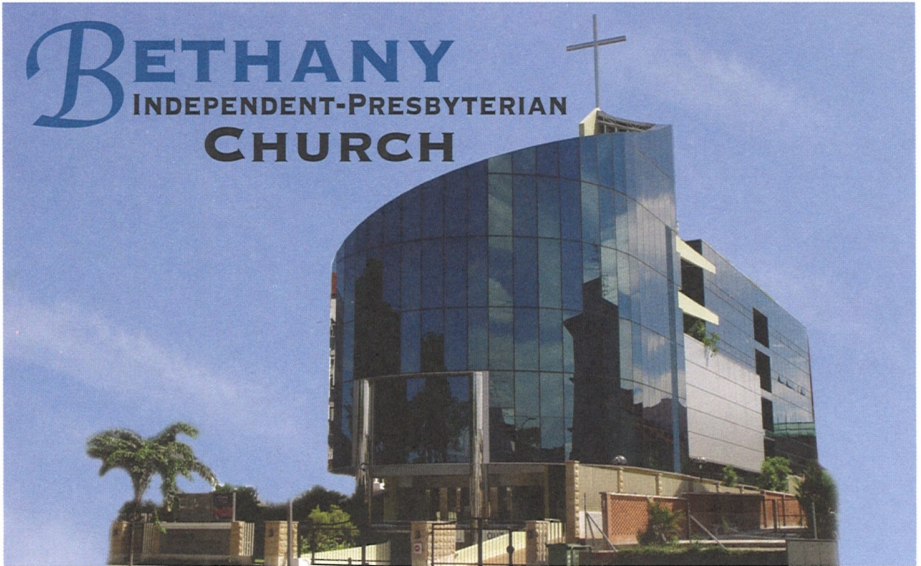


# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



God's kind of Church...where God is touching lives...and people care for people

Bethany IV ... 11 March 2018 ... Family Camp 2018 Commences!

MICA (P) No.: 030/10/2012

## MEDITATION

by Rev Dr Charles Tan

Text: John 1:4-5; 8:12



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# “THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN”

## THE LIFE THAT CHRIST GIVES

Sometimes we take for granted the life that Christ Jesus has given to us. Let us take some time to read again about the Life that we have been given.

*In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.  
And the light shines in the darkness,  
And the darkness did not comprehend it.*

*John 1:4-5*

(continued on page 2)

# MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

1. In Him was life
  - a) Earthly physical life
  - b) Eternal life
2. The Life was the light of men
  - a) The new life in Christ also gives light
  - b) This light must be treasured
3. The battle between Light and Darkness
  - a) Darkness will always try and snuff out light
  - b) But it will never be able to fully extinguish it
  - c) Light will always shine even in the darkest night

## THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

The Lord Jesus Christ clearly and wonderfully declared: -

*Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying,  
"I am the Light of the world.*

*He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness,  
But have the light of life." John 8:12*

1. I am the Light of the world
  - a) What a profound statement
  - b) The Lord proved the veracity of His bold words
    - i) In His life
    - ii) In His teachings
2. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness
  - a) What a great promise to dwell on
    - i) We need not fear walking in darkness
    - ii) We will have Light for our footpath
  - b) The challenge to take up
    - i) To follow the Lord
    - ii) To walk in His light

(Continued on page 3)

*(Continued from page 2)*

## SEEKING THE LIGHT AT THE FAMILY CAMP

Let us seek the light that comes from the Word of God! Let us desire to seek this Light. And having found that Light let us seek to walk in it always!

*Write to me at:* [charlestan@bethanyipc.sg](mailto:charlestan@bethanyipc.sg)

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today! May the Lord refresh your soul through worship and fellowship!

**WELCOME**  
to Bethany IV

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## NO CATECHISM CLASS TODAY

We leave for the Family Camp at 1.00pm from Bethany.

## MEET THE SESSION

The Candidates for Baptism will meet the Session next Sunday at Auditorium 4.1 at 12.00nn.

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## A VERY WARM WELCOME TO OUR BRETHREN

1. Bethel IPC  
30 people
2. IPC India  
8 people
3. Myanmar  
7 people

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## TELECAST OF CAMP MESSAGES

Only the EVENING MESSAGES will be streamed live on YouTube.

Sign up to be notified of the start of each live video stream at :

<https://www.youtube.com/c/BethanyWebteamLIVE>

The Morning Bible Study Sessions will be telecast after a delay and can be accessed at either :

<http://www.bethanyipc.sg/messages/family-camp/2018-2/walk-in-the-light-of-the-lord/>

OR you can sign up to be notified as each video is uploaded at :

<https://www.youtube.com/user/bethanyfamilycamp/videos>

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## PMC, PM AND BS IN RECESS

The regular weekday ministries will be in recess till April 2018.

**12 March 2018**

Family Camp

**19 March 2018**

Post-Camp

**26 March**

Holy Week Events

**2 April 2018**

Pastoral Conference in Myanmar

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## EASTER AT SHANGRI LA

*1 April 2018*

Plan to book your table as soon as possible!



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## RETIREMENT OF MS JOANNA YAM

The Session announces the Retirement of Ms. Joanna Yam at the end of March 2018. Joanna has been serving the Lord at Bethany for many years. Her ministry to the shut-ins is deeply appreciated especially.

She shares her reflection about her retirement in the Bethany Bulletin this week.

### MAY THE LORD BE MAGNIFIED

#### A Handmaiden of the Lord

On 1 April 2018, I will be retiring, having served at Bethany for 22 years. Bethany has been most gracious and kind in accepting me as a worker at age 46 in 1996. Furthermore, the Church gave me the privilege of studying at Bethany Theological Seminary whilst serving the Lord.

God gave the Levites twenty-five years to serve actively in the Tabernacle – “From twenty-five years old and above one may enter to perform service in the work of the Tabernacle of meeting, and at the age of fifty years they must cease performing this work, and shall work no more.” (Numbers 8:24-25). How kind and thoughtful of the Lord to make this provision for His servants.

Through these 22 years, I have seen the Lord’s most faithful and gracious hand in providing and sustaining all my needs. Indeed, I cannot thank Bethany enough and am deeply grateful for giving me a place of service in Bethany.

#### Bethany’s impact on me

The Word of God - Bethany is a Word-centered Church where God’s truth is taught and declared faithfully, consistently, continually and honourably through the various fellowship groups, Sunday Schools, Worship Services, Prayer Meeting, Bible Study, camps and retreats. I learn to embrace the Word of God as my anchor for life and ministry. Fearing God is my basis for learning and growth. It is here in Bethany that I found my focal point in growing deeper in knowledge and developing my faith in the Lord our God.

Spirit of love and unity – There is such a strong sense of love and care for people, not only for her members but others as well. Some years ago, I saw God’s love expressed through many brethren who visited and prayed for my mum whilst she was in the hospital. Mum is not a member of Bethany, yet the loving regard was shown.

*(Continued on page 6)*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Continued from page 5)*

In late January 2018, the pain in my knee flared up. I needed Arcoxia to relieve the pain but had none. Dr. Effie Chew went out of her way to get the medicine and brought it to my home, complete with a walking stick!

On 25 February 2018, my heart was deeply touched by the many brethren who came to help me when I experienced excruciating pain in my left knee due to torn meniscus. Doctors Tan Kok Yang and Daniel Chia assessed my condition. Mr. Ho arranged for an ambulance to ferry me home. Clement, Charissa and Jewel (all physiotherapists) helped in moving me. Both Clement and Charissa followed me in the ambulance and were a great source of professional help in getting me to my room at the second floor.

Just when I thought that these brethren had already done so much for me, Lily Toi took half day leave to accompany me to Khoo Teck Puat Hospital to see a doctor, specially arranged by Dr. Tan. Clement came on another day to teach my helpers and I how to put on the knee brace, how to sit and get out of bed. My heart is warmed and touched with the full display of the family spirit of oneness and love. Brethren would do all they can to help out practically. Truly Bethany is exemplary in living out the Church's motto - "God's kind of church where people care for people."

Constrained by the love of Christ to reach out to the lost and needy - I am motivated and inspired by Pastor's example to reach out to the poor and lost untiringly. Though unwell, he would still travel overseas for Missions. Personally, he would give generously to the work of Missions.

Thank God for the opportunity to be a Sunday School teacher in SSS III (for helpers). Through this ministry, we are able to reach them with the Gospel of Christ. These helpers come from the Philippines, Myanmar and Indonesia. They have different needs - emotional, social and financial. We, teachers help as we are able.

The Lord has given me a heart of love for the dying souls from a youth. I will seek to point people to Christ with whatever opportunities the Lord affords me. With the funds the Lord has entrusted to me, I seek to invest it in the work of missions. This is the least I could do for my Saviour who gave His life for me.

## **Serving the Lord in a New Dimension**

May the Spirit of God lead me onward. I want to be like the palm and cedar tree described in Psalm 92:12-15 - fresh, flourishing and fruitful. "I want to declare that the Lord is upright; He is my Rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him."

*(Continued on page 7)*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Continued from page 6)*

"What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits toward me?" (Psalm 116:12-19). I will continue to call upon Him as long as I live. I will continue to love and serve Him as He enables me to. Each day I will continue to walk before Him with joy and purpose. I will pay my vows to the Lord because of His faithfulness.

In 1966, I made a promise to serve the Lord to the end of my life. As the hymn goes "O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend", it is my hope and prayer to God that in whatever circumstance I may be in, I want to be an example of His love.

In the remaining years of my life, I want to boldly declare that the Lord is still my Trust, my Refuge, my Sustainer and my Strength. I am what I am today is all by His abundant grace and tender mercies.

I love the Church of God, especially Bethany. "For her my tears shall fall. For her my prayer ascend; To her my cares and toils be giv'n, Till toils and cares shall end." AMEN.

At the end of the day, I am but an unprofitable servant. I have done what was my duty to do. (Luke 17:10). Bless be the Name of the Lord. To Him be all the Glory!

Your grateful servant,  
Joanna Yam  
11 March 2018

Worship  
in Spirit  
& Truth

## WORSHIP

### Psalm 89:15-16

*Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound!  
They walk, O LORD, in the light of Your countenance.*

*In Your name they rejoice all day long,  
And in Your righteousness they are exalted.*

*(Continued on page 8)*

# WORSHIP

Worship  
in Spirit  
& Truth

(Continued from page 7)

1. What the LORD offers
  - a) The Light of His countenance
  - b) His name
  - c) His righteousness
2. What His people are challenged to do
  - a) To walk in His light
  - b) To rejoice in His name
  - c) To experience His blessing as they walk with Him

## BIBLE MEMORY WORK

### TODAY, 11 March 2018

#### ***Colossians 1:18 The Pre-eminence of Christ***

*And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the pre-eminence.*

1. Who Christ is
  - a) The Head of the Body, the Church
  - b) The Beginning
  - c) The firstborn from the dead
2. What He deserves
  - a) Pre-eminence
  - b) Let us ever exalt the Lord Jesus Christ

### NEXT SUNDAY, 18 March 2018

#### ***Colossians 1:21 He has reconciled***

*And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled.*



# CHILDREN'S CORNER

We used to have a Children's Corner in our Bethany Bulletin. One of our children asked if we could have a Column where Children can share their thoughts.

To all the Children in Bethany. You are very welcome to contribute to the Children's Corner every week. Please send in your entries by Tuesday each week. This will allow for edition or correction.

Here's a Poem for you to read!

## A LAD WHO HAS FIVE LOAVES

It was near Passover and everyone should have been busy;  
But huge crowds continued to follow Jesus very happily.  
They brought to the Lord many who were helpless and sick;  
Thousands came to Him, from morning to night, sad and weak.

The day had been long and the sun was setting very soon;  
Five thousand people had not planned for a meal at noon.  
The people had followed Jesus to hear what He had to say;  
When Jesus asked His disciples they may be fed, all felt dismay!

One young lad came to Jesus to offer his simple lunch;  
He had five barley loaves and two small fish to munch.  
The Disciples looked at that and they were in despair;  
Jesus knew what He would do, for was He not the Heir?

He was the Son of God and He could ask God for a Plan;  
The five loaves and two fish would feed five thousand men!  
The disciples were astonished as the loaves and fish multiplied;  
The thousands were fed and God's great name was glorified!

Inspiration: John 6:8  
Charles Tan

## THE LIGHT OF LIFE

How often we stumble and feel very discouraged;  
We wonder why we cannot be more encouraged!  
Sometimes, from the wrong sources, we seek light;  
All we need is Jesus; to whom we must hold tight!

The Lord knows how dark our world can really be;  
Thus, He sought to teach how we may live justly.  
The world is quick to condemn when we do wrong;  
Everything seems lost when the night is drearily long.

Darkness can be dispelled when we have the Light;  
Wisdom teaches us to follow Jesus with all our might.  
The deepest of darkness cannot cause us to lose our way;  
Jesus is that Light that dispels all sadness and dismay.

The New Life that He gives comes with a built-in Light;  
The Presence of the Lord will give us spiritual sight!  
He guides us and we need never fear darkness again;  
He cleanses us and makes our life as right as rain!

Inspiration: John 8:12  
Charles Tan

## Off to Family Camp

“Twas a decade ago when I last went to Family Camp;  
But better late than never; so here I am.  
As much excitement and chatter fill the air;  
Bethany readies herself for a time of reinvigorating fare.

Life’s challenges continue to accost us in this past year;  
Poor health, financial woes, and school exams perpetuate fear.  
We try to fend for ourselves but often fail;  
Family and friends try to help but to no avail.

So often we neglect to pray and look to God;  
So often we forget the grace and mercies from the Lord.  
But take heart because the Lord says “Come now, and let us reason together”;  
The Lord has spoken; His people need look no further.

“Let us walk in the Light of the Lord” is the theme for the camp;  
Without a doubt, God’s Word will prove to be that ultimate lamp.  
Before long, we will trod life’s paths again;  
But not before we are renewed and revitalized by week’s end.

Inspiration: Isaiah 1:18 & Psalm 119:115  
Sng Li Wah

THEME : COMPLETE IN CHRIST

# This Week @ Worship

— COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE —  
10.30 AM . CHURCH SANCTUARY  
“The kingdom of the Son of His love”  
Colossians 1

Chairman  
Mr Milton Ong

Organist  
Mrs Sally Tan

Speaker  
Rev Dr Charles Tan

Interpreter  
Deacon  
Dr Tan Peng Hui

Pianist  
Mr Gabriel Ou

— TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE —

**NO TEENS WORSHIP SERVICE**

— CHILDREN'S CHURCH —  
10.30 AM  
“A Wonderful Friend”  
John 5:1-15

CC I: P1—P3  
*3rd Floor*  
*Auditorium 3-1*

CC II: P4—P6  
*4th Floor*  
*Auditorium 4-1*

Speaker  
Student-Pastor  
Benjamin Chong

Speaker  
Student-Pastor  
Moses Kwek

— COMBINED EVENING~BILINGUAL  
WORSHIP SERVICE —

**NO COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL  
WORSHIP SERVICE**

Breakfast : Joleen Heng & James Pang  
Fellowship Lunch : Elsie

**Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church**

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road. Singapore 534934  
tel : 65-62877713 . fax : 65-62877980 . website URL : bethanyipc.sg

**COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**11 March 2018**  
**Order of Worship**

**PREPARATION**

Pre-Worship Singing

*Pianist : Mr Gabriel Ou*  
*Organist : Mrs Sally Tan*

“Love The Lord Your God”  
“My Gift To You”

*Special Song Item*  
*by the Creche children*

Prelude

Call to Worship

*Mr Milton Ong*

Invocation

**PRAISE**

Hymns

Century Praise 66      As The Deer

VIP No. 420      A Common Love

Century Praise 334      Open My Eyes, That I May See

**“PREACH THE WORD”**

Message:      “The kingdom of the Son of His love”

Text :      Colossians 1

Speaker:      Rev Dr Charles Tan

**RESPONSE**

Offering

Hymn

Century Praise 95      My Jesus, I Love Thee

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude

# PASTORAL LETTER

Senior Pastor : Rev Dr Charles Tan

11 March 2018

*Dear Brethren,*

## A GROWING CHURCH FAMILY

The size of our Church Family has grown slowly but significantly. There is much to rejoice in!

## CHALLENGES WE MUST CONSIDER

There are challenges that we must not fail to take into careful consideration!

### 1. New Campers

- a) They may not be used to the Camp Ministry
- b) They may not have strong or deep Biblical knowledge
- c) Some may take some time to befriend others

### 2. Veteran Campers

- a) Let us reach out to all who are new
- b) Let us show much lovingkindness
- c) Let us share our faith in the Lord

## LET US PRAY FOR WISDOM AND REVELATION

How gracious the Lord is to speak to us through His Word! Our part is to hide the Lord's word in our hearts and to seek to apply its truth in our life! Let us recall the prayer Paul made for the Ephesians and make that our personal prayer!

*That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The Father of glory, may give to you  
The Spirit of wisdom and revelation  
In the knowledge of Him;*

*The eyes of your understanding being enlightened;  
That you may know what is the hope of His calling,  
What are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.*

*Ephesians 1:17-18*

1. Let us seek enlightenment
2. Let us seek to know the hope of God's calling
3. Let us seek to know the riches of His glory

***Prayerfully,  
Pastor Charlie***