

Annual Report 2018
Mount Carmel BP Church Limited (“Mount Carmel”)

I. GENERAL

- Mount Carmel is a public company limited by guarantee domiciled and incorporated in the Republic of Singapore. The company is limited by its members’ guarantee to the assets of the company up to \$1 each member in the event of it being wound up. Its Singapore Unique Entity Number is 198202752E.
- Its registered office is at 152 West Coast Road, Singapore 127370.
- Its auditor is Lo Hock Ling & Co. Its bankers are OCBC Bank Limite Limited, Maybank Singapore Limited and Sing Investments and Finance Limited.

Church Session (Governing Board Members) as at 31 December 2018

Name of Director	Occupation	Date of Appointment	Session Meetings Attended in 2018 (5 Meetings Held)
Chia Ming Kiong, Jabez	Pastor	29 May 2016	2 of 5 (Note 1)
Chua Meng Wah, Daniel	Pastor	1 January 1991	3 of 5 (Note 2)
Chua David	Officer	1 January 2014	4 of 5 (Note 3)
Agus Djunaedi	Director	29 May 2011	3 of 5 (Note 3)
Foo Kim Peng	Director	25 May 2008	4 of 5 (Note 3)
Koh Zhen-Xi, Benjamin	Lawyer	22 February 2018	4 of 5 (Note 3)
Lai Pak Wah	Lecturer	1 January 2016	3 of 5 (Note 3)
Timothy Sean Liu Chuan Tian	CEO	1 January 2016	4 of 5 (Note 3)
Lockhart Bruce Mcfarland	University Lecturer	1 January 2010	3 of 5 (Note 3)
Loh Pin Chuan	Business Analysis Manager	1 January 2014	5 of 5
Low Kit Ping	Teacher	1 January 2013	4 of 5 (Note 3)
Lum Yan Thong, Jonathan	Human Resources Manager	1 January 2004	5 of 5
Ng Kia Boon, Jerry	Senior IT Management	31 March 2017	4 of 5 (Note 3)
Oh Boon Leong	Pastor	2 January 2005	5 of 5
Peter Teo Yoke Teck	Pastor	29 May 2005	5 of 5
Teo Yoong Huat, Kelvin	Consultant	1 January 2009	5 of 5
Tsang Sow May, Samantha	Finance Director	1 January 2015	5 of 5
Wong Wei Ern, Adrian	Lawyer	1 January 2014	2 of 5 (Note 3)
Yeo Siew Yam	Programme Director	1 January 2006	4 of 5 (Note 3)

Notes :

1. Ps Jabez Chia Ming Kiong did not attend the first three Session meetings in 2018 as he was on sabbatical.
2. Ps Daniel Chua Meng Wah did not attend the first two Session meetings in 2018 as part of a handover process after he stepped down as Senior Pastor.

3. Could not attend the meetings due to work, travel or prior commitments or medical leave on the day of the meetings.

Our Senior Pastor is Rev (Dr) Oh Boon Leong and the date of his appointment as Senior Pastor is 1 January 2016.

Our Company Secretary is Erh Peck Hoon, Elizabeth. She was appointed on 30 November 2016.

The total annual remuneration for each of its three highest paid staff, who each receives remuneration exceeding \$100,000, is classified as follows :

Annual remuneration band	No. of staff
\$100,001 - \$150,000	3

The above staff are also on the Session.

Other Relevant Information

- Loh Pin Chuan, prior to his appointment as Director on 1 January 2014, was previously a Director of Mount Carmel and resigned after the expiry of the term of his appointment. Apart from the aforesaid, none of the current holder of any of the relevant offices has, prior to his or her current term, held any of the relevant offices in Mount Carmel.
- Mount Carmel's related entity is Clementi Woods Kindergarten LLP ("CWK") which was established as a limited liability partnership on 26 July 2012. The other partner in CWK is The Bible Church, Singapore. None of the Directors of Mount Carmel is also a person having general control and management of the administration of CWK.
- The principal funding sources of Mount Carmel is through donations from its members. There is no fund of Mount Carmel which is in deficit.

II. **WORSHIP SERVICES**

Worship Services

Attendances

Average attendance of the worship services was as follows:

1 st Service (including Youth service)	434 (435 in 2017)
2 nd Service	346 (350 in 2017)
Saturday Evening Service	79 (82 in 2017)
Chinese Service	149 (139 in 2017)
Sunday Evening Mandarin Service	96 (111 in 2017)
Filipino (Rhoda) Service	15 (17 in 2017)

Worship Ministry

Pursuing Holiness - Serving With Excellence - Love In All Things

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." Philipians 4:8

We thank God for the faithfulness of our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ in their continued service in the worship ministry. We also thank God for a spirit of collaboration, unity and commitment amongst the team. Many amongst us juggle various other roles both within the church and outside on top of their career and family commitments. I'm very encouraged to see the team cover for each other when certain members are unable to make practice sessions due to unforeseen circumstances.

This year, to facilitate better communication, we started including the AV team into our Whatsapp chat groups. This has proved to be quite effective in increasing participation and understanding amongst the team each week. The AV team is an integral part of the worship team and we hope to see better communication as the team grows to know each other better.

We are blessed to have Aaron Chong join us as a new worship leader this year. Aaron has grown up in the church and we are all proud to see him serve in this new capacity. Thank God also for new musicians Kai Hern and Chelsea as they started serving in the music team this year.

Next year, Matthew Siew will move over to concentrate more on strengthening the SES music team. We thank God for his faithfulness and believe that the SES Worship Team will greatly benefit from his input.

In 2019, as part of the move towards greater inter-generational integration, the Worship Ministry will plan deliberate steps to increase the involvement of the youth and children's ministry as permanent parts of the worship service.

Please pray with and for us!

To God be the glory!

Choir

The choir ministers to the congregation through songs and hymns during worship services on Sundays, typically on the 1st Sunday during Holy Communion, and on the 3rd Sundays of each month with a song presentation. In 2018, the choir led in the BPCIS Maundy Thursday service held on 29 Mar 2018, and also organized a Song Festival on the Sat 3 Nov 2018.

The choir practices on Thursday evenings for one and half hours from 8pm, and also for an hour on the 1st Sundays of the month, from 11.10am to 12.10pm. This year, Ps Jared Mongcal, from Singapore Bible College (SBC), continued to lead us in conducting the choir. He introduced new practice techniques, and also varied the presentation style at times, and to co-lead with the worship leader in congregational singing.

	Holy Communion Songs:	Presentation Songs:
Jan	Remembrance	We Will Serve Him
Feb	Only By His Grace	There is a Saviour
Mar	There is a Redeemer	His Robes for Mine
Apr	A Purple Robe, A Crown of Thorn Easter: Sunrise, Resurrection	-
May	We Will Remember You	Praise Your Holy Name
Jun	Come to the Cross	For the Glory of the Lord
Jul	The Sacrifice	Share Your Faith
Aug	God of Grace	I Can See The Hand
Sep	O Mighty Cross	You are Always Good
Oct	Gaze on the Christ	New Every Morning
Nov	How Deep the Father's Love for Us	-
Dec	All Because of God's Amazing Grace	-

Maundy Thursday Service: Thu 29 Mar 18

This year's Maundy Thursday service was titled TENEBRAE: Service of Words, and the people involved include pastors and leaders from the BPCIS:

Introduction of Guest Speaker: Rev Dr Alby Yip (Senior Pastor, Zion-Bishan BPC)

Sermon: Rev Dr Chris Chia (Senior Pastor, Adam Road Presbyterian Church)

Holy Communion: Rev Dr Bob Phee & Rev Yap Wai Keong

(Pastor, Herald BPC & Shalom BPC)

Communion Song: And Can it Be?

Offerings: Rev Daniel Tan (Lead Pastor, Mt Hermon BPC)

Closing Song: Rev Dr Daniel Chua (Pastor-at-large, Mt Carmel BPC): How Great Thou Art

Benediction: Rev Dr Quek Swee Hwa (Pastor, Emmanuel BPC)

1. Opening Songs: (Choir with Congregation)

Song Sequence:

a. The Old Rugged Cross (4 Stanzas)

b. My Tribute (Whole Song)

c. How Great is our God (Start with chorus and then stanzas)

2. *There is a Saviour*

3. *Only by His grace*

4. *God's Perfect Lamb*

5. *In Christ Alone-Townend*

6. *His Robes for Mine*

7. There is a Redeemer

8. Meekness and Majesty

9. And Can It be

10. *How Great Thou Art*

Song Festival: Sat 3 Nov 18

We had the pleasure of inviting guest choir, The Philippine Heralds, to co-present a Song Festival, a gathering that focuses on the revelation of God through His Word, using the platform of songs. The evangelistic and thanksgiving song festival expounded the goodness of God towards His creation and His dealing with His redeemed people. There was also a testimony given by sister Tan-Lim Mui Hong. The songs presented include:

1. The Majesty and Glory of Your Name,

2. How Great Thou Art,

3. I Can See the Hand,

4. New Every Morning,

5. Great is Thy Faithfulness,

6. You Are Always Good

7. Abba Father, The Servant King,

8. I Will Glorify Your Name

9. For the Glory of the Lord

10. Bow the Knee

11. We Will Serve Him.

Fellowship and Bonding

Besides the singing, the choir also organised fun and social events. Monthly, the choir will celebrate members' birthdays. To enable even closer bonding, the choir will organize choir thanksgiving and fellowship events at the home of one of the choir members. During this time, members together with their families and loved ones, come together for a time of food, fellowship, thanksgiving and sharing.

Looking forward to 2019

We encourage church members, of all age groups, to consider serving in the choir in 2019, so that we can have consistently about 20-25 members to praise God with our voices. The only requirement is the commitment to serve faithfully and the ability to carry a tune. Members are also welcome to serve a period of time, or commit to specific projects (e.g. like 2019 Maundy Thursday Service, Mission Sunday and Christmas etc) if they are unable to commit the full year.

"Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise Him." Ps 33:1.

Saturday Evening Service (SES)

We thank God for the 16 years of God's grace and blessing in the Saturday Evening Service (SES). We also thank God for His faithfulness as His people continue to grow in the knowledge of God's Word and in service to one another.

We thank God for the committee members who have served faithfully: Tan Thien Choon, Kwok Wai Ling, Yvonne Ng, and Jaclynn Tan. We also thank God for Andrew Tan who will be standing for election as deacon for SES. Since SES does not have a designated pastor-in-charge, it is timely that we have a deacon to oversee the ministry.

We also acknowledge the many years of faithful service of the music team, giving thanks to God for Chan Kum Soon, Chew Hiong Keng, Joshua Lim, Joe Chew, David Lou, How Lee & Haw Puay. SES worship is made possible by their weekly labor of love. To encourage the renewal of the worship of SES, they have also graciously paved the way for a new music team to step up, led by Matthew Siew.

SES is Carmel's 3rd worship service, seeking to disciple members and to welcome newcomers. There is continued interest in the ukulele and guitar fellowship, bringing young and old together. From 2019, youth from Kidsparks will be integrated to the Youth service on Sundays. KidSparks ministry remains an effective outreach to children of our members and friends in the neighbourhood, through their enrichment and Bible classes. Kidsparks teachers also seek to reach out to their parents by befriending and witnessing to them. Our desire is for the love of Christ to shine in these families. The four Discipleship Groups continue to meet to study the Word and in fellowship with one another. The Prayer chat group also allows members to support one another with love, care and concern for one another. Many were encouraged by the prayers and concerns expressed. SES continues to support the wider ministry of Carmel. Some of us have joined the annual church camp. Several of us have gone on the various mission trips organized by our Overseas Missions Ministry.

Pray for us as we press on for the Lord in 2019. May the Lord grant to us the joy in serving Him, "never lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord" (Romans 12:11).

Mandarin Worship Service (MWS)

The year 2018 has been a year full of God's blessings for the MWS. Indeed, if we were to count HIS blessings and name them one by one, we would, like what the hymnal has said, 'be surprised what the Lord has done' to us.

It has been a surprise to us because, first of all, we saw so many MWS brothers and sisters joined the June camp this year. 71 people attended, which is the highest record so far. Truly we want to thank God for his blessings in this camp through the message of the speaker. Many were challenged to live a God-pleasing life for the Lord. Besides, we also have seen the bond has been strengthened among the spiritual community. Secondly, the Lord has added the number of people to the MWS. Although we have not reached the target of 180 of the attendance that we had set, but we hit 174, which is the highest, in one of our Sunday worship services. Thirdly, we have also seen the increase of the attendance in our Friday night church prayer meeting; though the

increase is not very significant, but it is very encouraged to see 28 people turn out for the prayer meeting. For all these, we want to give thanks to our God and may his name be glorified.

Sunday Worship average attendance: 157;

Prayer Meeting average attendance: 23

Baptism: 11 baptized and 12 transferred membership.

Pulpit ministry: Preached on the books of 1 & 2 Samuel.

Care Ministry

A regular visitation for those who have been hospitalized or sick at home; and conduct holy communion for members who are not been able to attend Sunday Worship; new comers and those who have not been attending church for a period of time, has carried out.

Special Events & Activities

1. On May 29, Park walking to Botanic garden, an outreach program to new friends, 85 people attended.
2. On June 8-11, the MWS join the church camp at the Renaissance Johor Bahru Hotel. The speaker, Rev.Dr. Andrew Hwang preached on the subject "The relationship of the believers and his God and the World."
3. On 30 June, an outreach program of the "Dementia Talk" was held in block 718 Resident Committee. 40 people attended.
4. On 7 July, Parents Day Dinner Celebration Evangelism meeting, speaker Rev. Henry Chong, 320 people attended the dinner, 47 non-Christian responded to the altar call.
5. On 9 August National Day Barbeque outreach to China students and working adults, 60 people attended the outreach meeting.
6. A two-day retreat for the MWS committee was held on 21-22 August at the Park Avenue Rochester. The focus for this retreat was to evaluate all the MWS ministries and planning the budget for the year 2019.
7. On 2 September, we celebrated MWS 29th Anniversary. We invited Rev.Dr. Jacob Hwang be our guest speaker. 173 people attended.
8. On 22 September, Mid-autumn evangelism meeting, speaker Rev.Huang Teng Wai, 193 people attended, 3 persons responded to the altar call.
9. On 10 November, we invited New Heart Music Ministries to conduct a musical evangelistic meeting. 134 people attended. One accepts the Lord, 21 have responded to dedicate their life and live a worry-free life.
10. On 8 December, 10 choir members with pastors will go to the St. Andrew Cathedral Old folk's home in Clementi for the caroling and give gifts to the old folks.

Year 2019 Planning

Theme for the Year: "The Lord's Disciples". This is a two-year theme that consists of four parts: 'To become a disciple of the Lord'; 'A life-changing of the disciples'; 'The relationship of the disciples and the Lord'; 'The life of the disciples'.

Pulpit ministry: Topical sermon that relates to the theme will be preached.

Objective: Projected attendance of 200; Encourage members not only to attend Sunday School, Fellowship, cell group activities and prayer meeting but also willingly and actively involve and serve in the MWS for the Lord.

Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Action Group pressed on with its mission of enhancing the prayer life of the church at different levels i.e. personal, group and church. At the personal level, members were exhorted to make prayer the steering wheel of their lives and not their spare tyres.

We pressed on with exhorting members to come earlier for worship to pray and meditate before the Lord. It is good to see about 40-50% of the congregation doing so. The Carmel Weekly carried regular book reviews and testimonies on Prayer (written by Yvonne Liew). The 80 members of the PAG were encouraged to pray along with the Prayer Warriors at the Wed Prayer meetings based on the same prayer points (coordinated by Lai Fong). This way, other than the 10-12 attendees, we estimate that another 5-10 are praying along. Lioba stepped forward to initiate a satellite Prayer Point at her home where 2-5 church members living near her would gather to pray on Wed evenings. We renew our call for members to come to our Church Prayer meeting once a month ie P.O.E.M. (Pray Once Every Month.....together).

Both iPray and WePray groups, led by Cynthia Wee, concluded their 3-year journey going through Richard Foster's book on Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home. Carmelites are encouraged to deepen their prayer life corporately in the quarterly Prayer and Praise gatherings led by Cynthia (assisted by Ps Assoc Lee Luang). These gatherings provided a wonderful forum to praise and pray to our Almighty God together.

Other PAG members viz Adrian Ang, Sim Jhon, Chai Chin Loon, David Ngeow, Tan Thien Choon, Yap Yeow Chern and Nelson Lee oversaw prayer in SES, MWS, various WhatsApp groups etc. Eld Peng Kee had asked God to start a Church Prayer Revolution (CPR) when he shared over the pulpit to launch PAG in November 2014. We have made a start, but have still a long way to go before Mount Carmel truly becomes a "House of Prayer". Will you join this Revolution?

III. DISCIPLESHIP AND TRAINING

Education for Christian Formation (ECF) Ministry

ECF Ministry oversees Adult Education and the Library in Carmel. Our goal is to equip Carmelites with the theological knowledge necessary to live out their faith in their daily lives, through providing a wide range of education initiatives. As and when possible, we seek actively to work with other ministries, such as YAM, CG Ministry and Octopus, so that we can synergise our efforts to serve the Church and the community.

Educational Initiatives

In 2018, ECF Ministry organized the following education programs:

- a) A 3-week course on *The Christian Faith & Same Sex Attraction*, based on Prof Wesley Hill's lectures and facilitated by Lim Shi (Apr 2018)
- b) A 3-week course on *Bible Studies for Daily Devotions (New Testament): Gospel of John* by Elder Lim Kheng Hai (May)
- c) A Saturday Afternoon course on *Sharing your Faith in a Multi-Cultural Society* by Dn Lai Pak Wah (Jul)
- d) A Saturday morning retreat: *Prayer, Discernment & Decision Making* by Ms Constance Chan (Sep)
- e) A Saturday morning course: *Leading Small Groups & Teaching Skills* by Rev Dr Tan Soo Inn (Nov)

Plan of ECF Ministry for 2019

In 2019, we plan to organize courses/ seminars covering Spiritual Formation, OT, NT, and a contemporary culture issue. A course on 1 Corinthians will be held jointly with BGST. In addition, we shall also hold a movie night. As and when possible, we shall continue to collaborate with other Carmel ministries for synergies.

Youth Ministry

This year, we expressed appreciation to Pastoral Assistant Marianne and Deaconess Serene who oversaw the ministry while Pastor Jabez was on sabbatical leave, February to August.

Highlights of the Year

Deaconess Serene was instrumental in communicating with DCG leaders as well as parents to help us to influence our youths together. We had Parents Meeting to have a bearing of where we are heading as a ministry and to link up parents and DCG leaders.

Unlike the previous year's Valentine's Day Dinner, we had a very good response from youths and their friends to this year's evangelistic dinner. Probably inspired by Carmel's 50th Anniversary Musical, a team of dedicated youths scripted and rehearsed a mini musical with a generous dose of comedic twists for our guests. Apart from sowing the Gospel seed into our friends' hearts, we pray that the Carmel youths will consistently reach out to their friends with the Good News found in Christ.

Amid some light drizzle, we had a robust attendance from the P6ers at the Pre-teen Outing aka Post-PSLE Outing! This year, we returned to Katapult Trampoline Park followed by a western lunch together. Thank God for the youths and young adults who joined in to help P6ers transit into the Youth Ministry. Pray that the transition of some 26 P6ers into Youth Ministry will be met with amazing grace and meaningful friendships among youths.

Unlike two years back, there was no running after the train as 16 of us made our way up to DAJ Children's Home via a coach ride. It was a God-given season of bonding with one another and a time to share our lives with people from less privileged backgrounds. This may possibly be the last DAJ trip for Mount Carmel youths unless someone is willing to take the charge.

"Beyond Borders" is this year's youth camp theme. The camp committee designed the camp around this theme with the intention to encourage friends to move beyond their personal comfort zone in order to experience God's love and to hear the Good News. We are thankful to God for the provision of PHS as an evangelistic camp venue and more than 60 campers who had an impactful camp time.

Attempts at breaking New Grounds

On the DCG front, we thank God for the leaders who have served with us: Barnabas, Yvonne Liew, Stacey, Song Yeow, Shi, Chuay Fen, Albus, Poh Leng, Jaime Liew, Hoi Lai, Frieda, Deborah, Joel, Janelle, Peng Kok, Thomas and Serene. We are trusting God for some new shepherds for the New Year. Some DCGs are also transiting into an inter-generational shape where youths of different ages gather for sharing, fun, prayer and bible study. This serves a platform where youths can serve one another, care for one another without over-reliance on an adult leader. These are early days, but the hope and intention is that in time to come, all DCGs will be inter-generational for the good and growth of Carmel body life.

It has been a growth year for ten new Youth leaders serving in the Youth Committee. Pray that they will continue to mature in their walk with Jesus and service. Pray for the numerous girls who have trained and served as worship leaders in the Youth Services to be unleashed with adequate opportunities to serve in the Main Services as young adults.

May God lead us into a new year of walking closer with Christ!

Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

YAM is a fledgling area of ministry that has a wide breadth of Christian and youth development aspects, which can do more with more deliberate structures of engagement, growth and mentorship. The issues are multi-faceted, ranging from adulting challenges, confronting controversial issues of our day, love and relationships, how to sustain their CGs, workplace-related matters and making their faith a lived reality from day to day. It takes more than a committee or ministry team to journey with our young adults - it takes the entire church for inter-generational mentoring, guidance and support; everyone has a part to play in the lives of our youth and young adults. Ownership is key in their growth journey and this is where there is benefit to look at synergies between ministries to provide many more opportunities to challenge our young adults. Let them take charge and gain ownership of initiatives and put their faith into action. It means yielding some degree of control and having faith in our young adults, and praying that the Lord will guide them even as we also journey in support with them.

We are continuing to build the YAM on the twin pillars of love and truth - both are integral to Christian living. We have been working to implement a system of fellowship and spiritual growth to support them, as individuals and for their care groups. The Feast and accompanying curated Bible Studies were designed to help meet these needs. CGLs and Bible study teachers also meet to collaboratively plan their studies in prep sessions. These have been running for just over a year now. We have persevered through the 40 chapters of Exodus together! It was a timely reminder that God redeems his people and reveals himself because he desires a relationship with us and to reside with us. We are now in the midst 1 Thessalonians – an apt reminder to “keep on keeping on”. We also covered some relevant topical issues such as: singleness, work and rest. We also explored different aspects of spiritual disciplines with interactive prayer stations and advent meditations. Looking forward, we are working on the love pillar – looking to develop community life further. There is a hunger for greater authenticity and vulnerability in their relationships with one another. A group has committed to growing this capacity in the coming year. At our retreat this year, we examined how love and truth are integrated in the topic of ‘Being Human’. It was a preliminary attempt to broach sensitive topics that are seldom covered in church (for example, shame and body image) and examining what the Bible has to say about them.

By nature, the young adult ministry is an iterative process. We continue to be forward-looking to catch what God is doing among the young adults in our midst, and join him where he is at work.

Care Group

²³Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:23-25)

The care groups in Carmel exist for the purpose of encouraging one another and building up one another in our Christian faith and in our walk with God. We have groups comprising young adults, couples with young children and couples with grown up children. At present we have 50 care groups (including 4 from SES). Currently, we have a CG membership of 590 comprising 74% of our church membership.

Care Groups in Community

Continuing our theme over the past two years; Strengthening Christ-like communities, Carmel continues to work towards supporting each other in authentic communities, sharing each other’s joy and tears. This is a long and difficult work having leaders themselves to first become vulnerable, open and fostering. In fast pace Singapore, it is also challenging to meet regularly with many commitments. CG clusters led by various

pastors and elders also met to fellowship and network, to share and encourage each other.

CG Integrating New Members

It has always been a challenge to match new comers and old alike who are not in any CG to settle in to the body life of Christ at Carmel through CGs. CG Café has been running every two months as a platform to make those connections. We have also learnt from past mistakes to improve on our process flows and coordination to keep things moving along.

Training for CG Leaders

In 2018, CG has run 2 training sessions, one on 'Teach' instead of 'Read' by Ps Asst Maranne, on 24th Mar, Discipling Young Adults on 28 April by Dr Danny Ng and Rev Dr Tan Soo Inn. CG Leaders also gathered on 25th Aug to have a sharing session on workflow, resource materials and issues and needs of different CGs.

CG Theme for 2019: Strengthening Christ-like Communities

We will continue with the theme since 2017 as an ongoing effort. Besides bible study and topical material discussions, CGs are also to grow into Christ-like communities that reflect the "loving one another" value through concrete and practical means. It also implies how each member is to live out godly lives in the world of work, family and society, reflecting God's love for his creation. A series of training and events are designed to equip and build communities, through MID as well as topical quarterly equipping through the CG ministries. CG ministry will also attempt to provide platforms to connect with Carmel members and regular visitors who are not involved in CGs to draw them into a loving community.

Children's Ministry

SATURDAY KIDSPARKS (Reading/Tuition: 4.00 to 5.00 pm, during school terms/
Bible: 5.30 to 7.00 pm)

Weekly attendance: R/T hour (32), Bible hour (30). Attendees: children of SES worshippers (20%), children from neighbourhood, and those of SES family members/friends (80%). R/T hour consists of academic subject (English) for Pri 1 to 6, English through reading, story-telling, songs, crafts, games for K1/K2. Bible hour consists of worship, lessons and activities in combined groups and uses teaching materials, namely, Preschool (N1/N2/K1/K2 – Gospel Light), Primary (1/2, 3/4, 5/6 – Discipleland). Special and outreach events: Welcome and Orientation (6 Jan), CNY Hongbao Crafts Outreach to Parents and Guardians (27 Jan), 12th Anniversary with children's song presentation @ SES (3 Feb), Easter Celebration (31 Mar), Parents-Children Bonding and Fun (Terrarium and Card-Making) (19 May, 4.00-7.00 pm), Combined holiday programme (2, 16, 23, 30 June), Missions (21 July), Children's song presentation @ SES (1 Sep), Children's Day Celebration (6 Oct), Thanksgiving Lunch-Fellowship for P5s and P6ers (10 Nov), R/T End-of-School-Year Celebration (10 Nov), Flower-Arrangement Outreach to Parents and Guardians (10 Nov), Combined holiday programme (1, 8, 15 Dec), Christmas Celebration (22 Dec), Thanksgiving/Promotion (29 Dec). Weekly offerings collected are designated for India missions. Children's worship for Primaries is held on all Saturdays except the first Saturday when they join first part of the SES worship. Preschoolers have their own worship on all Saturdays. Worship time is included into each special/outreach event for the entire group. A total of 30 co-workers serve in KidSparks. Department coordinators are: Cindy Tan (R/T hour, Preschool worship), Margaret Ong (MO)/ Chai Chor Tiang (CT) (Bible hour and Primary worship); Administrators are: Sarah-Ann Goh and Yu Yan Ling.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Time slots: first – 9.00 to 10.30 am, second – 11.00 am to 12.30 pm)

1. PRESCHOOL – Weekly attendance for both sessions was 54. Teaching materials being used are: Gospel Light (Toddlers/Nursery), Discipleland (K1/K2). Special events: Easter Celebration (1 Apr), AGM/Church's 51st Anniversary (27 May), Christmas Celebration (23 Dec), Thanksgiving/ Promotion (30 Dec). Preschoolers' combined worship is held on all Sundays. A total of 47 co-workers serve in Preschool. Department coordinators are: MO/CT (9.00 am), Maida Widjaja (11.00 am).

2. PRIMARY – Weekly attendance for both sessions was 85. Teaching materials being used are the Discipleland series. Special events: Welcome and Orientation (7 Jan), Word and Music Sunday (4 Feb), Easter Celebration (1 Apr), AGM/Church's 51st Anniversary (27 May), Combined holiday programme (3, 10, 17, 24 June), Missions (22 July), Children's Day (7 Oct), Thanksgiving Meal-Fellowship for P6ers (25 Nov), Combined holiday programme for P1 to 5s (2, 9, 16 Dec), Christmas Celebration (23 Dec), Thanksgiving/ Promotion (30 Dec). Primary 1/2 worship was held from Jan to May, and they joined Primary 3 to 6 from July to Nov. Children have their own worship on all Sundays except on 4th Sun of the month when they join first part of each English worship service. Worship time is included into each special event for combined Primary group. A total of 20 P6ers transited into the Sunday Youth ministry wef Dec. One-on-one sharing session was conducted with them from April to Oct. A total of 40 co-workers serve in Primary. Department coordinators are: Stephanie Siow (9.00 am), Aileen Khong (11.00 am), MO/CT (Worship).

CHILDREN MINISTRY (Over-all)

In-house and external events organised: Co-workers' Thanksgiving and Prayer meeting with Lunch-Fellowship (7 Jan), Amazing Race for Primaries (15 Mar), Training (25 Mar, OAC – Australian directors Rob George and Rob Adams as trainers), Training (6 May, Scripture Union – Ps Flora Chew as trainer), Vacation Bible School for K1 to P5s (30-31 May, with 104 registered children and 52 co-workers), Church Camp's children programme (8-11 June, SBC students Erika Rotani and Aaron Nimo, CEF staffs Alan Wong and Linda Tan as facilitators), Children Ministry Weekend (29-30 Sep, screening of publicity video-clip, launch of recruitment for 2019 co-workers, Sunday School Primary children's rap presentation, CEF national director Alan Wong preached the sermon), Joint KidSparks/Sunday School P6ers/Youths' Outing (13 Oct), Special Christmas Programme by KS and SS children (4 weekends in Dec).

Staff Margaret Ong served from 1 Jan to 24 Oct. New staff Chai Chor Tiang commenced service on 16 Oct onwards.

Ladies' Ministry

Ladies Fellowship

Highlight of 2018 was our Retreat in March. 41 ladies mostly Carmelites, except for two sisters, gathered at DoubleTree Hotel, Johore Bahru from 16-19 March. Eleven attended our retreat for the first time. Thank God for bringing new ones to join us.

"Blessed To Be A Blessing" was the theme of the retreat. We thank God for Mrs Grace Lim, our retreat speaker who epitomized what blessed to be a blessing means. We were indeed blessed by the physical and spiritual treats Grace brought. Through songs and instrumental music, questions and quiet reflections at the end of each session, Grace delivered prayerfully crafted messages, peppered with humour and warmth, reminding us of God's indescribable love! His love compels us to bless others with His love, peace and hope. For many of us, the most visibly impactful session was that on "Peace" with a focus on forgiveness.

Other events include the following:

- April 14 Basic Flower Arrangement by our very own Goh Puay Liang
- May 12 Palate Sensation by Magdeline Wong
- July 14 Farm Visit to Onesimus Farm

Care, Share, Study and Serve (CSSS)

In August last year we started the "Freedom In Christ, (FIC)" a 13-week discipleship video course by Neil Anderson & Steve Goss, and concluded in April this year, including a Day Away on 1 Feb. Twenty-two ladies attended the course. Another FIC class was offered in February with another group of 12 ladies. They are mostly new to CSSS ie never join our bible study. The 2nd FIC class ended in September. In July The Grace Course by the Steve Goss, Rich Miller and Jude Graham, was offered. 32 ladies including some from the 2nd FIC class and 8 new ones, are learning how to experience God's grace in a deep way that love for Him becomes the main motivator in our lives and free us to be real and bear much fruit.

Heart2Heart Ministry (H2H)

In 2018, there were 18 members serving in the H2H ministry comprising Ang Lee Luang, Chia Choy Ping, Christine Yeo, Dorothy Wee, Fiona Chee, Tan Lay See, Lim Mui Hong, Madeline Tan, Tan Peck Joon, Philo Loh, Phoebe Chua, Sawako Oh, Sharon Wong, Sheila Poon, Susan Lee, Susannah Siew, Lim Gek Lang and Linda Foo. Gek Lang rejoined H2H after her return from her theological studies in NZ. Jackie Kiew left H2H to concentrate on Oasis. Linda Foo accepted invitation to join H2H in July.

From 1st Jan 2018 to 31 Oct 2018, H2H made a total of 121 visits of which 71.8% of our visits are to the bereaved and hospitalised.

A) Wakes and funerals	42	39.60%
B) Hospitalisation	28	26.40%
C) Home visits	31	29.20%
D) Nursing Home visits	3	2.80%
E) Hospital (accompanying)	1	1.00%
F) Counselling	1	1.00%
	106	100.00%

13 of our members requested visits to their aged parents/parent's in-laws or sisters. Nine of them have yet to believe in Christ. We continue to make visits to share with them God's love. Thank God some are beginning to be opened. A couple of our H2H members are into the season of life where they are helping to care for their grandchildren.

A team meeting was held on 22 July for updates and prayer. The team had a retreat in Nov (9-10). Eleven of us went to Muar and JB for a time of bonding and recreation. H2H ladies are encouraged to go for the highly recommended "Sharpening Your Interpersonal Skills Workshop: Grief and Communication skills" next year 25-31.

Thank God for His grace enabling us to serve yet another year together. We pray we will continue to, by God's grace and enabling, be channels of His blessings through **P.E.A.C.E** and minister to members and their families, especially coming alongside those in need of care and support.

Hospitality Ministry (Includes Integration of Newcomers)

The Hospitality ministry started in 2007 while the Integration of Newcomers, which was one of Carmel@50 initiatives, was launched in 2015. Thank God for many on the team who have been serving faithfully as greeters, befrienders and servers since the inception of the Hospitality Ministry. They are familiar faces to our newcomers. Thirty Carmelites (including the Integration team) serve in the hospitality ministry this year. We are thankful God brought in another team to serve refreshments this year.

There are 70 visitors (only those who fill in the visitor's card) as of November 18, 2018, with 22 of them visiting from overseas. The rest are locals or on work permit/employment pass. We notice there are several who have been worshipping with us for quite awhile but didn't identify themselves ie didn't fill in the visitor's card when they first visited.

The Newcomer's quarterly lunch was held on these dates: 4 Feb, May 6, Aug 5 & Nov 4. During the course of conversations with those who came for lunch, most expressed they enjoyed our preaching, worship and hospitality. One couple, George & Christina, really liked our church during their five weeks here. They have left for Australia and if the Lord leads, they will come back to Singapore and will attend Carmel.

Albert & Lina Eio, Ian & Bee Lay, and Sarah Koh have indicated they will step aside next year. Pray for us that Carmelites who have the gift of hospitality or service will avail themselves to join the team.

ConnexUs (previously NEXUS Fellowship)

Other than the ongoing Project Timothy, no meeting took place this year. However, some of us will participated with Rhoda Fellowship to sing at the West Ville RC Christmas Celebration.

We are recalibrating the ministry, and with the Carmel@60 focus on intergeneration church, this ministry may be redundant.

Church Camp

This year's church camp was held at Renaissance in Johor Bahru, Malaysia, between 8 and 11 June 2018. The camp theme was Choices for the Journey: From the Gospel of John. A total of 266 campers attended the camp, including the Chinese congregation.

The main speaker was Dr Lim Kar Yong. Workshops were also conducted by Dr Alex Tang (spiritual health-check) and John Tan (mental wellness). In addition, 3 of our young adults, Andrew Ong, Janelle Ong and Joshua Yeo ministered to the youths, while Erika Rotani and Aaron Nimo (SBC students) and Alan Wong and Linda Ngiam (staff of CEF) oversaw the children's programme.

The camp objectives were as follows:

- (a) To allow campers to set aside time for spiritual rejuvenation by fellowship, worshipping God and listening to God's word being preached.
- (b) To build a more cohesive community by allowing campers to forge meaningful bonds with fellow believers and newcomers to church.
- (c) To provide an opportunity for service by encouraging as many as possible to participate and contribute to activities during the camp.

On reflection, it was another memorable camp. The campers were blessed by the sermons, workshops and fellowship with one another. Although attendance at this year's camp was lower relative to the past 2-3 years, this allowed for closer interaction between the campers. The church camp continues to be a time of spiritual rest, fellowship and service that Carmelites can look forward to every year.

We thank God for being our shepherd and guide in organising this year's camp, and for His mercy in covering all our inadequacies and faults. We also thank God for the faithfulness of those who served in one way or another to assist in the planning and execution of the camp. We commit next year's camp into His hands.

Rhoda Fellowship

This year is the 7th year since the renaming of RHODA Fellowship (originally Filipino Fellowship). The fellowship celebrated the anniversary on 21st Jan with Ps Jared from the Philippines as our speaker. Though this fellowship is for all helpers and not just

Filipinas, we have not been successful in attracting the other nationalities. Presently we have only one helper from Myanmar. The only Indonesian, Rosa, left us and returned home to marry.

Our theme this year was on Character & Spiritual Development. The sermon series focused on building our character and knowing our spiritual giftings. Speakers were Mrs Rani Mathew, Ps Charles Chow, Miss Lorita Lim, Ps Kheng Hai, Chan Kum Soon and Ps Assoc. Lee Luang. When Ps Fitz from Mt Carmel Noviliches was here in July, he spoke on "Making Christ Beautifully Proclaimed in the Community." Most of us were encouraged & motivated to go for missions trip to Noviliches through his preaching.

"Discipleship Explored" was the bible study material we use for bible study held on the 3rd Sunday of each month. The group went to Labrador Park and had BBQ there on 29 April, to Pulau Ubin on 29 July and a movie screening (the Shack) in church on 30 October. This coming 30 Dec, there will be an outing to the Singapore Flyer. The Fellowship will also render three songs for the West Coast Ville RC Christmas Party on 22 Dec in collaboration with KidSparks and ConnectUs. The ladies have been practicing each Sunday and they look forward to singing.

Our attendance dipped this year because six of them who are regulars are taking health care courses with a view to switching career. Our average weekly attendance dropped to 14.

There are two new additions to the committee. They are Virginia Fernandez & Kristine Talabong. The other members are Alicia Ebal, Mylene Ascunion, Marilyn Magsino & Miriam Casalamitao. Thank God for each of them. Marilyn will return home for good next year. We are also thankful for the faithful and tireless service from Chan Kum Soon & Chew Hiong Keng, our musicians and guitar teachers. A special thanks to Pang Tee Lin who continues to lead us in the Bible Study.

Library

<u>Library's Location</u>	Room #03-10	Pushcarts at Fellowship Hall
<u>Library's Operating Hours</u>	11am – 11:45am	10:15am – 11am
<u>Number of Volunteers</u>	8	7
<u>Memberships</u>	296	452
<u>Total No. of Library Items</u>	3747	5175
Avg Weekly Items loaned out VCD/DVD	15	12
CD	16	7
Adult Books	41	19
Children Books	22	6
Magazines	9	4
Magazine Subscriptions:	Discipleship Journal, Leadership, Crux, Teach, Impact and Creation	Impact and Creation. Other magazines had stopped publication.

Men's Ministry

We thank God for sustaining Carmel Men *for* Christ into its sixth year. This year, we held 5 talks altogether, less than previous years. Speakers were Prof Neo Boon Seong, Mr YY Wong, Mr Peter Ong, Mr Thong Chan Kei and very aptly, for the last talk, Rev Danny Goh who spoke on the importance of brothers tending to their marriages regardless of how long they have been married. Thus, this current format of monthly talks which spanned 6 years ended the way it started ie examining the roles of men in their families. (Jason Wong had shared on the importance of Fathering in our very first talk after I had launched it with an introductory session in July 2012).

For six years, CMfC had endeavoured to shape the worldview of our men. At these sessions, brothers caught a glimpse of how God works in various settings. We got a better appreciation of what it means to be "in the world, but not of the world". Hopefully,

we would rise to the occasion of being more effective “salt and light” for God wherever He puts us, especially in our workplaces and the marketplace. God is both an omnipotent as well as a very personal God who shapes world events, directing the course of nations as well as connects with each of us individually. Our worldview, as believers, is shaped principally by who God is, what He did by sending His son to die on the Cross for our sins and how he continues to interact with us today. After all, God exhorts us to be transformed by the renewing of our minds (Rms 12.2). We need to know HIM better!

We organized two outings this year: a canoe-cum-walk at the MacRitchie Reservoir in May and an extended weekend retreat at Desaru in Nov. Both were very enjoyable where brothers (some with spouses) enjoyed close fellowship and bonding amidst food, exercise and sight-seeing.

In 2016, we published Men for Christ: Living Out Our Faith (Vol I), a compilation of 21 earlier CMfC talks. Thank God that almost 2,000 copies have been sold, many to brothers from other churches, thus fulfilling a key objective of the book ie to spur and bless men’s ministries in our Singapore churches. A brother in Carmel sponsored many of these books for sale at a reduced price to brothers in Carmel, for which we are grateful. We are now working on Vol II which will produce another 21 of the latter talks. Together, these two books will be a rich resource for brothers across our churches.

After a run of 6 good years, the current CMfC core team will be stepping down, earning a well-deserved rest. Our thanks go to Eld Kim Siang, Eld Siew Yam, Jeffrey Hong, Henry Heng, Chai Chin Loon, Sim Jhon and Benedict Leow for their faithful service (For the first two years, Andrew Tan and Daniel Ng were also on the team). At the time of writing, it is still unclear who will lead the ministry next year and what form it will take.

Let us remain prayerful. Meanwhile, all thanks and glory to God for sustaining CMfC these past 6 years, for the 40+ brothers from different denominations who came to share, for His protection and provision in all our 12 outings and retreats, for the admin support of Angelica, Grace and Lai San, and for the 40-50 faithful brothers who encouraged our speakers each time we met. All Glory to God!

Family Ministry

We thank God for Deacon Loh Pin Chuan who oversaw the ministry during Pastor Jabez’s sabbatical leave, from February to August.

This year, we resumed the Parenting Courses in an effort to engage Clementi Woods Kindergarten parents and Carmel parents. We had some participants from The Bible Church too. The first course focused on children 0-10 years old and the second on teenagers 11-18 years old. Both courses ran concurrently from 23 March to 27 April on Friday evenings. Each evening before the course starts, a dinner is catered with the purpose of building rapport and relationships among 34 participants and 13 helpers. Continue to uphold parents to have wisdom and courage to apply all that they have gleaned from the course.

At our pre-marital course (BYSID), we thank God for six couples who were in attendance. We are also thankful for married couples who were willing to come for the “The Married Couple Interview” segments. They enriched the pre-marital couples with their candid sharing and vulnerability to reveal the joys and testing moments of married life. Appreciation goes out to: Thomas and Deaconess Serene, Casey and Pearle, Albus and Bak Eng, Terry and Stephanie. The pre-marital couples returned with positive thoughts about the married couples’ sharing. They have helped the younger couples to recognize their own limitations and possible pitfalls while preparing themselves for married life. Continue to pray that married couples in Mount Carmel will take up courage to share with not just the younger ones but also with one another their marriage journey for mutual edification and accountability.

In November, we were back at Telunas for Carmel's third father-son camp. All eight fathers at the camp were appreciative for the time carved out for them and their sons to bond. Apart from structured activities and breakout sessions, we had worship, discussion and sharing together or between father and son. Generous time was also given to campers to relax, to kayak, to enjoy the beach and to catch all the fish teeming in the clear waters. They even got to taste their catch cooked by the gracious Telunas kitchen crew.

Our goal for the Family Ministry 2019 remains: To strengthen the families one by one through empowering the married and the parents with biblical principles, supportive small groups and structured experiences. In the pipeline are two marriage weekend getaways, three married and three parenting apps – an app is just an hour talk/workshop with time for food and fellowship. God willing, look out too for a second installment of father-daughter camp!

Glory to God!

IV

HOME MISSIONS

Evangelism And Follow-Up (EFU) Ministry

The mission of the Evangelism and Follow-Up (EFU) Ministry is to reach out to the unsaved and unchurched with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to provide basic follow-up for newcomers, seekers and new believers of the Christian faith.

The EFU Ministry is divided into the following areas of services:

- Welcome Corner
- Tract and Bible Distribution
- Video Ministry
- New Life In Christ (NLIC) Course
- Evangelistic Project

Welcome Corner

The Welcome Corner provides a one-stop resources counter for newcomers, friends & Carmelites from the 1st and 2nd Sunday Services. It offers free tracts, Christian literature, bibles, Our Daily Bread & Our Daily Journey devotional booklets and "The Story of Jesus" DVDs for evangelistic outreach and spiritual growth.

The Tract and Bible Distribution Ministry purchased more than 100 English and Chinese bibles for distribution in 2018. Audio MP3 English NIV bible and Mandarin bible CDs for the elderly are available at the Welcome Corner. Also available are audio MP3 New Testament CDs in dialects such as Hokkien, Cantonese, Teochew and Hakka for dialect-speaking parents, grandparents and relatives.

The evangelistic "The Story of Jesus" DVDs are freely available to newcomers, friends and visitors attending our Sunday Services. 120 "Jesus" DVDs were purchased for distribution in 2018. Each "Jesus" DVD comes with a range of languages and dialects for selection such as English, Mandarin, Hokkien, Cantonese, Teochew, Hainanese, Hakka and Foochow. Carmelites also collected and distributed the "Jesus" DVDs to their family members, relatives, friends and colleagues during the Chinese New Year festive season.

New Life In Christ (NLIC) Course

There were two runs of the 8-week New Life In Christ (NLIC) Course organized in 2018. In the first half of the year (H1), the New Life In Christ (NLIC) Class commenced on 1 April and ended on 20 May 2018. As for the second half of 2018 (H2), the New Life In Christ (NLIC) Class was from 7 October to 25 November 2018. The 8 participants were subsequently channelled to the Care Group Ministry, Catechism Class or Rhoda Fellowship after the Course.

Neighbourhood Outreach

Evangelism

1. On 7 July, Parents Day Dinner Celebration Evangelism meeting, speaker Rev. Henry Chong, 320 people attended the dinner, 47 non Christian responded to the altar call.
2. On 22 September, Mid autumn evangelism meeting, speaker Rev.Huang Teng Wai,193 people attended, 3 persons responded to the altar call.
3. Fei Yue Family Service center, "Community Befriend Service", 4 volunteers from the English Service helped out for Fei Yue Family Service to visit hospitalized residents in Clementi for 6 months program. Befriend program to know residents.
4. Park walking to Botanic garden and Labrador Park, outreach program to new friends, 85 persons attended.
5. Monthly fourth Sunday Neighbourhood outreach fellowship meeting, gospel message given on Who is Jesus and small group discussion, attendance average about 20 people attended in each meeting. A few neighbourhood residents start to attend Sunday worship regularly.
6. Evangelism training conducted 2 lessons on Caring Evangelism for 10 people.
7. On 9 August National Day Barbeque outreach to China students and working adults, 60 people attended the outreach meeting. (MWS)
8. On 30 June arranged Dementia talk in block 718 Resident Committee to befriend block 700 residents, 40 people attended.
9. Block 618 Resident Committee hold Christmas Dinner, outreach to residents in block 600.

2019 evangelism plans

1. 6 July 2019 Sat 6pm, Parents Day Celebration Evangelism Meeting for 450 people.
2. Mid Autumn Evangelism Meeting in August September.
3. China students outreach dinner in August 2019. (MWS)
4. Park walk outreach for 2 outings.
5. Neighbourhood outreach fellowship on fourth Sunday, gospel message and discussion on Knowing Jesus.
6. Evangelism training 4 lessons for 12 persons.

Outreach of Carmel TO Polytechnic & University Students (OCTOPUS)

The Octopus ministry is focused on showing Christ's love and planting the seed of Christianity through hospitality to international students that spend a term either in NUS or NTU. These students come from all over the world and study a wide range of subjects from Arts to STEM. This year, we organised two blocks of five bi-weekly meetings for International students from NUS and NTU. They were held in Feb and Aug in various Carmelite's homes and were well attended, usually 20-35 students from the two universities. The meetings centred on various food genres found in South East Asia and were then followed by a talk. This year, as with the last, we changed the talks to be more "TED"-like; about 10-15mins long followed by discussion groups. The talks were helmed by Carmelites with some professional credibility in the topics. E.g., Bruce Lockhart helped us with the talk on Christianity and history.

Social Outreach

We provided financial assistance from the Carmel Relief Fund to three persons this year.

Clementi West Elder Care (CWEC)

St Luke's Eldercare Clementi Branch Church Advisory Committee (CAC) Members
Representing Mt Carmel BP Church - Dr Lim Siew Eng (Chair), Mr Chia Hong Kuan.

Representing Bible Church - Dr Tor Yam Khoo (Vice-Chairman), Pastor Frederic Ang, Mr Samuel Foong Chee Wah

Representing St Lukes Eldercare - Prof Kenny Tan (CEO), Dr Lester Leong (COO), Mr Gregory Lee, Mr Howard Wong, Ms Lim Beng Toh, Mr Simon Lim (Manager, Clementi Center)

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.

2018 Pastoral care from both sponsoring churches

Eldercare is the only eldercare center that holds a Christian faith and worship service every Friday.

Friday weekly worship services at center: pastoral care from Mt Carmel BP Church and The Bible Church

Ministry, volunteers and prayer items : Weekly Friday services and ministry are conducted by Pastoral staff from both partner churches, with fellowship, friendship and visitations if the client has expressed interest. Prayers are needed for the center for continued dedicated staff, good governance and volunteers.

Activities of the Church Advisory Committee and Clementi Eldercare

- The committee met twice in the year 2018.
- Dr Kenny Tan informed the committee of organizational updates of St Lukes Eldercare which has been made a separate organization from St Lukes Hospital (previously combined reporting). Dr Kenny reiterated the commitment and service of St Lukes Eldercare which is faith based on Christian values. He also shared of his appreciation to partner Churches for their advisory role and support.
- SLEC Corporate Developments
 - Bid for a Nursing Home service in the lands opposite Mt Carmel Church – awaiting decision
 - Further expansion of eldercare centers in other areas of Singapore and to embark on recruitment drive for staff (which may involve using church partners to help with job listings, awareness amongst their members)
 - Pray for their recently initiated Alpha Course for SLEC staff
 - Pray for suitable space, offices for expanding operations
- Volunteers: The center is grateful for volunteers from the churches and financial support. Clementi There is one volunteer (Catherine Tan) from MCBPC. Catherine with a group of women help cook lunch once a week which is much appreciated by the Clementi eldercare clients. There is a core group of volunteers from Bible Church and also from other churches. There were two volunteer and partner appreciation dinners.
- There are also supporting events from school and corporate social events to support the activities of the elderly.

Hong Bao Donation Drive held at Mt Carmel BP Church in February 2018 raised \$16,595.00.

- (\$7659 was raised in year 2017, \$12,665 was raised in year 2016).
- The annual partner funding support from Mt Carmel for year 2017 was \$10,000.

2019 - The combined CAC committee will plan for one-day outing/day trip for residents/clients of Clementi Branch in year 2019.
Participate in annual Hong Bao Drive possibly February 2019
Coordinate with SLEC for a SLEC awareness video and sharing at Mr Carmel and Bible Church.
Possibly help with SLEC staff recruitment awareness (boards and bulletins) amongst members and congregation if church permits

Clementi Woods Kindergarten

The Kindergarten is a ministry jointly set up by both Mt Carmel BP Church and The Bible Church since 1985. It is a not-for-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.

Clementi Woods Kindergarten was registered with the Ministry of Education on 12 June 1985.

On 26 July 2012, Mt Carmel BP Church and The Bible Church established and registered the kindergarten as Clementi Woods Kindergarten LLP. On 30 October 2013, the Kindergarten achieved accreditation under the Singapore Preschool Accreditation Framework (SPARK) scheme. It has achieved re-certification of SPARK in November 2016.

In 2018, the Kindergarten had a full enrolment of 360 Kindergarten students in 16 classes, across 4 different levels (N1, N2, K1 & K2).

To enrich the children's learning, the kindergarten provides in-house Enrichment Programs such as Creative Chinese, Hanyu Pinyin, Learn to Read, Discovering & Exploring Mathematics classes. Star Programmes are conducted to help students who are weak in English or Chinese language.

The Kindergarten Management Committee has established a Christian distinctiveness for the kindergarten through the employment of a Kindergarten Counselor and the involvement of the two churches in the kindergarten ministry.

The Kindergarten Counselor, Mrs Christina, is responsible for the kindergarten's Christian programmes – teaching lessons from the Bible, reciting bible verses and singing songs, counseling students and publicizing the two churches' outreach programs. The kindergarten also operates a Bible Story Book Library for the students to borrow home a Christian story book every term. The Counselor also runs the Truthchasers Club to nurture the spiritual growth of students who have graduated from the kindergarten.

Mrs Christina also helps to publicize the Good News Club outreach program by The Bible Church on Saturday mornings and the Kids Spark children's program run by Mt Carmel BP Church on Saturday afternoons.

To reach out to the kindergarten's children and families, the respective churches organize services designated as Kindergarten Day where the children's families are invited to attend their church services while the kindergarten children and their siblings attend Sunday school.

We celebrated the 33rd Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony on 15 November 2018.

We thank God for blessing the kindergarten's operations and keeping the kindergarten safe.

Sunday Evening Mandarin Service (SEMS)

Vision & Purpose of Ministry

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

By God’s grace, SEMS is coming to the 11th year of serving Mainland Chinese workers. In the past, our congregations are mainly construction workers, but for the past 1-2 years, a few ladies who are working in factory or as cleaners have joined us. We even have some visiting scholars who came and served regularly in our midst. Looking back to the past decade, God had worked wonders in many Mainland Chinese workers’ life, with many co-workers serving our Lord Christ faithfully with much zeal and love for God and His people. Although we had encountered increasingly more difficulties for this ministry, we know who called us and He will sustain us to finish His calling, for He is the faithful God. (1 Thessalonians 5: 23-24)

Outlook and Activities

Over the past 12 months (Oct 2017-Sep 2018), we can clearly see the downward trend in our weekly attendances, especially in the recent months. There were on average 110 people attending our services weekly, a slight increase over last year, but with less than 80 on some weeks. 7 were baptized for the same period; a family of 4 transferred their membership to SEMS. 22 responded to altar calls; and 118 newcomers joined us in the year. Employment by nationalities and compensation-wise, we can see the trend that less PRC workers are hired; more are recruited from South Asia like Bangladesh and India. Coupled with the government’s curb on foreign workers’ intake, many brothers have to do overtime work on Sunday. Consequently, some cannot come to church regularly. We also see less of our PRC brothers returning to Singapore and some went to other countries instead. Despite these setbacks, we thank God that some brothers are eager to learn God’s Word and serve. We still see some new or old comers responding to gospel, accepted Christ as their Lord and be baptised. Praise God!

Community of Love

We thank God for a group of regular PRC Christians who called Mt Carmel their spiritual home, with their commitment to worship and building community fellowship growing. Since the attendances were much smaller than before, brothers and sisters prefer to make dumplings themselves instead of procuring more costly external catering on special occasions. We had 3 occasions of dumpling-making fellowship on Christmas Celebration 2017, Labour Day seminar and Lantern Festival. All present enjoyed the Chinese cold dishes and dumplings which enhanced the fellowship exuding the warmth and love of a big family.

We celebrated our 10th Anniversary & Easter on the theme “Bearing Fruits Abundantly” at which we gave glory to God for His wonderful grace upon SEMS to reach out to more than 6 000 PRC friends, more than 1 000 responded to altar call, and 128 baptized into God’s family. Ps Joyce shared on John 15:1-10 to encourage brothers and sisters to faithfully remain in Jesus, just as Branches remain in the True Vine. We also make special T-shirts on the same theme to remind them to bear good fruits by living out God’s Word.

On Labour Day, we invited counsellors from the Touch Community to share on “Cyber Temptation and Challenge” (to address the danger of over indulgence in cyber activities) and “How to communicate with children of different ages” to help our brothers and sisters to maintain a good relationship with their children left behind in China. More than 70 brothers and sisters attended the workshop and enjoyed a wonderful bonding time of learning and sharing. Through social media “We Chat”, we have connected almost 100 brothers and sisters in our SEMS group, which we share God’s Word, testimonies, good articles, our struggles and prayer items. Though we may be physically apart, we are united spiritually. I also did and continue to do pastoral care through WeChat to keep in touch with those not in Singapore by sending

birthday wishes and chit chats with them. Mutual encouragement can make a difference in the lives of those around us as well as those away from us.

Since our attendance is getting smaller, we cut down on the relatively more costly big events unless a special foreign evangelistic group is passing by Singapore. To be better stewards, we have a more homely celebration to focus on evangelism, fellowship and team work during special events.

Pastoral Care

Two brother who returned home, attended 2 years of Bible School in China had graduated in June. One is serving in his home church made up of 4 house churches. The other brother is serving temporarily in a house church at his small village. He is waiting for opportunity to return to Singapore to work and serve. God willing, we will visit them and others in the first half of next year, to encourage them and to see how we can help them grow spiritually.

English Lessons and Training

Upon some attendees' request, we have started the Basic English Lessons from October, 2018, with 5-10 students attending the weekly class. We thank God that two Singaporean brothers are willing to teach them, and those who attended the lessons, would stay on for worship service. We also had four sessions of "Read the Bible for its worth" in October to teach attendees how to understand and apply God's Word. About 15-22 brothers and sisters attended and found it helpful. We will continue to help them in getting used to the CIA (Content, Implication, Apply) method to enable them to read the Bible independently and correctly. We will continue with the good work for the past decade, to encourage them to grow in God's Word and live out the life of Christ and be a good testimony to others. I am sure God's grace is sufficient for us to continue serving Him faithfully and joyfully (2 Cor 12:9).

Prayer Request on Challenges Ahead

Although the outreach to PRC construction workers is a sunset ministry in Singapore, we thank God for a group of co-workers who plod on to serve faithfully and joyfully with us every week. We also thank God that many newcomers are blessed by the SEMS ministry and accepted Christ as their Lord and Saviour. Although many key co-workers are aging and less energetic than before, we pray that as long as God sustain us in the SEMS ministry, we will continue to equip our brothers and sisters to be good Disciples of Christ to reach out to the lost in God's good time.

Please pray for the SEMS committee that the Lord will give us wisdom to discern His voice and guide us for the future of SEMS. We appreciate all the Carmelites' continuous support and encouragement, and with your prayer we will continue to do our utmost to be the channel of blessings for the Kingdom of God to reach out to more PRC workers in Singapore while the Lord keeps the door open.

Seniors Ministry : Oasis

The Oasis Ministry seeks to encourage our seniors to grow in godliness and to bear fruit even in old age. This is anchored on Ps 92:14 – 'They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green'. The Ministry seeks to provide the opportunities and to encourage our seniors to share, to inspire and to serve in their autumn years.

Oasis started the year celebrating its 1st Anniversary on 10 Mar 2018. At the anniversary, we gave recognition to our seniors from Oasis, who have served faithfully in the church. We hope to do this on a regular basis. Another four indoor fellowship events were organised, these were Nutrition & Healthy Body; Lasting Power of Attorney; Spiritual Vitality & Legacy and Dementia Awareness. On average, 143 seniors attended each of these indoor fellowship events. A record attendance of 200 was registered for the event on Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA). It was learnt that over 50 members who attended the talk, have taken action to apply for the LPA registration since.

In addition to the indoor fellowship events, Oasis also organised outdoor fellowship trips such as the Muar Trip – ‘Sayings of the Desert Fathers’ and the Encore Melaka Trip. Like last year, these trips were always the highlights and were well-subscribed by members. We had two coaches that went to the Encore Melaka Trip. Oasis ended the year with two events concurrently running on 17 Nov. One was A Nature Walk at the Bukit Timah areas and the other was a visit to the Singapore Christian Home by the Oasis Ukulele Interest Group, to bring cheers to the seniors staying at the home. A short gospel message and amazing magic shows by Henry Liow and Henry Tio respectively were included followed by light makan (dim sum and cakes).

The Oasis Ministry also started three Interest Groups, namely the Ukulele (Dorothy Low), Line Dance (Jackie Kiew) and the Pickle-ball (Frankie Kiew) interest groups. These groups seek to encourage our seniors to learn new skills and to exercise regularly. They are opened to non-Christian friends, hence providing the opportunity for outreach. Our Thursday Men Group (TMG) group is now part of Oasis. They meet fortnightly to study the word of God, to pray and to encourage one another. The Oasis Caring Heart Ministry (Edmund Chew) seeks to provide cares to our seniors such as hospital visits, and home visits for those who need cares and help. This ministry also supports the ladies’ Heart-to-Hearts Ministry as and when needed.

The Oasis Ministry is encouraged to see a growing number of members from other churches joining both our indoor and outdoor events. This means Oasis has met their needs in some ways. We also have a dozen of non-Christian friends joining us over the year and a few of them have continued to join us regularly since.

We have lined-up the calendar of events for 2019, with the consistent aim of helping our seniors to age fruitfully through sharing, inspiring and serving. We covet your prayers that God will continue to use Oasis to fulfil His purpose.

The Oasis Committee members:- Elder Wong Kar Fatt (Chairman), Tan Sok Chuan (Secretary), Albert Poon (Treasurer), Magdeline Wong (F&B), Jackie Kiew (Registration), Sam Cheng Wang (Publicity), Edmund Chew (Caring Heart), Ng Kai Seng (Sports & Recreation), Ps Daniel Chua (Advisory Pastor). Sub-Committee members:- Sam Kong Choy (AVA), Jeffrey Hong (Musicians), Dorothy Low (Ukulele), Jackie Kiew (Line Dance), Pickle-ball (Frankie Kiew), Grace Sim (Admin).

V. OVERSEAS MISSIONS

Objective

The objective of Overseas Missions Ministry is to fulfill the Great Commission of Matthew 28:16-20 and Acts 1:8

Missions Board

Rev Peter Teo (Chairman), Rev Oh Boon Leong, Elder Bruce Lockhart, Elder Kelvin Teo, Dn Foo Kim Peng, Dn Agus Djunaedi and Dns Samantha Tsang

Missions Committee

Dn Foo Kim Peng (Chairman), Rev Peter Teo, Dn Agus Djunaedi, Ho Khee Chang, Titus Lau, Yu Tawen, Sim Tiong Beng, Jason Leong, Sarah Siew, Goh Hoi Lai, Ee Pin Koon.

Missionaries and Missions Partners

On 7th January 2018, Ps Fitz Garlitos was installed as the pastor of Mt Carmel BP Church Novaliches. As Ps Fitz is already an ordained minister in his previous Church, he was affirmed as Mt Carmel’s Ordained Minister through a Validation Exam. Both Ps Fitz and May came to Singapore and was affirmed by a Validation Council on 25th July 2018. The Validation Ceremony for them was held at Mt Carmel Novaliches during their 15th Anniversary Celebration on 23rd September 2018. We give thanks to God that He has called a Filipino couple Ps Fitz and May to minister to fellow Filipinos.

Ma'am Flor was given one year of sabbatical leave in order to rest as well as to pursue some theological studies in preparation for her next stage of ministry. After waiting upon the Lord and praying with Board of Trustees, she is proposing for a new outreach Carmel 2 at Tanay. At this time of writing, we are still praying for the Lord to open the door for this ministry.

Rev Palmanto was ordained as a Minister of the Gospel of Mt Carmel BP Church Singkawang on 19th June 2018 which was administered by GKPKB (West Kalimantan Protestant Christian Church) at Bukit Zaitun. We pray that God through the Holy Spirit will empower him and his wife Ibu Anna to minister to the Church and Community.

Ps Chia Yee Xian and his wife Ibu Salmah made attempts to rent a double storey shop-house for Mt Carmel BP Church Pontianak. However, they were told by the authority not to proceed. Pray that God will lead them to find another location for another building for worship and ministry.

Ps Kheam at Mt Carmel Andaut has tendered his resignation in June 18 and his last day of ministry was 31st August 2018. He has changed his work to social enterprise in pig farming and rice mill.

Jason Leong continues to serve with OM Singapore under DreamAsia which is a ministry to the least-reached ministries in South East Asia.

Rev Kheng Hai and Gek Lang started their ministry with SIM East Asia on 1st April 2018. He is designated as "Pastor at Large" and they travel to minister to SIM missionaries and their families.

Theological Grant Students

Sarah Siew is studying for her second year of Master of Divinity at Evangelical Theological College Asia. Let us pray that she will be diligent in her study. Pray also for the Lord to direct her path for her future ministry.

Missions Trips and Pastoral Training:

Dates	Destination	Purpose	Led by / Trippers
4 – 7 Jan	Novaliches	Installation of Ps Fitz as pastor of Mt Carmel Novaliches	Ps Peter, Dn Kim Peng
5 – 12 Feb	Chennai, Salem	Pastoral Leadership Training and Celebrating 29 th Anniversary of Mt Carmel Villivakkam	Ps Peter, Khee Chang
15 – 23 Mar	Nepalgunj	School of Pastoral Ministry	Ps Daniel, Phoebe
23 – 26 Mar	Yangon	Passing of Loan to Ps Robert and Discipleship Training at Emmanuel Evangelical Church	Ps Peter, Dn Agus, Dns Samantha
5 – 15 Apr	Creative Access Nation	Pastoral Leadership Training on the Epistle of Galatians	Ps Boon Leong
21 – 25 Apr	Novaliches	Attending Board of Trustees Meeting and Leadership Retreat	Ps Peter, Dn Kim Peng
4 – 7 May	North Sumatra	Exploring Social Transformation Project by proving clean water with Water Mission	Ps Peter, Dn Agus, Thomas Lim, Venezia Lim, Stacey Teng
6 – 15 May	New Delhi	Teaching Book of Job to Ps Ayo and other pastors from New Delhi	Ps Daniel, Phoebe, Elder Kim Siang
20 – 28 May	Manipur	Worship Conference	Dr Myrleene Yap, Dr Virginia Tsai and Joseph Lee (both from SBC)
15 – 18 May	Bengaluru	Pastoral Care for Ps Eman Kumar and Vidya	Ps Peter, Khee Chang
18 – 24 June	Kalimantan	Ordination of Ps Palmanto and Pastoral Leadership Training of West Kalimantan Protestant Christian Church	Ps Peter, Titus Lau, Rumi Tan-Sastro
21 – 23 Sept	Novaliches	Conducting Ceremony for Rev Fitz's Validation of Ordination and attending 15 th Anniversary Mt Carmel Novaliches	Ps Peter, Dn Kim Peng, Pin Koon
11 – 15 Oct	Chiangmai	Conducting Bible Study Method Course at Sanpatong Community Church	Adrian Ang, Yu Tawen
14 – 18 Oct	Creative Access Nation	Attending Board Meeting	Ps Peter
14 – 18 Nov	Andaut	Pastoral Leadership Training, Financial Accountability and Social Enterprise	Ps Peter, Hoi Lai
5 – 10 Dec	Lake Toba, Indonesia	Exploring spiritual ministry opportunity together with social transformation project with Water Mission	Ps Peter, Ps Yee Xian, Titus Lau, Keat Moey, Catherine Yan, Dawn Tan
14 – 17 Dec	Yangon	Tracking Ps Robert's progress under SEEDS Ministry and establishing partnership with Emmanuel Evangelical Church	Ps Peter, Dn Agus, Choo Wing Kwong, Hannah Choo, Ho Beng Guan, Caleb Ho, Francis Tay, Rachel Tay,

			Rayner Loi, Rachel Tan, Shandon Chen
14 – 20 Dec	Novaliches	Conducting Bible Classes, Maintaining Church Premises and visiting Tanay for Carmel 2	Pin Koon, Malcolm Ho

Missions Festival

For this year's Missions Festival, we invited Rev Allan and Mrs Val Web to minister from 27th July to 5th August 2018. Mt Carmel first invited him to preach in July 1987 and 8 Carmelites responded to God's Call to serve in the Christian Ministry. This year, he preached a series of messages that would challenge the congregation to commit to fulfil The Great Commission: (1) 3 Dimensional Message of Jesus (Matthew 9:35-38); (2) Think Local – Act Global (Acts 11:19-30); (3) A Praying Church in a Pagan World (Acts 4:23-31) and (4) The Great Commission – Revisited (Matthew 28:1-10 & 16-20). In all the three services from 4th to 5th August 18, there were a total of 20 Carmelites who responded to God's call to surrender their lives to Jesus Christ and to serve Him in future. The name of these Carmelites are: Malcolm Ho, Jolene Yeo, Frank Liu, Kevin Low, Dawn Tan, Abby Teh-Lee, Serene Ooh-Ng, David Lee, Nathasha Lee, Brian Hwarng, Andrew Ong, Janelle Ong-Yeo, Lim Shi, Huang Huijun, Stacey Teng, Jonathan Ang, Vivian Siew, Edmund Tian, Joyce Go-Yong and Chong Kai Hern. Let us pray that they would seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and they would keep their vision alive to serve God. The Missions Food Fest was held on 5th August 2018 and the amount of support raised was \$55,666.90. This money will be distributed to the nations Mt Carmel has ministry in.

Updates on SEEDS (Social Enterprise Enablement and Development Scheme)

From 23rd to 26th March 18, three Carmelites (Ps Peter, Dn Agus and Dns Samantha) from SEEDS Committee visited Laval Yau of Business for Transformation (B4T) and Ps Robert Rabie of Emmanuel Evangelical Church. Our purpose for this trip was to pass to a loan of \$10,000 on 23rd March 18 to Ps Robert so that he can start his Elephant Foot Yam social enterprise. With the guidance from Laval and the SEEDS Committee, we are hopeful that Ps Robert will become sustainable in a few years' time. With some profits, he can provide for his own family as well as to contribute to the development of the church. When Ps Robert returns the loan in 3-4 years' time, the money will be recycled to another needy pastor, either in Myanmar or in another country.

Looking Forward

There are many methods God has given to the Church to carry out the Great Commission. We have the traditional method which has stood the test of time and that is when a church sends a missionary to bring the Gospel to the Unreached People. However, many countries forbid such a missionary from entering to proclaim the Gospel. Hence the Church must find innovative ways to achieve the same purpose of bringing the Gospel into such countries. One such method is through social enterprise. When Mt Carmel established SEEDS Ministry, we see some of our Young Adults and Adults expressing their interest to use their skills, businesses and start-ups to get involved in missions. Another method is through what is called "social transformation." In this method, the whole community is blessed with something that they need to survive, in addition to the Gospel. In other words, when we meet their physical needs first, then we can follow up with their spiritual needs. Last June 2017, Water Mission (a Nonprofit Christian Engineering Ministry based in Charleston, South Carolina, USA – see <https://watermission.org/>) contacted Mt Carmel to explore whether we could fund and provide a village in Lake Toba where the villagers do not have access to clean water. From 4th to 7th May 2018, God put together a team consisting of a pastor (Ps Peter), financial analyst (Dn Agus), engineer (Thomas Lim), lawyer (Stacey Teng) and an expert in policy making regarding water usage (Venezia) to visit Sampuran Village. Our purpose was to explore and see the needs of the villagers with regards to clean water. The team affirmed that the need is genuine and

we felt positive about making a recommendation for Mt Carmel to consider supporting this project. However, the team did not have enough time to explore the spiritual needs of the community and beyond Lake Toba. Therefore, God has put together another team (Ps Peter, our missionary Yee Xian from Pontianak, Titus Lau, Keat Moey, Catherine Yan and Dawn Tan) that will visit Sampuran Village and explore what spiritual needs there are and what Mt Carmel can do to collaborate with the Indonesian Churches to fulfill the Great Commission in North Sumatra. Let us pray for God to guide Mt Carmel's Overseas Missions Ministry and Missions Board as we take care of all the ministries that are needed to fulfill the Great Commission.

VI. CHURCH BUILDING MANAGEMENT

The CBC MC is a 6-member team with 3 representatives each from Mount Carmel and Bible Church. Currently, the three Carmel representatives are Jimmy Lam, Poon Joo Wee and Baet Yeok Lin. The appointment of chairman and treasurer are swop between the two churches every two years. This year is the 1st year that Jimmy Lam from Mt Carmel Church has taken over the chairman post.

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 Facility Manager.

Purchases, Repair and Maintenance works in 2018

August

- Repair and waterproofing of water leakage at Peace Sanctuary, classrooms at 3rd storey and staircases/corridor at 4th storey
- Installation of 5 nos of new water heaters at male/ female toilets at 3rd storey and handicapped toilet at ground level

September

- Replacement of existing white boards with magnetic tempered glass writing boards for all classrooms
- Repairing and servicing of existing projectors at Peace & Hope Sanctuary and #04-02

Implementation of new lifts project .

The Main contractor, Wei Siang Design Construction Pte Ltd was awarded the lift contract in May 2018 and the lift supplier is Schindler.

Piling works were completed in end July 2018.

Structure works will be completed in December 2018.

The whole works will be completed in early 2019.

Facility Manager and Gatekeeper

The new Facility Manager, Mr Yip Kok Ka, commenced work in 1st March 2018. Gatekeeper, Ms Annick Chan Yin was employed on 31 March 2018 for the opening and closing of the church premises.

VII. CARMEL@60: TOWARDS A DISCIPLE-MAKING INTERGENERATIONAL CHURCH

Carmel is a multi-generational church, with different generations gathering each weekend for worship and service. We have numerous life-stage ministries which meet the needs of different age group. Multi-generational church, however, has led to issues of age segregation, *silo* ministries and “division” in body life in age-segregated ministries. This has also led to youth and young adult retention concern, as other adults have negative or minimal contact with them. A thriving church, however, is where all age groups are welcomed, with various generations communicating and interacting in a meaningful ways, and where all serve together and participate in the life of the church regularly.

We believe that God embraces and values every generation. The roots for Intergenerational church are biblical, where faith formation centers around family. In biblical tradition, older ones model and teach obedience and faith to succeeding generations (Pss. 71:18; 89:1; 145:4). We also have intergenerational models in Bible, where faith is passed on and lives mentored: Elijah & Elisha, Naomi & Ruth, Paul & Onesimus; Paul & Timothy; Timothy & Lois/Eunice; Barnabas & John Mark (see also Deut 6:4-7; Psalm 89:1; 2 Tim 2:2; Titus 2:1-6). In Intergenerational church, the benefits are numerous: affirmation of each person's value in the total community (regardless of age); a sense of belonging and inclusiveness; better use of resources, and also the provision of role models for children and youth. Such church is able to tap into vast wisdom across generations to benefit every generation.

What is an Intergeneration church? It is *not* another discipleship program or a strategy or a new *model* of ministry. It is a biblical cultural shift & mindset. It needs to be part of the church DNA. It is to move beyond mere programs, from a form of *doing* to a form of *being*. A good definition is "We believe the Spirit of God at work formatively – through the community's worship, through the teaching, through modeling and mentoring relationships, and through spiritually empowered and gifted roles – in special and unique ways where believers across the life span are present and participating together" (Allen & Ross, *Intergenerational Christian Formation*, p. 22)

We recognize that age-specific (life-stage) and InterGen faith formation are not mutually exclusive (not an either-or choice) but are complimentary. While we may build InterGen ministries and CGs, we recognize there are special needs for each generational group. While InterGen ministry has great benefit for spiritual growth, we don't want to ignore the value of having fellowship with people of your own life stage.

Our vision may be set forth as follows: Bringing Generations Together to Love God & Love People. The Bible text is: Ephesians 4:15-16.

Our core values ("What we believe") comprise the following

1. Many ages but one Savior & Lord
2. From shared place to shared lives
3. Imparting one generation's faith & wisdom to the next
4. Being examples for others to imitate
5. Being a safe place for authenticity & vulnerability
6. Being a team where everyone serves together
7. Developing leaders of all ages

As we move into 2019 and beyond, we are trusting the Lord to shape Mount Carmel into a church that values every generation as one family of God. Strategies towards an intergenerational church include setting up a task force, build intergenerational relationships and mentorship, moving towards greater inclusivity in visible ministries such as worship, missions, children and youth ministries.