teo Siet Lim, Benjamin Chee Wei Tze.
1 Jul	Holy Matrimony: Dieu Eng Hock & Chia Boon Khim.
29 Jul	Assembly Youth Rally at DBS Auditorium. Theme: "A Friend Forever". Speaker: Tan Kian Huat. Chairman: Andrew Sng. 500 attended, 16 counseled. Holy Matrimony: Lee Kam Wing & Lotus Isabella Lim Mei Hua.
5 Aug	Holy Matrimony: Hiroshi Tonomura & Quan Chiew Guat.

23 – 26 Aug	International Christian Conference in Japan. Participants: Tan Chee Hwee & Amy, Steven Tan & Chin Imm, Peter Wee & Flora, Tan Kian Huat, Tan Leng Ghee, S V Ramalingam & Chong Lai Wah.
27 Aug	Baptised: Margaret Lee Thye Peng, Yeoh-Chow Ann & Wong Wah Say.
4 Sep	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: David Leng.
9 Sep	Holy Matrimony: David Kong Chan Keong & Sally Lim Chiew Yian. Holy Matrimony: Andrew Tan Aik Joo & Doreen Koh Foo Yong.
19 Sep	AGM chaired by Lim Tian Leong. 64 attended.
23 Sep	Annual Meeting. Speaker: S V Ramalingam. Chairman: Chia Boon Hong. 90 attended.
30 Sep	Holy Matrimony: Johnny Ten Thiam Funn & Nancy Tay Lak Yam.
5 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Keith Wan Kin-Man (HK) & Wong Yoke Yin (Malaysia).
8 Nov	3 rd Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert. Theme: Proverbs 22:6. Speaker: Lim Tian Leong. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. Lim Chin Chin presented certificates to 49 K2 graduands.
29 – 30 Nov & 2 Dec	Special Ministry by W A Peterson at Bethesda Hall (BB). Topic: Psalms 22-24.
8 – 10 Dec	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: “Came & Coming Soon”. Evangelist: W A Peterson.
16 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Daniel Chew Chee San & Janet Chan Chew May.
25 Dec	Christmas Service. Speaker: Lee Kok Onn. Chairman: Chua Teck Koon (Sr) 600 attended.
31 Dec	Baptised: Susie Ang Siew Lee, Koh Lok Hong, Carolyn Leong Lai San, Constance Ling Siew Lian, Cindi Tan Chong Cheng, Tan Hwee Hoong, Tong Pik Yi, Dorothy Wong Wai Meng, Doris Chang Sai Eng, Irene Sim Chiew Har, Tan Swee Ee, Yee Kin Lan, Stephen Chang Chun Kuan, Steven Ko Kong Huat, Benjamin Koh Ek Coon, Donald Lee Thian Huat, Denis Tan Yung Chew & Robert Yee Keong Hui. Watchnight Service. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairman: Sum Siew Tak. 250 attended.

1990

1 Jan	CEP Retreat at RELC. Theme: “Learning & Teaching”. Speaker: Harry Tan. 65 attended. Committee Chairman: Khoo Oon Soo.
17 Feb	Senior Christians’ Gathering at RELC. Theme: “Keep On Working For Him”. Speaker: Gaw Synn Ghee. Chairman: Chua Teck Koon (Sr) 96 attended.
25 Feb	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: David Chiam Yeh Sing & Daphne Chiam Poh Boey.
3 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Daniel Thein Boon Hin & Kellie Soh Hock Chan.
4 Mar	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Akiko Minamide (Japan) & Wong Lai Pun.
9 Mar	Called Home to Glory: Cheong Wai Pun.
12 – 14 Mar	DVBS. Theme: “A Friend Forever”. Teachers: Charlie Tan & Boon Chuan Jian. 70 attended. 11 were counselled for salvation. Committee Chairman: Tay Kim Swee.
18 Mar	126 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-giving. Theme: “Looking Unto Jesus”. Speaker: Felix Lim. Chairman: Sum Siew Tak. Lorna Lim gave away the prizes. 350 attended.
24 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Steven Ko Kong Huat & Florence Tan Yew Kheng.
31 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Tan Kian Huat & Akiko Minamide.
1 Apr	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Khoo Boo Cheong.
13 Apr	Easter Conference. Theme: “Because He Lives”. Speakers: Lawrence Chan & Khoo Oon Soo.
28 Apr	Holy Matrimony: John Tan Yuan Kang & Angelina Tu Chee Siew.
1 May	Holy Matrimony: Tan Hee Chin & Dora Lai Kiet Wah.
12 May	Holy Matrimony: Jimmy Tan Gim Tat & Ling Seaw Foong.
2 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Teo Sek Sum & Joyce Goh Chu Sing.
4 – 9 Jun	Assembly Family Camp at Shah Beach Resort, Malacca. Theme: “Mirrors & Windows”. Camp teachers: Geoffrey Bull, Robert Hmar, Charlie Tan, Karen Mak, Lim Ai Lin & Alice Tan. 156 attended. Committee Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong.
13 – 15, 20 – 22 Jun	Special Ministry by Geoffrey Bull (UK). Topics: Habakkuk & 2 Timothy.
29 Jul	Baptised: Roland Goh Eng Soo, Nini Sukamto & Lim Wee Sang.

6 Aug	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Lee Tong Heng & Ruth Lee.
14 – 18 Aug	Christian Conference 1990 held at NTUC Pasir Ris Resort. Theme: “Christian Discipleship Today”. Speaker: Boyd Aitken (HK). Committee Chairmen: Lawrence Chan & Lim Tian Leong. Participating countries: Hong Kong (7), Taiwan (4), Japan (114), Korea (69), Malaysia (51), Philippines (4), Singapore (51) & others (15) making a total of 315 participants.
19 Sep	Called Home to Glory: Yeo Chin Niong.
20 Sep	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Paul Au Yong Kwok Mun & Ann Au Yong Ah Nee.
25 Sep	AGM chaired by Lim Tian Leong. 74 attended.
29 Sep	Annual Meeting. Theme: “This church is dying, are you preparing for the funeral service or do you want to preserve it until rapture”. Speaker: Lim Tian Leong. Chairman: Sum Siew Tak. 220 attended.
28 Oct	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Victor Henry & Annal Henry.
31 Oct	4 th Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert. Speaker: Lawrence Chan. Chairman: Chua Teck Koon (Sr) Wong Bee Onn presented certificates to 74 K2 graduands.
4 Nov	Baptised: Khong Li Kuen, Lynette Khong Keng Ping, Maggie Wong Sau Leng, Jenny Teo Chen Cheng, Catherine d/o Vellasamy & Cynthia Chua Chor Keng.
10 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Yeo Ann Kian & Khong Li Kuen.
23 Nov	Praise & Thanksgiving Nite for Christian Conference 1990. Programme: 1 hour video presentation & testimony by some conference participants.
8 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Mau Teck Hwee & Kam Yoke Leng.
10 Dec	Called Home to Glory: Lauw Pek Tjin.
10 – 14 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at Fuchun Sec. School. Theme: “Like a thief in the night”. Teachers: Clarence Chua, Tay Kim Swee, Andrew Sng & Priscilla Chia. 118 attended. Committee Chairman: Stephen Chang Chean Seng.
19 Dec	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Wong Wai Pong.
25 Dec	Christmas Service. Speaker: Peter Wee. Chairman: Chua Teck Koon (Sr) Bethesda Choir presented “The Night The Angels Sang”. 700 attended.
30 Dec	Baptised: Casuarina Peck, Serena Peck, Ann Yam Ngan Leng, Cheung Chi Yung, Peter Chow Chorng Ann, Keoy Soo Siong, Colin Lim Tze Yen, Simon Song Shiang Jyea, Alan Tan Suan Pin, Irwin Tan Suan Yen, Francis Toke Kwang Hin, Susan Toke Seok Khim.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Topic: Phil 3:12-16. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Adrin Loi.

1991

1 Jan	CEP Retreat at RELC. Theme: “The Joy Of Service”. Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. 71 attended. Committee Chairman: Chong Kim Chow.
12 Jan	Holy Matrimony: David Chan Yin & Valerie Lek.
13 Jan	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Andy Ko Yan Yee (Malaysia).
19 Jan	Senior Christians’ Gathering at Bethesda Hall (BB). Theme: “God Knows”. Speaker: W A Peterson. Chairman: Chua Teck Koon (Sr). 70 attended.
24 & 25 Jan	Special Ministry by W A Peterson at Bethesda Hall (BB).
4 Feb	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Jenny Wan Choi Wan (HK).
6 Feb	Called Home to Glory: Lim Chin Kheng.
11 Mar	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Annie See Tho Kum Moi.
17 Mar	127 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-giving. Theme: “The Potter & The Clay” Isa. 64:8. Speaker: Chia Boon Hong. Chairman: Robert Hmar. Jean Chan gave away the prizes.
29 & 30 Mar	Easter Missionary Conference. Theme: “Vision & Mission – what is your ambition?” Speakers: S V Ramalingam & Arnold Doolan (Portugal). Mission exhibits displayed by Prayer Voices. 300 & 100 attended respectively
6 Apr	Holy Matrimony: Kui Tuck Meng & Amy Chua Bee Leng.
7 Apr	Baptised: Natalie Khong, Diane Soh Chin-Fen, Michelle Tan Gek Choo, Lilian Lim Weng Siong & Daniel Tok Meng Kang.
5 May	Called Home to Glory: Rosie Eu.
19 May	Baptised: Oh Kah Hiang, Winston Chan Boon Hock, Andrew Kwan Kok Tiong & Gerald Ling Chee Mun.

20 May	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Wong Yoke San (Malaysia).
28 May	Holy Matrimony: Andrew Kwan Kok Tiong & Lily Koh Bee Gan.
1 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Samuel Koh Yong Chuan & Chew Wei Phean.
3 – 8 Jun	Assembly Family Camp. Theme: “Koinonia” Study in 1 st John. Teachers: J B Nicholson (Sr), Tay Kim Swee, Edmund Yong, Mah Lai Yeng & Yeo Wei Yean. 139 attended. Committee Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong.
10 – 13 Jun	Special Ministry by J B Nicholson (Sr). Topic: “Does It Pay To Pray?” Luke 18:1. 250 attended.
15 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Keoy Soo Siong & Phebe Pon Yeng Kit.
23 Jun	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Karen Aw Chiew Huay.
24 Jun	Holy Matrimony: William Lim & Tay Siok Hoon.
27 Jun	Called Home to Glory: Chia Hock An.
29 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Daniel Tok Meng Kang & Michelle Tan Gek Choo.
30 Jun	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Chee Soon Juan.
Jul	Boys’ Brigade 43 rd Company started at Yishun Secondary School.
7 Jul	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Leonard Lim Teck Hong, Samuel Wee Tien Wang & Karen Hoo Hay Kuan.
19 Jul	Holy Matrimony: Samuel Wee Tien Wang & Karen Hoo Hay Kuan.
20 Jul	Holy Matrimony: Richard Tong Loh Ah & Ancia Yeo Bee Ting at Bethesda Chapel.
25 Aug	Baptised: Wendy Poon Tze Leng, Solis B Rebecca, Edna Tay Beng Chin, Jeffrey Ho Sey Phin.
21 Sep	Holy Matrimony: Song Shiang Jyea & Chan Sook Kit.
24 Sep	AGM chaired by Lim Tian Leong. 70 attended.
28 Sep	Annual Meeting. Theme: “The Life of Samson”. Speaker: Lee Kok Onn. Chairman: Adrin Loi. 100 attended.
29 Sep	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Gloria Gallagon.
7 Oct	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Wong Swee Kum.
31 Oct	5 th Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert. Theme: “Jesus Blessed The Little Children” Mark 10:13-16. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Clarence Chua. Mah Lai Seong presented certificates to 82 K2 graduands.
9 – 11 Nov	Mission exposure trip to the Senoi work in Cameron Highlands, Malaysia. Participants: Galvin Chia, Kam Yew Chong, Alex Loh, Ng Siew Kiang, Tan Chee Hwee, Tan Kian Huat, Wong Tuck Keong, Edmund Yong, Choy Wai Fann, Diana Lau, Juline Soh, Cindi Tan, Jenny Tan, Suzanne Tan & Akiko Tan.
30 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Ng Kwang Seng & Martha Ting Ying Ling.
9 – 11 Dec	DVBS. Theme: “The Unchanging Love Of God”. Teachers: Charlie Tan & Wong Tuck Keong. 43 attended. Committee Chairman: Tay Kim Swee.
25 Dec	Called Home to Glory: Cheong Chee Hock. Christmas Service. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Chia Boon Hong. Bethesda Choir presented “Christ is Born”. 750 attended.
29 Dec	Baptised: Sharon Chan Wai Ching, Foo Choon Yen, Ho Meow Teng, Lim Han She, Cindy Ong Su Huay, Esther Tan Ong Neo, Janice Yip Pui Fung, Valerie Chan Soo Noi, Chu Chern Foong & Wong Khan Kwong.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Theme: “Watch, Wait & Warn”. Speaker: Peter Wee. Chairman: Ng Lee Peng. 250 attended.

1992

1 Jan	CEP Retreat at OMF Auditorium. Theme: “Faithfulness & Fruitfulness In Service”. Speaker: Lee Kok Onn. 68 attended. Committee Chairman: Adrin Loi.
5 Jan	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Jane Varughese, George Varughese & Elam Lam Siu Ling.
22 – 24 Jan	Special Ministry by W A Peterson on “The Glories Of Solomon’s Temple” & “Demonstrations Of The High Priestly Garments”.
1 Feb	Holy Matrimony: Dennis Tan Yung Chew & Tong Pik Yi.
3 Feb	Called Home to Glory: Chua Teck Koon (Sr).
9 Feb	Commended to the Lord for full-time service: Edmund Yong. Commended to serve as elder: Tan Kian Huat.

15 Feb	Praise & Thanksgiving Service at Bethesda Hall (BB) before the premise was returned to URA. Speaker: Lauw Kim Guan. Chairman: Lawrence Chan. Testimonies by Stanley Wong & Yeo Oon Boo. 200 attended. <hr/> Holy Matrimony: Chee Soon Juan & Wang Chih Mei.
9 Mar	Property at 77 Bras Basah Road was returned to URA.
15 Mar	128 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-giving. Theme: "Be ye His children...run the race". Speaker: Mau Teck Hwee. Chairman: Khoo Oon Soo. Prizes were presented by Peter Wee to the scholars.
12 Apr	Baptised: Amanda Wong Lee Meng, Frankie Cha Yee Cheong, Chan Man Wong, Derek Loh Kong Yue & Kevin Ong Choon Chye.
17 – 18 Apr	Easter Conference. Theme: "Old things passed away...all things become new" 2 Cor 5:17. Speakers: Harry Tan & Lee Kok Onn. Chairmen: Eric Choa & Adrin Loi. 250 & 180 attended respectively.
21 Apr	Called Home to Glory: Foo Yoke Chow.
1 May	Holy Matrimony: Lim Kang Song & Liu Siew Mui.
2 May	Holy Matrimony: Leonard Lim Teck Hong & Edna Tay Beng Chin.
30 May	Holy Matrimony: Clarence Chua Eng Khye & Elaine Oh Poh Leng.
31 May	Baptised: Andrew Chan Kheng Swee, Jeremy Ng Oon Tien & Kelvin Teo Kim Huat.
3 – 5 Jun	Special Ministry by Ian Irvine (Australia) on the Book of Philipians. Chairmen: Sum Siew Tak, Adrin Loi & Edmund Yong.
6 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Chong Kwok Yan & Tung Wai Chan.
13 – 19 Jun	Assembly Family Camp at CCC, Penang. Theme: "Be A Barnabas Yes!" Teachers: J B Nicholson (Jr.), Ong Paak Loey, Wong Kok Seng, William Chew, Lim Yean Wah & Mah Lai Yeng. Night workshop conducted by Ung Kim Cheng. 148 attended. Committee Chairman: Lim Tian Leong.
20 Jun	Special Ministry by J B Nicholson (Sr). Topic: The Christ, the Church, the Cross & the Coming Again. Chairman: Harry Tan.
11 July	Holy Matrimony: Mervyn Lim & Serena Cheong.
3 Aug	Special Ministry by Ian Irvine on Zech. 12 & 14. Chairman: S V Ramalingam. 150 attended.
12 – 15 Aug	International Christian Conference held in Seoul, Korea. Theme: "Becoming a church where people are transformed" Eph 4:11-12. Speaker: Jean Gibson (USA). Participants: Choy Wai Fann, Irene Koh, Ng Ngah Lee, Sally Wong, Mary Law, Elizabeth Wong, Helen Teo, Jane Tay, Flora Wee, Boey San Fei, Wong Tuck Keong, Peter Wee, Joseph Sng, Steve Chia, S V Ramalingam & Edmund Yong.
18 Aug	Called Home to Glory: Minnie Fong.
26 Aug	Called Home to Glory: Chia Kim Boon.
29 Aug	Holy Matrimony: Kwon Dae Yun & Jenny Teo Chen Cheng.
30 Aug	Baptised: Chee Chih Mei, Maurice Sng Kok Hoe, Vincent Tham Chee Wai & Andy Yip Kah Sie.
12 Sep	Holy Matrimony: Peter Tan Wee Shin & Karen Aw Chiew Huay.
19 Sep	Senior Christians' Gathering at Teochew Garden Restaurant. Speaker: Lauw Kim Guan. 120 attended.
22 Sep	AGM chaired by Lim Tian Leong. 64 attended.
26 Sep	Annual Meeting. Theme: "The Christian Ministry" 1 Cor 4: 10-17. Speaker: Harry Tan, Chairman: Lawrence Chan. 150 attended.
17 Oct	Holy Matrimony: Foo Hee Kiang & Bernice Chow Kit Lin.
4 Nov	6 th Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert. Theme: Matt 18. Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Harry Tan. Juliet Khoo presented the certificates to 76 K2 graduands.
27 Nov	Dedication Night for the "Life" Gospel Rally. Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Song items presented by Bethesda Choir, Youth Group & a group of sisters. 180 attended.
4-6 Dec	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: "Life". Evangelist: Peter Ferry (Thailand). Chairmen: Chia Boon Hong, Daniel Thein & Sum Siew Tak. Song Leaders: William Koh, Andrew Sng & Tan Ah Beng. Song items presented by Bethesda Choir, Youth group & a group of sisters. Average 300 nightly & 9 were counselled. Committee Chairman: Sum Siew Tak.
12 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Denis Yeo Yew Huat & Chew Wei Yean.
13 Dec	Commended to serve as deacons: Stephen Chang Chun Kuan, Ho Kuang Cheng, Victor Ng Eng Kok & Wong Kok Seng.
20 Dec	Called Home to Glory: Betty Lim.
25 Dec	Christmas Service. Speaker: Thomas John. Chairman: Tan Kian Huat. Bethesda Choir presented "Promise of Peace". 700 attended.

27 Dec	Baptised: Hon Li Hsing, Liang Pei Ping, Lim Han Ee, Tay Lin Hwee, Leong Mun Fye & Leong Sow Yoong.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Theme: Proverbs 30:15-16. Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Chong Kim Chow.

1993

1 Jan	CEP Retreat at Bethesda Hall (AMK). Theme: "Be Careful How He Builds" 1 Cor 3:10. Video presentation on the "7 Laws Of The Teacher" by Howard Hendricks. 70 attended. Committee chairman: Tan Kian Huat.
3 Jan	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Anne Choo Lian Eng, Adelin Wong Yi Mei, Patrick Wee Huat Bee, Adrian Wong Kuok Mun & Denis Yeo Yew Huat. Commended to serve as elder: Vincent Chang. Commended to the Lord for full-time service: Peter Wee.
9 Jan	Holy Matrimony: Tan Jing Poi & Christina Chong Thiam Teck.
10 & 12 Jan	Special Ministry by W A Peterson on Song of Solomon. 150 attended nightly.
30 Jan	Holy Matrimony: Tang Tong Hai & Chong Ern Chi.
14 Feb	Commended to the Lord for full-time service: Robert Hmar.
14 Mar	129 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-giving. Theme: "Children, Learn To Fear The Lord Your God" Deut 31:13. Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Lim Chin Chin gave away the prizes.
20 Mar	Holy Matrimony: K Ravichandran & Cathren A/P Vellasamy.
21 Mar	Baptised: Joanna Loo Soke Leng & Doris Wee Ah Nui.
28 & 29 Mar	Special Ministry by David Mishkin on "Gospel In The Feasts Of Israel" & "Christ In The Passover Presentation".
9 & 10 Apr	Easter Conference. Theme: "In These Last Days". Speakers: Doug Kazen & Peter Wee. Chairmen: Khoo Oon Soo & Tay Kim Swee. 400 & 200 attended respectively.
15 & 16 Apr	Special Ministry by Alf Chote (NZ) on "Worship".
30 Apr & 1 May	AEG Evangelistic Film show. Speakers: Joseph Sng & Chia Boon Hong respectively. 50 attended.
6 May	Holy Matrimony: Edmund Yong Yit Lin & Pauline Koh Lok Hong.
30 May	Baptised: Bok Mei Ling, Yeo Sian Yong, Dieu Siew Pin & Dieu Shook Yen.
1 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Eugene Choo Wee Ee & Tan Chong Cheng.
4 & 5 Jun	Special ministry by Donald Chan (Aust) on "Predicament & Praise Of Paul" & "The Characteristics Of Christian Co-workers". Chairmen: Lawrence Chan & Lim Tian Leong.
6 Jun	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Shirley Chee Mei Kin, Annie Loh Gek Choo, Rosalind Tan Geok Hoon, Foo Kim Lian & Betty Chong Kia Lin (Jolleen).
7 – 12 Jun	Assembly Family Camp at Le Village, Kuantan. Theme: "Maranatha". Teachers: J B Nicholson (Sr), Donald Chan, Tan Ah Beng, Gan Kee Pin, Jan Boey & Alice Tan. 179 attended. Committee Chairman: Harry Tan.
14, 16 – 18 Jun	Special Ministry by J B Nicholson (Sr) (Canada) on "Faint Not, Finish Well & Follow Him" Heb 11-13. 180 attended.
26 Jun	Boys' Brigade Enrolment Service. Speaker: Charlie Tan.
2 Jul	Youth Musical Rally at Bethesda Hall (AMK). Theme: "The Great Pretender". Evangelist: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Andrew Sng. 400 attended.
3 Jul	Youth Musical Rally at PUB Auditorium. Theme: "The Great Pretender". Evangelist: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Joseph Sng. 400 attended.
11 – 22 Jul	Mission trip to Indonesia to assist in an evangelistic English Camp. Participants: Patrick Wee, Tay Kim Swee, Edmund Yong, Yeo Chee Hiang, Choy Wai Fann & Yeo Sian Yong.
25 Jul	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Victor Seow.
4 – 6 Aug	Special Ministry by Jean Gibson (USA). Topic: Study on Cults. 150 attended.
8 Aug	Baptised: Celina Chua, Chua Shi Min & Wang Jiaru.
14 Aug	Senior Christians' Gathering at Pine Tree Country Club. Speaker: G D James.
21 Sep	AGM chaired by Lim Tian Leong. 67 attended.

25 Sep	Annual Meeting. Theme: "Faithfulness & fruitfulness of the Lord". Speaker: Tay Kim Swee, Chairman: Harry Tan. 100 attended.
29 Sep	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Kew Nguk Fah.
17 Oct	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Colin Goh Yew Teck, Goh Moi Ying Cecilia, Gary Goh Khee Giap, Justin Goh Khee Meng, Calvin Goh Khee Heng, Roger Goh Khee Seng & Goh Siew Fong.
24 Oct	Baptised: Ong Ming Ann, Irene Tay Bee Hong, Victor Tang Ka Cheung, Travis Wong Chee Khuen & Peter Wong Choong Yi.
3 Nov	7 th Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert. Speaker: Harry Tan. 90 graduands. 500 attended.
4 Nov	Called Home to Glory: Choe Weng Kay.
7 Nov	Inauguration of air-conditioning at Main Hall & Hall 1B.
10 – 12 Nov	Special Ministry by Ian Irvine. Topics: "4 Mysteries Of The Family Dilemma In Jn 11" & "4 Answers To These Mysteries & Trouble". 100 attended.
20 – 29 Nov	Mission trip to Philippines to visit assemblies with the ministry of God's Word. Participants: Bok Tai Keng, Chan Man Wong, Tan Chee Hwee & Tan Kian Huat.
24 – 26 Nov	DVBS. Theme: "A friend who loves" Jn 15:13. Teachers: Boon Chuan Jian & Andrew Sng. 17 were counselled (4 for salvation & 13 for assurance). Committee Chairman: Tay Kim Swee.
27 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Gerald Lee Thian Chye & Lee Mei Chuen.
14 – 18 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at St. Thomas Sec. School. Theme: "Jesus Christ Is The Author – He Begins & He Finishes". Teachers: Patrick Wee, Choy Wai Mun & Galvin Chia. 54 attended.
18 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Gong Chin Ong & Alice Ng San Kim.
25 Dec	Christmas Service. Speaker: Ian Irvine (Aust). Chairman: Sum Siew Tak. 700 attended.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Theme: "Gathering Up The Fragments". Speaker: Ian Irvine. Chairman: Tan Jing Poi. 300 attended.

1994

1 Jan	CEP Retreat at Boys' Brigade HQ. Theme: "Discipleship". Speaker: Ian Irvine. 70 attended. Committee Chairman: Tay Kim Swee.
29 Jan	Holy Matrimony: Kelvin Ong Choon Chye & Lily Yong Fong Choo.
6 Feb	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Suresh Samuel Philip (India).
13 Feb	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Eddie Chong Chen Chung.
6 Mar	Commended to serve as deacon: Patrick Wee Huat Bee. Commended to serve as elders: Wong Kok Seng & Gan Kee Pin.
13 Mar	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Ng Kim Leong. 130 th Sunday School Anniversary Prize-giving. Theme: "Fruitfulness". Speaker: Tan Chee Hwee. Chairman: Ho Kuang Cheng. Nellie Gaw gave away the prizes.
19 Mar	AEG Evangelistic Filmshow on "Noah's Ark". Message by Tay Kim Swee. Singing items by Bethesda Choir. 60 attended.
1 & 2 Apr	Easter Conference. Theme: "The Cross Was Thine & The Throne Is Thine". Speaker: W A Peterson. Chairmen: Wong Tuck Keong & Adrin Loi. Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata "He Lives". 400/200 attended.
3 Apr	Commended to serve as deacon: Ng Siew Kiang. Commended to serve as elder: Victor Ng Eng Kok.
10 Apr	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Edwin Lai Chin Seong & Lisa Lai Woon Yee.
17 Apr	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Henry Ong See Hiang & Daryl Ong Toon Howe.
24 Apr	Baptised: Judy Ng, Sarah Wee Lye Neo & Veena Wee Boon Neo.
29 May	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Dennis Loh Kong Wai.
2 Jun	Special Ministry by Ron Chin (USA). Topic: James 4. 100 attended.
4 & 11 Jun	Special Instruction Classes for CEP leaders, Asst. Leaders, SS Teachers & Youth Leaders. Topic: "Commitment in Teaching" & "Being a Spiritual Reproducer".
5 Jun	Commended to serve as deacon: Boey San Fei.

6 – 11 Jun	Assembly Family Camp at Village Park Plaza, Malacca. Theme: “Man of God”. Teachers: Jean Gibson, Ron Chin, John Ho (HK), Tay Kim Swee, Stephen Chang, Poon Yiam Kiau & Mah Lai Yeng. 215 attended. Committee Chairman: Tan Kian Huat.
16 & 17 Jun	Special Ministry by Jean Gibson (USA) on “Principles For Determining God’s Will” & “Interpersonal Relationship”. 150 attended.
26 Jun	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Boon Wee Gee.
30 Jul	Holy Matrimony: Victor Chiam Daw Pyng & Sarah Wee Lye Neo.
4 Sep	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Koh Liang Hwee, Annie Wong Moy Lan & Diana Chew Poh Siew.
13 Sep	AGM chaired by Lim Tian Leong. 72 attended.
16 Sep	AEG Evangelistic Filmshow on “Daniel in the Lion’s Den”. Message by Tan Chee Hwee.
17 Sep	Holy Matrimony: Travis Wong & Irene Tay. Annual Meeting. Theme: “The Lord’s faithfulness & His saints’ responsibilities”. Speaker: Vincent Chang, Chairman: Eric Choa. 100 attended.
2 Oct	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Ernest Abbott (UK) & Kwon Dae Yun (Korea).
8 Oct	Holy Matrimony: Chan Man Wong & Susan Gan.
16 Oct	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Becky Ng Kah Cheng.
31 Oct	Called Home to Glory: Koh Sian Poh.
2 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Felix Lim Jih Cheon & Lim Mei Lin.
3 & 4 Nov	8 th Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert. Theme: “Godly Counsel On The Training Of Children”. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. Tay Kim Swee presented certificates to 117 K2 graduands.
23 – 25 Nov	DVBS. Theme: “Jesus Loves”. Teachers: Andrew Sng, Karen Wee & Patricia Lim. 80 children attended. Committee Chairman: Edmund Yong.
26 Nov – 5 Dec	Medical mission to Philippines. Participants: Steve Chia, Charles Lingam, Derek Loh, S V Ramalingam, Joseph Sng, Anthony Yip, Edmund Yong, Robert Hmar, Suzanne Tan, Deborah Woon & Janice Yip.
27 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Chang Byung-Joo & Moon Kyung-Hee.
1 Dec	Called Home to Glory: Choo Ang Oh.
24 Dec	Christmas Eve Service. Theme: “The Lord’s First Coming”. Speaker: Wong Tuck Keong. Chairman: Chia Boon Hong. 500 attended.
25 Dec	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Bernard Fung Chi Chung, Rachel Fung Swee Hua & Dorcas Khoo.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Speaker: Lawrence Chan. Chairman: Tan Chee Hwee. 200 attended.

1995

1 Jan	CEP Retreat held at Garden Hotel. Theme: “Consecration & Perseverance” Rom 12:1-2 & 1 Cor 15:58. Speaker: James Khoo. 85 attended. Committee Chairman: Peter Wee.
15 Jan	Baptised: Chee Siok Chin, Karen Chee Siok Huong, Seow Hoe Lay, Suzanne Tan Poh Choo, Chng Gek Lee, Brenda Choy Yue Fun & Alex Chew Yong. Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Robinson Meng & Leong Huey Sze.
28 Jan	Holy Matrimony: Ng Siew Kiang & Wong Yoke Yin.
18 Feb	Holy Matrimony: Ng Kim Leong & Irene Tai Oy Lin. Senior Christians’ Gathering at Pine Tree Country Club. Speaker: Tan Ban Keng. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. 100 attended.
12 Mar	131 st Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-giving. Theme: “Be Ye Thankful” 1 Thess 5:18. Speaker: Tan Chee Hwee. Chairman: Khoo Oon Soo. 250 attended.
19 Mar	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Minnie Tay Chye Hiang.
April	Work started on the 4 storey building extensions with basement, adding an extra of 480 sqm. Total cost: \$954,180.00.
14 – 15 Apr	Easter Conference. Theme: “3 Major Aspects Of The Death & Resurrection Of Christ”. Speaker: Randy Amos (USA). Chairman: Harry Tan & Wong Kok Seng. 400 & 200 attended respectively.
1 May	Holy Matrimony: Galvin Chia & Tan Chwee Hoon.
7 – 9 Jun	Special Ministry by Harold Summers (Canada). Topic: Romans 8:28.

12 – 17 Jun	Assembly Family Camp at Bayu Beach Resort, Port Dickson. Theme: “Glory In The Lord”. Teachers: Harold Summers, Donald Chan, Eddie Teo, Choy Sai Choong, Jan Boey & Mah Lai Yeng. 235 attended. Committee Chairman: Tan Kian Huat.
24 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Dennis Loh Kong Wai & Liang Pei Ping.
2 Jul	Special Ministry by Bill MacDonald (USA). Topic: “The Different Versions Of The Bible”.
5 – 7, 12 – 14 Jul	Special Ministry by Bill MacDonald. Topic: “Discipleship”.
8 Jul	Special Sisters’ meeting by Bill MacDonald. Topic: “Women Discipleship”.
9 Jul	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Benson Lam Wai-Ping (HK).
15 Jul	Special Ministry by Bill MacDonald/Jim McCarthy. Topic: “How To Study The Bible/How To Teach Effectively”. Purchase of shophouse at Block 163, Ang Mo Kio Ave. 4, #01-436, S(560163) at \$1,277,346 (inclusive of renovations).
6 – 22 Jul	Mission trip to Indonesia to assist in Intensive English Camps. Participants: Bok Tai Keng, Glen Low, Yeo Chee Hiang, James Yim, Edmund Yong, Robert Hmar, Lim Wee Sang, Choy Wai Fann & Yeo Sian Yong.
21 – 23 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: “So Great A Salvation”. Evangelist: Jim McCarthy (USA). Chairmen: Tan Kian Huat, Mau Teck Hwee & Khoo Oon Soo. 300 attended nightly & 14 were counselled.
13 Aug	Baptised: Liza Chia Mui Cheng, Julie Lim, See Tho Mun Yee, See Tho Sok Yee, Julie Tan Siok Lin & Linda Yip Yuet Chun.
19 Sep	AGM chaired by Lawrence Chan. 77 attended.
23 Sep	Annual Meeting. Theme: “John 17”. Speaker: Lawrence Chan, Chairman: Chia Boon Hong. 100 attended.
2 Oct	Eudokia Book Room started at Blk 163, Ang Mo Kio Ave 4, #01-436.
21 Oct	Holy Matrimony: Wong Tet Keong & Chan Lai Peng.
22 Oct	Baptised: Carolyn Toh Ling Ling & Wong Tet Keong.
2 Nov	9 th Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Graduation Concert. Speaker: Lee Kok Onn. 106 graduands.
4 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Andrew Chong Yew Chi & Julie Lim Buat Bee.
2 Dec	Called Home to Glory: Helene Tan.
9 – 17 Dec	Mission trip to Chiangmai, Thailand to teach & preach in Chiang Mai, Mae Chan & Mae Aw. Participants: Stephen Chang Chun Kuan, Gan Kee Pin, Jonathan Lingam, James Yim, Peter Wee, Tan Chee Hwee, Lim Wee Sang, Amy Tan & Seow Hoe Lay.
14 Dec	Called Home to Glory: Ying Kuen Nyong.
18 – 22 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at BB/GB Campsite. Theme: “A Good Change”. Teachers: Andrew Sng, Wong Kok Seng & Harry Tan. 55 attended.
25 Dec	Christmas Service. Speaker: Peter Wee. Chairman: Kan Shik Lum. 500 attended.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Theme: “The Lord Jesus” based on 1 Pet 1:6; 2:9, 21-23; 3:9 & 5:10. Speaker: Lim Tian Leong. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. 300 attended.

1996

1 Jan	CEP Retreat at Garden Hotel. Theme: “The Challenges Of Leadership”. Speaker: Harry Tan.
3 Mar	Baptised: Ng Swee Hong, Jennifer Lim Hung Peng & David Chiu Bang Wei.
9 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Kevin Ong & Lily Yong.
10 Mar	132 nd Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-giving. Theme: “Study To Show Thyself Approved Unto God.” Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Edward Fong. Lim Chin Chin gave away the prizes to 133 scholars, 45 were roll of honour awards.
29 Mar	Holy Matrimony: David Chiu & Jennifer Liu.
April	The 4 storey cum basement new extension was completed.
5 Apr	Easter Conference. Theme: “Jesus, Far Above All”. Speaker: Peter Wee. Chairman: Tan Kian Huat.
8 & 9 May	Special Ministry by Fred Kosin. Topics: “Feast In The Wilderness” & “Fear In The Water” Jn 6 & Mk 6. 250 attended.
31 May	Holy Matrimony: Raymond Chan Hian Wee & Stacy Loh Soke Yee.

3 – 8 Jun	Assembly Family Camp at Paradise Resort, Malacca. Theme: “Be Still & Know That I Am God”. Teachers: Boyd Aitken, Tan Kian Huat, Samuel Wee, Poon Yiam Kiau & Alice Tan. 208 attended. Committee Chairman: Victor Ng.
12 – 14 Jun	Special Ministry by Boyd Aitken on “The Workman Approved”, “The Man Of God Equipped” & “The Servant Crowned.” (2 Tim 2:15, 3:17 & 4:7).
22 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Daniel Skelton & Lim Yi-En.
5 – 6 Jul	Special ministry meetings by J R Baker (Scotland) on Colossians 1:1-11. About 150 attended each night. Chairmen: Harry Tan & Sum Siew Tak respectively.
7 Jul	Baptised: Loi Seow Kheng, Pamela Ng Deek Loon, Aileen Goh Fung Lin, Christine Chong Pei Leng, Vilma Langbayan, Raymond Wee Liang Woo, Kee Lin Hock, Lim Chee Meng, Lee Thong Perng & Tan Cheong Chuan.
14 Jul	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Joanna Chan Yuen Mei, Carolyn Kong Poh Ting & Alex Kwok Yew Chong.
19 to 21 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: “Alive... Forever”. Evangelist: S.V. Ramalingam. Testimonies: Vincent Tham, Chia Boon Hong, Kee Lin Hock, Khoo Oon Soo, Robert Hmar & Matthew Tang. Song items, puppet & martial arts presentations were given by the Young People. More than 300 people attended nightly. 7 were counselled.
21 Jul	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Sonia Oo Chieu Yin.
27 Jul	Holy Matrimony: Vincent Tham Chee Wai & Chow Wai Sim.
4 Aug	Commended to serve as deacon: Samuel Wee Tien Wang.
25 Aug	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Yong Wee Ahn (Korea).
7 & 28 Sep	Annual Combined RFG Meetings were held in paired groups - Ang Mo Kio with Jurong Group, Dover with Whitley Group, Hougang with Bedok Group & Telok Blangah with Marine Parade Group - to strengthen fellowship & friendship.
8 Sep	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Wong Lai Pun.
14 Sep	Holy Matrimony: Roland Goh Eng Soon & Ruby Chia Cheng Siew.
17 Sep	AGM chaired by Lim Tian Leong. 16 elders & 67 members attended.
21 Sep	Annual Thanksgiving & Building Extension Dedication chaired by Tan Kian Huat. Secretary’s Report: Peter Wee, Building Extension report: Wong Tuck Keong, Shophouse report: Lee Kok Onn. Harry Tan spoke from Psalm 127:1. The Youth Choir presented a medley of songs & the dedication & closing prayer was given by Khoo Oon Soo. About 200 people attended.
5 Oct	3 rd Get-Together with new members who joined the assembly since 1995. Speaker: Sum Siew Tak. Chairman: Khoo Oon Soo. A total of 50 members including, elders & deacons, attended the gathering.
6 Oct	Commended to serve as deacon: George Varughese.
2 Nov	Senior Christians’ Gathering at Singapore Island Country Club. Speaker: Gaw Synn Ghee. Song Leader: Lee Chin Ghee. More than 100 people (elders, deacons & senior members) were present.
8 Nov	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten’s 10th Graduation Concert. Speaker: John A Short (Hong Kong). Lee Chin Ghee presented certificates to 57 graduands.
9 to 11 Nov	Missionary Conference. Theme: “Lift Up Your Eyes”. Speakers: John A Short & Dave Harvey (Philippines). Chairmen: Tan Kian Huat & Wong Tuck Keong. Reports on the Lord’s work in Chiangmai, Indonesia & China were given by Niran Ho, Cahya Robahi & John A Short respectively. The Prayer Voices set up an exhibition on the mission work in Asia. About 150 people attended each meeting.
10 Nov	Special Filipino Evangelistic Meeting. Speaker: Dave Harvey (Philippines) preached in Tagalog to 30 Filipino sisters. Chairman: Tay Kim Swee. A group of Filipinas presented a drama. 1 lady was saved.
16 Nov	Special Sisters’ Retreat. Topic: “Polished Cornerstones” Psalm 144:12. Speaker: Blanche Aitken. About 200 sisters attended the retreat from 4.30 pm to 9 pm. Organised by an ad-hoc Sisters’ Planning Committee chaired by Flora Wee. Holy Matrimony: Kam Yew Chong & Carolyn Kong Poh Ting.
16 & 18 Nov	Special Meetings by Boyd Aitken for brothers, teachers & preachers of God’s Word. Topics: “How To Study The Bible” at the Youth Meeting, & “How To Teach The Word Effectively” & “The Importance of Living Out The Word Taught” at the special meetings. About 50 people attended.
17 Nov	Baptised: Billy Koh Ek Bee, Peggy Koh Yoke Khum, Shermaine Lam Meu Yin, Doreen Choa Ai Sinn, Shirley Choa Ai Kim, Mory Ho Ah Eng, Teo Jia Yin, Bernice Wong Qihui, Ng Oon Hui, Domabel Gabriel, Nora Madrid, Catherine Potian, Chow Wai Ling & Tai Kit Ping.
23 Nov	Follow-up to Missionary Conference: Screening of two videos on the work in India & China at Hall 3A. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee gave a challenging message on John 4:35. About 80 people attended.

24 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Sim Seow Lan.
30 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Chan Wai Kiong & Lim Ai Lin.
7 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Donald Choy Sai Choong & Michelle Loh Soon Lin.
8 Dec	Baptised: Marie Boey Li Huei, Michelle Boey Ern Huei, See Tho Pik Yee, Brenda Wong Pek Chin & Grace Wong Pek Chuen.
11 to 13 Dec	Special Ministry Meeting by Joe Reese (Canada). Theme "Christ Loved The Church" Eph5:25. 150 attended nightly.
14 Dec	Extraordinary General Meeting: To consider the proposal by the Building Committee of Bethesda Hall to purchase the HDB site at Woodlands Avenue 7 & also to approve the amendments to the existing constitution.
15 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Glen Low Shiong Liang & Grace Lim.
16 to 20 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at HCCC, Cameron Highlands. Theme: "Let Down Your Nets". Camp teacher: Joe Reese. 51 campers & helpers attended.
18 Dec	Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: Joe Reese. Chairman: Ho Kuang Cheng. About 300 attended. Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Cantata "He Came To Us".
21 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Lee Thong Perng & Sonia Oo Chieu Yin.
22 Dec	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Gordon Robinson.
25 Dec	Christmas Day Service. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Tay Kim Swee. More than 600 people attended. Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Cantata "He Came To Us".
28 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Raymond Wee Liang Woo & Joanna Chan Yuen Mei.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Topic: 2 Tim 3. Speaker: Wong Kok Seng. Chairman: Vincent Chang. 300 attended. The Youth Choir presented a medley of songs.

1997

1 Jan	CEP Retreat held at Singapore Bible College. Theme: "The Teacher & The Word". Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. A Forum followed. More than 70 participants attended. Committee Chairman: Chong Kim Chow.
18 Jan	4 th Get-Together with new assembly members. 18 of the 37 members who were received into our fellowship in 1996 attended the gathering. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairman: Wong Kok Seng.
19 Jan	Baptised: Joanne Chin Shufen, Sue Ann Chin Shu'en, Kenneth Khong Keng Leong & Jeremy Wee Tien Hsu.
26 Jan	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Eileen Lee Mui Li, Ronnie Lam Yuen Wah, Alice Sarah, Emily Tan Geok Mui & Daniel Panneersalvam.
28 Jan	Farewell: Chu Chern Fong left for further studies in Queensland, Australia.
12 Feb	Farewell: Andrew Chan left for a 2-year course in Commerce in Perth, Australia.
17 Feb	Farewell: Alan Tan left for a 2-year degree course in Accounting & Finance in Melbourne, Australia.
22 Feb	Holy Matrimony: Jeffrey Ho Sey Phin & Foo Wei Chuen.
12 to 14 Mar	Special Ministry Meetings by W A Peterson. Topics: "New Testament Church Principles" with topics on "The Church, Church Life & Fellowship & Christian Priesthood". Chairmen: Victor Ng, Chong Kim Chow & Wong Tuck Keong respectively. Average attendance of about 100.
16 Mar	133 rd Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-Giving. Theme: "Remember Thy Creator" Eccl. 12:1. Speaker: Vincent Chang. Jean Chan gave away the prizes to 155 scholars, 56 were roll of honour awards.
28 & 29 Mar	Easter Conference: "The Resurrection Of Christ" (1 Cor 15:1-48) & "The Return Of Christ" (1 Cor 15:50-58). Speaker: Jim Allen (N. Ireland). Chairmen: Adrin Loi, Harry Tan & Vincent Chang. About 450 attended the 1st meeting & 150 attended the second meeting. Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata "I Am the Resurrection" followed by a forum.
30 Mar	Easter Gospel Service. Speaker: Jim Allen. Chairman: Eric Choa. The Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata "I Am the Resurrection".
2 to 3 Apr	Special Ministry Meetings by Jim Allen. Topic: "The Judgement Seat of Christ" (1 Cor 3; 2 Cor 5). Chairmen: Adrin Loi & S.V. Ramalingam respectively. About 100 attended nightly.
31 May	Creche's Thanksgiving Night. Programme: Elisabeth Elliot's Video Talk "How to Follow the Shepherd". 40 members including parents & helpers attended. Holy Matrimony: Kum Yew Ming & Jasmine Wong Liang May.
2 to 7 Jun	Assembly Bible Camp at Royal Palace Hotel, Tanjong Pinang. Teachers: Ian Irvine, Francis Chan, Stephen Chang, Tay Kim Swee, Lim Yean Wah & Loh Geok Bee. 185 attended. Committee Chairman: Victor Ng.

8 Jun	Baptised: Annie Tan Bee Lay, Alina Koh Mae Ching, Esther Choy Kam Oi, Karen Teo Keock Choo, Ajit Mancha & Sunil Madathil.
9 Jun	Called Home to Glory: Edna Lim Beng Chin.
11 to 12 Jun	Special Ministry Meetings by Ian Irvine on "Building With Nehemiah". 150 attended nightly.
13 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Night. More than 80 attended. Speaker: S V Ramalingam. Chairman: Boon Chuan Jian. The musical drama team presented song items followed by prayer in groups.
18 to 20 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: "Profit That Lasts" Mark 8:36. Evangelist: G D James. Testimonies: Clarence Chua, Eddie Teo & Boey San Fei. Chairmen: Mau Teck Hwee, Samuel Wee & Lee Chin Ghee respectively. A musical drama was presented by the young people. More than 300 people gathered nightly for the Rally. 3 people were counselled.
12 to 16 Aug	Christian Conference '97 at NTUC Pasir Ris Resort. Speakers: Keita Miwa (Japan), Timothy Hua (Taiwan), Kim Chong Man (Korea) & Khoo Oon Soo (Singapore). Workshops: Wong Kok Seng (Singapore), Ung Kim Cheng (Penang), Yoshikazu Kamimura (Japan) & Song Chan Ho (Korea). Lim Tian Leong spoke at the Brothers' Meeting on the roles of brothers in the assembly & Boyd Nicholson at the Sisters' Meeting. Reports on the Lord's work were also given by different countries represented. A total of about 400 participants from 14 countries namely Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand & others attended the conference. A Get-Together cum dinner with delegates & members of Bethesda Hall was held at the church premises on 16th August at 6 pm.
20 & 21 Aug	Special Ministry Meetings by J B Nicholson (Sr). Topics: "Elijah: Spiritual Depression" & "Job: Spiritual Oppression". Chairmen: Peter Wee & Sum Siew Tak respectively. 150 attended nightly.
10 Sep	Farewell: Natalie Khong left for a 1-year Masters degree in Management at Manchester University, UK.
13 Sep	Holy Matrimony: Daniel Panneersalvam S/O Murugan & Alice Sarah Bai A/P PT Moorthy.
16 Sep	AGM chaired by Harry Tan. 14 elders & 66 members attended.
17 Sep	Farewell: Janice Yip left for a 2-year study in Electrical & Electronic Engineering at the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne in the UK.
20 Sep	Annual Meeting. Speaker: Wong Kok Seng. Chairman: Eric Choa. Over 100 people attended. Harry Tan gave a report about the recent Christian Conference. Lawrence Chan gave highlights of the past year's activities.
21 Sep	Baptised: David Goh Kay Yong, Keyna Daphne Goh, Kurien Kurian, Tan Chee Wei & Tay Siok Hoon.
28 Sep	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Chang Chew Lik, Juniper Chang-Yoon, Eva Sek Sin Kin, Aaron Wong Ang Fui, Suzanne Wong Mae Yue & Benjamin Tan Tien Ping.
11 Oct	Senior Chistians' Gathering at Singapore Island Country Club. Theme: "Abide In Me & I In You For Without Me You Can Do Nothing" Jn 15:4a-5b. Speaker: Lim Tian Leong. Chairman & Song Leader: Matthew Tang. About 100 people (elders, deacons & senior members) were present.
20 Oct	Farewell: Catherine I. Potian left for her hometown in Philippines.
5 & 6 Nov	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten's 11th Graduation Concert. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee gave a short message & also presented certificates to the 60 graduands at the 2-day concert. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. About 300 people comprising parents & invited guests were present at both mornings. Song items & dances were presented by the children.
17 Nov	Farewell: Ahn Young Hee left us to settle down in Thailand.
6 Dec	Holy Matrimony: James Yim Kok Loong & Chan Siew Mei.
14 Dec	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Geena S. Philip (India).
16 to 19 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at the Singapore Bible College. Theme: "Put on the armour & be a soldier of God" (Eph 6:11). Camp teachers: Vincent Chang & Hing Jee Teck (Kuantan). 134 young people including Boys' Brigade members attended.
21 Dec	Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairman: Peter Wee. More than 200 attended. The Bethesda Choir rendered the Christmas Cantata "The First Noel".
25 Dec	Christmas Day Service. Speaker: William Koh. Chairman: Tan Kian Huat. The Bethesda Choir rendered the Christmas Cantata "The First Noel" to more than 600 present.
28 Dec	Baptised: Ronald Tessensohn, Stephanie Baptist Tessensohn, Grace Chow Swee Lan, Carol Sitoh Chui Yoke, Doreen Chua Ai Ling, Bettina Ng Siok Leng, Ervinna Sim Ai Ling, Melvin Foo Cheng Loong & Gerald Sim Ken-Yi.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Victor Ng. A few sisters presented some song items. About 300 saints attended. Farewell: Jeffrey Ho & Wei Chuen left for Auckland, New Zealand for three years.

1998

1 Jan	CEP Retreat was held at the Golden Landmark Hotel. Theme: "Reflections & Rediscovery". Speaker: Lim Tian Leong. Chairman: Victor Ng. 81 attended.
4 Jan	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Yim Siew Mei & Chow Kim Wah.
8 Jan	Farewell: Lim Chee Meng left to pursue a 3-year study in Electrical Engineering in USA.
12 Jan	Farewell: Christine Chong left to pursue a 4-year study in Mass Communication in USA.
8 Mar	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Rebecca Koh (UK).
15 Mar	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Srinivasa Rao & T. David Krupakar Reddy (India). 134 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-Giving. Theme: "To Obey Is Better Than Sacrifice". Speaker: Samuel Wee. Chairman: Robert Hmar. Lim Chin Chin presented prizes to 186 scholars, 53 received Roll-Of-Honour Awards.
10 & 11 Apr	Easter Conference. Theme: "The Cross & The Christian". Topics: "The Disciple of the Cross" & "The Soldier of the Cross". Speaker: Alf Chote. Chairmen: Wong Tuck Keong & Sum Siew Tak. The Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata "Into His Presence" followed by a forum & lunch on the first day of the Conference. 450/250 attended.
12 Apr	Easter Gospel Service. Speaker: Alf Chote. Chairman: Tan Ah Beng. The Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata "Into His Presence". More than 200 attended.
15 & 16 Apr	Special Ministry Meeting by Alf Chote on the theme "Studies in the Book of Jude". Topics: "Contending for the Faith" & "Building up on your Faith". Chairmen: Ho Kuang Cheng & Ng Lee Peng respectively. About 250 attended nightly.
19 Apr	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Jason Lim.
16 May	5 th Get Together with new members who joined the assembly in 1997. Speaker: Chong Kim Chow. About 50 people attended the gathering.
17 May	Baptised: Reni Abraham Kurien, Christina Tay Seow Wee, Carol Wee Tian Li, Clara Loy Ai Gnim, Chong Kian Seng & Andrew Tay Eng Choon.
21 May	Called Home to Glory: Yeo Joo Lim.
24 May	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Kamala Thevi & Basant Kumar Mukhia.
30 May	Holy Matrimony: Eddie Teo Ban Heng & Tan Hwee Hoong.
1 Jun	Farewell: Kamala Thevi & Basant Kumar Mukhia left to settle down in Nepal, India.
3 to 5 Jun	Special Ministry Meeting by Mitchell Kilpatrick (Australia). Theme "Progress Of The Gospel In The Acts Of The Apostles". Chairmen: Peter Wee, Chong Kim Chow & Vincent Chang respectively. Nightly attendance of 80.
8 to 13 Jun	Assembly Bible Camp at Holiday Villa Cherating, Kuantan. Theme: "A New Commandment" Jn 13:34. Teachers: Mitchell Kilpatrick (Australia), Thomas Yiu (Hong Kong), Samuel Wee, Tan Ah Beng, Seow Hoe Lay & Amy Tan. 219 attended. Committee Chairman: Wong Kok Seng.
20 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Daniel Wee Tien Sing & Alina Koh Mae Ching.
5 Jul	Received into assembly fellowship from another assembly: T Srinivasa Rao & T. David Krupakar Reddy (India).
11 Jul	Holy Matrimony: Benjamin Tan Tien Ping & Doreen Chua Ai Ling.
12 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Night. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Boon Chuan Jian. More than 100 attended.
17 to 19 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: "Life's Crossroads – The Greatest Decision!" Matt 7:13-14. Evangelist: Peter Ferry. Mandarin Interpreter: Ho Soo Kian. Chairmen: Adrin Loi, Lee Chong Kiat & Ho Kuang Cheng. Testimonies: Kurien Kurian, Peter Wong & David Goh. Special items: YP Drama Team & the Bethesda Choir. Average of 300 attended nightly. 8 people were counselled.
22 Jul	Special Meeting by Peter Ferry. Topic: "How To Study The Bible". Chairman: Sum Siew Tak. 60 attended.
6 Aug	1 st Thursday Bible Fellowship held at Bethesda Hall (AMK). More than 20 attended.
6 Sep	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Chew Eng Huat.
15 Sep	AGM chaired by Wong Kok Seng. 13 elders & 80 members were present.
18 – 23 Sep	Mission trip to Cebu, Philippines to see the work done by Lee Won Jae. Participants: Daniel Paneersalvam, Tan Chee Hwee, Wong Tuck Keong & Lim Wee Sang.
19 Sep	Annual Meeting. Theme: "A Call To Separation & Service" Heb. 13:10-16. Speaker: Tan Kian Huat. Chairman: Adrin Loi. About 80 attended.
21 Sep	Farewell: Bernard Fung left to work in New York City. His wife, Rachel & daughter joined him in October 1998.
26 Sep	Holy Matrimony: Lee Bok Eng & Janice Fong May Poh.

25 Oct	Baptised: Lisa Chang Hui Shin, Nancee Tay Siang Cheng, Denise Koh Shufen, Ian Andre Gan, Michael Prem Chandran & Mah Kwok Kin.
1 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: David Chua Kim Huat, Michael Cheah Sooi Beng, Pearlie Leong & Chang Chew Kient.
4 & 5 Nov	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 12th Graduation Concert. Speakers: Lim Tian Leong & Robert Hmar. Lim Chin Chin & Robert Hmar gave away certificates to the 112 graduands. More than 250 attended the 2-day concert.
7 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Tan Cheong Chuan & Shirley Chee Mei Kin.
15 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Janice Lee May Poh.
21 Nov	Creche Thanksgiving Night. A video show by James Dobson "Shaping The Will Without Breaking The Spirit" was shown followed by a discussion on "The Importance Of Instilling Discipline In The Children". About 50 attended. Farewell: T. Srinivasa Rao left to take up employment in Canada.
22 Nov	Returned: Natalie Khong completed her 1-yr Masters in Management in Manchester, UK. Received into assembly fellowship from another church: P.J. Andrew Premsundar (India).
26 Nov	Farewell: Ajit Mancha returned to India after working in Singapore for 3 years.
29 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Jonathan Sikhamani (India).
3 – 5 Dec	Special Meeting by Jim Baker (Scotland). Theme "Some Aspects of Solomon's Temple". Topics: "The Foundation & Framewok of the House, The Furniture of the House & The Function of the House". Chairmen: Harry Tan, Wong Kok Seng & Peter Wee. About 180 attended.
12 Dec	Senior Christians' Gathering at YWCA Fort Canning Lodge. Speaker: Alfred Chote. Chairman: Lawrence Chan. About 100 people attended.
13 Dec	Returned: Andrew Chan completed his 2-yr Bachelor of Commerce in Australia.
14 – 18 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at St Thomas Secondary School. Theme: "A Chosen Vessel". Teacher: Tay Kim Swee. 82 attended.
19 Dec	Called Home to Glory: Lily Tay Chye Neo.
20 Dec	Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: Tan Jing Poi. Chairman: Ng Lee Peng. The Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Cantata "The First Light". About 350 attended.
25 Dec	Christmas Day Service. Speaker: Lim Tian Leong. Chairman: Victor Ng. The Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Cantata "The First Light". About 700 attended.
26 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Soo Chai Chew & Rosetta Fung King Tsee.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairman: Eric Choa. About 400 attended.

1999

1 Jan	CEP Retreat at SICC, Bunker Room. Theme: "A Teacher's Accountability". Speakers: John Benjamin, Khoo Oon Soo, Lim Tian Leong, Sum Siew Tak, Tan Kian Huat & Samuel Wee. 86 attended. Committee Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. Farewell: Michelle Boey left for a 4-year course in Mass Communications in Vancouver, Canada. Holy Matrimony: Yehudi Yeo Wee Shung & Chong Ai Chi.
3 Jan	Baptised: Theophania Chia Shujuan, Jessica Low Yuh Lin, Sol Elesia Minaves, Pushpa Joseph, Maggie Poy Mei Chee, Dawn Cheng Yuin Yi, Mariamma Kurian, Sharon Yeo Joo Yan, Pölline Young, David Cheng Hoon Khee, D. Kathirvel, Jason Rajandran Stanley, Philemon Koh Keen Seng & Sim Mong Huat.
4 Jan	Farewell: Philemon Koh left for a 2-year course for Bachelor of Commerce in Perth, Australia.
6 Feb	Farewell: Tai Kit Ping left for a 3-year degree course in Physical & Health Education in Perth, Australia.
14 Mar	135 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize Giving. Theme: "Be A Good Example Of Our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Tim 4:12). Speaker: Vincent Chang. Lawrence Chan presented prizes to 212 prize winners with 55 receiving "Roll of Honour". About 300 attended.
2 & 3 Apr	Easter Conference. Topics: "The Gains of the Tree (Is 53:10-12), The Gains of the Tomb (Jn 11:25-26) & The Gains of the Turnout (Jn 14:2-3)". Speaker: S V Ramalingam. Chairmen: Victor Ng & Vincent Chang. The Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata "He's Still The Lamb". 400 attended on Good Friday morning & 200 on the second night of the Conference.

4 Apr	Easter Gospel Service. Speaker: Ho Kuang Cheng. Chairman: Tan Chee Hwee. The Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata "He's Still The Lamb". About 150 attended.
10 Apr	A Special Sisters' Meeting by Jenny Kosin (USA) on Jeremiah 33:3 – God's Telephone Number. About 80 sisters attended.
14 & 15 Apr	Special Ministry Meetings by Fred Kosin (USA). Chairmen: Harry Tan & Ho Kuang Cheng. About 120 attended nightly.
1 May	Holy Matrimony: Stefan Sandon Lim Yi-Wei & Chia Siang Yu.
8 May	6 th Get-Together for new members since 1998. Speaker: Wong Kok Seng. Chairman: Eric Choa. 35 adults & 12 children attended.
7 to 11 Jun	Assembly Bible Camp at YWCA Fort Canning Lodge. Theme: "God's Chosen People" (1 Peter 2:9). Teachers: Joe Reese (Canada) & Thomas Yiu (Hong Kong), Pauline Phua & Alice Tan (J1), Gan Kee Pin (J2) & Ho Kuang Cheng (J3). 224 campers attended with more than 50 part-time campers joining the evening talks. Committee Chairman: Wong Kok Seng.
13 Jun	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Tan Guat Lee.
16 to 19 Jun	4-Day Family Life Seminar by Joe Reese (Canada) Topics: "Introduction to the Christian Home, The Man's Place in the Home Part 1 & 2, The Legacy of an Obedient & a Disobedient Woman, The Discipline of Children & their Place in the Home & The Problem of an Unequal Yoke in the Home". Chairmen: Tan Kian Huat, Gan Kee Pin, Lim Tian Leong & Harry Tan. Chairperson: Ng Swee Choo & Tan Lie Leng. About 300 attended each talk.
27 Jun	Farewell: Pushpa Joseph returned to India after working in Singapore for 2 years.
11 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Night. Speaker: Tan Kian Huat. Chairman: Stephen Chang. About 150 members attended. Returned: Janice Yip completed her 2-yr study at the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK.
16 to 18 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: "There Is Hope!" (Heb 6:18-19). Evangelist: Wade LeBlanc (Canada). Mandarin Interpreter: Ho Soo Kian. Tamil Interpreter: Andrew Premsundar. Chairmen: Erik Erh, Dieu Eng Hock & Lee Kam Wing. Testimonies: Tan Ah Beng, Victor Chiam & Daniel Panneersalvam. Special items: YP Drama Team & the Bethesda Choir. An average of 350 attended each night. 14 people were counselled.
18 Jul	Commended to the Lord for full time service: Daniel Panneersalvam.
25 Jul	Baptised: Chia Lee Lan, Chia Lee Mei, Karen Chin Chia Lian, Koh Bee Man, Lily Lee, Ong Siew Huey, Jessie Sim Phek Kheng, Agnes Chua Chay Wah, Joshua Leck Boon Siong, Loo Wee Boon & Allen Tan Teng'an.
30 Jul	Farewell: Jason Rajendran Stanley left for overseas study in Bristol, UK.
1 Aug	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Rosetta Soo-Fung King Tsee, Collin Leong Weng Tuck, Anna Leong Pau Eng & Andrew Paul.
8 Aug	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Katherine Soh Chye Luan. Farewell: Loo Wee Boon left for a 2-year degree course in Bachelor of Engineering at Aberdeen University, UK.
23 Sep – 2 Oct	Medical & Dental mission trip to Cebu, Philippines. Participants: Stephen Chang CS & Christina, Lim Yi-Jia, Tan Chee Hwee, Lim Wee Sang, Kew Nguk Fah & Mary Law.
19 Oct	AGM chaired by Lim Tian Leong. 13 elders & 98 members attended.
23 Oct	Annual Meeting. Speaker: Chong Kim Chow. Chairman: Eric Choa. About 150 members attended.
3 & 4 Nov	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 13 th Graduation Concert. Speakers: Khoo Boo Cheong & Lee Poh Heng respectively. They also gave away certificates to the 98 graduands. 300 attended the 2-day concert.
14 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Chua Thing Chong, Kenneth Chua Qiyang, Jazeril Khoo Hui Furn, Raymond Stanley, Phairot Songsawadwong & Jonathan Perez.
21 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: William Lau Wee Liang & Sandra Tan Yeow Sian.
25 Nov	Farewell: Sunil Madathil returned to India after working in Singapore for 3 years.
27 Nov	Farewell: Sol Elesa Minaves returned to her hometown in Philippines after working in Singapore for 2 years.
30 Nov	Farewell: Vilma Langbayan took up employment in Hong Kong after working in Singapore for 6 years.
13 to 17 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at St Thomas Secondary School. Theme: "True To My Word". Teacher: Harry Tan. 93 campers attended. Committee Chairman: Samuel Wee.
18 Dec	Creche Thanksgiving Service. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee.
19 Dec	Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: Dennis Loh. Chairman: Lee Poh Heng. The Bethesda Choir presented "From the Realms of Glory". About 200 attended.

25 Dec	Christmas Day Service. Speaker: Tan Chee Hwee. Chairman: Adrin Loi. The Bethesda Choir presented "From the Realms of Glory". About 700 attended.
26 Dec	Baptised: Monique Goh, Sabrina Teo Kee Kim, Tan Bee Leng & Timothy Lam Tsz Ki.
29 Dec	Farewell: Marie Boey left for studies in Canada.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Theme: Psalm 90. Speaker: Wong Tuck Keong. Chairman: Tan Jing Poi. Song item: Chia Boon Hong & Jennifer Loi. About 350 attended.

2000

1 Jan	CEP Retreat at NUS Faculty Club. Theme: "The Love of the Truth" (2 Tim 2:2, 15). Speakers: S.V. Ramalingam & Wong Kok Seng. 79 attended. Committee Chairman: Gan Kee Pin. Called Home to Glory: Jessie Cheang Koon Wah.
2 Jan	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: C. Ajay (India). CEP Symposium. Theme: "Looking Forward". Chairman: Kan Shik Lum. Vincent Chang gave a multi-media presentation report on the work of the CEP. Testimony was given by Mau Teck Hwee. Keynote message was given by Khoo Oon Soo. A special commemorative CD 2000 was given to those present. About 350 attended.
8 Jan	Holy Matrimony: Frankie Cha Yee Cheong & See Tho Sok Yee.
19 & 20 Jan	Special Ministry Meetings by W A Peterson (Australia). Topics: "Jeremiah – The Prophet" & "Jeremiah – God's Standards". Chairmen: Victor Ng & Adrin Loi. About 150 attended nightly.
22 Jan	Senior Christians' Gathering at YWCA Fort Canning Lodge. Speaker: W. A. Peterson. Chairman: Lawrence Chan. Song Leader: Lee Chin Ghee. More than 120 attended.
23 Jan	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Janette Yeo Kim Eng, Andrew Premsundar & P. Bhuvana.
20 Feb	Baptised: Bok Mei Jian, Choy Wai Heng, Angie Ng Bee Hong, I. Charles, Chang Yew Khong, Aaron Lau Wen Chao, Nathaniel Sim Junqing & Tan Jin Song.
5 Mar	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Sali Koshy (India).
12 Mar	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Andrew Paul & Esther Ng Lai Im (Malaysia) & A. Pitchan (India). 136 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-Giving. Theme: "Be Still & Know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). Speaker: William Koh. Annie Wong presented prizes to 212 with 64 receiving Roll of Honour award. About 300 attended.
14 Mar	Farewell: D. Kathirvel returned to India after working in Singapore for 4 years.
31 Mar	Farewell: John Benjamin & Anitha as Benjamin took up employment in Netherlands.
8 Apr	7 th Get-Together with new members since 1999. Speaker: Lim Tian Leong.
9 Apr	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: P. Satheesh & Joseph Fernando Rabinston (India).
16 Apr	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: K. Siddhanandhan (India).
21 & 22 Apr	Easter Conference. Theme: "Gleanings from the Gardens". Topics: "The Garden of Tears & The Garden of Triumph". Speaker: Alfred Chote. Chairmen: Eric Choa & Tay Kim Swee. The Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata "The Night Before Easter". 450 attended on Good Friday morning & 250 on the second night of the Conference.
23 Apr	Easter Gospel Service. Topic: "The Garden of Tranquility". Speaker: Alfred Chote. Chairman: Stephen Chang. The Bethesda Choir presented "The Night Before Easter". About 200 attended.
24 Apr	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Easter Special. Speaker: Alfred Chote. 300 attended.
30 Apr	Baptised: Judy Han Tiew Jiong, Joleen Khoo, Melodie Ng Tze En, Sharin Poy Mei Ling, Angela Tan Ee Li, Zaryl Tan Wei Lin, Georgette Tong Tiew Bueh, Chan Hung Kiat, Johnson Chua Zi Hao, Reginald Tan Keng Chin, Wong Chuan Peng & Vincent Alfred John.
7 May	Farewell: Vincent Alfred John left to work in New Zealand for 2 years.
13 May	Holy Matrimony: Chan Hung Kiat & Georgette Tong Tiew Bueh.
15 May	Farewell: Dennis Loh & Pei Ping as Dennis took up a 2-year job assignment in New Mexico.
27 May	Holy Matrimony: Kam Yew Chuen & Sandy Law Chung Yan.
28 May	Baptised: Cynthia Chia Sann Roo, Loke Hiu Phui & Samuel Chan Kheng Mian.

3 & 12 Jun	Special Ministry Meetings by Joe Reese (Canada). Topics: "Consider Your Ways" (Haggai) & "An Abundant Entrance" (2 Pet 1:11). Chairmen: Adrin Loi & Wong Tuck Keong. About 300 attended nightly.
5 to 10 Jun	Assembly Bible Camp at The Regency Hotel, Port Dickson. Theme: "Wake Up" Rom 13:11. Camp Teachers: Joe Reese (Canada), Andrew Sng, Daniel Panneersalvam, Donald Chan (Australia), Poon Yiam Kiau & Yim Siew Mei. 295 attended. Committee Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong.
9 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Night. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee.
14 to 16 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: "Life's Destiny" Rom 6:23 & Heb 9:27. Speaker: G.D. James. Mandarin Interpreter: Ho Soo Kian. Tamil Interpreter: Andrew Premsundar. Chairmen: Samuel Wee, Mau Teck Hwee & Tan Ah Beng. Verbal Testimonies: Andrew Premsundar, Chong Kian Seng & Chan Man Wong. Written Testimonies by Leong Huey Sze, Mah Lai Yeng & Lim Wee Sang. Special items: Bethesda Young People & the Bethesda Choir. 18 people were counselled.
12 Aug	Senior Christians' Gathering at The City Bayview Hotel. Speaker: Charles Britton. Chairman: Lawrence Chan. About 130 attended.
6 Oct	Farewell: I. Charles returned to India after working in Singapore for 4 years.
8 Oct	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: S. Karen Grace (Malaysia).
17 Oct	AGM chaired by Lim Tian Leong. 13 elders & 82 members attended.
21 Oct	Annual Meeting. Theme: "Leadership, Readership & Tutorship" 1 Cor 3. Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Sum Siew Tak. About 200 attended.
1 & 2 Nov	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 14th Graduation Concert. Theme: "Children of the World". Speakers: David Goh & Chang Chew Kient. Both the speakers gave away certificates to 107 graduands. 300 people attended the 2-day concert.
5 Nov	Baptised: Rosie Choa Ai Lian, Ng Lai Fun, Mariamma Alexander, Jessie Ong Sok Huan, Joanna Lee Teck Miang, Josephine Lin Li, Margaret Wong Choy Kit, Michelle Tan, Danny Ong Kee Sen & Alexander Mathew.
11 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Reginald Tan-Tay Keng Chin & Angela Tan Ee Li.
12 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Melly Sim Mei Li.
20 Nov	Farewell: Kwon Dae Yun & family returned to Korea.
2 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Jason Lim & Tan Bee Leng.
2 – 10 Dec	Mission trip to Cambodia to conduct guitar class & children ministry training. Participants: Chan Wai Kiong, Melvin Foo, Andrew Sng, Vincent Tham, Daniel Wee, Diana Lau & Seow Hoe Lay.
11 to 15 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at Bedok Secondary School. Theme: "The Burning Heart". Camp Teacher: Ung Kim Cheng (Penang). 111 attended the camp. Committee Chairman: Frankie Cha.
17 Dec	Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: S.V. Ramalingam. Chairman: Tan Ah Beng. The Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Cantata "Did You Know?" About 250 attended.
25 Dec	Christmas Day Service. Speaker: S.V. Ramalingam. Chairman: Ho Kuang Cheng. The Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Cantata "Did You Know?" More than 700 attended.
30 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Gary Goh Khee Giap & Jessica Low Yuh Lin.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Theme: "Straight paths 5 walks" Heb 12:12-13. Speaker: David Goh. Chairman: Gan Kee Pin. About 380 attended.

2001

1 Jan	CEP Retreat 2001 at Ngee Ann Polytechnic – Staff Hub. Theme: "The Seven Laws Of The Learner- Teaching To Change Life". Speakers: Khoo Oon Soo, Ho Kuang Cheng & Andrew Sng. 95 members attended. Committee Chairman: Tan Kian Huat.
12 – 18 Jan	Mission trip to Cebu, Philippines to attend the dedication service of the new hall of Pakna-an church. Participants: Chan Man Wong, Tan Chee Hwee, Wong Tuck Keong, Lim Wee Sang, Lim Geok Kim & Suzanne Tan.
13 Jan	Farewell: C. Ajay left to work in USA.
11 Feb	Baptised: Fedelisa Abi, Joanna Chia An Na, Jeannie Chiam En Ping, Hannah Goh Shu Hui, Grace Koh Shi En, Linda Kwan Moh Ping, Vanessa Ng, Ong Pei Yuin, Sim Mei Ling, Levene Wong Ting Hui, Jeshar Loi Ter Way, Tan Li Sheng, Tan Meng Chong, Steven Tan Peng Soon & Wong Yong Jian.
11 Mar	137 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-Giving Ceremony. Theme: "The Entrance of Your Words Gives Light" Psalm 119:130. Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. 213 Sunday School scholars received awards. More than 300 attended.
3 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Lye Ray Sen & Janice Yip Pui Fung.

13 & 14 Apr	Easter Missionary Conference. Theme: "Missions in Today's Context". Topics: "The Changes in the World of Missions", "The Challenge of Christianity" & "The Cry of a Suffering World". Speaker: Kenneth Fleming (USA). Chairmen: Wong Tuck Keong & Samuel Wee. The Bethesda Choir presented a medley of songs followed by the screening of a video-tape on "Anthony Norris Groves". A mini-mission display was put up by the Mission Group at Hall 2A. About 400 attended the first day & 200 on the second.
15 Apr	Easter Gospel Service. Speaker: Kenneth Fleming. Chairman: Tan Chee Wei. The Bethesda Choir presented a medley of songs. About 250 attended.
18 to 20 Apr	3-Day Special Ministry Meetings by Kenneth Fleming. Theme: "Keys to joy in the Christian Life". Topics: "Centering Your Life In Christ, Modelling Your Life After Christ, & Progress In Your Life Toward Christ" Phil 1 – 3. Chairmen: Adrin Loi, Eric Choa & Sum Siew Tak. About 200 attended nightly.
21 Apr	Holy Matrimony: Jeffrey Yap Seow Howe & Elina Fung Ka Wai.
22 Apr	Baptised: Jenny Alex, Emilia Fan Ai Min, Rachel Kwan Liyun, Jessy Oommen, Elling Tan Yi Ping, Alex Mathews & Mark Low.
26 Apr	Farewell: Galvin Chia left to work in USA accompanied by his wife, Chwee Hoon & son. Extraordinary General Meeting was held to consider the proposal from the Building Committee to negotiate for the purchase of a private property & to have the authority from the assembly to negotiate for a loan if necessary to purchase a property. 12 elders & 48 members were present.
28 Apr	Holy Matrimony: Yeo Chee Hiang & Angie Ng Bee Hong.
30 Apr	Farewell: Rachel Kwan left to continue her studies in Canada.
4 to 9 Jun	Assembly Bible Camp at Puteri Resort, Melaka. Theme: "Are You A Christian In Action?". Camp Teachers: William Yuille (Adult) & Silas So (Cantonese), Frankie Cha (J3), Collin Leong (J2), James Yim (J1B) & Chua Yen Ching (J1A). 279 attended. Committee chairman: Wong Tuck Keong.
10 Jun	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Titus P. Samuel (India).
13 to 15 Jun	3-Day Special Ministry Meetings by William Yuille (Canada). Topic: "The Lord & His Own" (John 13). Chairmen: Tay Kim Swee, Chong Kim Chow & Adrin Loi respectively. About 100 attended nightly.
8 Jul	Returned: Loo Wee Boon completed his 2-year degree course in Bachelor of Engineering at Aberdeen University, UK.
15 Jul	Baptised: Grace Gan Ern Hui, Myra Khoo Xin Hui, Cheng Keng Liang, John Low Hong Wee, Ng Kim Khoon, Poon Kum Meng & Tay Teng Hwee. Called Home to Glory: Jolleen Chong Kia Lin.
29 Jul	Extraordinary General Meeting to consider & approve the sum recommended by the Building committee to counter offer the owner's offer of the sale of the Mandarin Theatre. 387 members & 11 elders attended after the Breaking of Bread Service. Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Jeffrey Kong Chuk Chen.
19 Aug	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Melanie Sara Philip (India). Inter-Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Night. Speaker: Tan Kian Huat. Chairman: Andrew Sng. Venue: Hall 4B. About 120 attended. Lee Chong Kiat & Amy rendered a song item. Prayer followed.
24 to 26 Aug	Inter-Assembly Gospel Rally at the Singapore Indoor Stadium. Theme: "Festival of Celebration 2001". Evangelist: Bill Newman (Australia). 764 were counselled during the 3-day rally, 63 of whom were channelled to Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio).
31 Aug	Farewell: Jessy Oommen returned to India after working in Singapore for 6 years.
9 Sep	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Sajeena Thomas & Elmya Abraham (India).
18 Sep	Called Home to Glory: Cheong Yuen Whye.
16 Oct	AGM chaired by Harry Tan. 12 elders & 88 members were present.
20 Oct	Annual Meeting. Theme: "The Lord's Consolidation Of His Work In The Assembly". Speaker: Wong Tuck Keong. Chairman: Tan Jing Poi. About 150 members attended.
28 Oct	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Bindu Sreedharan & Susy Babu (India).
31 Oct, 1 Nov	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 15th Graduation Concert. Theme: "God's Creation". Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. 101 graduands received their certificates. About 200 attended each concert.
7 Nov	Assembly Bible Reading commenced with the study on the Book of Exodus.
11 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Christina Teh Geok Lian.
27 – 29 Nov	DVBS. Theme: "Turn Around". Teachers: Loh Geok Bee (K2 to P2) & David Goh (P3 to P5). Committee Chairman: James Yim. 90 helpers with more than 200 children attended. 48 were counselled for salvation & 21 for assurance.

30 Nov – 9 Dec	Medical & Dental Mission Trip to Cambodia. Participants: Lim Wee Sang, Monique Goh, Hmar Pek Yee, Rachel Hmar, Kew Nguk Fah, Mary Law, Loy Seow Kheng, Amy Tan, Ong Ming Ann, Suzanne Tan, Tan Chee Hwee, Linus Tan, Lucius Tan, Lucas Tan, Lim Yi-Jia, Robert Hmar, Peter Wong & Young Kim Chye.
2 Dec	Returned: Tai Kit Ping completed her 3-yr Degree Course in Physical & Health Education in Perth, Australia.
8 Dec	Sisters' Meeting by Blanche Aitken. Topic: "How To Cope With Life". Chairperson: Chua Yen Ching. About 45 sisters attended.
10 to 15 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at Anglo Chinese School (Primary). Theme: "Bought with a Price" (1 Cor 6:20). Camp Teacher: Boyd Aitken (HK). 117 campers attended. Committee Chairman: Frankie Cha.
16 Dec	Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: Boyd Aitken. Chairman: Eric Choa. The Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "Start at the Manger". About 300 attended.
23 Dec	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Elina Fung Ka Wai (Hong Kong).
25 Dec	Christmas Day Service. Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Lawrence Chan. The Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "Start at the Manger". More than 700 attended.
30 Dec	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Mallory Wong Yee Ting & Tan Mei Li (Malaysia).
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Speaker: Chang Chew Kient on "The Certainties in Unchanging Times". Chairman: David Goh. Song items were presented by a group of brothers & the Scholars from the Senior Sunday School with their teachers. About 350 attended.

2002

Jan	Girls' Brigade 57 th Company started at Mayflower Primary School.
1 Jan	CEP Leaders' Retreat at NTUC Lifestyle World – Downtown East. Theme: "Meeting the Challenges of Christian Education in the 21st Century". Speaker: Ernest Chew. 100 attended. Committee Chairman: Sum Siew Tak.
13 Jan	Returned: Jeffrey Ho & Wei Chuen after residing in New Zealand for 3 years.
30 & 31 Jan	Special Ministry Meetings by Roy Hill (Bristol). Topics: "His Incarnation & His Temptation". Chairmen: Wong Tuck Keong & Sum Siew Tak. About 250 attended nightly.
1 Feb	Special Ministry Meeting by Roy Hill (Bristol). Topic: "His Transformation". Chairman: Chong Kim Chow. About 250 attended.
3 Feb	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Rhoda Ng Szu Chyi, Yuen Chia Ying (Malaysia) & Kim Young Tae (Korea).
1 Mar	Farewell: Michael Chandran left to take up employment in New Zealand.
10 Mar	138 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-Giving Ceremony. Theme: "Praise & Worship" (Psalm 100:1-5). Speaker: Tan Kian Huat. Chairman: Ho Kuang Cheng. Ng Swee Choo presented 210 prizes with 59 scholars receiving Roll of Honour. More than 400 attended.
11 Mar	Called Home to Glory: Lorna Lim.
22 Mar	Farewell: Bindu Sreedharan left to take up employment in a hospital at Essex, UK.
23 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Choy Wai Mun & Lai Chen Huei.
29 & 30 Mar	Easter Conference. Speaker: M.A. Joy (India). Theme: "Cornerstone & Living Stones" (1 Pet 2:5-6). Chairmen: Adrin Loi & Wong Tuck Keong respectively. The Bethesda Choir rendered the Easter Musical "Love Sent A Sacrifice". More than 500 attended on the first day & 150 on the second day.
31 Mar	Easter Gospel Service. Speaker: M A Joy. Chairman: Tan Chee Wei. The Bethesda Choir rendered the Easter Musical "Love Sent A Sacrifice". About 300 attended.
7 Apr	Baptised: Flossie Goh, Teresa Lee May Ling, Debbie Liew Siew Leng, Doris Loo Hwee San, Vivien Phay-Leong Lai Hoong, Sandra Yin Zhe Yi, Darren Chan Seng Kok, Alvin Chan Yong Hwa, Calvin Koh Jian Yi, Leong Yuen Haur, Soh Jwo Shyang, Linus Tan Ren Hao & Wee Khim Leng.
14 Apr	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Babitha James & Leena Paul (India).
21 Apr	Called Home to Glory: Boey Yoke Mun.
3 to 8 Jun	Assembly Bible Camp at La Cemara Desaru Beach Resort. Theme: "Be Christ Centred" (Col 1:18). Teachers: Boushra Mikhael (Adult), Thomas Yiu (Cantonese), David Chua (J3), David Goh (J2), Chua Yen Ching (J1B) & Poon Yiam Kiau (J1A). 334 campers & 20 part-time campers attended the camp. Committee chairman: Wong Tuck Keong.
12 to 14 Jun	3-Days Special Ministry Meetings by Boushra Mikhael on "Book of Malachi". Chairmen: Harry Tan & Wong Tuck Keong. About 300 attended nightly.
13 Jun	The property at 10 Depot Walk was purchased & the sale completed. Cost: \$8,240,000.00. Land area: 3899.85 sqm.

15 Jun	Special Sisters' Meeting by Nadia Mikhael. Theme: "Biblical Perspective of a Godly Woman". Chairperson: Chua Yen Ching. About 200 sisters attended.
16 Jun	Assembly Youth Gospel Meeting. Speaker: Boushra Mikhael. Chairman: Tan Chee Hwee. Verbal Testimonies: Linus Tan & Kenneth Khong. Written Testimonies: Ng Oon Hui & Carol Wee. Song items by the Young People conducted by Samuel Wee. About 300 were present.
7 Jul	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Howard Lim Heng Thong. Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Night. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairman: Ng Lee Peng. About 150 attended.
19 to 21 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: "The Desires of Your Heart" Psalm 37:4. Evangelist: Koh Ting Tiew. Interpreters: Ho Soo Kian (Mandarin) & Andrew Premsundar (Tamil). Chairmen: Mau Teck Hwee, Ho Kuang Cheng & Tan Jing Poi. Verbal Testimonies: Leong Chee Tiek, Kenneth Khong & Collin Leong. Written Testimonies: Lisa Chang, Loke Hui Phui & Seow Hoe Lay. A skit with shadow play co-ordinated by Michelle Tok was presented on the first 2 nights. The Youth Group sang a medley of songs conducted by Samuel Wee on the last night. An average of 350 attended. 8 were counselled for salvation, 5 for assurance & 6 were interested. Children's Gospel Rally. Evangelists: Loh Geok Bee (K2 to P2) & Andrew Sng (P3 to P6). A Puppet show on "The Lost Sheep" by the Puppet Ministry team & a skit entitled "Prodigal Son" co-ordinated by Carol Wee & Chong Kian Seng were presented during the rally. More than 200 children attended each night.
4 Aug	Baptised: Carol Goh Guat Yen, Catherine Kan Poh Choo, Olivia Soh Chiew Har, Stephanie Teo Lee Leng, R. Shubbulakshmi, Jonathan Chua ZiJian, Elnathan Erh Kim Joo, Toh Wei Hong, Nathan Wong Yong Jin & V. Gurusamy.
11 Aug	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Angeline Goh-Teo Tze Un.
18 Aug	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: M. James (India). Farewell: Patricia Lam left for a teaching contract in Shanghai for 2 years.
25 Aug	Called Home to Glory: Lim Tian Leong.
3 to 5 Sep	DVBS. Theme: "My Forever Friend". Speakers: Loh Geok Bee (K2) & Suzanne Wong (P1- P2). Committee Chairman: James Yim. About 100 children attended.
8 Sep	Called Home to Glory: Tay Kim Tee.
14 Sep	Holy Matrimony: Tan Chee Wei & Loke Hui Phui.
27 Sep	Farewell: Tan Li Sheng left for a 3-year degree course in History at the University of Cambridge, UK.
15 Oct	AGM chaired by Harry Tan. 9 elders & 68 members were present.
19 Oct	Annual Meeting. Theme: "Matthew 14:15-18; 15: 29-34 & 16:5-20". Speaker: Sum Siew Tak. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. About 200 attended.
26 Oct	Holy Matrimony: Donald Lee Thian Huat & Jasline Tan Poh Poh.
30 & 31 Oct	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 16th Graduation Concert. Theme: "God Is Great". Speaker: Lawrence Chan. A total of 105 graduands received their certificates. More than 200 attended each of the concerts.
2 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Justin Goh Khee Meng & Leong Huey Sze.
9 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Maverick Chu Chern Foong & Debbie Liew Siew Leng.
23 Nov	Senior Christians' Gathering at the Singapore Island Country Club, Bunker Room. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. More than 130 (107 elderly saints & 28 elders/deacons) attended. A song item was rendered by Jennifer Loi.
14 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Wee Khim Leng & Ng Bee San.
16 to 21 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing. Theme: "Out Of Weakness" Heb 11:34 & 1 Cor 1:27. Camp Teacher: Joe Mikhael (Canada). 138 campers attended. Committee Chairman: Frankie Cha.
22 Dec	Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: Joe Mikhael. Chairman: Andrew Sng. The Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "Christmas More Than A Story" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 250 attended.
25 Dec	Christmas Day Service. Speaker: Joe Mikhael. Chairman: Tan Kian Huat. The Bethesda Choir presented "Christmas More Than A Story". More than 750 gathered.
29 Dec	Special Gospel Service. Speaker: Robert Hmar. Mandarin Speaker: Tan Soo Hock. Speakers for children: Anna Leong (Nursery to P2), Collin Leong (P3 to P6). The Youth Group presented a skit "The Prodigal Son". More than 300 attended.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Theme: "The Soul Question" Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Eric Choa. More than 300 saints gathered.

2003

1 Jan	CEP Leaders' Retreat at YWCA Fort Canning Lodge. Theme: "Looking Back" & "Looking Ahead". Speakers: Khoo Oon Soo & Harry Tan. Committee Chairman: Victor Ng.
2 Jan	Called Home to Glory: Paul Lim Kwang Hiong.
4 Jan	Launch of the Sisters' Ministry Programme. Topic: "The Aims of the Sisters' Ministry". 92 sisters attended. Committee Chairperson & Speaker: Tan Lie Leng.
5 Jan	Baptised: Jasline Lee Poh Poh, Ng Sin Lay, Esther Phua Lu En & Jason Ong Guo Quan.
9 Feb	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Walmas (India).
19 Feb	Farewell: Wee Khim Leng left to pursue a 2-yr degree course in Electrical & Electronic Engineering at the University of Western Australia with his wife, Bee San, joining him later.
22 Feb	Farewell: Tay Lin Hwee left to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree in Product Design at the Curtin University of Technology in Australia.
12 Mar	Farewell: Dieu Eng Hock, Boon Khim & sons, John & Paul, relocated to Calgary, Canada.
16 Mar	139 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-Giving. Theme: "Grow In The Grace & Knowledge Of Our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ" 2 Pet 3:18. Speaker: Lawrence Chan. Chairman: Ho Kuang Cheng. Jean Chan gave away prizes to 220 with 70 scholars receiving Roll of Honour.
22 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Leong Yuen Haur & Loo Hwee San.
26 Mar	Called Home to Glory: Johnny Tan Soon Kee.
27 Mar	Sale of 15A Jalan Rama Rama Premises at \$750,000.00.
6 Apr	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Law Gin Lieng & Rebecca Ng Chee Ka.
18 Apr	1-Day Easter Conference. Theme: The "Cross" Life. Message 1: "The Challenges Of The Cross Life". Message 2: "The Ministry Of The Cross Life". Speakers: Khoo Oon Soo & Lawrence Chan. Chairman: Sum Siew Tak. The Bethesda Choir sang "Behold the Risen Saviour" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 450 attended.
20 Apr	Easter Gospel Service. Speaker: Victor Ng. Chairman: Lee Kam Wing. The Bethesda Choir sang "Behold The Risen Saviour". About 200 attended.
11 May	Baptised: Barbara Bai Mei, Louise Henriette Baptist, Vivian Ho Swee Fung, Tay Poey Yong, Edison Ngo Shih Ching, Jason Tan Zhong An, Aaron Toke Hong Yuan & Tommy Yeo Chiew Hoon.
18 May	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Kelvin Ng Tuck Kay.
2 Jun	Farewell: Jason Lim left for Perth to pursue a 3-yr PHD course in History at the University of Western Australia, accompanied by his wife, Bee Leng.
10 to 25 Jun	Assembly Bible Retreat. Speakers: Harry Tan, Tay Kim Swee, Kenneth Wong, Samuel Wee, Peter Wee, Wong Tuck Keong, David Goh, Tan Chee Hwee & Tan Kian Huat. An average of 80 attended.
15 Jun	Assembly Youth Gospel Night. Theme: "The Way, The Truth & The Life" Jn 14:6. Speaker: Andrew Sng. Chairman: Mau Teck Hwee. Verbal Testimony: Johnson Chua. Written Testimonies: Myra Khoo Xin Hui & Teresa Lee. Song items by the Youth Group led by Samuel Wee.
21 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Law Gin Lieng & Rebecca Ng Chee Ka.
28 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Jeffrey Khong Chuk Chen & Ho Swee Fung.
30 Jun	Farewell: Barbara Bai Mei left to pursue a Masters degree in Environmental Science at the University of Wollongong in Australia for a year & Alex Chew left to pursue a 4-yr course in Australia.
6 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Night. Speaker: S V Ramalingam. Chairman: Patrick Wee. Song items by the Singing Brethren, Keyna Goh & the Youth Group Singers. About 150 attended.
18 to 20 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: "Peace for the Heart" (John 14:27). Evangelist: S V Ramalingam. Interpreters: Ho Soo Kian (Mandarin) & Andrew Premsundar (Tamil). Chairmen: Samuel Wee, Tan Chee Wei, Tan Ah Beng. Verbal Testimonies: Loo Wee Boon, Alex Kwok, Darren Chan. Written Testimonies: Chua Yen Ching, Joanne Chin, Akiko Tan. Singing items by the Singing Brethren, Keyna Goh, Youth Group Singers & the Bethesda Choir. About 350 people attended nightly. 6 were counselled for salvation, 3 for assurance, 1 dedication, 5 interested, 1 seeker & 1 asked for prayers. Children's Gospel Rally. Speakers: Suzanne Wong (K1-P2) & Mau Teck Hwee (P3-P6). Jeffrey Yap & team presented a puppet show.
24 Jul	Called Home to Glory in Sydney: Commended worker, G D James.
27 Jul	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Marcus Shantosh (Malaysia).
2 Aug	Combined Boys' & Girls' Brigade Enrolment Service & Parade. Speaker: Victor Ng. Guest of Honour: Ngeow Ah Cheng (Principal of Mayflower Pr School). 250 attended.

2 Sep	Called Home to Glory: Tan Leng Ghee.
10 Sep	Called Home to Glory: Richard Chin Keng Huat.
14 Sep	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Vinnish Baby (India).
5 Oct	Baptised: Chia Pei Xian, Chen Enling Abelina, Koh Bee Lian, Yaw Wui Lee, Eugene Fan Bingwen & Vejan s/o Palanibil.
11 Oct	Survey: 29 members conducted a survey at Telok Blangah Crescent Food Centre, Bukit Merah Food Centre, Depot Road HDB blocks & Bukit Merah Bus Interchange in connection with the outreach work at 10 Depot Walk. 321 people were interviewed.
14 Oct	AGM chaired by Tan Kian Huat. 11 elders & 82 members were present.
18 Oct	Annual Meeting. Speaker: Chong Kim Chow. Chairman: Tay Kim Swee. About 100 attended.
29 & 30 Oct	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 17th Graduation Concert. Theme: "Great, Big, Beautiful World". Speakers: Andrew Kwan & David Chua respectively. 105 graduands received their certificates.
31 Oct	Returned: Patricia Lam completed her teaching contract in Shanghai for a year.
9 Nov	Commended to serve as elders: Ho Kuang Cheng, David Goh & Tan Chee Hwee.
22 Nov	Holy Matrimony: Kee Lin Hock & Joanna Lee Teck Miang.
26 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Suresh Raaju (India).
2 to 4 Dec	DVBS. Theme: "I Am The Way, The Truth & The Life" Jn 14:6. Speakers: Keyna Goh (K2 to P2) & Tan Chee Hwee (P3 to P5). About 180 children attended. Committee Chairman: Chua Teck Koon.
6 Dec	Special Ministry Meeting by Joe Reese. Chairman: Harry Tan. About 150 attended.
7 Dec	Commended to serve as deacons: William Chew, Daniel Skelton & Aaron Wong.
10 Dec	Special Sisters' Meeting by Ann Reese on "Nurturing Spiritually & Emotionally Healthy Teenagers". Chairperson: Akiko Tan. About 70 sisters attended.
8 to 13 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at Presbyterian High School. Theme: "Know Him" (Phil 3:10). Camp Teacher: Joe Reese (Canada). 180 youths attended. Committee Chairman: Ho Kuang Cheng.
13 Dec	Special Brothers' Meeting by Joe Reese on "How To Overcome Lust". Chairman: David Goh. About 100 brothers attended. Special Sisters' Meeting by Ann Reese on "How Can Sisters Support The Lord's Work In The Assembly". Chairperson: Ng Swee Choo. About 90 sisters attended.
21 Dec	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Yang Hong Eui (Korea). Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: Koh Liang Hwee. Chairman: Lee Poh Heng. The Bethesda Choir presented "Dawn Of Redeeming Grace" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 350 attended.
25 Dec	Christmas Day Service. Speaker: Tan Kian Huat. Chairman: Tan Chee Hwee. The Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "Dawn Of Redeeming Grace". More than 750 attended.
27 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Peter Wong Choong Yi & Ong Pei Yui.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Speaker: Peter Wee. Chairman: Victor Ng. About 350 attended.

2004

1 Jan	CEP/SS/YP Retreat at Paramount Hotel, Parawave Room. Theme: "Steadfast Together with One Accord" (Acts 2:42-47). Speakers: Lee Kok Onn & Kenneth Wong. Chairman: Eric Choa. 132 attended.
4 Jan	Called Home to Glory: Seah Kheng Luan.
11 Jan	Baptised: Lee Wan Hui, Susan Teo Peng Peng, Rina Ting Hui Wen, Samuel Gan Teck Meng, Andrew He Ren Xiang, Ivan Khoo Yi & Poon Ken Min.
18 Jan	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Ho Twee Lin, Catherine Ho Mun Ying & Penny Ng Choi Ngoh.
1 Feb	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Grace Ng May Im.
8 Feb	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Jeremy Khoo Liyang & Oh Hyun Joo. Farewell: Toh Wei Hong left for Cambodia to work in Canaan Technical School for 2 years.
14 Feb	Holy Matrimony: Alvin Chan Yong Hwa & Tan Shear Nee.
21 Feb	Senior Christians' Gathering at Serangoon Gardens Country Club, Heliconia Room. Speaker: Peter Wee. Chairman: Khoo Oon Soo. More than 130 attended.

13 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Loo Wee Boon & Jazeril Khoo.
14 Mar	140 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-Giving Service. Theme: "Learn & Do" (Phil 4:9). Speaker: David Goh. Chairman: Ho Kuang Cheng. Keyna Goh presented prizes to 243 scholars, with 62 receiving Roll of Honour. About 400 attended.
21 Mar	Assembly Youth Gospel Night. Theme: "Do You Know?" (Isa 40:28). Speaker: Samuel Wee. Chairman: Tan Jin Song. Song items by the Youth Group. More than 300 attended.
27 Mar	Road Show organised by the Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten Management Committee in promoting the new Kindergarten in 2005. Venue: Spring Singapore. Chairman: Andrew Kwan. Children's Programme was co-ordinated by Louise Henriette Baptist & a message by Tan Chee Hwee. Questions & answers session by Chua Yen Ching, Amy Lee & Peter Wong. Song items by the K2 children of Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten.
4 Apr	Bethesda (DW) Easter Party at Gillman Heights Condominium Club House. Easter message by Anna Leong. 55 children attended.
9 Apr	Easter Conference. Message 1: "The Cross & The Believer" by Harry Tan. Message 2: "The Resurrection & The Believer" by S V Ramalingam. Chairman: Adrin Loi. The Bethesda Choir rendered "Rise Again" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 450 attended. Combined Boys' & Girls' Brigade Enrolment Service. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Steven Lee. Guest of Honour: Goh Choon Leng (Principal of Yishun Sec School). Special items by the Girls' Brigade. About 200 attended.
11 Apr	Easter Gospel Service. Speaker: Tan Jing Poi. Chairman: Robert Hmar. The Bethesda Choir rendered "Rise Again". About 300 attended.
12 Apr	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Easter Special. Speaker: Sum Siew Tak. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. Song items by the children from Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten. More than 300 parents & friends attended.
25 Apr	Baptised: Chang Li Ling, Lois Choa Shu Fen, Constance Chong Hui Min, Choy Weng Yin, Esther Hmar, Valerie Kwan Shu Yi, June Tan-Lee Seok Hwee, Poh Shu Fen, Tan Hui Xin, Hilda Toh Yi Ting, Amy Toke Pei Xuan, Melissa Wee Shi Min, Matthew Chia Zhang Ming, Han Ming Yan, Sean Koh Jian En, Poh Wei Hao, Mervyn Tan Soo Wei & Daniel Ting Jiaming.
23 May	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Chng Jiunn Hui.
25 May	Farewell: Jeffrey Yap & Elina left for Hong Kong where Elina took up employment.
5 Jun	Family Night at Serangoon Gardens Country Club, Jumbo Restaurant. Speaker: Leong Choon Kit (in Mandarin) from Bethesda Serangoon Church. Organised by the Youth Group. About 306 attended.
7 to 12 Jun	Assembly Bible Camp at Golden Legacy Hotel, Malacca. Theme: "Discover, Recover & Rediscover" Eph 4:12-13. Teachers: Donald Norbie (Adult), Thomas Yiu Kwong Yin (Cantonese), Koh Mei Ling, (J1A), Chua Yen Ching (J1B), Justin Goh (J2) & David Goh (J3). 277 attended. Committee Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong.
16 to 18 Jun	3-Days Special Ministry Meetings by Donald Norbie on "Book of Titus". Chairmen: Ng Lee Peng, Aaron Wong & William Chew. About 120 attended nightly.
3 Jul	140 th Anniversary & Thanksgiving Service for the Brethren Work in Singapore at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio), 4 pm. Theme: "Declaring God's Faithfulness" Psalm 89:1. Speaker: Francis Maniam (Bethesda Katong Church). Chairman: Khoo Oon Soo. The book "The Bethesda Legacy – 140 years of Brethren History in Singapore" was launched. Song items by choir groups from: Bethesda Pasir Ris Mission Church, Yio Chu Kang Chapel & Bukit Panjang Gospel Chapel & Bethesda Hall (AMK). About 600 from 16 assemblies in Singapore attended. Fellowship tea was served before the service.
4 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Night. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairman: Ng Lee Peng. About 150 attended. Returned: Dennis Loh & Pei Ping after completion of Dennis' job assignment. Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Amy Ogawa with her 3 daughters, Esther, Judith & Carole (Malaysia).
16 to 18 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: "He took my place" (Rom 5:8). Evangelist: Khoo Oon Soo. Topics: "The Love of God", "The Patience of God" & "The Judgement of God". Interpreters: Ho Soo Kian (Mandarin) & Andrew Prensundar (Tamil). Chairmen: Ng Lee Peng, Andrew Sng & Samuel Wee. Verbal Testimonies: Victor Henry, Ng Kim Khooon. The musical "Barabbas" was presented during the 3 nights. About 500 people attended nightly. 24 were counselled: 4 for salvation, 5 for assurance & others 15. Children's programme co-ordinated by the Sunday School, Creche & Sisters' Group was held concurrently during the 3 nights.
31 Jul	'A & A' works at 10 Depot Walk was completed by HP Construction & Engineering Pte Ltd. Cost: \$2,561,495.99. Gross floor area: 3173.37 sqm.
4 Aug	The Certificate of Statutory Completion of 10 Depot Walk was obtained.
8 Aug	Baptised: Dominic Ong Cheng Wen & Stephen Koong Yue Hong.
11 Aug	Farewell: Dominic Ong left to pursue a 4-year degree course in Biomedical Engineering at the Duke University in the UK.

16 Aug	Farewell: Aaron Lau left to pursue a 2-year degree course in Electrical Engineering at the Aberdeen University in the UK.
19 Aug	Farewell: John Chua Soon Teck left for Hague, The Netherlands in connection with John's 2-year overseas posting accompanied by his wife, Ann.
31 Aug	We took possession of 10 Depot Walk after the completion of the 'A&A' Works.
4 Sep	Children's Corner started at Bethesda Hall (DW).
11 Sep	An Open House was conducted for assembly members to view 10 Depot Walk. Guitar Class: Chan Wai Kiong taught 9 students at Bethesda Hall (DW).
15 – 22 Sep	Mission Trip to Cebu, Philippines to teach & preach at Cebu, Camotes, Iloilo & Bohol. Participants: Robert Hmar, Kurien Kurian, Tan Chee Hwee & Wong Tuck Keong.
19 Sep	Launched: Position Paper, "Together in Unity" (Psalm 133:1) by the elders.
20 Sep	Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten was officially approved by the Ministry of Education to operate in Jan 2005.
25 Sep	Talk on "How To Get My Child To Read" by Lam Kam Fong (a Literacy consultant) organised by Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten to promote the kindergarten. 30 attended.
3 Oct	Children's Carnival: Bethesda Hall (DW) attended by 25 children with their parents. Message: Chong Kian Seng. Committee Chairman: Andrew Sng. Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Tan Hin Oon & Tan Choon Huang (Malaysia).
12 Oct	AGM chaired by Tan Kian Huat. 13 elders & 71 members were present.
16 Oct	Annual Meeting. Theme: "Jesus, the exemplary Servant" Jn 4:1-14, 34. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairman: Victor Ng. About 100 attended.
24 Oct	Baptised: Phoebe Tan Nga Suat, Wayne Pang Yee Hong & Michael Tan Kok Liang.
27 & 28 Oct	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 18th Graduation Concert. Theme: "I Am Special". Speakers: Kurien Kurian & Tan Jing Poi. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. A total of 103 graduands received their certificates.
30 Oct	Special talk organised by Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten. Speakers: Peter Wong on "Children's Health", Lim Wee Sang on "Dental Care" & Chong Yau Chi on "Hyper-activity & Autism".
7 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: William Hooi Yuk Chuan & Vincent Teo Kian Chye.
21 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Christina Yee Geok Heng & Tilton John George.
1 to 3 Dec	3-Day Special Ministry Meetings by Larry Price (USA) on "Book Of Philippians". Chairmen: William Chew, Tan Jing Poi & Stephen Chang. About 200 attended nightly.
6 to 11 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing. Theme: "Complete In Him" (Col 2:10). Camp Teacher: Larry Price (USA). Chairman: Tan Kian Huat. 146 youths attended.
14 to 16 Dec	DVBS. Theme: "Good News". Teachers: Anna Leong (K2-P2) & Stephen Chang (P3-P6). More than 140 children attended. Committee Chairman: David Kwan.
19 Dec	CEP Symposium II. Theme: "Clear, Consistent & Consecutive Teaching Of The Word" Neh 8:1-12,16. Speaker: Roy Hill (Bristol). Chairman: Khoo Oon Soo. Testimonies: Fong Ban Lee, Soo Chai Chew & Johnny Fan. More than 300 attended. Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: Roy Hill. Chairman: Kurien Kurian. The Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "Come, Let Us Worship The King" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 120 attended.
25 Dec	Christmas Service at Bethesda Hall (AMK). Speaker: Lee Kok Onn. Chairman: Kan Shik Lum. The Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "Come, Let Us Worship The King". More than 700 attended. 1 st Christmas Service at Bethesda Hall (DW). Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Sum Siew Tak. The Bethesda Choir presented excerpts of the Christmas musical "Come, Let Us Worship The King". More than 300 attended.
26 Dec	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Tan Soon Keng & Tan Soo Cheng.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Theme: Psalm 90:12. Speaker: Tan Kian Huat. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. A group of brothers presented a medley of songs. More than 300 attended.

2005

1 Jan	CEP/SS/YP Retreat at Bethesda Hall (DW). Theme: "One Mind, Same Love" (Phil 2:2). Speaker: Harry Tan. 109 Sunday school teachers, youth & CEP leaders attended. Committee Chairman: Ho Kuang Cheng.
3 Jan	Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten commenced with two classes in the 1st session & one in the 2nd session with a total enrolment of 28 children.

5 Jan	Farewell: Darren Chan, Mei Li & their 2 children, Allison & Nicholas relocated to Melbourne, Australia.
8 Jan	Operation Agape to the Tsunami victims in Sri Lanka coordinated by David Goh, Kurien Kurian & Poon Kum Meng. More than 80 at Bethesda Hall (DW) helped to sort out and repack the donated items for loading into two 20-foot containers.
11 Jan	Farewell: Koh Bee Man left for Cambridge, USA for 1-year work attachment.
22 Jan	Holy Matrimony: Gerald Sim & Bettina Ng.
4 Feb	Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) was officially registered as a Society - No. 0272/2004 with the Registrar of Societies.
5 Feb	Free Tuition Programme at Bethesda Hall (DW) commenced with 8 students registered.
26 Feb	The Girls' Brigade 57th Company Enrolment Service. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee.
27 Feb	Baptised: Esther Wong Yi Ning, Darius Kong Jun Kiong & Jason Phing Wee Leong.
6 Mar	1 st Breaking of Bread Service at 10 Depot Walk at 9 am. Speaker: S V Ramalingam. Christian Education Programme & Sunday School started at 11.15 am. More than 150 gathered.
13 Mar	141 st Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-Giving. Theme: "Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled" (John 14:1). Speaker: William Koh. Chairman: Ho Kuang Cheng. Koh Mei Ling presented prizes to 228 scholars, 50 receiving Roll of Honour awards. More than 300 attended.
19 Mar	Senior Christians' Gathering at Bethesda Hall (DW). Speaker: Chong Kim Chow. Chairman: Harry Tan. Lee Chin Ghee & Ann Lee, Lee Chong Kiat & Amy Lee rendered a medley of songs. About 150 attended.
25 Mar	Easter Conference. Theme: "The Triumph Of The Resurrection". Speakers: Tan Kian Huat & Adrin Loi. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. The Bethesda Choir rendered the Easter Musical "Lamb of God" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 500 attended.
27 Mar	Easter Gospel Service. Speaker: Sonny Ng. Chairman: Tan Jin Song. The Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Musical "Lamb Of God". More than 200 attended.
28 Mar	Bethesda (AMK & DW) Combined Kindergarten Easter Special at Bethesda Hall (AMK). Speaker: Andrew Sng. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. Song items were presented by the children. More than 300 parents attended.
3 Apr	Commended to serve as deacons: Jeffrey Jee Kim Tian & Collin Leong Weng Tuck.
7 Apr	Farewell: Raymond Stanley returned to India after working in Singapore for 6 years.
17 Apr	Commended to the Lord for full-time service: Kurien Kurian.
23 Apr	Combined Boys' Brigade Enrolment Service. Guest of Honour: Lo Sheu Ming (Principal of Mayflower Sec School). Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Victor Ng. About 100 attended.
24 Apr	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Stephanie Grace Teo Wei Min.
2 May	Bethesda Hall (DW) Thanksgiving & Dedication Service at Bethesda Hall (DW). Theme: "... The Good Hand Of My God Was On Me" & "... Let Us Arise & Build..." Neh 2:8,18. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Kan Shik Lum. Testimony was given by Sum Siew Tak. The Bethesda Choir presented a medley of 3 songs. More than 480 people comprising members, guests & representative elders from other assemblies & consultants involved in the 'A & A' works were present.
8 to 10 Jun	3-Day Special Ministry Meetings by Jack Fish (USA). Topics: "The Life Of Faith – Noah, Abraham & Jacob" Heb 11:7, 8-12; 11:21. Chairmen: Jeffrey Jee, William Chew & Ng Lee Peng. About 200 attended nightly.
12 Jun	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Yoo Tuck Won (Korea).
13 Jun	Farewell: Ong Ming Ann left for Cambodia for a 1-year assignment with The Girls' Brigade Singapore to teach English at Canaan Technical School.
13 to 18 Jun	Assembly Bible Camp at The City Bayview Hotel, Melaka. Theme: "Great Is The Mystery Of Godliness" 1 Tim 3:16. Camp Teachers: Jack Fish (USA), Herbert Chan (HK), Shirley Holland (J1), Kurien Kurian (J2) & Wong Tuck Keong (J3). 233 campers attended. Committee Chairman: Tan Chee Hwee.
26 Jun	Baptised: Bryan Chan Jun Xian, Nicholas Chia Wai Kit, Arthur Gan Peck Tat, Ho Xin An, Nicholas Ong Lu Hao, Tan Chun Zhen & Jordan Tan Zhong Wei.
1 Jul	Eudokia Book Room relocated to Bethesda Hall (AMK).
3 Jul	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Chan Shear Nee.
6 Jul	Farewell: Jason Tan left for New Zealand to further his studies on an exchange programme for one year.
10 Jul	Returned: Toh Wei Hong completed his 1½ year's teaching contract with the Girls' Brigade Singapore in teaching English at Canaan Technical School in Cambodia. Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Night. Speaker: S V Ramalingam. Chairman: Khoo Oon Soo. About 150 attended.

13 Jul	Farewell: Bernice Wong left for Australia to further her studies at the University of Sydney for one year.
15 to 17 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: "Love Is A Five-letter Word" (2 Cor 9:15). Evangelist: S V Ramalingam. Interpreters: Ho Soo Kian (Mandarin) & Andrew Premasundar (Tamil). Chairmen: Tan Jin Song, Andrew Sng, Tan Chee Hwee. Verbal Testimonies: Dennis Loh, Daniel Tok, Anthony Yip. Written Testimonies: Louise Henriette Baptist, Jeannie Chiam, Patricia Lam, Dolly Sng. Song Items: Chia Boon Hong & family, Male Voices, Youth Group singers & the Bethesda Choir. Children's programme for K2 to Pr 3 children was conducted simultaneously during the 3 nights. Total counselled were 14 children & 37 adults. About 500 people attended nightly.
17 Jul	Returned: John Chua & Ann upon completion of John's 1-year assignment in The Netherlands.
24 Jul	Assembly & Counsellees' Get-Together. Speaker: Eric Choa. Chairman: Robert Hmar. Testimony: Alex Mathews. Completed: The sale of shophouse at Block 163 #01-436 Ang Mo Kio Ave 4 for \$760,000.00.
30 Jul	Sisters' Retreat at The Garden Hotel, Cedar Room. Theme: "Make A Difference" (Matt 5:13-14). Chairperson: Ng Swee Choo. 109 sisters attended.
6-16 Aug	Mission trip to Kunming, China to test & fit reading glasses for the villagers at JiJieZe & DaPingDi. Participants: Choy Wai Fann, Ng Siew Lian, Diana Lau, Grace Leng, Koh Liang Hwee, Robert Hmar, David Leng, William Chew, Ng Kim Khoon & Kenneth Khong.
9 Aug	Combined RFG Get-Together at Bethesda Hall (DW). Topic: "Handling Family Crisis". Panel of speakers: Khoo Oon Soo, Kenneth Wong, & Harry Tan. Organising Chairman: Richard Ting. Forum was chaired by Adrin Loi. About 270 members attended.
12 – 22 Aug	Mission trip to Pyin Oo Lyin, Myanmar to attend the Ebenezer Brethren assembly's 40 th Anniversary & Thanksgiving service & conduct a youth conference. Participants: David Goh, Daniel Goh, Kurien Kurian, Poon Kum Meng & Wong Tuck Keong.
4 Sep	Special Gospel Service. Theme: "There Is Hope In Jesus" (Luke 19:10). Speaker: Chan Man Wong. Mandarin Interpreter: Chng Kok Hui. Chairman: Linus Tan. Song items were presented by the Children's Corner. 250 people attended.
8 Sep	Called Home to Glory: David Wee Chin Hock.
25 Sep	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Medaline Boey & V K Sukumaran.
28 Sep	Farewell: Tan Hui Xin left to pursue a 3-year study in English & Education at Cambridge University in the UK.
30 Sep	Farewell: Yang Hong Eui returned to Korea after completing his 2-year job assignment in Singapore.
11 Oct	AGM chaired by Harry Tan. 75 members & 2 associate members were present.
15 Oct	Annual Meeting. Theme: "Nehemiah". Speaker: David Goh. Chairman: Victor Ng. About 150 saints attended.
25 Oct	Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten 1st Graduation Concert. Theme: "God's Beautiful Creations". Speaker: Andrew Sng. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. 4 graduands received their certificates. 180 attended.
26 & 27 Oct	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 19 th Graduation Concert. Theme: "Count Your Blessings". Speakers: Kan Shik Lum & William Koh. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. A total of 99 graduands from both sessions received their certificates. 300 attended.
29 Oct – 7 Nov	Mission trip to Kaly Myo, Myanmar to conduct a 1 week seminar on "Biblical Church". Participants: David Chua, Kenneth Chua, Kurien Kurian, Aaron Wong & Wong Tuck Keong.
30 Oct	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Bobby Raju (India).
11 Nov	Farewell: Gordon Kwan & Shirley left to settle in Canada.
21 – 30 Nov	Bethesda Youth Mission Exposure Trip (BYMET) 05 to Cambodia. Team Leaders: Choy Wai Fann & Toh Wei Hong. Participants: Andrew He, Choy Weng Yin, Lucius Tan, Nathanael Chia, Olivia Soh Chiew Har, Rachel Hmar, Valerie Kwan & Yeo Hui Min.
29 Nov – 1 Dec	DVBS. Theme: "Champions For God". Teachers: Loh Geok Bee & Andrew Sng (K2-P6). 100 children attended. Committee Chairman: James Yim.
30 Nov	Special Ministry Meetings by Roy Hill (Bristol). Topic: "Prologue To John's Gospel". Chairman: Aaron Wong.
1 & 2 Dec	Special Ministry Meetings by Roy Hill. Topic: "Prologue To John's Gospel". Chairmen: Daniel Skelton & Tan Jing Poi. About 280 attended nightly.
3 Dec	Workshop on Preachers & Preaching by Roy Hill. Theme: "Preach The Word" 2 Tim 4:2. Chairman: Khoo Oon Soo. More than 90 attended.
4 Dec	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Jane Lim Guek Khim.
5 to 10 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing. Theme: "The Reason – Know What You Believe; Know Why You Believe" 1 Pet 3:15. Camp Teacher: Roy Hill. 161 campers attended. Committee Chairman: Tan Kian Huat.
11 Dec	Baptised: Hu Kaiqin Christin, Rachel Chungkhawlkim Hmar, Keith Sun Yaosheng, Ljo T.J. Casper & Tan Wee Siang.

18 Dec	Christmas Gospel Service (AMK). Speaker: Kan Shik Lum. Chairman: Peter Chow. Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "Emmanuel – Celebrating Heaven's Child" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 120 attended.
22 Dec	Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Eddie Yu Keng Wun, Grace Yu Sook Keaw & Lim Weng Yew.
24 Dec	Christmas Eve Service (AMK, 7.30 pm). Speaker: Ho Kuang Cheng. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "Emmanuel – Celebrating Heaven's Child" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 500 attended.
25 Dec	Christmas Service (DW, 6 pm). Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Daniel Thein. Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "Emmanuel – Celebrating Heaven's Child" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 300 attended.
31 Dec	Holy Matrimony: Tay Teng Hwee & Shirley Eng Sok Luang. Watchnight Service. Theme: Psalm 103. Speaker: Chong Kim Chow. Chairman: Ng Lee Peng. More than 300 attended.

2006

1 Jan	CEP/SS/YP Retreat at Serangoon Gardens Country Club, Heliconia Room. Theme: "Servant with a Heart" 2 Kings 5:26. Speakers: Ho Kuang Cheng, Tan Kian Huat. 118 attended. Committee Chairman: Tan Chee Hwee.
13 Jan	Farewell: Jeffrey Ho & Wei Chuen with their daughter relocated to New Zealand after spending 3 years in Singapore.
14 Feb	Transferred: All shares from the directors of Eudokia Pte Ltd were transferred to Steward Company of Singapore Ltd.
23 Feb	Farewell: Yoo Tuck Won returned to Korea after completing his studies in Singapore.
25 Feb	The Girls' Brigade 57 th Company Enrolment Service. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairperson: Lynette Khong. 60 attended.
12 Mar	142 nd Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-Giving. Theme: "Follow Me" Jn 8:12. Speaker: Chia Boon Hong. Chairman: Ho Kuang Cheng. Margaret Chia presented prizes to 256 scholars, 75 receiving Roll of Honour awards. More than 450 attended.
15 Mar	Farewell: Denis Yeo & Wei Yean, left to settle in New Zealand, followed later by Wei Yean's parents, Chew Fatt Seng & Helen & their 2 children.
8 – 16 April	Mission Trip to Pyin Oo Lwin, Myanmar to attend the official opening of Harvest Training Centre & to conduct a youth camp. Participants: David Goh, Daniel Goh, Daniel Skelton, Jonathan Chua, Kurien Kurian, Poon Kum Meng & Wong Tuck Keong.
14 Apr	Easter Conference. Theme: "The Creatures Connected With The Easter Celebration". Message 1: "The Lamb That Was Slain". Message 2: "The Dogs That Were Silenced". Speaker: Ung Kim Cheng (Penang). Chairman: Tan Jing Poi. Bethesda Choir rendered the Easter Musical "Majesty" led by Lee Chong Kiat. About 550 attended.
16 Apr	Easter Gospel Service. Message: "The Bird That Soared". Speaker: Ung Kim Cheng. Chairman: Ng Lee Peng. Bethesda Choir rendered the Easter Musical "Majesty" led by Lee Chong Kiat. About 300 attended.
17 Apr	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Easter Special. Theme: "The Greatest Gift". Speaker: Robert Hmar. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. Song items were presented by the children. About 300 attended. Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten Easter Special. Theme: "The Fruit Of The Spirit". Speaker: Andrew Sng. Chairman: Andrew Kwan. Song items were presented by the children. About 100 attended.
22 Apr	Senior Christians' Gathering at Thomson Village Delights. Speaker: Yeoh Ewe Chye. Chairman: Adrin Loi. About 160 attended.
29 Apr	Combined Boys' Brigade Enrolment Service. Speaker: Eric Choa. Chairman: Victor Ng. Guest-of-honour: Zainal Sapari (Principal of Mayflower Pr. School).
1 May	SS/YP/CC Sports' Day at Anglo-Chinese Junior College. Speakers: William Koh, Mau Teck Hwee & Daniel Thein. Committee Chairman: Kelvin Chan.
8 May	Farewell: Jeshar Loi left to pursue a course in Music at the Masters college for 1 1/2 years in Los Angeles, USA.
4 Jun	Baptised: Lydia Choa Ai Hui, Nicole Choa Pei San, Shirley Eng Sok Luang, Melissa Fong Shi Yun, Moritza Lim Fang Min, Natalie Ong Si Ying, Ong Boon Choo, Teo Chiew Gee, Joel Boon Jun Hao, Brandon Chan Juan Wei, Nathaniel Chia Zhang Yuan, Goh Ai Tiong, Ho Ren An & Jonathan Lim Yong Ern.
7 to 9 Jun	3-Day Special Ministry Meetings by John Thomas. Topics: "Prophecy". Chairmen: Aaron Wong, Boey San Fei & Stephen Chang. About 250 attended nightly.

12 to 17 Jun	Assembly Bible Camp at Glory Beach Resort, Port Dickson. Theme: "Watch Therefore, For Ye Know Not What Hour Your Lord Doth Come" Matt 24:42. Camp Teachers: John Thomas (Adult), Silas So Man (Cantonese), Anna Leong (J1), Andrew Sng (J2) & Daniel Thein (J3). 275 campers attended. Committee Chairman: Tan Chee Hwee.
16 – 21 Jun	Medical & Eye Care mission to Bohol, Philippines. Participants: Doris Chang, Chang Li Ling, Chew Kheng Lian, Choy Wai Fann, Grace Leng, Hmar Pik Yee, Diana Lau, Wendy Mui, Lilian Ng, Rachel Hmar, Koh Liang Hwee, Koh Kai Kee, David Leng, Robert Hmar & William Chew.
5 Jul	Returned: Tan Li Sheng completed his studies in the UK.
7 Jul	Returned: Bernice Wong completed her 1-yr study in Australia.
8 Jul	Holy Matrimony: Wong Chuan Peng & Tai Kit Ping.
9 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Service. Speaker: Tan Chee Hwee. Chairman: Ng Lee Peng. About 200 attended.
14 to 16 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: "Light From Heaven" Acts 26:13. Evangelist: Peter Ferry. Interpreters: Andrew Premsundar (Tamil) & Ho Soo Kian (Mandarin). Chairmen: Mau Teck Hwee, Andrew Sng & James Yim. Verbal Testimonies: Kelvin Ng, Tan Soo Hoon & Yeoh Ewe Chye. Written Testimonies: Valerie Kwan, Rebecca Koh & Roselin Liew. Musical Drama "Light From Heaven" was presented during the 3 nights. Children's programme for 4 to 12 year olds was simultaneously conducted. 13 were counselled (3 for salvation, 1 for re-dedication & 9 for enquiry). More than 400 were present nightly. Committee Chairman: Khoo Oon Soo.
23 Jul	Counsellors' Welcome Gathering. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairman: Robert Hmar.
24 Jul	Called Home to Glory: Commended worker, Charlie Tan Kim Hye.
6 Aug	Commended to the Lord for full-time service: Andrew Sng Kok Keong.
13 Aug	Commended to serve as deacon: Daniel Thein Boon Hin .
15 to 18 Aug	Asia Pacific Brethren Conference on Missions 2006 at Wonju Campus Yonsei University, Korea. Theme: "Here Am I! Send Me" Isa 6:8. Speakers: Jim McCarthy, John A Short & Kim Joo Dal. More than 800 participants from all over the world attended the Conference of which 22 were from our assembly.
2 Sep	Fellowship Games at Hougang Secondary School. Speaker: Tan Chee Hwee. Participating Assemblies: Bethesda Hall, Bethesda Bukit Arang, Bethesda Katong, Bethesda Serangoon & Yio Chu Kang Chapel. Committee Chairman: Andrew Sng. More than 400 attended.
12 Sep	Farewell: Johnson Chua & Jonathan Chua left for overseas studies in Glasgow, Scotland.
30 Sep	Called Home to Glory: Pauline Yong Lok Hong.
8 Oct	Called Home to Glory: R. Gnanalolan.
10 Oct	AGM chaired by Harry Tan. 72 members & 4 associate members attended.
14 Oct	Annual Meeting. Speaker: Ho Kuang Cheng. Chairman: Ng Lee Peng. About 150 attended.
1 Nov	Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten 2nd Graduation Concert. Theme: Beautiful, Wonderful, Glorious Things. Speaker: Kurien Kurian. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. About 200 parents attended.
1 & 2 Nov	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 20th Graduation Concert. Theme: Praise. Speaker: Lawrence Chan. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. About 350 parents attended nightly.
5 Nov	Commended to serve as deacon: Alex Mathews.
12 Nov	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Joel Ramaraj (India).
24 Nov – 3 Dec	Bethesda Youth Mission Exposure Trip (BYMET) 06 to Cambodia. Team Leaders: Toh Wei Hong, Ong Ming Ann, Choy Wai Fann. Participants: Amanda Teo, Amos Chew, Chang Li Ling, Jordan Tan, Lisa Loh, Matthew Chia, Natalie Ong & Teo Jia Yin.
26 Nov	Baptised: Claris Chua Puay Yin, Godofreda Casipe Mallorca, Tan Geok Leng, Teoh Chun Mooi, Vincent Lim Eng Wah, Marc Darryl Tan Zhixiong, Thomas Tay Chee Hiong & Yeo Peck Choon.
28 to 30 Nov	DVBS at Bethesda Hall (DW). Theme: Do what's right. Teachers: Poon Yiam Kiau (K2-P2) & Kenneth Wong (P3-P6). 16 were counselled: 11 salvation, 1 assurance & 4 signalled no decision. An average of 125 children attended. Committee Chairman: James Yim.
29 to 30 Nov, 1 Dec	Special Ministry Meetings by Harold Summers on "Some Biblical Perspectives on the Middle East today". Chairmen: Collin Leong, Daniel Skelton & William Chew. An average of 200 attended nightly.
4 to 9 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at Methodist Centre, Port Dickson. Theme: "In Step With Christ" 1 Pet 2:21. Camp Teacher: Harold Summers (Vancouver, Canada). 168 attended the camp. Committee Chairman: Chang Chew Kient.
17 Dec	Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: John Bjorlie. Chairman: Ng Kim Khoon. Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "There Is A Bethlehem" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 300 attended.

24 Dec	Commended to serve as deacon: Andrew Kwan.
25 Dec	Christmas Service. Speaker: Andrew Prem Sundar. Chairman: Andrew Sng. Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "There Is A Bethlehem" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 700 attended.
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Speaker: Eric Choa. Chairman: Jeffrey Jee. About 400 attended.

2007

1 Jan	Workers' Retreat (CEP/SS/YP) at Bethesda Hall (DW). Theme: "Witnessing, Being A Witness" Acts 1:8. Launch of the Comprehensive Outreach Programme for the Assembly (COPA). Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. 200 attended. Committee Chairman: Chong Kim Chow.
7 Jan	Baptised: Christine Kum Sew Wah, Kerriann Chua Qi Yun, Irene Koh Woon Ee, Jessie Koh Lee Cheng, Angeline Ling May May, Amanda Teo Hui Juan & Joel Young Yong Wen.
14 Jan	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Dan Kum Wee Peng.
15 Jan	Farewell: Joel Young left for Canada for his 1-year pilot training.
20 Jan	Holy Matrimony: Wu Yang-San & Grace Wong Pek Chuen.
21 Jan	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Jerry Albert Young & Doris Young Chwee Siang.
18 Feb	Farewell: Nicole Choa left to pursue her studies (Bachelor of Science) at the University of Queensland in Brisbane for 9 months.
18 & 25 Feb	Comprehensive Outreach Programme of the Assembly (COPA) was officially launched at Ang Mo Kio & Depot Walk respectively.
3 Mar	The Boys' Brigade (29J, 43 rd , 51 st) Enrolment Service. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Tay Kim Swee. Guest of Honour: Goh Choon Leng (Principal of Yishun Sec. School). 120 attended.
4 Mar	The 1 st COPA Gospel Service at AMK, Hall 4B. RFGs: Serangoon & Whitley. Speaker: Ravi Kumar. Chairman: Andrew Paul. About 150 attended.
11 Mar	143 rd Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-Giving. Theme: "Desire The Word" 1 Pet 2:2. Speaker: Andrew Sng. Chairman: Chua Teck Koon. Andrew Sng presented prizes to 222 scholars (178 AMK & 44 DW) with 45 receiving Roll of Honour awards. 500 attended.
26 to 29 Mar	3-Day Emmaus Correspondence School – Asia Conference hosted by Bethesda Hall. Venue: The Bayview Hotel, Singapore. Co-ordinators: Jim Fleming & Dave Harvey. Participating countries: Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Australia, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Russia, Myanmar, Indonesia & Thailand. Planning Committee: William Chew, Robert Hmar, Adrin Loi, Ng Lee Peng, Tan Chee Hwee, Tan Soo Hoon & Wong Tuck Keong. 25 overseas delegates attended.
28 Mar	Emmaus Night at Bethesda Hall (DW). Speaker: Jim Fleming. Chairman: Tan Chee Hwee. 200 attended.
5 Apr	Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten 3 rd Easter Special. Theme: Joy in Jesus. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. Song items were presented by the children to an audience of about 200.
6 Apr	Girls' Brigade 57 th Company Enrolment Service. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairperson: Lynette Khong. About 80 attended.
6, 7 & 9 Apr	3-Day Easter Missionary Conference 2007. Messages: Mission & God, Mission & the Local Church, Mission & Me, Mission & the World. Speaker: Ian Burness. Chairmen: Wong Tuck Keong, Daniel Skelton & Tan Chee Hwee. Bethesda Choir presented a medley of songs on the 1 st day of the conference conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. Slide presentation on past mission trips & exhibits were displayed by the Mission Group. About 500 attended on the first day. Testimonies on short-term mission trips were given by Aaron Wong & David Chua respectively. About 200 attended on the 2 nd & 3 rd day.
8 Apr	Easter Gospel Service. Speaker: Ian Burness. Chairman: Tan Jin Song. Bethesda Choir presented a medley of songs. About 300 attended.
9 Apr	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Easter Special. Theme: The most wonderful thing – He's alive. Speaker: Ian Burness. Chairman: Lee Chin Ghee. Song items were presented by the children to an audience of about 300.
22 Apr	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Julie Ong Zhao Ming & Ong Ai Ming.
12 May	Senior Christians' Gathering at Thomson Village Delights. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairman: Victor Henry. Song item: Matthew Tang. 150 attended.
28 to 30 May	3-Day Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten – Sunshine Camp. Theme: The Most Wonderful Gift – God Loves You. Speaker: Anna Leong. More than 60 K2 children attended.

2 Jun	COPA (Organised Activities for the Residents): 1-Day Kukup Trip. Planning Committee Chairman: Tan Chee Hwee. 12 neighbourhood residents & 17 BB boys from 29J Company & their parents attended. Holy Matrimony: William Hooi Yuk Chuan & Ong Ming Ann.
6 to 8 Jun	3-Day Special Ministry Meetings by Alastair McGregor. Topic 1: "An Incident – Jeremiah & the Field" Jer 32. Topic 2: "A Character – Joseph" Gen 37, 44, 45. Topic 3: "A Parable – The Workers in the Vineyard" Matt 20. Chairmen: Daniel Thein, Edmund Yong & Alex Mathews. About 200 attended nightly.
10 Jun	Baptised: Liza Choo Soek Pheng, Angie Seow Ah Tin, Sally Kong Chiew Yian, Michael Choo Kah Siang, Nicholas Kan Wei Ming, David Hsie Ming Ling, Jimmy Seow Che Min & Izumi Tan Chuen.
11 to 15 Jun	Assembly Bible Camp at Holiday Inn Resort, Batam. Theme: "Kings In Training" Rev 1:6. Camp Teachers: Alastair McGregor (Adult), Tan Ah Beng (J3), Stephen Chang (J2), Amy Lee (J1) & Chan Ban Liang (Cantonese Group). Night Workshops: Kenneth Wong (Adult), Boon Chuan Jian (J3) & Andrew Sng (J2). A total of 318 campers (including 11 part-time) attended. Camp Committee Chairman: Tay Kim Swee.
23 Jun	Holy Matrimony: Peter Chow Chorng Ann & Teo Chiew Gee.
7 Jul	Holy Matrimony: Johnson Chua Zihao & See Tho Pik Yee. Holy Matrimony: Benedict Chan & Cynthia Chia Sann Roo at Safra, Mount Faber.
8 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Service. Speaker: Tan Kian Huat. Chairman: Tan Chee Hwee. About 200 attended.
13 to 15 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally at Bethesda Hall (DW). Theme: "The Way of Man" Jer 10:23. Evangelist: Harry Tan. Interpreters: Andrew Prensundar (Tamil) & Ho Soo Kian (Mandarin). Chairmen: Joseph Sng, Andrew Sng & Daniel Thein. Verbal Testimonies: Alex Loh, Ivan Khoo & Lawrence Chan. Written Testimonies: Boon Yen Ling, Melissa Wee & Pauline Phua. Highlights: Slideshow, Singing Items & Mime. 20 people were counselled: Salvation (4), Restoration (1), Assurance (1), Dedication (1), No Decision (2), Seekers (4) & Others (7). About 480 attended nightly. Children's programme (4-12 year olds) was also simultaneously conducted during the 3 nights. Speakers: Linus Tan (K2-P2) & Chan Man Wong (P3-P6). 24 were counselled: Salvation (12), Assurance (10) & Not Ready (2). About 80 children attended nightly.
22 Jul	Counsellors' Welcome Gathering at Bethesda Hall (DW). Speaker: Ho Kuang Cheng. Chairman: Robert Hmar. 36 including 8 counsellors attended.
29 Jul	Baptised: Carena Loy Xihui, Grace Mui Shu Hui, Tamarah Soh Lee Ting, Tan Hui Qian, Hannah Young Shi Yun, David Fong Naiqiang, Gary Kam You Wei, Aaron Khoo Wei Chern & Asher Khoo Wei Chung.
4 Aug	Assembly Gospel Rally Thanksgiving at Bethesda Hall (DW). Speaker: Andrew Sng. Chairman: Ng Lee Peng. 200 attended.
5 Aug	Farewell: Vijaya (Mrs Joshua Raja Pitchan) with her son, returned to India to join her husband.
11 Aug	COPA-OAR: 1st Lunch for the Elderly of Blk 257 Ang Mo Kio St 21. Chairman: Alex Mathews & Matthew Tang (Mandarin Interpreter). Programme: Singing, Song item, Games. More than 20 residents attended. Committee Chairman: Tan Chee Hwee.
19 Aug	Baptised: Claudia Sng Pei Si, Elena Thein Ying Jie, Danna Thein Ying Yi, Jonathan Boon Jun Jie, Titus Chong Wei Wen, Marcus Put Yuk Fung, Lucas Tan Ren Yi & Marvin Wee Tze Bin. Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Evie Chai Eu Imm (Malaysia).
24 Aug	Farewell: Koh Wei Phean left to take up employment in Christchurch, New Zealand.
29 Aug	Farewell: Chua Pik Yee left to join her husband, Johnson and to seek employment in Scotland.
1 Sep	COPA-OAR: 1-Day Kukup Trip for Residents of Depot Walk. More than 60 from Bethesda Hall (DW) Kindergarten attended.
14 Sep	COPA-MDEC Dental & Eye-care Screening. For Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten children. Dental Care screening: Lim Wee Sang & Peter Chow. Eye-Care screening: Chew Kheng Lian, Koh Liang Hwee & Grace Leng. A total of 70 dental & 75 eye-care screenings were done for the K2 students. Committee Chairman: Chong Kim Chow.
21 Sep	Farewell: Melanie Sara Philip returned to India & thereafter to further her Nursing studies in Brisbane, Australia in Feb 2008.
27 Sep	Called Home to Glory: Louise Henriette Baptist.
29 Sep	Holy Matrimony: Tan Wee Siang & Ng Sin Lay.
6 Oct	COPA TALK at Bethesda Hall (DW). Topic: Are You Financially Savvy Enough To Protect Yourself? Speaker: Freddie Kang Sing Fong (Bethesda Bukit Arang Church). Chairman: Sum Siew Tak. 75 attended.
9 Oct	AGM chaired by Khoo Oon Soo. 101 attended (10 elders, 4 associates & 87 members).
13 Oct	COPA (OAR): Lunch for the Elderly at BAMK Basement Classroom. Chairmen: Vincent Teo & Matthew Tang (Mandarin Interpreter). Programme: Singing, Song items & Games. 30 attended, 15 were from Blk 257 Ang Mo Kio St 21.

13 Oct	Annual Meeting. Speaker: Eric Choa. Chairman: Tan Jing Poi. About 200 attended.
14 Oct	Farewell: Allen Tan Teng'an left for USA in connection with his work there for 2 years.
28 Oct	Baptised: Ellice Fan Ai Li, Dawn Sng Pei Shan, Rowena Tugob & Sherman Sim Jianwei.
31 Oct	Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten 3rd Graduation Concert. Theme: God Bless Our Homeland. Speaker: Andrew Kwan. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. 19 K2 children graduated. More than 200 attended.
	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 21st Graduation Concert (AM). Theme: God Is Faithful. Speaker: Kenneth Wong. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong.
1 Nov	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 21st Graduation Concert (PM). Theme: God Is Faithful. Speaker: Kenneth Wong. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. 89 K2 children graduated. More than 300 attended for the two nights.
10 Nov	Called Home to Glory: Andrew Yeoh Ewe Chye & Cecilia Lim Teck Chin. Holy Matrimony: Yeo Peck Choon & Suzanne Tan Poh Choo.
23 Nov	Farewell: Aaron Khoo left for Australia to take up employment there for 3 years.
25 to 30 Nov	Medical/Dental Mission Trip to Kathmandu, Nepal, to conduct a medical & outreach at Lalitpur & Kaplan Assemblies & New Horizon Academy. Participants: Robert Hmar & family, Steven Tan & family, Tan Chee Hwee, Amy & Lucius, Lim Wee Sang, Aloysius Ong, Nathanael Chia, Melissa Fong, Mary Law, Peter Wong & Pei Yuin, Peter Chow & Chiew Gee, Wendy Mui & Sonia Khoo.
27 to 29 Nov	DVBS at Bethesda Hall (DW). Theme: "Come Follow Me" Matt 19:21b. Teachers: Pauline Phua (P1 to P3) & Leong Chee Tiek (P4 to P6). 103 children attended. Committee Chairman: Alex Loh.
End Nov	Returned: Nicole Choa completed her studies in Brisbane.
30 Nov to 9 Dec	Bethesda Youth Mission Exposure Trip (BYMET) to Cambodia. Team Leaders: Hooi Ming Ann, Toh Wei Hong & Andrew Sng. Participants: Dawn Sng, Robyn Tan, Brandon Chan, Jonathan Lim, Lucas Tan, Benjamin Chia, Timothy Lim, Hilary Chia, Jethro Leong, Titus Chong & Joanna Chia.
1 Dec	1-Day Talk on Hermeneutics. Speaker: David Reid (USA). Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. About 160 attended.
5 to 7 Dec	3-Day Special Ministry Meetings by Keith Keyser. Topic: Zephaniah. Chairmen: Aaron Wong, Jeffrey Jee & Andrew Kwan. About 200 attended nightly.
8 Dec	COPA-OAR: 1-Day Lobster & Firefly Tour in Johor for Ang Mo Kio residents. Total 40 participants, 18 adults & 6 children were residents of Ang Mo Kio.
9 Dec	Returned: Joel Young completed his Pilot Training in Canada.
11 to 16 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing. Theme: "Think" Phil 4:8. Camp Teacher: Keith Keyser. 159 attended. Committee Chairman: Chang Chew Kient.
22 Dec	Christmas 2007 @ Kebun Baru at Kebun Baru Community Club. Theme: "Christmas: The Spirit Of Giving". Guest of Honour: Inderjit Singh (MP for AMK GRC). Highlights: Singing of carols, Dance performance by MINDS (AMK), Music & Drama team presenting the "Nativity Scene & the Golden Shoe-box" co-ordinated by Kenneth Chua, Choy Boon Yew & Ng Swee Choo. About 700 people attended. Committee Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong.
23 Dec	Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: Andrew Kwan. Chairman: Nathaniel Sim. Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "Bethlehem Morning" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 250 attended.
25 Dec	COPA Christmas Service. Speaker: S V Ramalingam. Chairman: Ng Lee Peng. Bethesda Choir presented the Christmas Musical "Bethlehem Morning" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. About 650 attended. 6 were counseled (3 re-dedicated & 3 were seeking).
31 Dec	Watchnight Service. Speaker: Tan Chee Hwee. Chairman: Kan Shik Lum. More than 400 attended.

2008

1 Jan	Workers' Retreat 2008 (CEP/SS/YP) at Bethesda Hall (DW). Theme: A Faithful Heart (1 Cor 15:58). Speaker: Kenneth Wong. Committee Chairman: Tay Kim Swee. 165 attended.
8 Jan	1 st Prayer Meeting at Depot Walk – 50 attended.
1 Feb	Returned: Victor Chiam & Sarah after working overseas for 9 years.
16 Feb	COPA-OAR: Lunch for the Elderly from Blk 257 Ang Mo Street 21. Venue: BAMK. Chairman: Matthew Tang. Programme: Singing, games & lunch. 47 attended, 25 were residents.
1 Mar	Holy Matrimony: Tan Jin Song & Lynn Song Wei Lin.

6 Mar	Farewell: Sidda Anandhan took up residence in Australia.
8 Mar	COPA-OAR: 1-Day Lobster & Shopping Trip in Johor for the residents of Depot Walk. 40 attended, 31 were residents.
9 Mar	144 th Sunday School Anniversary & Prize-Giving. Theme: "Be Doers Of The Word" James 1:22. Speaker: Peter Wong. Chairman: Stephen Chang. Wong Pei Yuin presented prizes to 229 scholars, 53 receiving Roll of Honour awards. 450 attended. Received into assembly fellowship from other churches: Joe Mathew John & Mani Vijaya (India).
20 Mar	Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten Easter Special. Theme: Joy In Our Heart. Speaker: Joseph Sng. Chairman: Tay Kim Swee. Song items were presented by the children. About 200 attended.
21 Mar	Easter Service. Speaker: Kenneth Wong. Chairman: Ng Lee Peng. Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata "The Old Rugged Cross Made The Difference" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. 500 attended. Girls' Brigade Enrolment Service. Speaker: Andrew Sng. Chairperson: Lynette Khong. About 50 attended.
22 Mar	Combined BB Enrolment Service. Speaker: Kenneth Wong. Chairman: Andrew Sng. 160 attended.
23 Mar	Easter Gospel Service. Speaker: Quek Mong Hua. Chairman: Aloysius Ong. Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata "The Old Rugged Cross Made the Difference" conducted by Lee Chong Kiat. 150 attended.
24 Mar	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten Easter Special. Theme: Everlasting Life. Speaker: John Bjorlie. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. Song items were presented by the children. 300 attended.
5 Apr	COPA TALK at Bethesda Hall (AMK). Topic: Essential Financial Planning for Living in New Singapore. Speaker: Freddie Kang Sing Fong (Bethesda Bukit Arang Church). Chairman: Tan Soo Hoon. 50 attended.
12 Apr	COPA-OAR: Lunch for the Elderly (AMK) at Blk 257 Ang Mo Street 21. 45 attended, 18 were residents & 3 non-residents.
13 Apr	Baptised: Lisa Loh Ee Wen, Sonia Khoo Meng, Hannah Sim Zihui, Chandra Lekha Iyengar. Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Lynn Tan Wei Lin.
25 Apr	COPA-MDEC: Dental & Eye-care Screening for Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten children. Dental Care screening by: Lim Wee Sang & Peter Chow. Eye-Care screening by: Chew Kheng Lian, Grace Leng & Koh Liang Hwee. 70 children for each group were screened.
1 May	Assembly Family Day. Theme: "Seven ONEders Of The Assembly" Eph 4:4-6. More than 700 participants. Speakers: Linus Tan (Pri 2 & below), Thomas Phua (Pri 4 – 6) & David Goh (13 years & above). Committee Chairman: Kelvin Chan.
15 May	Farewell: Andrew Paul & Esther took up residence in Australia.
27 to 29 May	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten – Sunshine Camp. Theme: "Remember" Eccl 12:1. Teacher: Suzanne Wong. Average 68 K2 students attended.
29 May	Farewell: Donald Choy Sai Choong & Michelle took up residence in Sydney, Australia.
31 May	COPA-OAR: Outing to Sentosa for the elderly of Blk 257. 22 residents & 9 POA attended.
1 Jun	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Jessy Mathew (India).
4 to 6 Jun	3-Day Special Ministry Meetings by David MacLeod on Revelation 4 – 5 "Worship in Heaven". Chairmen: Daniel Skelton, Daniel Thein & Tan Soo Hoon. About 150 attended.
9 to 14 Jun	Assembly Bible Camp at the Katerina Hotel, Batu Pahat. Theme: Born Rich ... But Living Like A Pauper? Camp Teachers: David MacLeod (Adult), Andrew Sng (J3), Kurien Kurian (J2), Shirley Holland (J1) & Raymond Chin Wai Mun (Cantonese Speaking Group). Night Workshops: Andrew Kwan, Tan Kian Huat & Ho Kuang Cheng (Adult), Goh Lay Guan (J3) & William Chew(J2). A total of 300 campers attended. Committee Chairman: Tay Kim Swee.
21 Jun	Senior Christians' Gathering at Padang Palace Restaurant Pte Ltd, Singapore Recreation Club B. Speaker: Khoo Oon Soo. Chairman: Adrin Loi. Song items were presented by Adrin & Jennifer Loi. More than 170 attended.
28 Jun	Sisters' Retreat 2008 at Serangoon Garden Country Club. Speaker: Leong King Teng (Yio Chu Kang Chapel). More than 102 sisters attended.
29 Jun	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Aaron & Chloe Chuah.
5 Jul	Farewell: Rina Ting left for Australia for a 1½ year Occupational Therapy Course at the University of Sydney.
6 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally Dedication Service. Speaker: Adrin Loi. Chairman: Ng Kim Khoon. About 100 attended.

11 – 13 Jul	Assembly Gospel Rally. Theme: “The Great Escape – How Shall We Escape If We Neglect So Great A Salvation?” Heb 2:3. Evangelist: Wong San Tosh. Interpreters: Ho Soo Kian (Mandarin) & Andrew Premesundar (Tamil). Chairmen: Dennis Loh, Gerald Sim & William Koh. Oral Testimonies: Kan Shik Lum, Matthew Chia & Vincent Teo. Written Testimonies by: Tan Chin Imm, Constance Chong, Tham Wai Sim & Jane George. Music & drama team: Michelle Tok. 13 were counselled. Average of 450 attended nightly. Committee chairman: Tan Chee Hwee. Children’s programme (4-12 year olds) was also simultaneously conducted. Speakers: Francis Toke (K2-P2) & Suzanne Wong & Vincent Tham (P3-P6). 11 were counselled. About 50 children attended nightly.
16 Jul	Farewell: John Chandran left to take up employment in Perth for 4 years.
20 Jul	Counselees’ Get-Together at Bethesda Hall (AMK). Speaker: William Chew. Chairman: Kenneth Khong. 30, including 3 counselees, attended. Baptised: Cherie Moh Shi Min, Toh Wern Ai Chloe, Amos Chew Jing Ming, Magdalene Fong Xue Yun, Clement Tan Jin Yi, Naomi Tan Wern Yi, Luke Wesley Ng-Ming, David Wong Siong Kwang & Angeline Wong Ai Lian.
21 Jul	Farewell: Levene Wong left for her 2-year studies at Swinburn University of Technology, Melbourne.
27 Jul	Received into assembly fellowship from another church: Choong Kit Soon & Seow Fei (Malaysia).
1 Aug	Returned: Tan Hui Xin completed her 3-year studies in the UK.
2 Aug	Assembly Gospel Rally Thanksgiving at Bethesda Hall (AMK). Speaker: Tan Chee Hwee. Chairman: James Yim. More than 100 attended.
9 Aug	Medical, Dental, Eye-care Screening cum lunch for the elderly residents of Block 257 Ang Mo Kio Street 21. A joint activity by COPA OAR & MDEC to reach out to the elderly. 23 elderly residents participated.
21 Aug	Special Emmaus Night at Bethesda Hall (AMK). Speaker: George Khalil (Emmaus Regional Director for the Arabic work based in Nazareth, Israel). Chairman: Kurien Kurian. Programme included report on the assembly & Emmaus work in Israel & the surrounding nations. About 50 attended.
28 Aug	Farewell: Tan Hui Xin left for a 1-year Master in Education in Boston.
5 Sep	COPA-MDEC Dental Screening for Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten children. Dental Care screening: Lim Wee Sang & Peter Chow. 42 K2 children were screened.
6 Sep	CC/YP/BB Family Night at Jumbo Seafood Restaurant at Serangoon Gardens Country Club. Speaker: Tan Soo Hock. MCs: Tay Teng Hwee & Shirley. Programme highlights: games, special items by Children’s Corner, Youth Group, Thomas Phua & company. 330 from YP/CC & BB attended.
20 Sep	COPA-OAR 1-day trip to Batam. 5 POAs & 18 residents went for the trip. Sisters’ Evangelistic Hi-tea at Nuovo Condominium Function Room. Topic: “Health In The Golden Years”. Speaker: Chong Kim Chow. Programme Highlights: Health Screening (for high blood pressure & diabetes), tips on exercise by a physiotherapist. 70 attended with 11 new comers.
21 Sep	Baptised: Jacklyn Yek Jia Lin, Bryan Choo Pei De, Poon Ken Chung & Choy Seng Hean.
4 Oct	1 st Blood Donation Drive held at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio). 96 screened & 67 donated blood.
5 Oct	Commended to serve as deacon: Tan Hin Oon.
11 Oct	COPA-OAR lunch for the elderly residents at Blk 257 Ang Mo Kio St 22. 32 attended.
14 Oct	AGM chaired by Khoo Oon Soo. 73 members & 4 associate members attended.
18 Oct	Annual Meeting. Speaker: Tan Chee Hwee. Chairman: Sum Siew Tak. About 150 members attended.
21 Oct	Farewell: Rosaline Shanthabhai Chandran joined her children, Michael & John, to reside in Perth.
25 Oct	Holy Matrimony: Daniel Mok Wai Meng & Chong Hwei Chi.
30 Oct	Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten 4th Graduation Concert. Theme: Let The Beauty of The Earth Praise God. Speaker: Kan Shik Lum. Chairman: Andrew Sng. 30 K2 children graduated. More than 200 attended.
1 Nov	Official launch of My Hope Singapore. Programme: Viewing of videos on “Billy Graham” & “Matthew & friends” DVD, exhortation by Tan Chee Hwee & Tay Kim Swee, process & strategy, questions & answers & prayer. Trainers: Andrew Sng, Robert Hmar, Tan Chee Hwee, Tan Kian Huat & Tay Kim Swee. Of the 37 members who attended the training both in Ang Mo Kio & Depot Walk, 16 families opened their homes for this evangelistic outreach.
2 Nov	Commended to serve as deacon: Ang Siew Hock.
5 Nov	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 22nd Graduation Concert. Theme: “Remember Your Creator” Eccl. 12:1. Peter Wong spoke on “Creation”. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. 48 K2 children graduated. More than 350 attended.
6 Nov	Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten 22nd Graduation Concert. Theme: “Remember Your Creator” Eccl. 12:1. Koh Liang Hwee spoke on “Four Building Blocks”. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. 44 K2 children graduated. About 350 attended.
9 Nov	Commended to serve as elders: Andrew Kwan, Tan Jing Poi & Daniel Thein.

15 – 24 Nov	BYMET to Cebu, Cabilau, Bohol & Iloilo Islands (Philippines). Participants: Naomi Tan, Andrew He, Constance Chong, Poh Shi Ting, Magdalene Fong, Teresa Lee, Olivia Soh, Joel Boon, Kurien Kurian, Tan Ah Beng & Wong Tuck Keong. Programme: Evangelistic home visits, teaching & preaching in 4 meeting places, song items & testimonies.
25 – 27 Nov	DVBS. Theme: Little Ones with Big Faith. Speaker: Amy Lee (K2-P3) & Goh Lay Guan (P4-P6). About 150 attended with 12 from Chen Su Lan Home & 20 from Boys' Brigade. Counsellors: 6 for assurance & 30 for salvation. Committee Chairman: Vincent Tham.
3 – 5 Dec	Special Ministry Meeting by Gil Vargas. Topic: "Equipping the Saints" Eph 4:12. Messages: "Worship: Looking Upward (to God)" Jn 4:23; Col 3:1-4, "Discipleship: Looking Inward (to the Church)" Matt 28:19, 20; 3 Jn 4; 2 Tim 2:2 & "Evangelism: Looking Outward (to the World)" Rom 10:14, 15; Mk 1:17. Chairmen: Jeffrey Jee, Stephen Chang & William Chew. About 80 attended.
8 – 13 Dec	Assembly Youth Camp at Resort Lautan Biru Mersing. Theme: "By Faith" Heb 11. Camp teacher: Gil Vargas. 158 campers attended. Committee Chairman: Chang Chew Kient.
13 Dec	COPA-OAR: Duck Tour cum lunch for the elderly. 37 attended with 21 elderly residents, 11 POA & 5 others.
18 & 20 Dec	Christmas Carolling: Bethesda Choir performed at Tan Tock Seng Hospital at 7.30 pm. & Econ Nursing Home at Lorong Buangkok at 2 pm respectively.
19 Dec	Bethesda Hall (DW) Christmas Carolling at Depot Heights Shopping Centre & Depot Villa RC. A good crowd gathered & 160 goodie bags were distributed.
20 Dec	Bethesda DW CC/YP Christmas Special. Theme: Celebrate the Gift. Speakers: Tan Soo Hock (Bilingual) for adults & young people, Stephen Chang (P3-P6), Loh Geok Bee (P2 & below). Chairman: Andrew Sng. About 200 (friends, parents & relatives of the CC children & neighbourhood) participated.
21 Dec	Christmas Gospel Service. Speaker: Daniel Thein. Choir presented "The Joy of God at Christmas". About 180 attended.
24 Dec	Christmas at Depot Walk. Speaker: Tan Kian Huat. Chairman: Kan Shik Lum. Children from CC (DW) & Bethesda (DW) Kindergarten presented a song item & Bethesda Choir presented "The Love of God at Christmas". About 300 attended.
25 Dec	Christmas at Ang Mo Kio. Theme: Luke 2:8-15. Speaker: Harry Tan. Chairman: Tan Jing Poi. Choir presented "The Love of God at Christmas". More than 700 attended.
27 Dec	33 students registered for the free Tuition programme at Ang Mo Kio. Holy Matrimony: Nathaniel Sim Junqing & Stephanie Grace Teo Wei Min. Holy Matrimony: Mah Kwok Kin & Carolyn Ho Ching Ching.
31 Dec	Bethesda Hall (DW) Thanksgiving dinner at Dragon Restaurant (Depot Heights Shopping Centre) from 6:00 to 9:30 pm. Theme: "What Shall I Render Unto the Lord for All His Benefits Towards Me?" Psalm 116:12. Speaker: Harry Tan. 240 attended. Watchnight Service. Theme: Psalm 1. Speaker: Sum Siew Tak. Chairman: William Chew. 350 attended.

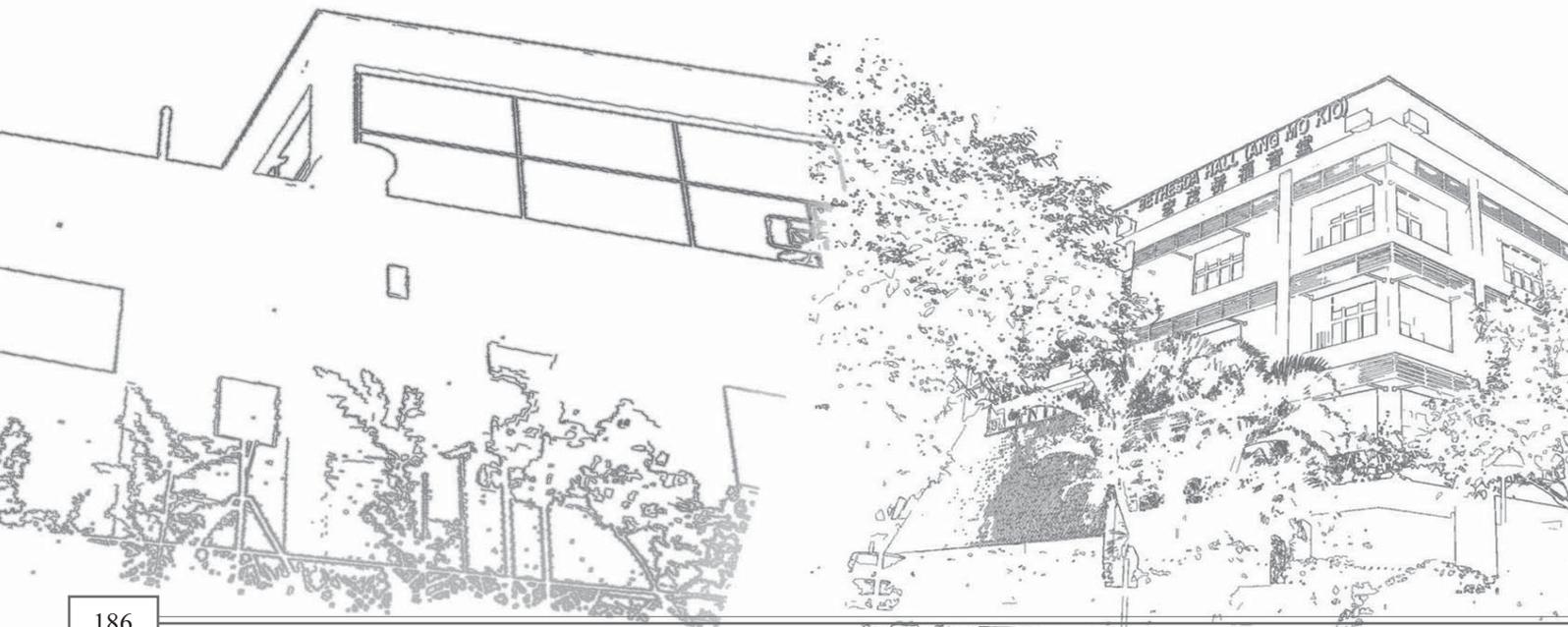
2009

1 Jan	Workers' Retreat (CEP/SS/YP) at St Andrew's Junior College Chapel. Theme: "Equipping" Eph 4:12. Speaker: Tan Chee Hwee. 156 attended.
4 Jan	1 st Tamil Breaking of Bread service held at Ang Mo Kio. 29 attended.
1 Feb	Commended to serve as deacon: Keith Wan.
14 Feb	COPA-OAR: Lunch for the Elderly of Blk 257 Ang Mo Street 21. 48 attended, 30 were residents and 18 POAs.
13 Mar	COPA-MDEC Eye & Dental screening for Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten K2 children. 58 children were screened.
14 Mar	COPA-OAR Family trip to Malacca. 29 Ang Mo Kio residents and 9 POA participated.
15 Mar	145 th SS Prize-Giving. Theme: "Seek Him with the whole heart" Psalm 119:2. Speaker: Kenneth Wong. Chairman: Chua Teck Koon. Doris Wong presented prizes to 179 scholars, 36 receiving Roll of honour awards.
20 Mar	"One Voice" Concert. Speaker/Chairman: Tan Jin Song. Song items presented by 17 groups.
29 Mar	Baptised: Faith Koh Hui Min, Lydia Sng Pei En, Joan Sum En-Minn, Tay Ah Kow, John Mark, Jeremy Jee Jia Jun, Tan Shengjie, Clarence Koh, Timothy Lim Dao Sheng and Lal Run Thiam
8 Apr	Baptised: Reuben Goh, Wan Yin Chi, Wan Su Wei, Tay Lai Shan, Nigel Wong

9 Apr	<p>BAMK Kindergarten Easter Special. Theme: “God is Love” 1 John 4:8. Speaker: Roy Hill. Chairman: Wong Tuck Keong. Song items presented by the kindergarten children.</p> <hr/> <p>BDW Kindergarten Easter Special. Song items presented by the kindergarten children. Speaker: Tay Kim Swee. Chairman: Andrew Sng.</p>
10 Apr	<p>Easter Service. Topics: The road to Calvary and the road to Emmaus. Speaker: Roy Hill. Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata “In Christ Alone”.</p> <hr/> <p>GB Enrolment Service. Speaker: Linus Tan. Chairperson: Lynette Khong.</p> <hr/> <p>Easter Celebration at Kebun Baru CC organised with Residents’ Committee/Grassroots. Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata “In Christ Alone”. Guest of Honour: Inderjit Singh (MP for Ang Mo Kio GRC). 12 games stall were operated by the following activity groups: Bethesda (AMK) Kindergarten, CC (AMK), CC (DW), AYG (AMK), AYG (DW), GB, BB, Sisters Group, Family Group, CEP Group 8, SS (AMK), SS (DW) with Mau Yoke Leng and helpers manning the Balloon Sculpture.</p>
11 Apr	<p>Combined BB Enrolment Service. Speaker: Tan Chee Hwee.</p> <hr/> <p>COPA-OAR Lunch for the Elderly.</p>
12 Apr	<p>Easter Gospel Service. Speaker: Roy Hill. Chairman: Chua Tack Koon. Bethesda Choir presented the Easter Cantata “In Christ Alone”.</p>
15 – 17 Apr	<p>Ministry Meetings by Roy Hill. Topics: “Facing Trials”, “Fighting Temptations” & “Faith & Works” (Studies in James).</p>
26 Apr	<p>Received into assembly fellowship from another church: T J Benjose (India)</p>
1 May	<p>Baptised: A.Poomani, K.Chitra, Kumar S, Arioksamy Santigao, Baskaran & Matthew Sebastian.</p>
6 Jun	<p>Elders’ Seminar on Bilbical Eldership and Transitioning Leadrship by Alexander Strauch.</p>
8 – 13 Jun	<p>Assembly Bible Camp at Katerina Hotel, Batu Pahat. Theme: The 11th Commandment. Teachers: Alex Strauch (Adult), Goh Lay Guan (J3), Chan Man Wong (J2), Tay Lai To (J1) & Raymond Chin (Cantonese). A total of 288 campers attended. Camp Committee Chairman: Victor Ng.</p>

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GREETINGS FROM SOME OVERSEAS FRIENDS

When I think about Bethesda Hall in Singapore, your love toward other believers and efforts to teach and learn the word of God came to my mind. You have held the Christian International Conference twice so far, showing the best example to other believers. Congratulation on your 145th anniversary and I am praying God will bless your assembly with his work and glory over you.

Koo Hak-mo

Noryangjin Christian Assembly, Seoul, Korea

We thank our Heavenly Father for the privilege of visiting at Bethesda Hall on several occasions and being workers together as we sought to bring glory to our dear Saviour. Your love for the Lord, His people, and for those who are still lost in their sin, has always been a great example and encouragement to both of us. Keep on keeping on for the One who alone is worthy of all praise and honour and glory!

Joe & Ann Reese

Queen Street Bible Chapel, Sault Ste. Marie, Canada

My first assembly in Korea, at a point, had around 400 members, but now there is less than 100. But Bethesda Hall, even after 145 years, has been able to grow continuously. This is a proof that the Lord is with Bethesda Hall. I pray that Bethesda Hall will be an assembly where there is always the Lord's presence. Nepali believers, who have received your love, together congratulate you.

Lee Hoon Hyun

Lalitpur Christian Assembly, Kathmandu, Nepal

It was in the late 80's that I came into contact with Bethesda Hall Bras Basah. Many in the assembly have been an inspiration and guide to me since then. Our late brother Lim Tian Leong was one of those who through his friendship, fellowship and gentle corrections encouraged me in the Lord's service. The Prayer Voices, a very dedicated and practical group showed their support for my ministry through their prayer and practical fellowship. It was my privilege to join them on several mission trips which gave me wider exposure to the mission field. I was often asked to speak at meetings which gave me opportunity to improve my speaking skills. My wife and I are thankful to the assembly for the trust and support that has been shown to us.

Charles Lingam & Siew Ying

Johor Bahru Gospel Chapel, Malaysia

As you look around now and look to the future under God's hand we do pray that your influence will continue to multiply and that both in Singapore and beyond you will be a mighty influence for the spread of the Gospel of Christ. I realise from my visit to you a few years ago that you have a growing interest in the spread of the Gospel beyond your own country and we pray that this vision will grow and with many others in Asia will fulfill your responsibilities and see many from your numbers raised up to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ian Burness

Echoes of Service, UK

Since brothers S.V. Ramalingam and some believers first visited our assembly in 1981, our assemblies have enjoyed many years of close fellowship. We look back over these many years with fond memories. We also remember how your assembly came to the aid of believers in Sri Lanka soon after the Tsunami a few years ago. The two containers of relief items that were sent greatly benefited those that were displaced.

Rajeev Nicholas, Stanmore Mahendran & Ajith Peiris
Bethesda Gospel Hall, Colombo, Sri Lanka

My congratulations to the assembly at Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio) on reaching their 145th Anniversary. That is quite an achievement especially as the assembly is still thriving and maintaining scriptural standards. I have been visiting the assembly for ministry over the past few years and am always impressed by the interest in the word as well as the fellowship, kindness and hospitality of the believers there. I am hugely impressed with their CEP programme, the keen interest of their young people in spiritual things and of course their regular overseas missions.

Roy Hill
Precious Seed Magazine, UK

I had the honour to be associated with Bethesda Hall Bras Basah when GD James was there. My friendship with the saints widened when the young people attended the Burmah Road Hall-organised 1st Pan Malaya-Singapore Camp in the early 50s. I am deeply honoured that this fellowship has lasted to the present one at Bethesda Hall Ang Mo Kio. As you celebrate your 145th Anniversary, the Penang assemblies should be celebrating the 150th year of the commencement of Assembly work in Penang last May (1859-2009), if they had not celebrated it earlier in 2005.

Ung Kim Cheng
Burmah Road Gospel Hall, Penang, Malaysia

We, including all the saints in Chiang Mai Tasala Assembly, Maecan Assembly, Sensuk Assembly and Bangkok Muang Luang Assembly, would like to express our deep thanks to Ang Mo Kio Assembly. We glorify and give thanks to the Lord that the flame of the Gospel, which has started from Jerusalem, spread to Ang Mo Kio Assembly, which He has been using in enlargement of His Kingdom since 145 years ago. Despite the hardships and trials, you have shown good example of the work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope to all of us, even to the saints in Thailand. We are greatly encouraged by your prayers and support for the Lord's work in Thailand.

Kim Sun Ho
Muang Luang Assembly, Bangkok, Thailand

It definitely is a joy to His heart to celebrate 145th anniversary and so it is to ours. There must have been many trials and difficulties during these 145 years, yet we thank and praise the Lord for the things He has done through you – the assembly hall was built, tracts were distributed, homes, prisons and hospitals were visited, and every other kind of Lord’s work was done in your place. We pray the Lord may continually bless you and be glorified abundantly through you!

Tsunetaka Fujiwara, Hirokazu Nakamura & Hirokazu Nishikawa
Izumi Christian Assembly, Osaka, Japan

We rejoice with you in the 145th anniversary of Bethesda Hall. How the Lord has blessed you and given fruit and growth through the years. You have been much of an encouragement to us and others. Korean missionaries from assemblies here have been blessed much from your gracious and generous practical help. You have been a good example for us to follow. May this pleasant fellowship continues until our Lord comes, and then we will be together forever with the Lord. May God continue to bless, keep and use you much for His glory.

Douglas Neiswender
Seoul Bukbu Christian Assembly, South Korea

I thank God for the testimony of the saints meeting at Bethesda Hall and for your commitment to the serious study of His Word. Through your efforts, the gospel is sounding forth throughout Asia. May it continue to do so until He comes. To Him be the glory!

Jim McCarthy
Hillview Bible Chapel, Los Angeles, USA

I heartily share your joy and thanksgiving as you celebrate 145 years of God’s grace. From August to November 2008, I was glad to be with Bethesda Hall (AMK & DW) while being attached to the two kindergartens to prepare the curriculum for Sangkhim Canaan School. I thank the Lord for the opportunity and “your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ (I Th. 1:3).” May the Lord bless you abundantly as you stand firm on His Word and continue to carry out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ both in Singapore and other parts of the world.

Youmi Kim
Kampong Chhnang Church, Cambodia

