

Announcements

ALPHA: WHY DID JESUS DIE?

Alpha is a series of informal and relaxed sessions exploring the Christian faith. Many have come to know Christ through Alpha. Invite your pre-believing loved ones or friends!

Date: 18 Apr (Wed)

Time: 7.00pm - 9.30pm

Venue: YMCA Orchard 1 Orchard Road (238824)

Register at <http://alpha.cefcapps.com>

For enquiries, email alpha@cefc.org.sg

COMMUNITY BLESSINGS

Here's an opportunity to connect and serve the community. Would you like to help elderly living alone in Bedok South to clean and wash their fans bi-monthly? **To serve and to find out more, contact our lay leader, Patsy, at 9457 9973.**

ORDINATION SERVICE

Come and join the celebration as we witness the ordination of our beloved Pastor Barney Lau on **29 Apr, 2:30pm at WDL Centre Main Sanctuary.**

C.Y.A.N. GATHERING

C.Y.A.N. Gathering is a fortnightly platform for young adults to invite their friends and gather as a community. **To get involved, sign up at cefc.ch/cyanop** For more information, go to cefc.ch/cyaninfo Check out our Facebook updates at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/cyan.cefc> and follow us on Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/cefc.cyan>

HOKKIEAN SERVICES MUSICIAN RECRUITMENT

Would you like to serve and worship God through your musical skills?

The Hokkien Congregation is looking for keyboardists, guitarists, bass players and drummers for the Hokkien Services at BPJ and WDL Centres on Saturdays.

The Woodlands Hokkien Service is held at 2.30pm and the Bukit Panjang Hokkien service is held at 5.30pm on Saturdays. If you are interested to serve, email faith.chen@cefc.org.sg

KIDZBLAST

Invite pre-believing 7 to 12-year-olds for KidzBlast outreach on 29 Apr. Admission is free but registration is required. **Registration forms are available at the Information Counter.** For more information, visit www.cefc.org.sg

We need you to help us serve! Please sign up at <http://cefc.ch/SERVEKB>

CAMP COVENANT 2018

As there are still vacancies, the **early bird rates has been extended all the way to closing on 29 Apr.** Join us as 1 church, 3 centres come together!

COVENANT PHOTOGRAPHY MINISTRY

Covenant Photography Ministry is holding a mini workshop for those who are interested in family portrait photography on **Sat, 21 Apr, 9am at WDL Centre.** This workshop will feature know-how on setting up the lights as well as photography techniques. Participants must have at least a high-end compact / interchangeable camera and basic photography knowledge. **To sign up, email cefcphotographyministry@gmail.com by 18 Apr.**

THANK YOU CHILDREN'S FEST VOLUNTEERS!

We thank God for the estimated 2,400 children and family members who enjoyed the fun and family bonding at Children's Fest in Bukit Panjang and Woodlands last Sunday. Thank you to the 565 amazing volunteers who stepped up to demonstrate love to the community for Christ! You all made a difference by selflessly giving your time to serve and bring joy to the community. We hope to see you again next year!

BAPTISM AND MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

Baptism Class on Sun, 6 May at WDL Centre from 1.00pm to 3.30pm.

Membership Class on Sat, 12 May at ACKCentre from 9am to 4pm.
Register at the Information Counter.



... 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

W www.cefc.org.sg

FB www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch

EAST, 15 APRIL 2018

SERVICE LEADER: BENJAMIN SUN • WORSHIP LEADER: JONATHAN CHI

Chairman's Heartbeat

ELDER LOUIS TAN, COVENANT EFC BOARD CHAIRMAN

Covenant EFC's 40th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Sun, 25 Mar 2018. In reviewing 2017, we are grateful to God for growing Covenant EFC from an average worship attendance of 5,610 in 2016 to 6,199, for 558 conversions, and for abundantly supplying \$17 million from tithes and offerings.

We would like to thank all members of the Council of Elders (COE), Church Board and its committees/boards for their dedicated service. In particular, we would like to thank Elders Hui Weng Tat and Benjamin Mow for their service to the Church Board and COE over the past decade as they both step down from the COE. We also welcome Deacon Wong Zeng Yi onto the Board.

As we move towards Vision 2028, God has entrusted to Covenant EFC Five Faith Exploits:

1. Disciple now for a vibrant and healthy next generation
2. Disciple now for godly families and generations
3. Disciple now for a growing Intentional Disciple Making Church (IDMC)

movement in Singapore

4. Disciple now to impact our society and culture

5. Disciple now for a growing global IDMC movement

Our strategy to accomplish this vision is to build Covenant EFC as one church with multiple centres. To support this, the Board has established the Investment Committee in 2015, and the Property Committee in 2016 to prepare for our future funding and infrastructure needs.

As we studied Ezra last year, God assured me from Ezra 7:27-28: "Blessed be the Lord, the God of our fathers, who put such a thing as this into the heart of the king, to beautify the house of the Lord that is in Jerusalem, and who extended to me his steadfast love before the king and his counselors, and before all the king's mighty officers. I took courage, for the hand of the Lord my God was on me, and I gathered leading men from Israel to go up with me." God's promise to me is to take courage for the hand of God is on us. So as a Church Board, we will take courage and together with you, lead the church to the destiny God has called Covenant EFC to.

Sermon Outline

The First Sermon

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 2:14-41 • SERMON: REV TAN KAY KIONG

Introduction

1. When the Spirit comes ...

2. So what shall we do?

A. Living in the Last Days (Acts 2:17-21)

B. Jesus as Lord and Christ (Acts 2:22-36)

C. Repent of Our Sins (Acts 2:38-41)

Conclusion

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NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:
22 APR – DR AJITH FERNANDO (BPJ, WDL AND EAST)

Last Week's Sermon Summary

When the Spirit Comes

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 2: 1-13 • SERMON: PS BARNEY LAU

Introduction

'Pentecost' for some has come to mean Pentecostalism, which some associate with experiences and practices of sign gifts (e.g. speaking in tongues). Yet, Pentecost as described in Acts 2 is at the root of faith for **all** Christians.

When the Spirit Comes, We Experience New Life!

Pentecost was the fiftieth day after Passover (Exo 12). Beyond an agricultural festival, Passover and Pentecost echo the great story of Israel's exodus from Egypt and God coming down on Mount Sinai to meet Israel (Exo 19).

Mount Sinai and Pentecost are both places of covenant. At Sinai, God came down in His presence to meet Israel. At Pentecost, God came down as the Holy Spirit to fill His people. At Sinai, Israel received the Law on stone tablets. At Pentecost the Holy Spirit writes the Law onto our hearts (Jer 31:31-34). At Sinai Israel was given a new way of life, a people belonging to God. At Pentecost we are given Spirit-filled life to proclaim the excellencies of Christ (1 Pet 2:9).

When the Spirit Comes, We Live the New Christ-like Life!

Acts 1:5 speaks of the disciples being baptised with the Holy Spirit; Acts 2:4 speaks of being filled with the Holy Spirit, followed by speaking in tongues.

There is only one baptism of the Spirit (Eph 4:5) into Christ (Gal 3:27) and into the Church (1 Cor 12:13), but many fillings (Eph 5:18; 2 Cor 4:16; Gal 5:16).

To be baptised with the Spirit is to be a Christian; to be filled with the Spirit is to be a Christ-loving (Lk 10:27), Christ-living (Gal 5:22-25) and Christ-speaking Christian (Acts 1:8) — to be Christ-like, with or without the gift of tongues!

When the Spirit Comes, We Have a New Purpose for Life!

At Pentecost, Joel's prophecy (Joel 2:28-32) and Jesus' promise (Acts 1:8) were fulfilled. Being filled with and empowered by the Spirit (v.4) resulted in uneducated, powerless and fearful Galilean disciples spontaneously and boldly proclaiming Christ in foreign languages. Whatever God gifts us with, it's the same Spirit (1 Cor 12:4, 8, 9) for proclaiming Christ, that's the story of Acts.

Tongues in Acts are not wild and not incoherent, but are recognisable languages for declaring God's wonders and is evidence of faith conversion. Tongues in 1 Corinthians 12-14 are for speaking to God, not men (1 Cor 14:2). It is not recognisable requiring interpretation, and for self or church edification (1 Cor 14:5).

Covenant EFC's position: Sign gifts have not ceased, yet they are not common experience for all Christians. Covenant EFC's Posture: There is a need for gracious balance between position on and practice of tongues, wise discernment since not all signs/wonders are from God, and proper perspective. All gifts are temporary and will cease when the Lord returns again!

But Act 2's emphasis is clear: the purpose of a spirit-filled life is that everyone may hear of Jesus through Spirit-filled Christian disciples!

Conclusion

What do we want? The gift of the Spirit or the gift of tongues?