

Annual Report 2011

Mount Carmel BP Church

I. GENERAL

1.0 Church Session

Session members : Elder Wong Kar Fatt (Chairman), Rev (Dr) Daniel Chua Meng Wah (Moderator), Elder Siew Kim Siang, Rev (Dr) Oh Boon Leong, Rev Peter Teo Yoke Teck, Dn Ng Kai Seng (Clerk-of-Session), Dn Agus Djunaedi (Treasurer), Rev Lim Kheng Hai, Dn Jonathan Lum Yan Thong, Dns Chong Cheng Wang, Dn Albinus Ng, Dn Yeo Siew Yam, Dn Bruce Lockhart, Dn Lim Say Geck, Dn Kelvin Teo Yoong Huat, Dns Sophia Lee Wai Hoong, Dn Albert Eio, Dn Foo Kim Peng,

2.0 Membership

As of 30 November there were 915 members (including 95 overseas)

3.0 Church Staff Movements

- 3.1 Pastor Wong Kok Keong left on 28 February 2011.
- 3.2 Tang Bin joined the church office as a Pastoral staff on 1 July 2011.
- 3.3 Pastor Daniel Chua is on 6 months Sabbatical leave (16 July 2011 to 15 January 2012).
- 3.4 The Pastoral and Admin staffs went for a retreat at Changi Aloha on 19 to 21 September 2011.

II. WORSHIP SERVICES

4.0 Worship Services

4.1 Attendances

Average attendance of the worship services were as follows:

1 st Service (including Youth service)	500	(496 in 2010)
2 nd Service	246	(227 in 2010)
Saturday Evening Service	82	(85 in 2010)
Chinese Service	79	(72 in 2010)
Sunday Evening Mandarin Service	287	(200 in 2010)
Filipino (Rhoda) Service	16	(15 in 2010)

4.2 Worship Ministry

We thank the Lord for blessing our corporate worship every Sunday, for every God-honoring words, songs and works, as well as His wonderful provision of faithful servants to serve in this ministry! We thank Him for many who serve faithfully year in and year out, in the areas of music, audio visual, scripture reading, ushering, Holy Communion preparation, flower arranging and refreshment every Sunday. And thank you for praying for each Sunday service that God would be truly worshipped and that we be drawn nearer to Him. May we know Jesus deeper each year, and find joy serving each other for His sake.

We still have vacancies for ushering team, refreshment and musicians. Please get in touch with Dn Albinus Ng should you be interested to serve in these areas.

4.3 Choir

The choir faced a challenging year in 2011 due to the change in choir leadership. We wish to thank our former choir director and conductor, Grace Yap for serving so faithfully during her term of service. We also want to thank Sharon Chung for readily accepting the call to lead as choir conductor at short notice. Since September, we are blessed to have a student conductor and student pianist from SBC to assist the choir.

Notwithstanding the challenges, the choir put up a beautiful Easter choral presentation "Once and For All" during Maundy Thursday, which was well received by members and visitors alike. The choir also put up a choral presentation centered on the 5 themes of Reformation during both worship services of Reformation Sunday.

The choir continues to minister to the congregation during worship services through the presentation of songs during the worship service on 3rd Sundays and also during Communion Sundays as the congregation partakes of the bread and wine. The songs are centered on themes of worship and praise, His comforting presence in our time of darkness and God's unconditional and sacrificial love. The choir's desire is that the songs will glorify God and edify the congregation.

The choir meets for practices and rehearsals almost every week, on Tue evenings from 8pm to 9.30pm. Due to work and other commitments, it is always a challenge to have most of the members present on those nights. However, we thank and praise God for His faithfulness in bringing us a group of committed members whose desire is to be used for His service. We gladly welcome those who would like to serve with us in the choir ministry.

4.4 Audio Visual (AV)

The AV team continued to support the main sanctuary Sunday services. God has graciously continued to richly provide for the right resources for every Sunday services and occasion when AV support is required. We can are always open to have more members in the team.

We hope to conduct another AV training in 2012.

5.0 Saturday Evening Service (SES)

SES is a community of believers that seek to encourage one another as pilgrims in this life's journey. Each of us may be at different stages of life. Sometimes, we slip and fall. But we learn to encourage and help one another. By God's grace, it is our prayer that the various ministries in SES would endeavor to fulfill this.

Since 2009, SES embarked on a structured discipleship program. We adopted Col. 1:28-29 as our discipleship theme: "We proclaim Christ, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this end I labor, struggling with all His energy, which so powerfully works in me." Christian life is a process of discovery – a discovery of God and of self. And believers are to be established in sound Christian doctrine, built up in faith and effective in living the Christian life.

The committee members are meeting twice a month with the Pastor-in-charge for Bible study, accountability and ministry discussion. This is also a time to share how they could lead more effectively in their respective ministries. This year the focus is leadership development. The committee and the DG leaders are learning about the essence of church leadership and develop life-changing principles about what it means to be a spiritual servant-leader who conformed to the image and character of Christ. Using the L40 materials on "The Leader," we hope that God's Word will nurture every leader to be a shepherd and equipper, and to have a greater appreciation of the need for leaders to be team players. Our prayer is that SES will exemplify servant leadership and godly character qualities.

SES remains committed to nurture growing Christians. As in the past years, we have conducted "Studies in Christian Living" (SCL) courses, and have seen how God changed lives. This year, to take SCL graduates further in their discipleship training, we taught a 10 weeks course called "Romans 12 course." It seeks to help growing Christians understand what it means to be transformed by the renewing the mind, to be a witness for Christ in the world, and to serve in the church.

We thank God for the joy of witnessing 3 believers who completed the SCL course and 7 in the Romans 12 course. We also have the joy of witnessing 2 baptisms and 2 re-affirmation of faith on Easter, and 2 on Christmas. Some are now integrated in the DGs and are actively serving in SES.

This year witnessed the start of the new ministry to a small group of students who have graduated from Kidsparks. Called LYRICSmission, the ministry aims to develop youth holistically, from Bible study to character and leadership development.

SES continues to support the Kidsparks ministry as it reaches out to children of our members and friends in the neighborhood, through their enrichment and Bible classes.

We thank God for faithful and committed SESians and mothers in this ministry. Each year, in collaboration with the CWK, SES hosted the Kindergarten Day celebration, where parents of the CWK children attended the worship service. It is our prayer that the messages on family or education would touch their hearts and enable them to see the relevance of God's Word in their lives. We pray that many would come to know Jesus one day.

SES had a Retreat in Batam with the theme "Growing, Caring and Sharing". About 50 adults and children came and had a blessed time of learning God's Word and fellowship. In 2012, the Retreat theme (9-12 Aug) is "Witnessing for Christ". The speaker will be Ps. Timothy Phua from Horeb, and we look forward to learn from God's Word on how to be an effective and faithful witness for Christ in our homes, workplaces, church and in the world.

SES also continues to support the wider ministry of Carmel. Members from the SES congregation have gone on the various mission trips to Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Nepal, some in training and equipping pastor and leaders, while others in establishing schools and strengthening the churches in partnership with missionaries and local pastors.

As we look forward to the New Year, our joy and assurance comes from the fact that God in His Spirit will guide us in our journey through life.

6.0 Mandarin Worship Service (MWS)

In February we bid farewell to Pastor Wong Kok Keong who left after having served 10 years in Mt Carmel Chinese Ministry. The Mandarin Service Committee (Liew Chee Kian, Tan Guan Tong, David Rao, Rosalind Ng, Susan Lee & Er Ah Mui) held the fort till a pastor was found. The Lord is good and wonderfully provided for this need. In May He brought Elder Siah Chong Huat (a student from SBC) to serve as intern with us. His primary duty is to provide pastoral care on a weekly basis in recognition of his dialect speaking capability when ministering to senior citizens. Occasionally, Eld Siah also preached and led worship. Mr. Tang Bin joined Carmel in July as the Mandarin Service Pastor.

1 Main areas of ministry

- i) Worship Services (Every Sunday) in Mandarin (12:15 -1.30pm).
- ii) Sunday School (Every Sunday) (11.15am – 11.45am)
Teachers: Ps Wong (Jan – Feb), Mr Liew Chee Kian & Mr Henry Liow
- iii) Choir Practices on Sundays after Worship Service (2.30pm-4.30pm). There are about 24 members.
The Choir conductor, Joseph Tan Kai Suan, graduated from SBC in May. Grace Tay-Lee resumed her role as Choir conductor from July 2011 as there was no (student) replacement from SBC,
The choir usually presents a special item on third Sundays.
- iv) Prayer Meetings are held after Sunday School every Sunday.
- v) Small-Group Meeting held once a month on the last Saturday (7:30pm – 9.30pm).
- vii) Since July, every Saturday visitation team visits family who are newcomers, absentee members, as well as those who are sick in hospital or recuperating at home.
- viii) Baptism Class started in 2nd Oct for 4 Baptisms and 3 transfers candidates.

2 Key Events in 2011:

- i) A Special Celebration Worship was held on 6th Feb (CNY) at 12.15pm at 2nd floor Chapel Sanctuary. The speaker was Ps Wong Kok Keong.
- ii) We joined the Combined Camp organized by the English Congregation to Awana Genting (16th to 18th June.). Our speaker was Rev & Mrs Job Hu. 43 attended.
- iii) We celebrated our 22th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service as well as Mid-Autumn Sing and Praise on 11th Sep. Pens were given away to members as souvenirs. .
- iv) From 17th to 23th Dec. Albert Tay & Henry Liow will represent the Chinese ministry to Singkawang to support Chia Yee Xian's ministry, along with other Muar Trinity Church members.
- v) A combined Christmas Evangelistic Celebration Service with KVKR was held on 25th Dec with baptisms and transfers. Thank God for the new additions.

3. Planning For 2012

- i) There will be **3** Main Special Celebration during the Sunday Worship: Easter Sunday (8th April), 23rd Anniversary Service cum Mid-Autumn Sing and Praise (30th Sep) and Christmas Evangelistic Celebration Service (23rd Dec)
- ii) Church Camp & Retreat
 - 1) Combined camp with English Congregation in June
 - 2) Retreat for MS committee
- iii) Training Course will be organized and conducted for the following areas:
 - 1) Worship and Song Leading.
 - 2) Sunday School teachers
 - 3) Members are strongly encouraged to take up theological courses as well.

- iv) Shepherd & Care
 1. Strengthen the teaching in existing Sunday School class. We will start 2 more classes, a total of 3 altogether; a class each for the Elderly, Adult and Children. The SS classes will do book studies instead of topical, alternating between OT & NT.
 2. Pulpit Preaching will also be Book based, alternating between OT & NT too.
 3. Establish Member Care. The whole congregation will be divided into 10-11 smaller groups, with a leader responsible for calling, sending SMS, visiting, etc. Group leaders will keep the pastor and MS committee updated on their group member's well-being as well as activities.
- v) Establish a Development Department
 - 1) To **welcome and care for newcomers** including developing a welcome package to inform them of the church's activities.
 - 2) To start **host families** to take care of six PRC NUS undergrads.
 - 3) To co-operate with Octopus in ministering to the PRCs especially **post ALPHA**

III. DISCIPLESHIP AND TRAINING

7.0 Adult Christian Education (ACE)

"We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ." Col 1:28

7.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is a) to reflect and sharpen our vision and mission statement, b) to take stock of 2011, including review of the second year run of Carmel-BGST Church Based Lay Training (CBLT) Programme, and c) to articulate our strategic focus for the coming years, against the *backdrop* of the outcome of the discernment exercise and Phase 4 CBC development.

7.2 Sharpening Vision and Mission

The vision of ACE is to be the *key* adult teaching ministry (training in righteousness to equip Christians for good work c.f. 2 Tim 3:16-17) through teaching of God's Word, thereby fulfilling an important part of the Great Commission (Matt 28:19) on making disciples.

The mission of ACE is to provide regular, systematic teaching of God's Word primarily through Sunday ACE classes, weekday night and Saturday afternoon seminars. The Saturday seminars are reserved for longer seminars (usually three hour long but may also be a full-day seminars), while the Sunday ACE classes are typically limited to one-and-a-half hours.

7.3 Taking Stock of 2011

The topics of the Sunday ACE topics tended to be eclectic as the speaker base is diverse. As such, the following strategies are adopted to provide for a more structured and balanced curriculum: a) we have partnered with BGST on CBLT program; b) continuing efforts to work with various pockets of teaching ministries in Carmel, including CG, missions, Sunday School, mission to jointly organized talks and seminars.

In 2011, we continued to partner with BGST for the CBLT classes for the second year running. The four modules offered are: a) Evangelism in a Cross-Cultural Context; b) Dynamics of Counseling; c) The Message of the Song of Songs; and d) Beginnings: Opening of the Gospel. The counseling topic was the most popular, a trend seen also in previous years. We also conducted twelve Sunday 11.15am ACE classes and four Saturday seminars. The four seminars are: a) Digital Communication and Challenges Facing the Church Today; b) Marriage and Family Seminar; c) Developing Spiritual Habits in a Child; and d) The Conscience. The last two seminars were organised in collaboration with the Sunday School and CG ministry respectively.

We are thankful for enriched teaching resources - Pak Wah (on historical theology/evangelism) and Elder Peng Kee (church governance/public theology). We like to also appreciate the "old" faithful teachers: Dn Bruce Lockhart (on history of Christianity topics), Elder See Kiat (on apologetics topics) and the pastors (on pastoral theology, OT/NT book surveys etc). As for the other topics, such as counseling and family/parenting we continue to tap on external partners, as well as Carmelites who are professionals in their relevant fields.

7.4 Key Strategic Focus for 2012

Looking ahead, the ACE team will incorporate lessons learnt in the past year to fine-tune the curriculum. We will a) maintain our standards of publicity; b) high quality of teaching; c) work towards a more integrated and well articulated adult education for growing disciples with other teaching elements in Carmel so as to exercise good resource stewardship; and d) leverage on teaching resources within and beyond Carmel.

We will also continue to discern how the ACE team can better serve Carmelites and fulfill Carmel's discipleship mandate ("a community of disciples that disciples in community"). Areas to consider include time-slots (currently only Carmelites attended the first service are able to attend the Sunday ACE classes), facilities but more importantly, CBC phase four development could provide new opportunities to articulate and put in place a more integrated and holistic Christian Education framework to meet the needs of adults in different life stages. We plan to put forth a white paper by mid 2012 to articulate our vision going forth.

Having completed the first two year of pilot runs, BGST is in the process of evaluation of the effectiveness of the CBLT program. We felt that CBLT has provided to Carmel a unique opportunity for on-site high quality theological teaching. Thus, we would engage BGST to find a good value proposition for both parties going forward. An area to explore is to develop a more training-oriented curriculum. This includes bible study methods, OT/NT surveys, introduction to theology, introduction to Church history, counseling skills etc.

7.5 Concluding Remarks

In the past year, the ACE ministry in Carmel has sought to improve its efficiency (through collaboration with other teaching ministries) and effectiveness (in particularly partnering with BGST to provide a more thematic, rigorous curriculum). While we have made progress through the years, much work remains to be done vis-à-vis the strategic focus outlined above. In short, going forward, we hope to adopt a more cross-ministry training-oriented posture and to develop a better segmented/targeted curriculum.

Finally, the ACE team would like to thank Ps Kheng Hai for his guidance and practical helps, Lai San for her good administrative support, as well as Selina and Alex Lee, Thien Choon, Corrine Sim and Chin Loon and his PA team for their faithful services.

8.0 Youth Ministry

Our theme for the 2011 Youth Ministry is 'In Spirit and in Truth'. The entire Youth Ministry wrapped around this theme by encouraging our youth to worship God through Jesus Christ, with a truthful heart.

By God's grace, once again we have a dedicated team of Youth Committee members who served the Youth Ministry faithfully. This year, our Youth Committee has five ministry departments: Fellowship, Discipleship, Worship, Service and Leadership, and the Evangelism ministry.

The committee board met regularly throughout the year to pray and plan for the ministry. We have a Sunday morning Youth Prayer meeting before our service starts. This is a platform for the committee members to support and encourage each other, and to draw strength and commit to God in prayer.

Throughout the year we had numerous activities that were designed to strengthen the friendship among the youth through fellowship and games. Spiritual Accountability Group, known as SAG by the youth (youth across the various age groups are assigned in a group of 3 or 4 with an older youth facilitator) is an ongoing program that is designed to help our youth to strive deeper friendship by sharing prayer requests and holding mutual accountability.

Our Sunday Funday events were held in late November. The youth were invited to stay after their DCG classes for a time of games, fellowship, movies and food. This was a time for our youth to bond with each other and also a platform to bring along their friends.

Leaders in God's Holy Training (LIGHT), once known as Spiritual Formation Group (SFG) is our leadership training course for our future leaders. Young participants who have been with us on this course went through a year of training session to be prepared for next year Youth committee work and be mentored henceforth.

Valentine's Day dinner is our yearly outreaching evangelistic outreach event, and this year we held it at Stewards Riverboat. Our Youth had brought many new friends to this event,

and all onboard were impressed by the venue of being a real ship. Like the previous year, we are encouraged to see our youth brought friends not just to this event alone, but subsequently, to our Sunday youth worship services.

Youth Worship Service

The 'Youth Worship Service' is the main platform at Mt Carmel for youth to meet together to worship God and to receive teaching from sermon. Likewise it also offers the youth opportunities to discover their spiritual gifts and to explore ways they can use these in their service to God.

We are grateful to God for the capable youth who have assisted in serving in the Youth Worship Service. These helpers include worship leaders, musicians, AV assistants and ushers.

Each year, we will be having two events which focused on worship: 'Festival of Worship' and 'Prayer and Praise'. We had an extended time of intimate worship experience using music, songs and prayers.

This year in March, we had a 'No Apologies' Workshop, conducted by Focus On The Family. This is a sex education workshop in Christian perspective. Almost all the youth joined this workshop, and many youth have also taken a pledge to be sexually abstinent until they enter a lifelong, committed and monogamous marriage.

We continued to join the adults for corporate worship and Holy Communion every first Sunday of the month at the Sanctuary for the 9.30am service.

Discipleship Care Groups (DCG)

Within our Youth Ministry, we have 11 DCG classes, with approximately 10 youth in each class and is run by an adult or a young adult leader. These classes began at 12.00pm immediately following Youth Worship each Sunday (except the first Sunday of each month, and all Sundays in the June and December), and finished at 1.00pm. The leaders' involvement included teaching DCG lessons and providing youth with spiritual guidance and care.

Our DCG lessons were drawn from various study materials which targeted the appropriate age-range and gender needs of each class. These lessons typically included scripture memory verses as well as questions and illustrations for group interaction and discussion. Our youth are encouraged to pray and to lead prayers in their classes.

Youth Sunday

This year Youth Sunday was held on the 10th July. As part of our Carmel tradition, this is also a time for our youth to be reconfirmed and baptised during this Youth Sunday service. On this day Carmel youth took charge of the two Sunday services and led the worship, ushering, congregational prayers and notices. A special item was presented during the service by means of a video clip. This video clip comprised of several Youth sharing their Godly role model. Rev. Timothy Phua, Senior Pastor of Mt Horeb BPC preached a sermon titled "A Young Man Who Trusted God" from 1 Samuel 14:1-23, exhorted the congregation to trust and live for God.

Camps

This year our June Annual Church Camp was at Awana Resort, Genting. Our youth joined the adults for all the sermons; however we had some separate group discussion sessions. The youth had a good time of fellowship and were able to help in organising some games and activities for the whole camp.

The annual Youth Camp in 2011 (13-17 December) was held at Clementi Bible Centre. A large group attended the camp to spend 5 days together in an extended time of fellowship, worship, teaching and games and activities. Pastor Lee Kien Seng, Youth Pastor from Trueway Presbyterian, was our Camp Speaker this year. He effectively engaged the youth with messages, taken from our camp theme of 'A Loving Community in Christ'.

9.0 Young Adults (YA)

Mt Carmel Young Adults Ministry (YAM) was started in 2009, and this year was our third year of running this ministry. Our Mission Statement is: For young adults to meet and spur one another on in faith, toward love and good deeds in Christ within and beyond the community.

We hope to nurture our young adults in holistic growth, and providing a common platform to interact and seek support from their young adults' peers. With the overflowing of love

and support, both from God and the peers within the community, we will be able to share love with the people outside of the church circle.

This year, YAM CGs were meeting an average of twice per month. We conducted two CG leaders training sessions for the leaders in the early part of the year. Besides the CGs related meeting, we also had social events that enable our young adults to bring their friends to our midst.

We started the year with a New Year's Dinner at Temasek Club. We thanked God for an evening of good food, music, friends and fellowship. In February, we had collaboration with Nexus Ministry to organize a Valentine's Day event held at the Singapore Polytechnic Guild House. We also organized two Laser-Tag war game events at Clementi Woods Park. In October, we had a evangelical event called, 'Grilled a Christian'. This event had introduced us to about 30 non-Christian friends who were brought by our young adults. We followed up with a series of tea sessions to get to know those who are interested in the faith. In December, we had a Caroling event, and this was a time for our young adults to visit homes and share God's love and testimony with friends and family.

In August this year, Simon Wong joined Mt Carmel as an Honorary Ministry Staff to lead the YAM. We thank God for his dedication for the ministry. We thank God once again for a team of dedicated committee members who had laid this foundation for the ministry. Young adults face heavy commitment in work and their social life; we need lots of wisdom and prayer to engage them effectively. In 2012, we will implement a Spiritual Formation course to equip all the core members and leaders of the ministry. Do also pray for us as we plan for a retreat for the YAMers and their friends. Pray that more young adults' lives will be touched and transformed. All glory be to God.

10.0 Care Group

10.1 Purpose of Care Group (CG)

A CG is a small group of disciples meeting together regularly for the purpose of (1) caring for one another (2) growing spiritually. The eventual goal is for each individual to grow in Christlikeness.

10.2 Composition of CGs

The CGs are classified into 4 groups: Young Adults (YAM) - 10; Married couples (with teenagers) – 7; Married couples (with young children up to primary six) – 9; and Senior Adults (families with adult children, singles, mixed) – 15. About 480 of our congregation are listed as CG members.

10.3 Activities in 2011

Three seminars were organized jointly with the ACE, namely: "The Conscience" by Bishop Dr Robert Solomon, "Becoming Effective Leaders for the Long Haul" and "Building Effective Christian Marriage" (both by Rev Dr Steve Newman). A 3 half-day CG Leaders Training Course was conducted for 21 CG leaders & potential leaders, focusing on the role of CG leaders as "prophet, priest and king."

10.4 CG Biblestudy Resources

The well-stocked CG Biblestudy resources, such as DVDs for group discussions, Biblestudy guides and series have been transferred to the Carmel Library for borrowing by all members on Sundays. In 2012, subsidies will be given to each CG leader to purchase Biblestudy materials for their use during CG meetings.

10.5 Challenges

Irregular meeting is one single big challenge faced by many CGs. Factors such as children's enrichment classes, exams and, illnesses take their toll on families with young children. For others, life with its hurried demands and work or business stresses, especially with frequent travelling nowadays, leave them with little time, energy or interest for coming together for mutual encouragement, fellowship and feeding on God's Word. We are encouraged to know of CGs who persevere in meeting regularly despite these obstacles.

Most CGs are involved in ministry in church in one way or another. CGs such as West Coast CG, Holland CG and Faber Hill CG are actively serving in the Octopus while West Bay CG serves in the SEMS ministry. Some CGs pitched in to serve in church-wide events like the Missions Festival, Church Camp as well as in ushering/refreshment teams.

- 10.6 **Looking Ahead**
 The CG committee recognizes that it has a mammoth task ahead. Half of the congregation is not in any CG, and some CGs are finding it hard to meet regularly.
- Some of the areas we would like to focus our attention on are: establishing closer interaction among CG leaders for mutual encouragement and support, increase pastoral visits to CGs and starting more CGs. In addition, we would like to encourage a closer walk with God through spiritual discipline. Providence CG has found it helpful by having separate Men and Ladies prayer meetings besides meeting for Biblestudy.
- We thank God for everything He has done. We continue to entrust this CG ministry into His good hands, asking Him to enable us to build a caring and spiritual community here in Carmel.
- 11.0 Children's Ministry**
- 11.1 **Saturday Kidsparks**
 The Kidsparks ministry's Enrichment Hour (4-5pm) has seen an increase in the number of helpers in the pre-school department and around four to six kids have been coming regularly each Saturday. Cindy, Sawako and Soon Min take turns to teach art and craft. Peggy, Lay Eng, Peter Ong and Grace Sim have been helping out in the Primary 1-4, 5-6 level classes. The children's attendance in these classes has been irregular.
- The Kidsparks Bible hour (5.30-7pm) has a regular attendance of 25-30 children each week. A number of new families who started worshipping in SES have brought their children to Kidsparks. This year, we started giving birthday cards to the children. At the end of the year, the children who have faithfully attended the Bible lessons will be given promotion gifts.
- This year, the Kidsparks Ministry will collect a Christmas love gift for the Cambodian church.
- 11.2 **Sunday School**
Preschool Department
 The Preschool Department this year has faced teacher shortages due to work commitments and illness. Our Coordinator Pang Tee Lin has requested to step down at the end of the year. We are currently looking for a new coordinator to replace her.
- Primary Department**
 The Primary 1-4 Coordinator Chia Lai Fong has also stepped down and we have found a replacement who will start in November 2011.
- 11.3 **2nd Sunday School**
 The Primary 4-6 class teachers stepped down towards the third quarter of the year and currently we have a few people taking turns to teach the class. The class needs a new team of teachers for 2012.
- 11.4 **Special Events**
- (i) June 10 - Outing to Marina Barrage. We had an attendance of around 30 children and helpers and many neighborhood children came.
 - (ii) June Music/Drama Worship by Pamela Lee of SOOGI Ministry. Our Primary 1-6 children were divided into 3 groups: Singing, Props-making and Drama. We also produced a video which helped to raise support for missions.
 - (iii) August 6 - Spiritual Habits for Children workshop for parents and teachers was conducted by Amos and Jennifer Kwok.
 - (iv) Teacher Training September 17 & 24 was conducted by Lorita Lim of CEF Singapore. The topics covered were Preparing Your Heart to Teach; Understanding Children; Foundations for Life (Bible Verses-More than Memorizing) and Life Changing Growth Bible Lesson 1 and 2.
- 11.5 **Pre-Teen Camp**
 The pre-teen camp will take place on 25/26 November in Mt. Carmel. The theme of the camp is "Finding My Place in God's World" with lessons targeted at pre-teens. Speakers include Bruce Lockhart, Henry Tio, Wai Hoong and Terrie.
- 11.6 **Season of Advent**
 This coming Christmas, the children will learn about the meaning of Advent throughout the month of December. They will be taught craft and told meaningful stories. The worship

leaders will also teach the children Christmas carols. The children will learn about love, hope, joy and peace during the Christmas season and what it means for God to send Christ Jesus into the world. Christmas is a time for giving to the less fortunate.

12.0 Ladies' Ministry

Mount Carmel Ladies Ministry exists to glorify God through the lives of women by equipping us to **take root in God's Word and prayer**, (Col 2:7), to **bear fruit in every good work** (Col 1:10) and to develop their giftedness (Rom 12:6-8). Our theme this year is "**Grow, Glow and Go.**" The activities and talks thus revolve around this theme. Monthly meetings are intentionally held to foster closer fellowship & bonding besides equipping them for ministry or edifying them spiritually. Some examples of events at our monthly meetings were:

Month	Event	Topic/Theme	Purpose
Feb 25 to 2 Mar	Ladies Retreat cum Missions held at Baanplaidoi Resort, Chiangmai, Thailand	Grow, Glow & Go	To deepen our spiritual life through learning to listen to God's voice through listening prayer & His Word, and to expose and participate in some missions opportunities available. Speaker: Miss Cynthia Wee
Apr 16	Panel Talk on Mentoring	Every Woman A Mentor	To encourage ladies to be mentor to other ladies. A panel of speakers: Mrs Ang Beng Chong, Mrs Tang Hui Choo, Miss Cynthia Wee and Dns Sophia Quek
May 14	Parents' Day Celebration @ Ban Heng Pavilion Restaurant	Evangelism	In collaboration with EFU ministry, this Evangelistic dinner was held to reach out to our non-believing parents or loved ones
Oct 15	Walk & Talk With Jesus @ The Botanical Gardens	Contemplative time with the Lord	To develop awareness & experience God speaking to us through creation, His word & the 5 senses.
Dec 10	Christmas Outreach Lunch @ Ban Heng Pavilion Restaurant	Shanghai Noon	Evangelistic outreach event for ladies to invite their pre-believer friends to a sit-down lunch in a cozy relaxed environment to hear the Good News through songs and mime.

Thank God for Dn Cheng Wang, Monica Ong and Jackie Kiew who serve in the Committee faithfully for a number of years.

12.1 Care, Share, Study and Serve (CSSS)

This group meets in church every 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month for bible study, encouragement and prayer together. From Jan to May we meet from 10.15 am to 12.15 pm and since July, the timing has been changed to 12 Noon to 2.30 pm. At least 7 new ladies have joined us and some regular ones stopped because of other commitments. After completing the study on "Becoming A Woman Who Loves" by Cynthia Heald in May, we started on "Lord, I Want To Know You", a devotional study on the names of God by Kay Arthur in July after a month's break in June. The ladies enjoy coming together to care, share, study and serve together. The bible study leaders this year are: Lioba Leong, Florence Ling, Hermia Ip, Mary Chua, Susan Lee and Ps Assoc Ang Lee Luang

12.2 Heart2Heart Ministry (H2H)

There are no new members who joined this year. The H2H team headed by Mrs Lim Gek Lang made a total of 104 visits in the past year to 45 members and their families. On the average, H2H makes 8.4 visits per month. Of these, the type of visitation is as follows: Hospitalization/ Illness 40%, wakes/funerals 38%, encouragement 13%, baby, baptism, & birthday celebration 9%. We thank God for Christina Goh, Susannah Siew, Ho Choy Ping, Susan Lee, Madeline Lim, Tan Peck Joon, Tan Lay See, Sheila Poon, Sharon Wong, Dorothy Wee, Philomena Loh, Christine Yeo and Fiona Chee.

A retreat on 19 & 20 Nov in Batam has been planned to celebrate the 5th Anniversary of Heart 2 Heart.

12.3 Autism Support Group

Headed by Lim Gek Lang, the group continues to meet monthly to share and for mutual support. There are more "active children in our midst." We hope to encourage the mothers

to attend and be supported in prayer besides the sharing of experiences. Activities include counseling and a Mother's Day lunch annually.

13.0 Hospitality Ministry

"Good morning", "Welcome to worship", "Hello, glad to see you" are some of the greetings which our team members had been warmly extending to all who walk into our church for worship each Sunday. We pray that our joyful greetings and warm handshakes will continue to be a welcoming presence and in some ways, help prepare Carmelites, regular worshippers and first-time guests to have a joyful and meaningful experience worshipping God.

For guests visiting us for the first time, we strive to make their stay comfortable by inviting them to our 'welcome tea' fellowship whereby we can warmed up to one another over some light refreshments. While spending time with them, we will provide information on the various church activities and programs. Where necessary or when they expressed interests, we will help point them to the right ministry. It is through such friendly interaction and our warm hospitality that we can encourage these guests to continue to worship with us. We make it a point to let them know we are here for them whenever they need assistance.

This year we have entertained more than 100 new guests to our welcome tea and we praise God that some have continue to worship with us regularly. We have also hosted welcome tea to many Carmelite families, who are living or working overseas, whenever they come to worship in Carmel during their brief stay in Singapore.

While we are indeed blessed and thank God for this team of dedicated and committed members who find joy serving in Hospitality, we would gladly welcome those who wish to serve together with us in this ministry.

14.0 NEXUS {Single Adults} Fellowship

Many members are still unclear about what NEXUS is and to whom this ministry ministers. NEXUS is a ministry to single adults aged 28 onwards. Our purpose is to connect them to God and to one another. In a church our size, one can feel lost and disconnected especially if he or she is not in a CG. Even if they are in one, they only know those in their CG and hardly any other single adults outside of their CG. Nexus is where they can connect with other singles outside their CG, and also a place of fellowship and belonging for those who are not in any CGs.

NEXUS aspire to be the place of fellowship, belonging and blessing for singles. A place they can come and ask questions, share and learn about faith issues pertinent to where they are at: a place where they can find their fullness in Christ.

Through monthly fellowship talks or activities (see examples below),Nexus provides opportunities where single adults can cultivate Christ-centered and wholistic relationships. Our activities are designed with the goal of seeing them develop wholistically (mentally, socially, emotionally, physically and especially spiritually).

Ø February: **Valentine's Outreach** "Undying Love" combined with YAF

Ø March: **Cycling** (From East Coast Park to Changi Village)

Ø April: **Reordering Your Finances** from "How to get the most out of life" series.

Ø May: 3 Day 2 Night **Retreat** @ Telunas Beach Resort

Ø July: **A Time To Run** (on Temptation) from "How to get the most out of life" series

Ø October: **Conflict Management**

We now meet on the first Saturday of each month. If there is a fifth Saturday, it will be held on the second Saturday.

Isaac Ho, Leonard Sam, Lam Su Yen are in the NEXUS team headed by Ps Assoc. Ang Lee Luang. A retreat was held on 26 & 27 November is planned to evaluate the year's ministry and to seek God together in prayer for the ministry. Please also pray for the team as we seek to make NEXUS Fellowship more known and to grow a core group of regulars to help them connect to God and to one another.

15.0 Church Camp

15.1 This year's church camp was held from **15 June to 18 June 10** at Awana Genting Highlands Golf & Country Resort. A total of 216 campers make up by various groups had attended the camp.

- 15.2 CAMP THEME: Spiritual Principles for Life Stewardship
- 15.3 CAMP OBJECTIVES: To understand spiritual principles for life stewardship & learning to "Love each other as He has loved us.
- 15.4 Theme Song: The theme song for this year's camp is "Let Take Time to Wait Upon the Lord" as for Chinese ministry the theme song is "Revival Fire 复兴的火".
- 15.5 REFLECTIONS: The general feedback from campers is that they enjoyed the camp at Awana, especially the good weather. They were well-fed and the journey to and fro the camp site was also comfortable. Praise God for his goodness to us throughout the camp. Church's funds was used to absorb the transport cost to make going to the camp more affordable
The camp was a memorable one for many.
- 15.5.1 English Ministry
God's messenger for the English congregation was Rev. (Dr.) Tan Soo Inn. He has clearly delivered the message that God has called us to be good stewards of our possessions including being good stewards of our talent, time and finance. We are also called to be faithful in the various responsibilities God has entrusted to us. Very often, it is hard to maintain a balance in our life stewardship due to modern technology that results in us doing many things and yet not achieving what God wants us to be.
- His message was a wakeup call for many, especially the point about the importance of our relationship with our Father God; keeping Sabbath; regaining our roles and being *responsive* together with His people to do His will on earth. He also mentioned that we are to carry out his ministry and commands no matter where we are.
- 15.5.2 Chinese Ministry
The Mandarin congregation thanks God for been able to attend the camp. He arranged for Rev Job Hu and Ms Ruth Fan to be our speakers with decades of ministry and life experience. Since the camp attendees were mostly seniors, God led seven younger individuals from five other churches to help serve as worship leaders, musicians and group leaders. Most of them had already attended their own church camps.
- We had a record attendance of 51 attendees. As a result of the helpers from other churches, we were able to have a group to minister to three seniors who were non believers. Praise God that the Holy Spirit was at work and the three of them were led to Christ! They have since started attending baptism classes.
- Feedback from believers was very encouraging. They were greatly helped by the excellent speakers' messages as well as the discussions and other activities. They also greatly appreciated the main camp committee's hard work in accommodating the seniors' needs. The only request for the next camp was that the location be much nearer so that the rest gained during the camp would not be negated by the long journey back. This request is already being considered by the main camp committee. The Mandarin congregation is looking forward to the next camp with great anticipation of a time of spiritual renewal!
- 15.5.4 Children Ministry
This year, we only had 18 children join us at the camp site. We are delighted to have Pastor Jabez and his wife, Sarah ministering to the children on the same topic.
- 15.5 Camp committee
We thanks God for those who are serve one way or another behind the committee their contribution had make us pounds and memorable by many camper. We also thank our God for moving the hearts of a wonderful group of peoples to serve together as Camp Committee.
- 15.6 Recommendations
The registration numbers for Church Camp 2011 was not as much as last year's. This is due to a clash in dates with the activities of other ministries in church. The objective of the camp is to grow together as a church. For the future we would plan to try set up a suitable date where most Carmelites would be able to attend the camp together as a family of God.

We hope to get ongoing support of the transportation cost to reduce the camp fee in order to encourage more members to go for the church camp.

We would like to thank God for Adrian Wong's CG for volunteering to be in the 2011 camp committee, We pray that other CGs like Adrian's will come forward to serve Him in these areas in years to come.

16.0 Rhoda Ministry

The Filipino Ministry was renamed to Rhoda Ministry this year to include domestic helpers of other nationalities. It is our dream that more Carmelite employers will realize that having hired help is a blessing and an opportunity for outreach, so they will release their helpers to attend Rhoda Fellowship. I want to urge our Christian employers to encourage them to seek Christ and allow them to come for worship. They need someone who can understand some of the challenges and struggles they face cross-culturally.

Rhoda Fellowship hopes that through friendships with others who like them are away from home, they will experience the love of Christ through new friendships in Christ made here. Thus allowing them a space for worship, for fellowship & sharing, and activities, we hope that they will find hope and peace in Christ and joy in daily life despite feeling homesick, lonely or out of place.

There are now 3 Indonesians and 1 Myanmar helpers joining us besides the 15 to 18 Filipinos. Our worship service and bible study are conducted primarily in English. We also include Indonesian and Tagalog songs in our worship. We thank God for Bro Chan Kum Soon who roped in Brothers Chew Hiong Keng and David Lou (both from SES) to be guitarists for the twice a month worship service.

Our theme this year is "Building A Woman After God's Heart." A series on the "Heart of A Godly Woman" was preached from January to April. This was followed by the "Beattitudes" from May to November preached mainly by Ps Assoc Ang Lee Luang and Bro. Kum Soon.

For the once a month Bible Study, Elsie Ebal and Gracelyn Montero continue to lead the **New Believers Class** using "The Survival Kit" as study material. The **Sojourners Class** (for growing believers), led by Marilyn Magsino and Lee Luang, continues with the study on Proverbs 31 using the book "Discovering the Treasures of a Godly Woman." From July onwards, a third class, **Discovery**, was formed to help domestic helpers from Indonesia and Myanmar know more about the gospel in simple English. Lee Luang now teaches this class.

We thank God for the dedication and love of this Fellowship's Committee. They are Alicia Ebal, Elsie Ebal, Gracelyn Montero, Marilyn Magsion, Mylene Asuncion, Rovella Libl, Margie Megabon and Zenaida Rodriguez. This year we have several new Committee members. On 6 March 2011, a one day retreat was held for the Committee with the intention of training them in worship leading. The retreat ended with a visit to the Night Safari. Our theme next year will be "to know Him and to make Him known," focusing on growing in the Lord and witnessing.

Please pray for us that more Carmelites employers will encourage and release their helpers to join the fellowship. Next year two of our key committee members will return to the Philippines for good. Please pray for God's provision of leaders.

17.0 Library

- i. The Library is located at 3rd storey, #03-10, and its operational hours being: 11 am ~ 11.45 am (only on Sunday). Altogether, there are 8 volunteers in the library duty roster.
- ii. Memberships as at 23.10.11 : 348 (2010: 337).
- iii. On the average, items on loan per Sunday: 95 (Y2010 was 98).
- iv. Occasionally, the library received books, CDs and DVDs from members. We want thank members for their contributions. The library has altogether about 4651 (Y2010 was 4200) items in the form of Books, Children Books, Magazines, CDs, VCDs and DVDs. New items added are publicized in the Church Bulletin with occasional book reviews added.
- v. ACE-organised talks on hot-potato issues are available in DVDs in the library.

IV HOME MISSIONS

18.0 Evangelism And Follow-Up (EFU) Ministry

18.1 The aim of the Evangelism and Follow-Up (EFU) Ministry is to reach out to the unsaved and unchurched with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The ministry focuses on homeland evangelism to Singaporeans and other nationalities residing in Singapore. In addition, the ministry provides basic follow-up for new believers and evangelistic bible study for seekers of the Christian faith.

The EFU Ministry is divided into the following areas of work:-

- Evangelism New Life In Christ (NLIC) Course
- Tract and Bible Distribution Special Projects
- Welcome Corner Child Evangelism
- Video Ministry Alpha Course

18.2 Tract and Bible Distribution / Welcome Corner

The Tract and Bible Distribution Ministry purchased more than 1,000 tracts for distribution. About 320 English, Chinese and Indonesian bibles were distributed in 2011. English and Chinese bibles were given to the prison inmates under the Prison Ministry for their Crossroad Bible Institute (CBI) bible studies.

18.3 Welcome Corner / Video Ministry

The Welcome Corner provides a one-stop information cum resource counter after 1st & 2nd Sunday Services. It offers free Christian literature and resources such as free tracts, bibles, Christian booklets and "Jesus" DVDs & VCDs.

The Video Ministry distributes the evangelistic "Jesus" DVDs & VCDs freely to the newcomers and visitors attending our Sunday Services at the Welcome Corner. Carmelites also collected and distributed the "Jesus" DVDs & VCDs to their family members, relatives and friends during the Lunar New Year and Easter festive seasons. About 300 "Jesus Film" DVDs & VCDs were purchased for distribution in 2011. The "Jesus" DVDs & VCDs are available in 10 languages and 6 dialects. Some of these DVDs & VCDs were distributed in China, India, Thailand, Cambodia and Philippines during Church Mission trips to these countries.

18.4 New Life In Christ (NLIC) Course

There was one intake of the 8-week New Life In Christ (NLIC) Course conducted in 2011, which commenced on 16 Oct 2011.

Started in 1987, the NLIC Course offers a platform for seekers and new believers to study the Word of God through a series of topics on Christian faith. A team of faithful core instructors have been teaching the programme for many years. To date, more than 300 Carmelites and friends have attended this programme and many have received Jesus Christ in their lives through the NLIC Classes.

18.5 Evangelistic Projects / Child Evangelism

The Children's Ministry, Clementi Woods Kindergarten, Saturday Evening Service and EFU Ministry jointly organised a Kindergarten Day on 16 Apr 2011. More than 200 people attended the evangelistic event including kindergarten students, their parents, grandparents, siblings and Kidsparks children.

The Ladies' Ministry and EFU Ministry collaborated to organise the Parents' Day Celebration Dinner on 14 May 2011 at the Ban Heng Pavilion Restaurant, HarbourFront. About 240 people attended the evangelistic event with performance by the ORTV Singers.

18.6 Planning for 2012

The Children's Ministry, Clementi Woods Kindergarten, Saturday Evening Service and EFU Ministry will be organising the evangelistic Kindergarten Day on 21 Apr 2012, Saturday.

There will be 3 intakes of the 8-week New Life In Christ (NLIC) Course planned for 2012, commencing in Mar, Jul and Oct respectively.

Mount Carmel and Bible Church alternate to organise the Mid-Autumn Lantern Festival Celebration for the Clementi Woods Kindergarten. For 2012, it will be Mount Carmel's turn to organise the evangelistic event in September.

19.0 Heartlanders' Outreach (HLO) Ministry

19.1 Goals of HLO Ministry

Our main objective remains forging friendship with residents living along West Coast Road through various events (see listing at the end of this report). As a result of getting to know our neighbours, we find it easier to talk to them about spiritual matters and to introduce them to the Gospel. When opportunities arise, we invite them to join Mt Carmel various ministries.

19.2 Committee Members, Befrienders and Helpers

HLO Ministry is run by the following committee members: Rev Peter Teo, Tan Ser Leong, Lim Siew Choon, Corine Tham, Sim Chuay Fen, Jane Lee, Lucy Kiew, Wendy Er, Mr Neo (West Coast Ville RC) and Mr Vincent Seah (West Coast Vista RC). This ministry is greatly aided with the help of the following people: Emily Ps. Tang Bing, Emily Goh, Darren Sim, Jamie Sim, Henry Tio, Jeffrey and Mabel Wong, Albert and Lina Eio, Nellie and many whom we have not named. We also thank many of our speakers who make our events possible.

19.3 Events for Forging Friendship

Each month, there are at least two events organized for the heartlanders (see listing at the end of this report). Most of these events can be categorized according to: (1) Cooking classes, (2) Medical talks, (3) Major celebrations, (4) Health walks, (5) Skill developments. This year, we did not organize Community Food and Funfair Day in July because we thought Phase 4 Project would commence in June but it did not. In its place, we decided to organize two tours: (1) 1 Day Durian Tour (Yong Peng), (2) 1 Day-Night Singapore of Singapore. We also continued to host Jumble Sale but the venue was held at CBC instead of ElderCare. For the other two Friday nights in a month, we used one night for Committee Meeting and one night for visitation of heartlanders.

19.4 Publicity and Attendance

We thank God that even though we do not give out flyers door-to-door anymore, our attendance has not dropped but it continues to grow. Our flyers are posted on the notice boards at West Coast Ville and Vista RCs. We also distributed flyers to passer-bys in front of ElderCare on Friday. Every kindergarten child also takes home a flyer. The best form of publicity occurs when heartlanders tell their neighbours about our events. Our weekly Friday attendance is 50. This attendance includes both the adults and children.

19.5 Fruits of HLO Ministry

Based on our friendship with our neighbours, we have seen some of the heartlanders coming to join us for our various ministries such as SES, KVKR and Kidsparks. Reaching out to these heartlanders takes a lot of patience and perseverance. But we believe that once the sowing of seed of friendship and the Gospel takes place, it will one day bear fruit of salvation. To reap a great harvest, we continue to appeal to Carmelites to come and help us in HLO Ministry. Some examples of our weekly programmes:

Programmes	Speakers	Dates	No. of Attendees
Chinese Fan Making	Ms Madeline Lim	7 Jan	60
Celebrate Chap Go Mei	-	11 Feb	60
Cooking Class – Yam Paste	Mdm Phyllis Lee	4 Mar	55
Health Walk – Changi Beach Park	-	12 Mar	63
Medical Talk – Diabetes Plus Free Screening	Dr Titus Lau	25 Mar	37
Glutinous Rice	Mrs Wendy Er	20 May	45
Cooking Class – Yam Kueh	Lim Yan Hock	3 Jun	40
Durian Tour - JB	-	11 Jun	43
Parents' Day Celebration	-	17 Jun	51
Jewelry Making	Mrs Mabel Wong	1 Jul	37
Nutritional Meals	Mrs Elizabeth Lee	15 Jul	50
Cooking Class – Water Chestnut Cake	Mdm Huen	19 Aug	57
Jumble Sale	-	2 Sep	-
Foot Reflexology	Rev Yap Beng Shin	16 Sep	51
Mid-Autumn Festival	-	30 Sep	55
Celebration Night – Triple celebrations	-	7 Oct	90
Christmas Celebration	-	11 Dec	

20.0 Kent Vale/Kent Ridge (KVKR) Ministry

KVKR's focus continues to be on graduate students and working professionals from the PRC, although we have expanded to include a number of "study mamas" as well. We thus

continue to be differentiated from SEMS, with its focus primarily on blue-collar workers. Our approach remains a combination of English lessons and more spiritually-focused activities on a weekly basis, as well as a few special activities over the course of the year. These include Chinese New Year, Mid-Autumn Festival, and Christmas celebrations, as well as an annual workshop-cum-mini-retreat.

This last year saw the most important development in KVKR's history, namely the inauguration of the weekly Saturday Evening Mandarin Service, conducted within the framework of the regular ministry. Whereas the second half of the Saturday program has traditionally been a combination of Bible studies and special talks, the decision was made last year to launch a small regular worship. Unlike previous activities, which were conducted either entirely in English or bilingually, the worship is all in Mandarin. The messages are provided by a combination of KVKR team members (notably Pak Wah) and guest speakers. A small meal is served in the Fellowship Hall afterwards.

We had originally hoped to reach 40-50 regular worshippers by the end of the first year, but it does not look as if we will reach that target. Currently we are drawing roughly 20 worshippers (not including KVKR team members) a week—mostly from PRC, but with a couple of local Chinese-speaking friends as well. We have a fairly regular core of worshippers now, almost all of them women, so we are still hoping to draw a greater number of male friends. We have also noted that very few students from Bruce's advanced class stay back for the worship, even when he himself is doing the preaching.

The ministry has been considerably strengthened over the past year or so by the addition of Joyce Goh and Pak Wah. Pak Wah's ability to preach comfortably in Mandarin makes him a tremendous asset for the worship service, while Joyce's ability to minister to the women's personal needs is a crucial part of KVKR's work. Unfortunately, Pak Wah is quite stretched with his commitments to both BGST and Carmel, and Joyce is planning to cut back her weekend ministry time due to family commitments. This means that we will need to some readjustment of our manpower allocation and also that we are looking for more sisters able to minister in Chinese. We are developing a good relationship with Ps Tang Bin from the Chinese Ministry, but he is also tied down with many commitments and his long-term involvement with KVKR still needs to be mapped out. A related issue is the future of the Saturday worship, which is intended to eventually integrate with the Sunday Chinese ministry, but only over the longer term.

We have somewhat scaled down our annual activities and now prefer to concentrate on a smaller, regular core of people rather than having a larger outreach. This was notably the case for the Mid-Autumn Festival, when the decision was made to invite only those who are attending the worship, as opposed to those who come only to the English classes. The latter were encouraged instead to attend the SEMS celebration. As for our annual workshop/mini-retreat, this year we organized talks by several couples and pairs of Carmelites on issues related to Boy-Girl Relationship(BGR) and marriage; the discussions were very well-received by our students.

Looking ahead, our big concern continues to be resources, especially for personal ministry. Because the leaders of KVKR are spread over a number of different activities, we all struggle to find the time and energy to put into ministering to our PRC friends at an individual level. We also continue to struggle with the tension between wanting to see more friends coming to our activities and being content to focus on ministering to the number that God sends our way, whether large or small.

21.0 Outreach of Carmel TO Polytechnic & University Students (OCTOPUS)

Vision: To extend Christ's unconditional love to international students in Singapore through friendship and hospitality, helping them move in a positive direction in their spiritual journey towards knowing Christ.

Inspired by Jesus' teaching to love and offer hospitality in Matt 25:35, "*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in*", OCTOPUS engages international students through "Festivals, Food & Friendships" as a pre-evangelistic approach to building bridges, tilling the soil of their minds and hearts, preparing them to at least be willing to listen to the Truth (Mark 4:20).

21.1 Taking Stock of 2011

NUS long-term students

West Coast CG and Holland CG hosted 2 groups of long-term PRC students to give them the opportunity to explore Christianity using the Alpha course. The monthly meetings were held in the homes of CG members who befriended students and demonstrated Christ's love in practical ways, e.g. career guidance. We praise the Lord for the privilege of sharing the Gospel and for the joy of seeing some of them come to faith in the Lord.

NUS exchange students

Our "Around Singapore in One Day" tour and "dinner cum discussion" sessions continued to be popular with exchange students from all over the world who enjoyed the cultural exchange, activity-based dinners (e.g. sushi making) and the opportunity to explore the meaning of life. Praise the Lord for: 1) raising a core group of our young adults who came regularly to establish friendships and facilitate discussions, forming an effective partnership with the hosts from Faber Hills CG and Simon & Selina, 2) a fun and progressive Discussion Roadmap which incorporated the creative use of Youtube, music and movie clips to make every session unique, exciting and impactful. Whenever possible, we provided a Christian perspective, sowing seeds to produce a harvest according to the Lord's timing. This year, we have grown to depend on prayer as a community with the help of consistent email and SMS reminders from a young adult.

21.2 Strategic Focus for 2012 and Prayer Requests

1. A fruitful collaboration with the Chinese Ministry to follow up post-Alpha PRC students
2. A CG willing to host students once a month using Alpha
3. A maturing partnership with our young adults as they live out their faith purposefully whilst balancing their studies and their jobs

May the Lord strengthen our hands and give us the joy of witnessing transformed lives as we obediently respond to His command to make disciples of all nations!

22.0 Social Outreach

22.1 We are providing financial assistance from the Carmel Relief Fund to 3 members for this year.

23.0 Clementi West Elder Care (CWEC)

St Luke's Eldercare Committee

Representing Mt Carmel BP Church (MCBPC) - Dr Lim Siew Eng (Chairman), Mr Chia Hong Kuan, Mr Simon Wong

Representing Bible Church - Ps Freddie Ong (Vice-Chairman), Ms Tan Ai Hua, Dr Yam Khoon Tor

Representing St Lukes Eldercare - Mrs Lim Beng Toh, Ms Teo Lay Chin

St Luke's Eldercare Ministry is a community outreach program supported by Mt Carmel BP Church and The Bible Church. St Luke's Eldercare aims to be a Christian Eldercare Organization of excellence showing God's love and compassion. It aims to bring Christ's hope, touch and love to the senior citizens in the neighbourhood community who attend St Luke's Eldercare at the Clementi West Branch.

There are about 65 to 70 senior citizens who attend this eldercare daily. The committee is an advisory committee to the center, with the aims of providing volunteers, pastoral care, and activities that would promote the elderly well being and care, and occasional staff appreciation activities. Both churches also contribute financially to the center.

Examples of events that MCBPC participated or organized in 2011

January	Hong Bao Donation Drive
May	Parents Appreciation Day at Ban Heng Restaurant organized by MCBPC. One table sponsored by anonymous donor from MCBPC for staff of elderly center.
July	10 th year SLEC Clementi Branch Anniversary Celebration Lunch. Video of staff and clientele made by Mr Simon Wong
December	MCBPC Youth Church Camp activity (Pastor Dixon)

Ministry, volunteers and prayer items Weekly Friday services and ministry are conducted by Pastoral staff from both supporting churches, fellowship, friendship and visitations if the client has expressed interest.

Prayers are needed for the center for continued dedicated staff, good governance and especially volunteers. The center depends on volunteers to provide care, ministry and touch of grace to elderly and staff. The number of volunteers have dwindled in the recent years due to increasing age of volunteers and with no recent volunteer additions. This year there was only one regular volunteer from MCBPC (Katherine) and two from Bible Church.

Apart from usual activities, the committee is planning a combined outing for the elderly next year, to be organized by both churches. This activity is dependent on getting enough volunteers (10 to 20 volunteers) to spend a weekday minding the elderly during this outing. We hope to bring cheer to the elderly but also to give opportunity for the members of both churches to service.

24.0 Clementi Woods Kindergarten 2011

24.1 The Kindergarten is a ministry jointly set up by both Mt Carmel BP Church and The Bible Church since 1985. It is a non-profit community-based ministry of the two churches that strives to provide excellent affordable pre-school education and imparting Christian teachings and values to the students. We thank God for blessing the Kindergarten operations and keeping the Kindergarten safe. We celebrated the 26th Kindergarten Graduation on 29 October 2011

24.2 In 2011, the Kindergarten has a full enrolment of 380 Kindergarten students in 12 classes and 4 Playgroups. To enrich the children's learning, the Kindergarten provide in-house Enrichment Programs; Creative Chinese, Hanyu Pinyin, Phonics, Discovering Mathematics and Creative Junior Robotics.

24.3 As most of the students are from non-Christian homes, the Kindergarten Management Committee has established a Christian distinctiveness for the Kindergarten through the employment of a part-time Christian Student Counselor and greater involvement of the two churches in the Kindergarten ministry. The Student Counselor is responsible for the Kindergarten Christian programs – Bible lessons, memory verses, songs, student counseling, sharing of gospel with the students, publicity on churches' outreach programs. The Kindergarten also operates a Bible Story Book Library for the students to borrow home a Christian book. The Student Counselor runs the Mailbox Club to nurture the spiritual growth of present students and ex-students. To reach out to the families, the Mt Carmel Evangelism Committee together with the Kindergarten Committee organized the Kindergarten Sunday to introduce the Church to the Kindergarten K2 children families.

25.0 Sunday Evening Mandarin Service (SEMS)

25.1 Vision & Purpose of Ministry

Colossians 1:28 "He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ."

2 Timothy 4:2 "Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction."

It's our vision to reach out to as many Mainland Chinese construction workers and cleaners as possible, bringing them to Christ and to train them to be the disciples of Jesus Christ.

25.2 Activities:

Some of developments over the 12 months (Oct 2010-Sep 2011) highlighted what our Lord has done through the support of Carmelites serving faithfully and sacrificially on Sunday evenings.

There was an average of 290 people attending services weekly (54 more than last year). And the attendance exceeded 390 in three special occasions. (CNY Reunion Dinner (390), Taiwan Aborigine Children Choir (483), Mid-Autumn Festival (426). The monthly Holy Communion could be up to 100 believers. There were 945 new friends who came to visit, 106 people responded to altar call, and 32 PRC brothers and sisters were baptized in the same period. PTL!

Our focus this year is to train more mature Christians to become leaders under the "Train-the-Trainer" scheme. Above 50 people attended training on worship leading and how to share the Gospel with friends during CNY holiday. We are glad to see some of them starting to lead worship service and prayer meetings.

Our strength is on the personal care and touch, so that people can feel a greater sense of belonging. We will continue to follow-up by sending SMS to encourage new comers and Bible verses to Christians each week, answer their questions about faith and had led some

of them to Christ. We also visited and cared for those who were injured and sick at their dormitory, hospital or Nursing Home and gave them financial and moral support.

25.3 What's being Planned for the New Year?

The year 2011 saw a lot of our co-workers returning to China to work to be near their family. We are struggling to train more new leaders to take over. Apart from sending SMS during festive season, we didn't have time to take care of those who returned to China. We will continue to focus on evangelism, character building and discipleship training in the coming year. At the same time, we are planning a trip to China to visit those who went back. Our objective is to connect them with a local church, learn more about their culture and to bring them Christian books and training materials and to reach out to their nonbeliever family members.

Thank God for the church's generous financial and prayer support. This enabled us to effectively reach out to many more PRC friends whenever we have a leader identified in a construction site and have enough people to justify sending a bus. We will continue to keep costs to a minimum, and maximize our resources. Although Sunday is the only day they can rest early, we have a regular group of about 80 brothers who still prefer to come to their spiritual home - Mt Carmel where they also invite their friends voluntarily. That's the reason we welcome 10-20 new-comers every week. PTL!

We plan to start a relief fund to cater to the financial needs of those who worship with us and are injured or sick without any financial support from their employers. To support the family of those who lost their life at work. A few members from the SEMS committee will monitor the situation and manage the fund prudently.

25.4 Prayer Request on Challenges Ahead

Some big churches doing the construction workers ministry saw decline in attendance due to more churches starting the China Worker Ministry. This is a good sign. But non-Christian faiths lured church goers with more attractive programs and free gifts. Casino and night life attractions also distracted the PRC's focus on God. Long working hours for some did not help. As we face more and more challenges ahead, we need Carmelites' continuing prayer and practical support to reach out to PRC workers while the Lord keeps the window open. Your participation is all that matters. May the Lord use us as the channel of blessings for the Kingdom of God!

VI. OVERSEAS MISSIONS

26.0 Missions Ministry

2011 has been a hectic year for missions. We made 15 trips to teach, encourage, develop and spread God's word with our partners in 7 different countries. We made 3 short term missions trips to Cambodia and Philippines respectively; 2 trips to Indonesia and one trip to Thailand over the year. There were a total of 6 training sessions for the pastors and leaders in Nepalgunj, Nepal; Dalat, Vietnam; Chennai and Manipur, India. These training sessions were conducted by our pastoral team.

In July we commissioned our sister Betty Tan as a tent maker serving in China. She begins with studying Mandarin in Fudan University. With this commissioning, Mt Carmel is committed in 8 countries working with our partners or our home sent missionaries.

Our 3 Mt Carmel churches in India, Philippines and Indonesia face different challenges. In India, our church in Villivakkam is faced with leadership succession and a slowing growth in its congregation. However there is growth in its sister churches in Karikkal and Pudur. In Philippines, our church in Novaliches is experiencing continued growth as well as youths who are graduating and working as young adults. There is an urgent need for a land and a church building of their own as the current rented place will need to be returned to its owner by next year. In Indonesia, our church in Singkawang is experiencing growth with the adults. The youth continues to be the main focus of the church ministry.

At home, the inaugural weekend missions challenge was held in August with Dr Tan Lai Yong as the key speaker. About 13 Carmelites discovered, reflected and prayed about their vision and commitment to missions with the missions committee. The missions festival with the theme "Hear the Call of the Kingdom" featuring Isaiah 6:8 was held in July. We were blessed to have Dr Patrick Fung as guest speaker.

We have one full time theological student, Marianne Wong, who started her studies in Singapore Bible College in mid 2011. Our sister Carol Tan spent 5 weeks as a short term missions apprentice in Cambodia from July to August.

Do pray that the Lord will bring more Carmelites to serve in the missions field both short term and long term.

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"
And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Isaiah 6:8*

IV. CHURCH BUILDING MANAGEMENT

27.0 CBC Church Management Committee (MC)

We would like to thank God Almighty for His wisdom and guidance in all the work done at MC level, especially for the close cooperation and understanding we had with our fellow workers from Bible Church. Our relationship with the Bible Church Representatives had been friendly and cordial and we were able to share and discuss matters freely and reach consensus.

We thank God for the service of the Church Warden, Malcolm Ho who has extended his contract by another three years.

The CBC MC is a 6-member team with 3 representatives each from Mount Carmel and Bible Church. The Carmel Representatives from Jan 2011 to end 2011 were Lim Say Geck, Jimmy Lam (Treasurer), and Ngo See Ming.

The MC conducts regular quarterly meeting together with Bible Church Representatives. The activities included the following – evaluation of and renewal of service and maintenance contracts, insurance, evaluate proposals for purchase of capital expenditure, implementation of procedures for facilities management. The MC also provides directions to the Warden in his work.

Compiled from Ministries' reports and edited by:

Dn Ng Kai Seng
Clerk of Session