



# BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

Vol. 32 No. 37  
September 27<sup>th</sup>, 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

Kenny Tan

Prelude

Winnie Lim

Call to Worship

Mark Heath/Dn Joel Wong

\*Hymn

**HOP 21** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

\*Invocation/Gloria Patri 1

Responsive Reading

Psalm 83:1-8

Hymn

**HOP 20** A Mighty Fortress Is My God

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

\*Doxology 2/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading

Numbers 36:1-7

Hymn

**HOP 133** O Breath of Life

Pastoral Prayer/Message

Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip

### 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.

## Resolving Legitimate Issues

\*Hymn

**HOP 243** I Would Be True

\*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)

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# WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDING PASTOR

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My dear readers,

## 1. Value true friends!

*“Open rebuke is better than secret love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful” (Prov 27:5-6).*

Note the contrasts in these verses. There is open rebuke and secret love, wounds and kisses, friends and enemies. *“Open”* means that which is revealed or uncovered. *“Secret”* means that which is hidden or carefully concealed. A true friend is one who loves, while an enemy is one who really hates, for such is the strong meaning of these words.

A False Front: Secret love may be sincere, but it is not safe love. Love that is afraid to rebuke, when rebuke is needed, lacks one essential element, from a biblical perspective. Have we not so sentimentalized Divine Love, that we cannot believe that God will discipline His children? We know the tragic results of this kind of love where parents will not rebuke their children. To them, God’s love is unconditional love, and so we too must love everybody, especially our children and friends, unconditionally. In fact, this is their boast, but these verses contradict this sentimental folly. The KJV’s use of the word *“deceitful”* to describe such kisses is well chosen, for truly his treachery is hidden! We all, even Christians, are eager to accept the kisses while spurning the wounds. We are so afraid of pain, that we prefer the flattering tongue. Let us learn to count them faithful, not who praises everything we say or do, but those who reprove what is at fault in us.

A Frank Friend: Open rebuke reveals the sickness, the wound. It also requires great skill and delicacy. As the surgeon tells the patient the truth of his condition, and that an operation is the only thing that will do, so, the wounds of a friend may be compared to the knife of the surgeon. It must cut if it would heal. To inflict such wounds can never be easy, but because you are his friend, you must not, nay, you cannot, do otherwise. The rebuke and the kisses both hold a knife. With secret love or kisses the knife is concealed. The false flattery only secretly destroys you. In the case

of open rebuke and wounds, the knife is used with loving compassion to heal. Better far the faithful wounds that cause pain for a time, that healing may come, than deceitful kisses of an enemy.

May the Lord give us truthful (because they are faithful) friends.

## **2. Friendship's vital role (Prov 27:17)**

*"Iron sharpeneth iron; so man is sharpeneth the countenance of a friend" (Prov 27:17). Job said "...mine enemy sharpeneth his eyes upon me" (Job 16:9), obviously with evil intent. Ezekiel referred to "a sword sharpened, and also furbished" (Ezek 21:9–11), referring to God's judgment against Israel. Our proverb makes reference to a friend and must be understood in a good, positive sense.*

The Wearisome Case: When a carpenter's tools grow dull they cannot do the best work, but make the work doubly hard. They must be regularly sharpened. So it is with the human soul. Have we not all undergone times of soul-dullness, a weariness of spirit that seems to make everything we do more wearisome, less fulfilling. It is like working with a carpenter's blunted chisel. Whatever is the cause, our soul has lost its edge. We cannot seem to cut our way through our present course or duties.

The Winsome Face: As iron sharpens iron, so the soul has its whetstone, the countenance of his friend. If you see a brother walking in a wearisome case, it should be your joy, and duty, to do your best to sharpen the iron of his soul by the energy of your countenance. Man is so constituted that only sharpened souls can sharpen blunted ones. Paul calls on us to exhort one another daily, and again, let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works (Heb 3:13; 10:24). Thus it is that human spirits can meet and minister to one another, and every sharpened soul can do this. Like Job, sharpen for good the countenance of your friends (Job 4:3–4).

The Welcome Grace: Certainly, we see how Jesus often sharpened the countenance of His friends in times of need. It was the face of that Friend whose presence gave songs in the night to Paul and Silas, passing through every jail door to cheer and quicken their hearts (Acts 16:25). On the Emmaus Road, the hearts of two disciples burned within them (Luke 24:32).

“As iron sharpens iron, a Man is provided to quicken in the last resort the sinking soul of man. For our adversity a Brother is born” (Arnot).

The church should be a community of encouragement to sharpen the countenance of one another.

### **3. By love serve one another (Gal 5:13)**

#### *Daily Remembrancer*

“A NEW COMMANDMENT I GIVE UNTO YOU.” We are to love one another. Our Lord’s new commandment was also His last, and most important. The root of all charitable service is love. Love springs from faith and produces all good. Nothing that we can do is good except it flows from love. Love is the chief thing in faith. We may have gifts, honours, and benevolence: but without love, we are only as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. The flesh desires to rule over others but grace is willing to serve. Look around you: are there not many whom you can serve, and serve effectually, without neglecting your other important duties? Are you willing to do so? If not, where is your love? If you have not love, where is your faith? Love is the fulfilling of the law, the chief fruit of the gospel. Love is Godlike, is Christlike. Love in action is heaven on earth. Love will visit the sick, cheer the sorrowing, clothe the naked, feed the hungry, and become all things to all men, if by any means it may save some. Love will make our wilderness a garden, our divided church a haven of peace. What we do from love we do easily, cheerfully, heartily, constantly, and liberally. See then that you love one another with a pure heart fervently; thus you serve Christ and imitate and dignify His conduct toward His foes.

Heirs of the same immortal bliss,  
Our hopes and fears the same;  
With bonds of love our hearts unite,  
With mutual love inflame.

God bless all readers.

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

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- 1. Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting:** Members please take note that the Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> of October, 2015 soon after the Worship Service at the Main Sanctuary.
- 2. Sunday Worship 4<sup>th</sup> of October:** Due to the Church's Annual Congregation Meeting, please take note that the Worship Service will start at 09:00am next Sunday.
- 3. Lunch Fellowship:** Please do stay behind and join in our monthly lunch fellowship today. Everyone is welcome.
- 4. ACM ministry reports and financial reports:** These reports were given out to members last week. If you have not received a copy please obtain them from Dn Adrian Cheng after the Worship Service today.
- 5. City Evangelism:** This afternoon, we will be going to the Perth city malls to evangelise and give out tracts. The outreach will begin at 1:15pm with an evangelism training session with Rev Joseph and finish with testimonies at 5pm back in the church. Do come along to participate even if you have not signed up.
- 6. October Program:** Please mark in your calendar and prayerfully participate in the following program.

DATE			PROGRAM
3/10	Saturday	9am - 12pm	Church Busy Bee Lunch will be provided
4/10	Sunday after Worship Service		Annual Congregational Meeting Followed by Lunch
11/10	Sunday	6pm	Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting
18/10	Sunday	6pm	Men's Fellowship & Ladies' Fellowship

- 7. Church Busy Bee:** This Saturday from 9am - 12pm. Come and join us in tidying up and beautifying the house of God.

**8. Holy Communion:** will be conducted next Sunday, please prepare your heart.

**9. September 30in30** Thank God for more than 1000 people reached since the start of this outreach. Please continue to pray for the participants and for those people who have received the message of salvation. May we all continue to evangelise beyond September. Galatians 6:9 *And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*

#### **10. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**

- Thank God for the opportunities to evangelise anywhere, and anytime. Pray for spiritual and physical protection at the city evangelism this afternoon. Pray that God will use the gospel tracts to draw non-believers to Him.
- Thank God for keeping the elderly brethren in our midst well through the cold winter months. Continue to uphold Uncle Bernie Clarke's on-going heart problem in prayer.
- Thank God Sister Annie Lau is recuperating well after the operation last Friday.
- Pray for the salvation of our non-believing family members, friends and colleagues.
- Pray for the ACM that all glory and honour be unto God for His grace and faithfulness to BPCWA.
- For God to guide the building committee and grant them wisdom with the rebuilding of Nehemiah Place.
- For God to show the church His will and timing on re-starting of the Mandarin Worship Service once a month.
- For those who are seeking employment, working away from home, and travelling.
- Pray for those brethren who are physically sick and facing trials, sadness or discouragement, and that they will cast all their care upon God.
- Safety in and around the church and homes of worshippers.

SERVICE DUTY	27/9 COMBINED - Lunch Fellowship	4/10 COMBINED - Holy Communion
Speaker/Interpreter	Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip	Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Mark Heath/Dn Joel Wong	Dn Joel Wong/Sonny Lim
Prep Hymns	Kenny Tan	Claude Yiu
Musician(s)	Winnie Lim	Lydia Pui
Welcomers	Terry Chong, Lydia Chong, Julia Sun	Jonathan Woo, Bonnie Woo Bernie Clarke
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Terry Chong, *Caleb Cheng, Kenny Tan Yi Choong Liew, Steven Sun Dn Stephen Chia	*Jonathan Woo, *Claude Yiu Kenny Chia, Mark Heath, Yan Wei Kenny Tan
Ushers	Caleb Cheng, Rowena Cheng Shie Tian Wong	Kenny Chia, Yi San Chieng Lee Lee Yong
P.A. System	Kenny Chia	Adrian Ng
Kitchen Duties	Lilian Yong, Victoria Lew, Yung Tsing Mew Julia Sun, Ilhoa Ramachandran	Yi Min Chieng, Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow Shuin Ning Jong
JSS Singspiration	Yung Tsing Mew/Yi Mey Tan	Holy Communion
Toddler Class Assistant	Ellainne Cheng/Yi Mey Tan	Shirlyn Lee/Lee Lee Yong
Transport	Eugene Leong (0401 155 386) / Allan Ang (0433 032 709)	

### Old Folks' Home Ministry

Subiaco	Robert Wong (Ruth Wong)	Recess due to ACM
South Perth	Hall A: Mark Heath Hall B: Kenny Tan	
Bayswater	Kenny Tan	

### APPOINTMENTS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday	29/9	7:30pm	Prayer Meeting: Rev Joseph Poon/Dn Joel Wong, Mark Heath, Ruth Wong
Wednesday	30/9	7:30pm	Far Eastern Bible College Online Courses: Life of Christ II
Friday	2/10	7:30pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG
Saturday	3/10	9:00am	Church Busy Bee
Sunday	4/10	8:30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00am	Sunday Combined Worship Service

### ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (20/9)

Attendance: 234 (Combined-192; JSS-42); Prayer Meeting: 57

Offerings in Total: \$8621.50

General Fund: \$8621.50 (#3943-\$396; #3944-Library-\$150)

**SHORTER CATECHISM: How do the sacraments become effectual means of salvation?** The sacraments become effectual means of salvation, not from any virtue in them, or in him that doth administer them; but only by the blessing of Christ, and the working of his Spirit in them that by faith receive them (1 Cor 3:7; Cf. 1 Cor 1:12-17).