

# Announcements

## CHRISTMAS OUTREACH SERVICES

Christmas is just around the corner! Invite your pre-believing friends, loved ones and colleagues to “Season of Hope” so that they can hear about the hope we have in Christ. Li Nanxing will share his testimony at BPJ Centre, Ps Judith Halim at WDL Centre, and Belinda Lee at East Centre.

**Date:** 25 Dec (Tue)

**Time:** 9am and 11am

**Venues:** BPJ, WDL and East Centres\*

*\*There will be a special offering collection at our Christmas services for Santhosa Samsara, a charity trust founded by Ps George Ebenezer that is raising funds to build a Child Healing Centre in India for children who have been abused.*

**Sunbeam** will have an outreach “A Christmas Wish” for kids aged 7 to 12 years old.

**Date:** 25 Dec (Tue)

**Time:** 9am and 11am

**Venue:** BPJ and WDL Centres

Admission is free. Register at <http://cefc.ch/sbxmas18>

Please note that there will be **NO Sunbeam services today.**

**China Nationals Christmas Service** will be held today, 23 Dec, 3.30pm to 5.00pm at WDL Centre Chapel 1 (Level 4).

## WATCHNIGHT

Let's look back and thank God for what He has done in this Year of Prayer and Repentance. Covenanters will testify how God moved their hearts to pray, repent and reach others with the Gospel. Let's look forward to the Year of Proclamation, believing God for a harvest in our church and land like never before. Come with your family and CG next Mon, **31 Dec, 8pm to 11pm at WDL Centre!**

## NO WEB SERVICE AT WDL & EAST CENTRES

Please note that there will be **NO WEB** service at WDL and East Centres next Sun, 30 Dec.

## SERVE IN NEW LIFE

**New Life Staff Recruitment.** New Life needs committed and passionate staff to reach the next generation and be a blessing to the community. We are looking for talented people called to turn their passion into career to fill in the following positions:

- Youth Team Leader
- Childcare Principal (BPJ Centre)
- Office and Liaison Manager

If you are interested, download the application form at [tinyurl.com/nlcsjobform](http://tinyurl.com/nlcsjobform) and email to [hr@newlife.org.sg](mailto:hr@newlife.org.sg) Share this opportunity with your networks and friends too.

**Steady Readers Mentors.** 100 volunteers are needed to mentor K2 to P4 children who are not reading at their academic age and having difficulty in school due to lack of proficiency in English.

Period: 21 Jan – 25 May 2019

Days & Venue:

Mon and/or Wed at BPJ Centre

Tues and/or Thu at WDL Centre

Time: 8.00pm – 9.30pm

Required Training: 5 OR 6 Jan 2019

Time: 1pm – 5pm

Venue: Fajar Youth Hub (Blk 419 Fajar Road)

Sign up at <http://cefc.ch/newlifechildren>

For more information, email

Jason at [volunteer@newlife.org.sg](mailto:volunteer@newlife.org.sg)



... for a Vibrant & Healthy Next Generation

... for Godly Families and Generations

... for a Growing IDMC Movement in Singapore

... to Impact Our Society & Culture

... for a Growing Global IDMC Movement

**ACKCentre**  
2 Kallang Avenue,  
CT Hub #10-26, Singapore 339407

**ONE CHURCH  
MULTIPLE CENTRES**  
**BPJ Centre:**  
Sun 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.30pm

**WDL Centre:**  
Sun 8.30am & 10.30am

**East Centre:**  
Sun 9am & 11am

**T** (65) 6892 6811

**E** [mail@cefc.org.sg](mailto:mail@cefc.org.sg)

**W** [www.cefc.org.sg](http://www.cefc.org.sg)

**FB** [www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch](http://www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch)

**BUKIT PANJANG, 23 DEC 2018**

SERVICE LEADER: REV WILLIAM WONG • WORSHIP LEADER: BENJAMIN AND SHARON TAN

## Ending the Year of Prayer and Repentance Well

PS EDMUND WONG, PASTORAL STAFF, DISTRICT MENTOR AND PRAYER MINISTRY

We are about one week away before 2018 ends. How have you grown in prayer and repentance this year?

Last year, our senior leaders came back from their annual listening retreat with a strong burden: **Prayer**. The divine picture given to Senior Pastor Kay Kiong was Moses on top of the mountain, with his hands lifted up by Aaron and Hur. Every time his hands were lifted up, Joshua was winning the battle against the Amalekites (Exo 17:8-13). Bishop Rennis, President of National Council of Churches in Singapore, then declared 2018 as a year of prayer to prepare us for a national harvest in 2019, and our hearts resonated. These are exciting times of prayer-paration!

Besides our usual prayer platforms (e.g. CG Prayer and Praise), we intensified prayer this year by launching i12pray, a personal monthly prayer initiative to cover our leaders under attack and uphold our nation. We partnered with LoveSingapore during Holy Week for Solemn Assembly. We held overnight prayer meetings at our three centres on the eve of National Day, as our spiritual endeavour for revival.

We had a show of force during PraySingapore at the National Stadium, to register our solidarity and unity with the Body of Christ for the coming harvest. What a year of prayer this has been!

Moving forward, we will continue our prayer momentum for the harvest through the following:

**i12pray** – with refreshed monthly content that is more specific and targeted

**Celebration of Hope Prayer Lead-Up** – every first Friday (Jan to May) 8pm at BPJ Centre.

Recently, I came across a Facebook post by a friend: “If prayer isn't vital for your church, then your church isn't vital. This statement may be bold, but I believe it's true. If you can accomplish your church's mission without daily, passionate prayer, then your mission is insufficient and your church is irrelevant.” (Francis Chan, *Letters to the Church*).

Is prayer vital for your life and ministry? Let's end the year of prayer and repentance well, together. See you at Watchnight Prayer, 31 Dec, 8pm to 11pm at WDL Centre!

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# Sermon Outline

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## When Storms Come

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 27 • SERMON: PS IVAN HO

### Introduction

#### A. Be Secure in God's Will: God's Words Are True (vv.1-26)

#### B. Let Go of Personal Control: God Has Got You (vv.27-44)

### Conclusion

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NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

DEC 30 - PS ANN CHAN (BPJ), REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI (WDL) AND PS MATTHEW LO (EAST)

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# Last Week's Sermon Summary

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## Obedying the Divine Call

SCRIPTURE: ACT 25-26 • SERMON: PS TAN SIANG HON

### Introduction

How do we obey God's call in the face of opposition and hostility? While the apostle Paul loomed large from the lens of New Testament and church history, he truly seemed helpless before men of power in the invincible Roman Empire (Acts 25:23). Yet, in the divine twist of how God unfolded history, while Rome collapsed generations later, the Kingdom of God advanced throughout the world and Paul's legacy in his letters to churches remains till today – as the very Word of God!

To obey God's divine call, we need to:

#### A. Be Mission Faithful (Acts 25:1-27)

To be mission faithful is to count the cost and pay the price of answering God's missional call in your life. Paul's appeal to Caesar appears to be a drastic step to seek justice and protection, but his underlying motivation is not self-preservation but Gospel-proclamation. Paul resolved to be faithful to God's revelation in Acts 23:11 that he would testify about Christ to Caesar in Rome as he did in Jerusalem.

#### B. Be Resurrection Powered (Acts 26:1-15)

Unless and until we are empowered by the resurrection of Christ, through a personal encounter with the Resurrected Christ, we will never be able to truly live a victorious Christian life, let alone obey the divine call. Paul's encounter with the Resurrected Christ radically changed him – from the greatest adversary and persecutor of the Christian faith, to its greatest advocate and proclaimer! His words of a fruitful ministry in 1 Corinthians 15:58 are given in the context of the resurrection of Christ. Resurrection empowers!

#### C. Be Gospel Ready (Acts 26:16-32)

Paul's conversion account in Acts 26 defers from Acts 9 and 22 in its inclusion of Paul's commission to preach the Gospel. The Gospel, in essence, is about setting people free.

The greatest irony of Acts 25 to 26, from a divine perspective, is that it is not Paul but the surrounding men whom Paul stood in defense before who are really in chains. Because they stand in judgement before God, Paul was Gospel ready to share with them about the hope he has as a Christian.

### Conclusion

The divine call (Acts 26:19-20) is not only for the apostle Paul, or pastors and missionaries, but all disciples of Jesus Christ. By default, we will not "obey the heavenly vision". We need God's empowering and a sacred resolve to obey. There is a cost to obedience, but greater still is the cost of disobedience.