



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

Vol. 31 No. 1
January 4th, 2015

SUNDAY COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

1 Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father
And to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
World without end.
Amen. Amen.

Preparatory Hymn Claude Yiu

Prelude Sharon Poon

Call to Worship Elder James Wong/Dn Joel Wong

*Hymn **HOP 41** Crown Him with Many Crowns

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 1

Responsive Reading Psalm 60

Hymn **HOP 363** Constantly Abiding

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

*Doxology 2/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading Numbers 20:1-13

Hymn **HOP 230** Trusting Jesus

Pastoral Prayer/Message Pr Joseph Poon/Andy Yu

2 Doxology

Praise God from whom
all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures
here below;
Praise Him above,
ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and
Holy Ghost, Amen.

3 The Lord Bless You and Keep You

The Lord bless you and
keep you, The Lord lift His
countenance upon you,
and give you peace,
And give you peace,
The Lord make His face to
shine upon you,
And be gracious unto you,
be gracious, the Lord be
gracious, gracious unto
you. Amen.

God Is No Respector Of Persons

*Hymn **HOP 309** Yield Not To Temptation

*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 3

*Congregation Standing



Theme for 2015: "WALK WORTHY OF THE LORD UNTO ALL PLEASING" (Colossians 1:10)

27 Ullapool Road
Mt Pleasant, WA 6153

P: (08) 9364 9898
W: <http://www.bpcwa.org.au>
E: bpcwa@bpcwa.org.au

Elder James Wong
Dn Adrian Cheng
Dn Michael Lee
Dn Stephen Chia
Dn Joel Wong
Pr Joseph Poon

M: 0438 392 242
M: 0402 036 430
M: 0403 002 368
M: 0433 502 981
M: 0423 862 392
M: 0406 241 032

E: jamesclwong@hotmail.com
E: ajcheng@inet.net.au
E: mtlee35@yahoo.com.au
E: stephenchia50@hotmail.com
E: yiing_yw@yahoo.com
E: josephpoonemail@gmail.com

WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDING PASTOR

My dear readers,

1. Musings over Christmas

As I meditate and turn over thoughts of Christmas, I see today's "*Straits Times*" (24 Dec 2014) has a front page article: "**Still time to get the presents.**" To many people, Christmas is giving of gifts, hence this front page article.

Sometime ago, I read an article (also in "*Straits Times*") saying that department stores in America have spent almost \$300 million, calling it a good year! This is how the world assesses their success at Christmas, measured by the volume of gift exchange. This sort of emphasis, I am afraid, has missed the main point.

Christmas is not about the exchange of gifts, but receiving of God's greatest gift, the Lord Jesus Christ. This is in fulfillment of God's promise made at the dawn of history –

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." (Genesis 3:15)

The seed of woman is Jesus Christ, born to destroy Satan's evil power (this is the whole purpose of Christmas, the coming of Jesus Christ as mortal being to suffer the death of crucifixion).

2. Pope's Christmas chiding "a call for Church reform"

(The Straits Times, December 24, 2014)

ROME – Pope Francis's strong attack on the Vatican bureaucracy in his Christmas address ended with a shocked silence – but has religious analysts studying his motivation.

He said on Monday that some of the cardinals, bishops and priests who run the Roman Catholic Church suffer from a "spiritual Alzheimer's".

Analysts say he is trying to reform their hearts and behavior.

Mr Andrea Tornielli, who covers the Vatican for the Italian daily La Stampa, said the Pope "is not starting a witch hunt, but he is asking everyone – himself included – for an evangelical mea culpa". He said the Pope was playing the role of the tough guy: "It's something deeper than a structural reform of the Curia."

Vatican expert Carlo Marronia, of the Italian daily *Il Sole 24 Ore*, said: “This is the ideological and religious manifesto of a radical reform.

“He doesn’t describe the details of the reform that we will most likely see next year, but he indicated the principles according to which the Church has to change.”

In his annual speech, Pope Francis warned against what he called a lust for power, hypocritical double lives and the lack of spiritual empathy among some men of God. He listed the 15 “ailments and temptations” that weaken their service to the Lord, inviting them to a “true self-examination” ahead of Christmas.

It is not the first time he has taken on the scandal-hit, intrigue-filled Curia and called for members to renounce gossip and act responsibly.

The Pope, 78, was elected in March last year on a mandate to overhaul the bureaucracy.

In strong yet colourful language, he criticized the Curia for a narcissistic “pathology of power” and “existential schizophrenia”. He suggested that his prelates pay an “ordinary visit to the cemeteries”, and encouraged them to examine and improve themselves.

“Brothers, let’s guard ourselves from the terrorism of gossip,” he told the rows of bishops and cardinals seated in a 16th century reception hall in the Apostolic Palace, some looking ahead attentively, others meditatively keeping their heads down.

The “ailment of close circles”, he added, “enslaves their members and becomes a cancer that threatens the harmony of the body”.

Including himself among the sinners, the first Latin American pontiff stressed once more his idea of a Church at the service of the poor and the peripheries, a religious institution able to move away from scandals, infighting and lavish behavior.

Meeting Vatican staff after his speech, he asked the laypeople to pardon his shortcomings and those of his collaborators, as well as some scandals that have hurt the Church.” – *New York Times*, *Agence France-Presse* (End of article)

God bless all readers.

Yours faithfully in the Saviour’s Service,
Dr SH Tow

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

1. The Session would like to wish all members and worshippers a blessed New Year.

On behalf of BPCWA, we thank the Lord for your past year of ministry and service. May the Lord continue to bless you and serve Him faithfully in the many years to come!

2. **Dr S H Tow:** It is with deepest regret that due to ill health and age, Dr Tow has stepped down as Supervisory Pastor of BPCWA. We thank God for his faithful service and contribution to the spiritual growth of our church. Please continue to pray for Dr Tow to have strength and grace to continue serving God in Singapore.

3. **Seniors' Fellowship:** was started two years ago to cater for spiritual needs and to increase the fellowship among the senior members in our church. It is our prayer that this fellowship will help the seniors to actively grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Our first meeting for 2015 is on this coming Saturday (10th January) at 10:30am at Sister Chieng Yi San's house (Address: 69 Lansdowne Entrance, Canning Vale). The meeting will be followed by lunch, so please bring along a dish to share. All are warmly welcomed to join the meeting.

4. **FEBC online courses:** We thank God for the 41 people who have enrolled for these courses. These courses start this week so the Wednesday night class will resume. This semester we will be viewing Life of Christ on wednesday night. Everyone in the Church, regardless of whether you have enrolled, is welcome to come to study God's Word together.

5. **Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**

- Thank God for 2014 that has gone past. May we aim to walk worthy of the Lord in 2015.
- Thank God for the Watch Night Service and Prayer Meeting on Wednesday.
- Thank God for Brother Yew Jinn who has safely landed in Singapore. May God help and give him wisdom with his studies.
- Pray for the program planned for 2015.
- The re-building of Nehemiah's Place.
- God's leading and timing to re-start the Mandarin Worship Service.
- For spiritual protection, discernment and growth in the lives of all believers.
- The leadership of the church and the year ahead.
- For BPCWA to continue to shine as a light, leading non-believers to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

SERVICE DUTY	4/1 COMBINED	11/1 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Pr Joseph Poon/Andy Yu	Pr Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Elder James Wong/Dn Joel Wong	Dn Adrian Cheng/Andy Yu
Prep Hymns	Claude Yiu	Allan Ang
Musician	Sharon Poon	Ruth Wong
Welcomers	Jonathan Woo, Bonnie Woo, Bernard Clarke	Eddie Foo, Carol Wee, Albert Ho
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Jonathan Woo, *Claude Yiu, Kenny Chia, Mark Heath, Dn Stephen Chia	*Eddie Foo, *Albert Ho, Joel Wong, Adrian Ng, Allan Ang
Ushers	Kenny Chia, Ruth Wong	Joel Wong, Audrey Liow
P.A. System	Adrian Ng	Caleb Cheng
Kitchen Duties	Lilian Cheo, Irene Yap, Yi Jye Chieng, Valerie Wan, Edward Ee	Yi Min Chieng, Yi San Chieng Lily Liow, Shuin Ning Jong
JSS Singspiration	Valerie Wan/Joel Wong	Camilia Sin/Yi Mey Tan
Toddler Class Assistant	Mary Ling/Lilian Yong	Yi Jye Chieng/Yi Mey Tan
Van Drivers	Eugene Leong (0401155386) / Allan Ang (0433032709)	

Old Folks' Home Ministry

Subiaco	Pr Joseph Poon (Sharon Poon)	Mark Heath (Ruth Wong)
South Perth	Hall A: Allan Ang Hall B: Caleb Cheng	Hall A: Dn Adrian Cheng Hall B: Jason Tey
Bayswater	Kenny Tan	Pr Joseph Poon

APPOINTMENTS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday	6/1	7:30pm	Prayer Meeting: By Faith Pr Joseph Poon, Allan Ang, Angeline Yong
Wednesday	7/1	7:30pm	FEBC Night Class: Life of Christ
Friday	9/1	7:30pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG
Saturday	10/1	10:30am	Seniors' Fellowship
Sunday	11/1	8.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00am	English & Mandarin Sunday School/ English & Mandarin Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00am	Combined Sunday Worship Service
		12:00pm	Church Van Depart
		2:00pm	Nursing Home: Concorde – 25 Anstey Street, South Perth Onslow Gardens – 39 Hamersley Road, Subiaco
		3:30pm	Nursing Home: Ben Ritcher Lodge – 480 Guildford Road, Bayswater

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (28/12)

Attendance: 178 (Combined-150; JSS-28); Prayer Meeting: 43
Offerings in Total: \$3454.90
General Fund: \$3454.90
Mission Fund: (10% of General Fund is set aside for missions)

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (31/12)

Attendance: 70
Offerings in Total: \$843.90
Mission Fund: (10% of General Fund is set aside for missions)

SHORTER CATECHISM: What are the reasons annexed to the second commandment? The reasons annexed to the second commandment are, God's sovereignty over us (Ps 95:2-3, 6-7; Ps 96:9-10), his propriety in us (Ex 19:5; Ps 45:11; Isa 54:5), and the zeal he hath to his own worship (Ex 34:14; 1 Cor 10:22).