



2021

ANNUAL REPORT

PART 1 - MINISTRY REPORTS

CHURCH OF CHRIST FELLOWSHIP CLAYTON INC.



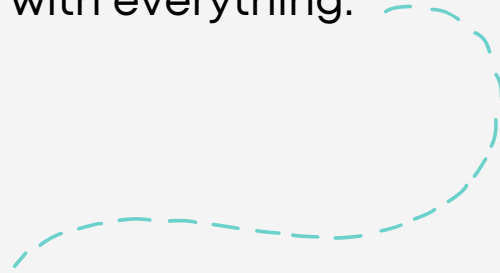
(03) 9544 2155 | claytonchurch.org.au | hello@claytonchurch.org.au

TABLE OF CONTENTS

04	OUR VISION AND SHARED FUTURE	35	Encounter English Learning
06	SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT	37	Playgroup
09	ENABLING CHURCH REPORTS	39	Alpha
10	CHURCH BOARD	41	JI EN CHINESE CAMPUS REPORT
11	TREASURER'S REPORT	47	EVERYDAY CHURCH REPORT
12	OPERATIONS	51	LOCAL CHURCH REPORT
14	CENTRAL MINISTRY SYSTEMS	61	GLOBAL CHURCH REPORTS
17	CHRIST-CENTRED GATHERED CHURCH REPORTS	62	GLOBAL CHURCH OVERVIEW
18	ENGLISH CAMPUS REPORTS	64	GLOBAL WORKERS
19	ENGLISH SUNDAY SERVICE	79	GLOBAL PARTNERS
22	GROUPS & NEXT GEN	82	PIONEERING CHURCH REPORT
23	Kids Church		
25	Emerge Youth		
26	Emerge Campus		
27	Young Adults		
29	LEADER DEVELOPMENT		
30	GATHERINGS		
31	Empower Men's Ministry		
33	Embrace Women's Ministry		

OUR SHARED FUTURE

Our vision is to build disciples who represent Jesus to everyone, everywhere, with everything.



**As we build these disciples,
we believe we will see...**

An enabling Church enabled by strong governance and the right operational support. A church that builds adaptability in its governance and operations to enable and empower the fulfilment of the vision. A church that is above reproach as an organisation, that faithfully stewards its resources and cultivates healthy accountability and empowerment of its people.

A Christ-Centred Gathered Church thriving in groups gathered around Jesus. A church thriving in groups gathered around Jesus. A church whose head is Jesus, and whose help is the Holy Spirit. A church that reveals Jesus better together to the world than alone. A church that gathers in life groups and Sunday celebrations experiencing life transformation through the uncompromising truth of God's Word, their encounters with the Holy Spirit and the tangible love of Jesus through one another. A church that encounters more of Jesus together than alone.

An Everyday Church representing Jesus in our everyday moments. A church that believes Christ wants to be in everyone, everywhere and in everything. A church where people are freed from the disease of ME and everyday life becomes opportunities to represent Jesus - where mistakes become opportunities to model Christ-like humility, promotion to model Christ-like servanthood, work to contribute to society, family to pass the baton of faith to the next generation, hobbies to build relationships with those far from Jesus, money to bless and serve those in need. People who are disciplined in the every day and people who make disciples in the everyday moments.

A Local Church walking alongside stakeholders to transform Clayton. A church that embraces the community of Clayton as our own. We see ourselves becoming a people that walks alongside the community leaders, seeking to make the city better together. A people through whom acceptance is given, hope is re-birthed, restoration discovered and Christ is found. A people who embrace our unique calling to be His light in the most multicultural suburb in one of the most multicultural nations. A people where Jesus has broken down our walls of prejudice so we can build a diverse, multicultural and united church that reflects our community.

A Global Church reaching the unreached people groups. A church that welcomes and makes a home for international students, to disciple and sends them back globally with a commitment and vision of the Great Commission. A church that focuses on global mission partnerships that empower a disciple-making movement globally among the unreached people groups.

A Pioneering Church pioneering new frontiers and spheres. A church whose focus is on making disciples that multiply. A church where leaders equip and members are empowered to change lives by making disciples of Jesus. A church that is committed to multiplying leaders who can birth vision, with the boldness and courage to lead out a disciple-making movement in different spheres of influence.





SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

2021 has been another unexpected year. We entered the year envisioning to come out of lockdown only to find ourselves journeying through another series of lockdowns that impacted our personal lives and our church community. However, in spite of this, I praise God for His faithfulness through it all. We have an incredible staff team that stayed united, pivoted, and continued serving our people. I particularly want to thank Winston, Susie and Sharon who have served as part of our staff team and contributed in significant ways. Above all, we have incredible people in our church who cared, loved, shared, gave, supported one another in unseen ways. Together this helped us see God's mission continue forward. The last two years have only reinforced our vision even deeper. It's not a vision of doing church differently, but a renewed vision of how to BE the church whether we are gathered or scattered, seen or unseen, in public or in our homes. I pray and hope that you will be encouraged by God's presence with our church as you read through the reports.

As I'm writing this, I am about to enter into a new season of my life personally. I'm getting married and by God's grace, I have been given a chance at building a new family. I also believe that as a church, we are entering into a new season as I finish my first term as the senior pastor and have the privilege of continuing for another term of 5 years. There is a quote that says, "most people overestimate what they can do in a day, and underestimate what they can do in a month. We overestimate what we can do in a year, and underestimate what we can accomplish in a decade." That has been true for us. As I reflect on the last five years, I'm amazed at how God can resurrect life from difficult seasons. By God's grace, we have:



Rebuilt trust

from a season of conflict to one of unity and trust.

Rebuilt the staff team

from long term staff leaving to a new committed team.

Renewed the vision of our church

from a holding pattern to a renewed vision to a whole of life disciple-making culture for both the English and Chinese campuses.

Built a church board

from an eldership to a church board governed church that is on its final steps to accreditation with CMA standards council. This provides the community with the confidence that we are above reproach as an organisation in our governance, accountability and stewardship.



Grown in our financial discipleship

we will have reduced our building debt from \$870K to \$0 by end of the year, built our cash reserve from less than 1 month to over 9 months. Increased our general offering by over 20% from \$1.08 to \$1.3 million and found a way to create alternative streams of income. Created benevolent funds and gained grants to expand the impact of our community work. As of 2022, we will be ready to invest financially towards missional impact in a more significant way.

Focused and aligned our global ministry

we focused our global impact towards unreached people groups and aligned the practice of our partnership, support workers, and finances to ensure that we are doing our small part to make sure the gospel is preached to the ends of the earth.

Empowered women in leadership

we transitioned from a male-only pastoral team to our very first female pastor in 67 years which will empower more females to significant roles in leadership.

Built trust with local stakeholder

from a love loud initiative during Christmas to multiple initiatives that involve collaboration with other churches, organisations and taking steps towards building trust with the council and the community around us.

Pioneered new 'churches'

from an English and Mandarin-speaking congregation to a Cantonese speaking congregation. Moving from no online presence to now an online digital church that we can sustain moving forward to reach many people with the gospel in ways we couldn't before.

Seen lives transformed

above all else, continuing to see people saved, baptised and lives transformed.

All this in light of the challenges of coming out of a church conflict, the passing of the senior pastor's wife, and a global pandemic that has impacted us for two years! Our focus in the last five years has been to get ourselves mission ready, and by God's grace, I believe we are ready as a church. I share this because I'm amazed and convinced at how God's purpose can prevail despite the curveballs life throws at us. Proverbs tells us:

- *We may throw the dice, but the Lord determines how they fall* - Proverbs 16:33 (NLT)
- *You can make many plans, but the Lord's purpose will prevail* - Proverbs 19:21 (NLT)
- *The Lord directs our steps, so why try to understand everything along the way?* - Proverbs 20:24

I'm excited for the next 5 years. I'm excited about what the new season will hold. I'm excited and look forward to seeing a season of fruitfulness of whole of life disciples made, salvations, baptisms, new missional communities, local transformation, global impact, and pioneering churches. I'm excited about Paul Tucker coming on board as the English Campus Pastor and together with the team, releasing me to play a role that will see Clayton implement its vision and expand its influence beyond the four walls of the church in 2022.

Love in Christ

Pastor Chee Fah







“

**ENABLING
CHURCH
REPORTS**

CHURCH BOARD REPORT

*By Tim Wong,
Board Chair*



Church Board (above): Ahann Ker, Tim Wong (Chair), Terence Mak and Ps Chee Seng Fah

2021 has been a testament to the abundant faithfulness of God to His people. As I reflect on the way Elisha's oil continued to fill the widow's empty jars (2 Kings 4:1-7), I see God has done a similar thing during this very challenging year. He has continued to supply us with more than enough of His Spirit and Presence, as we have presented Him with the strained, tired and overwhelmed vessels of our lives.

The Church Board has been so encouraged to see the way our church has supported each other and the local community through the ongoing challenges of the pandemic. There have been many changes and disruptions. Through it, God is stretching the wineskin of our discipleship so he can pour in His new wine.

We thank Henry Kong and Colin Kwong who concluded their terms of service this year for their wisdom, humility and dedication. We welcome Ahann Ker onto the Church Board in his role as the Treasurer.

We welcome Andrew Ah Sang and Edmund Fong to the Nominations Committee and thank Anna Fernando and Desmond See who have both concluded their second terms.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped with General Meetings, voting and on sub-committees and working groups.

We are thrilled that Ps Chee has commenced another term of ministry as Senior Pastor. We think it is fitting that he can officially end his first term in a season of rest and leave the ministry of the church in the hands of our very capable senior leadership team, and an even more capable God.

We welcome Ps Paul Tucker as our new English Campus Pastor and see God's hand all over this appointment.

We are so grateful for the sustained financial stewardship culture which puts us in a strong financial position to carry out the mission of our church. Every month we are blown away by the generosity of our members.

And finally, we thank our church members for having confidence in us as we submit ourselves to serve and govern the church under God's grace.

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Ahann Ker, Treasurer

Thank God for His abundant provision. Despite 2021 being a challenging year dominated by the COVID-19 pandemics, we did not cut back on our budget. We let our vision drive our budget process. Our budget is based upon the needs of the ministries and programs that serve people.

Our congregants continued to give faithfully despite their own uncertainties, enabling the Church to maintain functioning, allowing us to reach 122% [2020 100%] of our General Offering budget.

By God's Grace, I am pleased to report our operating result for the period came to a surplus of \$284K [* \$227K 2020 surplus \$431K which was favourably impacted by Covid 19 government grants and subsidies of \$419k after netting off JobKeeper top-up wages of \$86K]

**Annualised figure of the 15-month financial period for comparison with FY2020*

Other financial highlights are:

- We set aside a Sinking Fund of \$107k for the future maintenance of the Church Building.
- We maintained a cash reserve to meet at least 9 months of operating expenses, of which at least 3 months of the reserves are held in authorised deposit-taking institutions.
- We paid off all the remaining Interest-Free Loans of \$179K.
- The Church property was independently revalued in August 2021 at \$12.4M resulting in an increase in the market value of \$955k.

Despite the challenges we faced, God allowed us to arrive at the end of 2021 in a stronger financial position than the year before. I would like to thank everyone who so faithfully gave and sowed into His Kingdom throughout the year and indeed, to God be the glory.



*By Chin Tan,
Business Operations Director
and Accountant*

OPERATIONS REPORT

FACILITIES, RISK AND COMPLIANCE

2021 has been another challenging year as we found ourselves spending considerable time and effort responding to the threat of COVID-19 from a Facilities, Risk and Compliance perspective. Our COVID-19 response so far has been consistently ahead of the curve as we have taken a series of pre-emptive measures to mitigate the risk to our congregants. We have developed our COVID-19 contingency plan since March 2019 and updated the plan according to the changes in Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS's) guidelines. 2021 has seen several rolling COVID-19 restrictions across the state and so we have continued to use our structured building shutdown plan before the lockdown restrictions began, and have also implemented our safe restart roadmap after each period of lockdown.

We continued to stock up on hand sanitisers, gloves, Isopropyl alcohol, and various cleaning supplies. We stayed on top of all Covid-19 developments & mandatory CovidSafe compliance requirements and continued to use best practices for disinfection like enhanced cleaning using UV light sanitisation & Bio-surface disinfectant that can protect high contact surfaces for up to 30 days. The use of motion sensor touch-free taps in the toilets and leaving the main toilet doors open further minimized the spread of infection.

During the rolling lockdowns in 2021, we continued with cleaning and building maintenance activities such as electrical safety checks, emergency lights and exit lights checks, fire equipment servicing, grease trap, lift and air-conditioning maintenance as part of OH&S requirements. We also took the opportunity to upgrade some of our security cameras, auditorium controllers and undertake further maintenance such as the painting of internal walls, roof repairs and continued rust treatment/painting of external metal structures corroded by water in the early part of the shutdown. Some of these maintenance works were undertaken internally by Brian and therefore substantially reduced the cost requirement.

In Oct 2021, we enacted our COVID safe plan as one of our staff members tested positive for COVID-19. We also formed a COVID Response (CR) Team comprising of newly appointed Pastor Paul Tucker, Phanin Soeur, Chong Wong and myself. Thankfully our staff member and family members recovered from the infection and was back to work by November 2021. Despite high state vaccination rates and COVID cases still in the low 1000, the CR team continued to monitor the situation and kept up to date with the latest government health directives in order to ensure Clayton Church of Christ remains a safe and inviting environment for people in the Clayton community regardless of their vaccination status.

ADMINISTRATION, IT AND FINANCE

In early 2021, we launched an online WWCC system in Elvanto to enable all our volunteers to register their interest and to ensure they have working with children checks if they are working with children within their ministry.

Other IT initiatives include the introduction of a new e-fillable Elvanto COVID-Safe Precautions Checklist. We are also in the midst of transitioning our accounting system from MYOB to Xero to further streamline our accounting processes.

In July 2021, Susie Tan concluded her role as the church's accountant and the accounting and book-keeping role was handed over to Chin Tan and Grace Baulch, respectively.

Despite the drop in other income over 50% due to lower church lunch sales, coffee sales and premises bookings,

the church was able to make up the shortfall through the general offering given by attendees and members for both English and Chinese Campus. We also managed to fully repay our remaining building loan which allows us to better focus on the Church building maintenance plan moving forward.

Throughout the various lockdowns, we continued to receive donations for the Sow A Seed campaign and Love Loud Meal Delivery program. Both these initiatives continued to operate throughout the year. We also received various grants to further support our Love Loud Meal Delivery program.

This year again has been unprecedented and we thank God for His continued provision and more importantly, He is with us regardless of the circumstances!



CENTRAL MINISTRY SYSTEMS REPORT

By *Sheron Wong*,
Global & Ministry Systems Director



17
new
members

Salvations

6 English

46 Chinese



Baptisms

3 English

27 Chinese





KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Even though the year seemed like a bit of a blur, our metrics tell us that 2021 was a year of growth for our church!

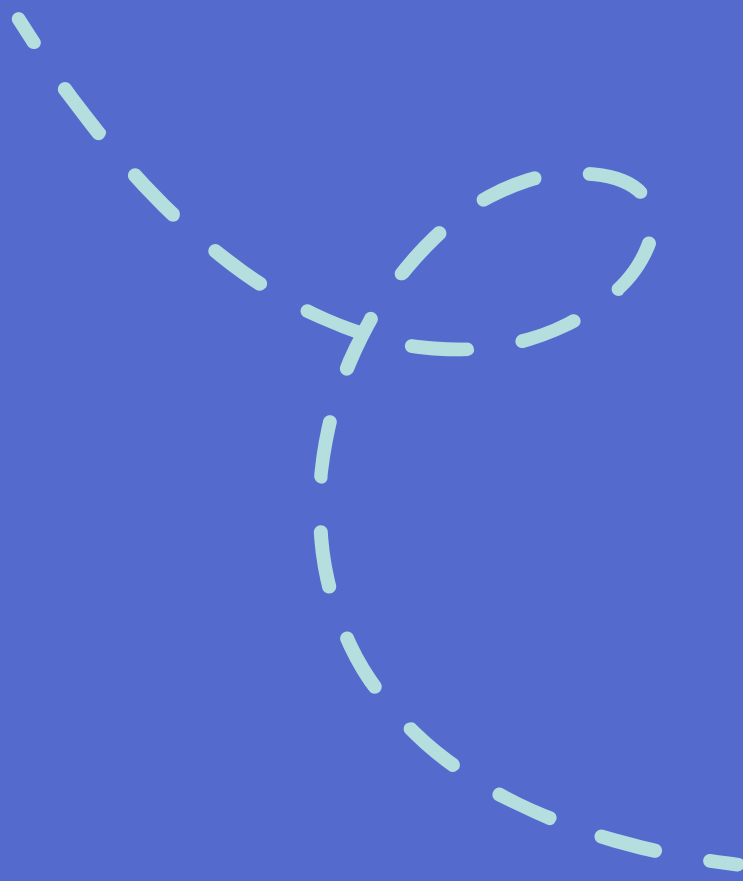
Over the course of 12 months, we saw 250 new subscribers on YouTube, bringing our total to 838. Albeit being lockdown for 113 days in 2021, we had 109+ visitors physically come through our church doors, 13 people go through the Alpha Course, with 3 of those being non-Christians, 52 salvations and 30 baptisms across our two campuses, and 17 newcomers join us for a Meet & Greet lunch in April.

We even managed to assimilate 16 people into our life groups and saw the addition of 3 new life groups as new groups formed and big groups multiplied. Furthermore, 17 people committed to becoming members to invest their time and resources into the life and ministry of our church. By the end of the year, 518 people were regularly receiving our weekly Church News email.

I am thankful to Sharon Lee who helped us set up such great systems in place to streamline our ministries and processes in the first half of the year, and will miss her dearly as she ventures off to serve God elsewhere (while still attending and volunteering at our church!). In October, Ngoc Ng took over Sharon's role as the Connections Coordinator, and with her background in IT, attention to detail, and years of experience in the administrator role at our church, she has been such a valuable resource in this department as we continue to find new ways to help our church and ministries to thrive.

May 2022 be a year with fewer lockdowns, more meaningful connections, and even more people finding their way to follow after Christ.





“

**CHRIST-CENTRED
GATHERED
CHURCH REPORTS**

ENGLISH CAMPUS REPORTS



ENGLISH SUNDAY SERVICES

*By Phanin Soeur,
Service Ministry Director*

2021 started with such promise; we started by giving our worship teams a little break which meant we started with church being solely online. As restrictions eased, we were excited to return to the hybrid service with both on-site and online options available. However, as we all know, infections rates continued to fluctuate and we yo-yoed between hybrid services and online-only services until we were forced to be online only. To top an already stressful situation, there were constant changes to what we could do and couldn't do, e.g. permits, forms, and more things we were unsure about...

With all of this going on we also had to consider the health and well-being of the entire team; how could we make it safe for them? How could we ensure we did not put people at increased risk? It has been a very frustrating time trying to keep up with the changes, but to their credit, this team has been absolutely amazing. They have been able to flex and pivot accordingly, ask the right questions and help make our services run with barely a glitch.

We opted for a smaller team, to avoid mixing too many people around, hence you would have seen a lot of the same faces over the course of the year. We wanted to minimise risk whilst still maintaining as high a standard as possible. 2021 has been a year of growth for our somewhat hybrid service.

We needed to double or even triple our tech team in some areas. In the midst of all this confusion, we've still managed to grow and train the team to help make Sunday services more engaging, not just for the viewer but also for the team running them.

As a team, we were able to always stay a step ahead of the anticipated restrictions and make decisions and changes early enough to keep our services running without much disruption to the program.

A very special mention to Hannah Stephenson who assists me with some of the administrative details to make our services run. Thank you for keeping the team engaged, being able to respect people's availabilities and capacity, as well as keeping all communications going throughout another crazy year; lots and lots of work in the background.

Also, special mention to Robert Wong, Naomi Tran, Nic Lee, Steve Hyson, Geoff Wong, Krystine Wu, Karen Woo, Janice Khoo, David Hoang, who have been heavily involved in the majority of the worship recordings over the year.

I want to thank the entire team so much for their continued support over the past year. Though it may feel like we are at the same place, we are still moving forward together, and refining how we do this so that we can engage more people and point them towards God.

A COUPLE OF COMMENTS OVER THE YEAR:

“

“Not sure what you are doing differently to other churches, but somehow you’re able to capture ‘worship,’ it translates so well even though it’s through a screen!”

“I’m so glad we can still worship together though we are so far apart.”

“Thank you for making the effort so that we can worship safely at home, we appreciate it so much.”

”



ENGLISH SERVICE METRICS

ONLINE

250

new subscribers on YouTube

(on average, 20 per week!)

206

average weekly live viewers on YouTube

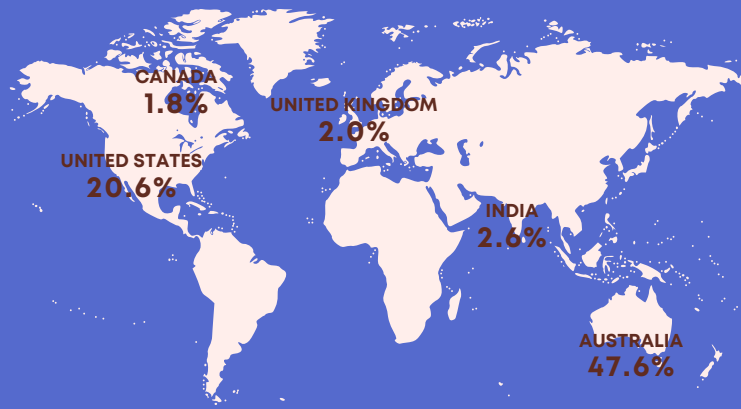
ON-SITE

109

visitors

109

average weekly attendees



Top 5

geography of YouTube Viewers

GROUPS & NEXT GEN



NEXT GEN MINISTRIES

By Ps Kyle Schroder, Groups & Generations Pastor

Hi, it's Ps Kyle here. I am just so proud of our Next Gen Ministry team. All the way from Kid's Church through to Young Adults, they have done an incredible job of adapting and providing a positive and Christ centred experience for our church. Eve leading Kid's Church, Duc leading Emerge Youth, Andy leading Emerge Campus, and Ash & Rach leading Young Adults have all done so much to get us through this year.

Our church is blessed by the care and consideration from our Next Gen team and the army of volunteers that commit to helping raise up young disciples. Our vision is to make disciples who represent Jesus to everyone, everywhere, with everything, and this has been a driving force behind all of our plans throughout 2021.

KIDS CHURCH



Despite moving online for the second year in a row, Eve and the team have managed to keep a consistent attendance and have developed a great relationship with the kids. Some of our younger leaders have been able to shine as their online prowess has come in handy as we explored new ways to interact, connect, and ultimately grow our relationship with God. We are so thankful to have such a broad age range of leaders in Kid's Church.

We have been making the most of our online lives, and have even run a few fun online events throughout the year. In term 2, we mailed out activity packs to encourage our children to learn the books of the Bible. This is the first of many steps to build little disciples who will grow to know the Bible.

Our team has sent out activity packs for families to do at home, had families send in videos to be played in the main

service for special Sundays (like Father's Day), and we even were able to meet in person for the final few Sundays of the year and make some amazing soap for a Love Loud project! The kids did an amazing job and we were able to send the handmade soaps to our wonderful local missionary Cecilia Au for her to hand out to international students in gift packs. Her response was so heartwarming: "The students were delighted to get such an unexpected gift. They were extra happy to find out that the soaps were made by the kids."

It has been a testament to the hard work of our Kid's Church leaders, the resilience of the kids, and the commitment of the parents that our ministry has done so well. We care so deeply that our kids meet Jesus and grow to love him personally, and seeing everyone working together warms our hearts.

Saying goodbye to the grade 6s is sad but we are excited to see them venture into a season full of opportunities and growth. Below is part of a testimony of one of our grade 6s:

“I was a naughty Kid, who got in trouble and did the wrong thing all the time. (In Kindergarten this is.) I barely did anything with God, other than Church and daily devotion. I felt like Christ just suddenly came to me. All of a sudden, I started praying more. I believed that literally, anything was possible. I knew that God is there for me, and cares for me. I think I will learn more about God and will become a better person, and have a better relationship with God.”

If you have a passion for seeing kids become faithful disciples, then please make sure to chase Eve down and speak to her about joining this wonderful team. We are truly planting seeds that will grow over a lifetime.



EMERGE YOUTH



2021 rolled in on the heels of a tricky 2020, but Duc and the Emerge Youth leaders were more than capable of bringing the youth together, even if most of it was online. In the midst of rescheduling events, high-schoolers spending most of their days online for school & socialising, the growing strain on young people's mental health, and just a general uncertainty of when things will "return to normal", the Emerge Youth team have been a shining light.

We cannot over-emphasize how grateful we are for the presence of this leadership team in the lives of our youth. Emerge Youth was a place where our youth found safety, community, and a reassurance of God's faithfulness. And "God's Faithfulness" was a big theme for the talks through the last part of 2021. We are also so thankful that we were able to finish off the year with a couple of

on-site and in-person events and the youth really loved seeing each other again. There was a great night of dress ups and games for the final event, and we are excited about what 2022 has to offer now that we know our team is capable of handling anything.

While our physical presence was absent for most of the year, the redeeming message of Jesus was not! We are excited about seeing a couple of baptisms next year, seeing some of our Kid's Church graduates join the Emerge Youth ranks, and seeing God continue to use Emerge Youth to spread the Good News.



EMERGE CAMPUS



Over the past two years, Emerge Campus has been remade from the ground up. While the ministry may have gone through various changes over the many years it has been running, I don't think it has ever been remade this comprehensively. Andy Choi and his team of Campus leaders started fresh and were able to successfully bring together a new group of tertiary students, even in the midst of this being one of the trickiest years to date.

We have been blessed to have Andy Choi lead us over the past two years, and as he moves on from leading the ministry we want to thank him for his focus on developing people's relationship with God first and foremost. The way he has run the leader's meetings and the Campus nights has shown his desire to make sure we are all growing closer to God and we are better off for his leadership.

Although we didn't know what Campus would look like at the start of the year, given the challenges of 2020 and the need to restart the Ministry from the ground up, God has helped us to create a space for the tertiary students that were seeking a church home and community. Without God's grace, we would not have grown the way we did and his faithfulness helped sustain the ministry throughout the tough lockdowns.

In the beginning, we started off by meeting together at church to share stories and study the Bible, but lockdowns and changing pandemic rules made this difficult to sustain. By God's grace, despite all of the challenges, we were actually able to multiply into two new life groups by the middle of the year!

The Emerge Campus community is growing stronger day-by-day with some of our members even running the Melbourne Marathon together!

YOUNG ADULTS



Our wonderful ministry heads of Ash & Rachael Chan once again did a great job of leading through our second year with tough COVID restrictions. Ash & Rach are actually finishing up their time as the head of Young Adults after leading for 5 years! We cannot express how lucky we have been to have people like them in charge of Young Adults and over the course of the 5 years we have seen a strengthening of relationships, solidifying of culture, creation of new social events, and just invaluable care for young adults that has led to more people living out Jesus in their lives. Over the course of this year, Ash & Rach have been mentoring and helping Samantha and Kenneth prepare to take over as the new ministry heads for Young Adults. We want to thank and honour Ash & Rach for all the work they have done and for being leaders of integrity who bring compassion, joy, and honesty to all they put their hand to.

Young Adults in 2021 have adapted well to the new rhythms that lockdowns and restrictions introduced. We have learned that our best-laid plans may not always come to pass, but the will of the Lord cannot be stopped. An intentional drive to build community while being physically distant has served the ministry well, and we have seen the group continue to grow and strengthen even in challenging times.

Our Young Adults have been using this year to focus on being salt & light in their workplaces, as we have not been able to meet socially and bring new people into our community via that traditional means. However, this did not stop us from putting on another hilariously wonderful online trivia night that saw Campus join in, and some pretty great prizes being handed out.

With growth comes new opportunities, and from the blessing of growing group sizes we are also looking forward to finding new leaders to help shepherd some of Young Adult Life Groups. Groups growing in size despite hardships is a great sign of the health of the ministry, and we are trusting God to continue to help the Young Adults ministry to build disciples who represent Jesus.

"2021 has proven to be another challenging year; yet looking back over the last 12 months, I can honestly say there have been moments in the year that have proven a strong affirmation that God is not yet done with this community. Though there was twisting and turning of coming in and out of lockdowns, I'm reminded that with every setback given, He is able to bring us through. The weekly life group sessions have been an instrumental reminder to check in on others, whether it be within your friends, family, etc., especially throughout the months of the year when we were unable to meet face-to-face. In 2021, I was able to find a community of believers where we could meet as we are, bring our burdens to the table, and pray earnestly into each other's situations, knowing that the God we live for is the One who fights for us.

I look forward to where God takes us next and pray that we can continue to foster a community that welcomes others in, and walk a path that brings us on a journey that draws us closer to Him in the Word, in truth and in spirit."

Testimony from
William Ting

351

People in Life
Groups

16

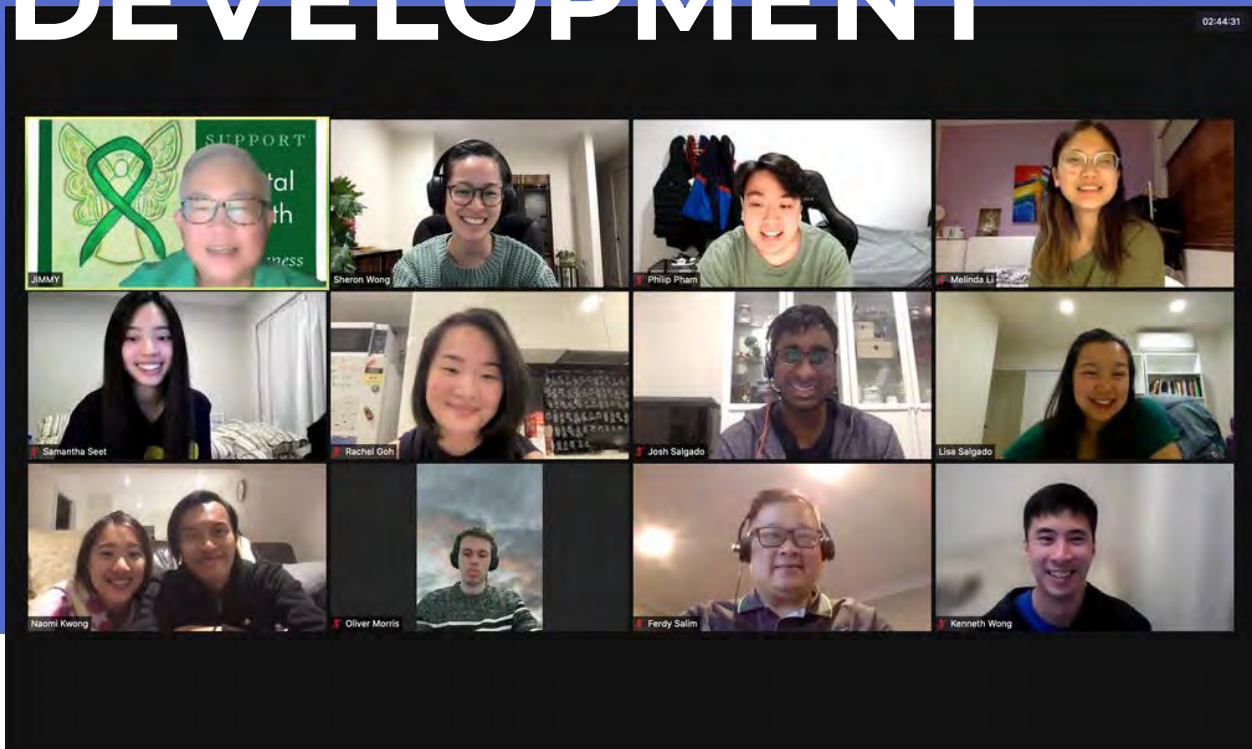
People
Assimilated into
Life Groups

41

Total Number of
Life Groups



LEADER DEVELOPMENT



With an emphasis on Leader Development during 2021, it has been great to see some movement and growth among our leaders. With ever-improving online seminars and courses being made available and Zoom being put to good use, our leaders have had more chances to connect, grow, and be encouraged than ever before.

A few highlights from this year would be the start of our 'Leader Building' sessions, of which we managed to have 9 sessions for the year with more developments planned for 2022. We were able to have 12 of our leaders, who are ministering to young people, go through a full 7-week Mental Health First Aid course for Young People. Nearly all of our senior ministry staff, as well as some of our Zone Leaders, attended the multi-day 'Family Violence in Faith Communities'

workshops, and also a small number of our couples participated in the Marriage Workshops via Alpha. Also, among our new initiatives that we are looking to expand was our use of Ps Ronald & Jasmine Ooi as mentors and coaches for some of our Zone Leaders and Life Group leaders. They have been invaluable and we are looking to grow this part of leadership development.

We are grateful for everyone that participated in Leader Development over the course of the year, and we are excited about the plans we have for 2022. 2021 was a small step towards where we want to be, and it is encouraging to find that so many of our congregation are also wanting to continue to be built up to better minister to the people in their lives.

GATHERINGS REPORT

*By Shamilla, Local Gathering and Care Director (English Campus)
(Empower, Embrace, Encounter, Enrich, Playgroup)*

2021 unquestionably witnessed Gathering spaces embed our vision in action – where people valued coming together to connect, grow, share and encourage one another. It was also seen as a safe space for non-believers, where friendships and relationships were built, enabling our people to journey with some of these individuals on their everyday life issues.

In addition, we saw God’s favour and His working behind the scenes, where individuals were hand-picked to lead these Ministries as per their passion, giftings and inner stirring. Besides having the right leaders, we also experienced how our Lord equipped each Ministry with key core team members who were equally committed, passionate and on fire for Jesus!

Despite Covid restrictions, we observed how each Gathering space quickly adapted to make it still fun and relevant for our people to continue to connect and engage through this difficult isolated season.

We also want to praise God, as we started noticing more people step out in faith as they took their next step to be more intentional to witness for Jesus, share the gospel and invite non-Christian friends, colleagues, family to these Gathering spaces.

I just want to thank all the Gathering leaders (Adrian, Juliet, Gwen, Winston, Margaret) and the core team members from the bottom of my heart for their servanthood heart. 2021 could happen, because of YOU!

		Empower	Embrace	Encounter	Enrich	Playgroup
Point Lead		Adrian	Juliet	Gwen	Winston	Margaret
Gathering opportunities	Onsite	3	3	NA	1	Weekly (school term)
	Online	2	3	Weekly (school term)	1	NA
Reach (average)	Onsite	30+	60+	NA	30+	11 - 12 families weekly (20 -25 people incl kids)
	Online	130+	25+	30 - 35	15+	NA
New Comers (in 2021)		10	25	21	2	15 families (unknown faith) 8 families (believers)
Salvations		-	-	1	-	1
Leaders/Helpers/Core Team		3	4	11	4	6

EMPOWER MEN'S MINISTRY

By Adrian Low



It has been an amazing time for transition and building our foundations in Empower this year. I was privileged to be commissioned to take on the role of leader for Empower after Frank Hyson had been serving so faithfully. We also saw team member Ash Chan re-focus on other ministries from serving for many years. With God's provision, we recruited a new core team member, Phil Pham.

This year, we have focused on building the core foundations of Empower, hosting events to build the community of men in our church.

Within these sessions, we have focused on fun, food and a formal aspect of the event. Where the word is preached or there is an activity to facilitate meaningful conversations between the guys in the group. One of the highlights was having Collin Timms share his testimony of the fires and God's provision during the rebuilding of the cabins. We have been very blessed this year of foundation for Empower, and look forward to building upon these steps in the years to come.



- **BBQ + Soccer at Jells Park – 38+ men, ages 25-70**
- **Hiking at Marysville – 35+ men, ages 25-65**
- **Men's sexuality – Alan Meyer – online session (253 views)**
- **Fitness and online games – online session, 15+ men, ages 25-35**
- **Hiking + Beach day at Cape Schanck – 20+ men, ages 25-70**

Why is Empower important to you and how has it benefited you?

“

To be honest, often there is the burden, from society/family to “be a man”. Empower provides not only a safe space where delicate topics such as men’s mental health, anxiety and manhood, in a Christian context can be discussed. But it can also range to hobbies, amusements and side-hustles.

The number one thing would be comradery. In a post-covid age, the “doing life” aspect of group activities, with a supportive brotherhood from all walks of life cannot be understated. Guys like to do “stuff” and there are a lot of little things that add up. (The sum is greater than the parts.)

*Testimony from
Erol Buyukcinar*



EMBRACE WOMEN'S MINISTRY

By Juliet Soeur



2021 has felt like an extension of 2020, for many, it's a bit of a blur! Our aim was to continue to provide safe spaces for our ladies to be affirmed in their identity, with the freedom to be ourselves, and connect with other women as we discover and live our God-given purpose. We believe that when we come together there is much to GIVE and also RECEIVE no matter where we are at.

For the first time, we had a Women's Colour Conference watch party, it was so much fun and so enriching as we sat under God's word and pressed in together. Our picnic and ladies dinner

are always safe spaces to invite friends and for women of all ages to connect and both be encouraged and be an encouragement. The picnic started out relaxing and then the games brought out everyone's competitiveness! We were so pleased to have 8 new visitors among us.

At the May dinner, we had nearly 120 ladies join in, including 17 visitors. Tutin and Sue shared their real stories of life's unexpected struggles and God's goodness and faithfulness through it all. We believe seeds were sown and trust that through ongoing friendship God will continue to grow these seeds.

"When booking, I did not give a name to be seated next to anyone special, as I thought God will give me the right person to sit with and converse. Praise the Lord, I did enjoy chatting with Sze Ning. What a lovely young lady and so skilled and gifted. I am always so impressed by what young women achieve today... and girls looked so lovely in their elegant outfits and HIGH heels!!!" - Win Morgan

TESTIMONIES

Colour Conference



"I really appreciated the fact that the conference was online, and that the embrace ministry put so much thought and effort into making the conference memorable and special for us. There were some things the presenters said that has stuck with me, and I've had similar ideas continue to be reinforced by other podcasts I've listened to and books I've read since.

They are (in a nutshell):

- Don't be afraid you'll miss God's will for your life, as He is a big target who is not trying to hide or trick us***
- True strength is not holding someone down, it is picking someone up. Being divisive and criticising isn't strong, but fighting for reconciliation and restoration is.***
- we are supposed to know what we're for and not what we're against. Don't take the bait to enter into petty arguments that don't matter.***
- It was all very relevant for living through a pandemic and seeing the divisiveness on social media/news. It was helpful to try and navigate our current situation."***

"Colour conference 2021 watch party was inspiring & encouraging, yet convicting and stirring. It made me laugh and it made me cry as well - what made it more special was the privilege of sharing the journey (in the form of a watch party!) with women from different stages and walks of life, it was such a privilege to indulge myself in God's word, worship songs and have fellowship with our very own sisterhood brood. "

May Dinner

"Thanks again for inviting me to this event. Truly enjoyed myself meeting your lovely friends like Jessica, Tutin, Jenita and Soo." - A non-believer friend

"Hi Bill, I just want to thank you for arranging for me to attend the Embrace women's dinner last night. I really enjoyed myself and loved sitting near Kim, Monique and Helen opposite me. I feel very loved by God and happy. THANK YOU!" - Lady from our community

"Thank you very much Bill/Love Loud for sponsored me. Yesterday was a wonderful day. I was so happy to participate for that party. I enjoyed a lot. It was really fun. And food was also yummy. I met many kind ladies. They were very friendly." - Sow A Seed recipient

"Thank you so much for organizing another great event!! I absolutely loved it, it's so great to hang out with the other ladies without kids!!" - Rachel S

"Thanks, Juliet and team for organising everything. Was a lovely way to gather everyone. I met a few new ladies and my neighbour absolutely loved the night and couldn't stop talking about how amazing it was and how she knows it's good for her to hang around lovely women who love Jesus." - Carmen

ENCOUNTER

ENGLISH LEARNING

By Gwen Liu



This year has been a challenging yet rewarding year for Encounter. Due to Covid restrictions, apart from briefly meeting at church, we had to move swiftly to online zoom classes. We were very heartened to see our teachers, helpers and students embrace the change and continue to connect weekly, with some even calling in from overseas. We are also encouraged to see 21 new students join Encounter and helpers increased markedly this year.

We witnessed God's favour upon this Ministry as teachers and helpers took their step of faith to be more intentional and bold for Jesus. It was evident that God has been working behind the scenes among the students, as his faithful servants sowed as the spirit lead.

Bible verses were introduced weekly in one of the classes, prompted by the inner stirring in one of our teacher's

heart. Subsequently, some students requested to learn more from the Bible which led to them staying on after class to discuss, share and go deeper in the word of God. This provided opportunities for the teachers, helpers and students to share life experiences on how Jesus is working in and through them. As a result, we witnessed one student give her life to Jesus at the end of 2021 and much more curious about Jesus.

In another class, the teacher was led to share scriptures as a way of encouraging the students to hold on during these challenging times, while the class with elderly students learnt more about God through singing Christian songs.

Despite not being able to meet face to face, the team celebrated the Mid-Autumn festival via Zoom where over

over 50 people participated through songs, dance and instrumental items.

We ended the year with a bang for Jesus, where students had the chance to listen and understand the reason we celebrate Christmas besides worshipping the Lord together and hearing many great testimonies of what God is doing in and through individuals. We had over 80 people attend from all three classes including the Clayton Church Leadership Team.

I want to thank all our teachers and helpers (Helen, Luning, Bob, Yin, Lily, James, Chun Hua, Christina, Wen Li, Shi Shi, Rosy) who have been faithfully sowing into this Ministry and witnessing for Jesus! I also want to thank Aaron for his proactive sharing in Mandarin in Bible study sessions.

"I come from North China. Thank God for letting me meet you in Australia. As a new student, I think about why I enjoy learning English in Helen's class. It is all because the teachers make me feel God's love. In the past few months, Helen and the other teachers not only volunteered to teach us English but also lead us studying the Bible, including the Psalms. Their love and patience is truly a reflection of God's love. They make me feel God is everywhere. I learn English not only for a better life in Australia, but also for knowing God more and spreading God's love to more people. Thank God I found you!" – Maria

"I am Suwen from Bob's English class. I came from Shanghai, China. On my first day in class, the topic was about the Australian court system. I found the lesson a bit difficult but Bob encouraged me not to give up. He told the class to ask questions if we don't understand vocabulary words and ask him to speak slowly when he speaks too fast. I always look forward to having conversations on interesting topics and do exercises to test our understanding of what we learned on the day. Even though I am now back in China, I still continue to join the English class by Zoom every Friday. I want to, because I enjoy being with my other class friends. I feel the learning environment to be very warm and it gives me a lot of joy. In my opinion, to be good in English takes a long time of learning. It is a long journey. I am very thankful that COVID-19 hasn't restricted us in learning English because we can meet each other using Zoom whether we are in Melbourne or in China. I want to thank Clayton Church for organising English classes, and giving me the wonderful opportunity to learn and improve my English. I feel more relax and confident now when I speak to people in English." – Suwen

PLAYGROUP *By Margaret Ruhl*



Playgroup recommenced in February, after being closed for almost a year. However, due to the various snap lockdowns in between, it has been one roller coaster year limiting the number of opportunities for families and kids to meet onsite.

Despite the many interruptions, we are still very grateful to the Lord to see many returning families and newcomers be part of this community. They have come to know of Playgroup through word of mouth, via recommendations from the council's maternal health nurse or the internet.

Sessions this year were less structured, as the mums preferred to just relax and catch up with each other over a cuppa tea/coffee, sharing their lockdown experiences.

We witnessed how God moved in this space through our leaders – where they were able to spend more quality one on

one sessions ministering to individuals. Through this, one of the playgroup mums came to know the Lord, whom we have now started to connect and journey with.

In term 3, morale was quite low at the news of Simon Crittle's passing amongst the Japanese mum/ex-playgroup Mums. However, this also opened the opportunity for the Japanese playgroup community to serve our Lord who were ever willing to help the Crittles with some meal assistance during this difficult period.

We are also blessed to see God's provision by raising up new leaders and helpers step forward to re-establish this Ministry after nearly a whole year of break. I would like to thank Haley, Rachel, Sabitha, Koon Yee, Irene and Phany for their commitment and dedication to faithfully serve our Lord in this space!

TESTIMONIES

“

“Thanks to Simon, I could meet many Japanese mums in Melbourne. Thanks to him I found the playgroup and met the team. I can’t thank Simon enough”

“My son has fun in the playgroup every week. He can play with many friends who are from different background. Also, I can refresh myself by talking with other mums!” – Miyako

German mum Kathleen and family returned to Germany at end of July, after attending playgroup here since mid-2018. “Playgroup had been my place of comfort and friendship in my loneliness”.



ALPHA *By Bob Oh*



18
people
attended the
Alpha course



3
pre-
believers

The **Alpha** course is an evangelistic course that seeks to introduce the basics of the Christian faith through a series of talks and discussions. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. It is described by its organisers as "an opportunity to explore the meaning of life."

This year, 18 people consisted of university students, adults, and married couples attended the Alpha course.

Key points shared by the attendees:

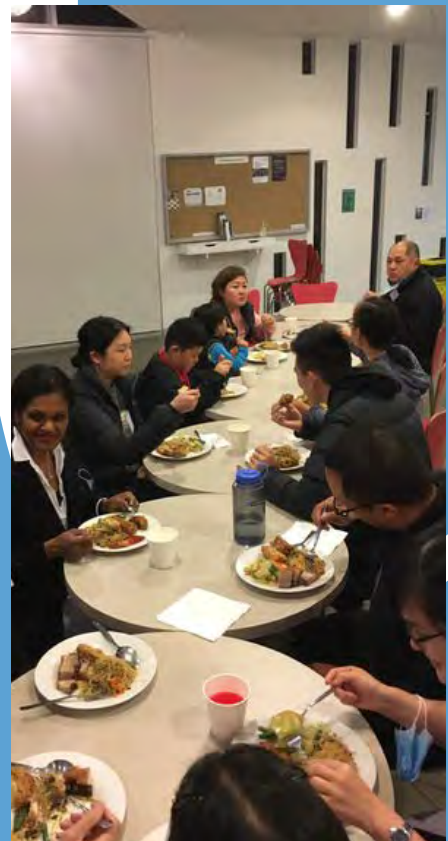
“

“The Alpha course helped me understand more about the basics of Christianity. I didn't feel judged by anyone in my group when I asked questions, During the Holy Spirit sessions, I was overwhelmed by it. I was teary throughout the prayer time. It was something I had never experienced before. I am now spending more time praying and reading my Bible.”

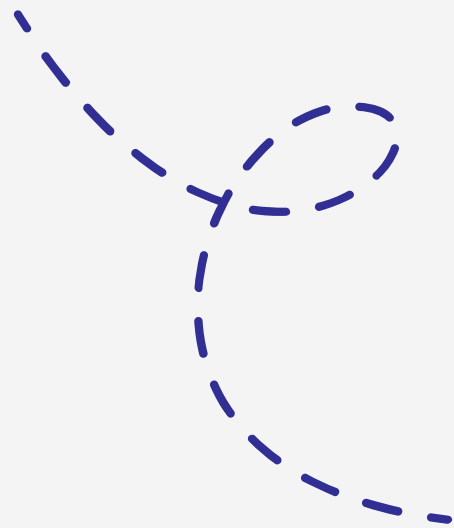
“Attending Alpha had been an enriching experience for me. The human connection with others in the course was very helpful for me. I learned so much from other people's experiences. It helped me understand that being a Christian is a progressive journey towards Christlikeness.”

“Even though I have been a Christian since I was young, the Alpha course helped me understand more about the importance of prayer and who the Holy Spirit is. I enjoyed the group discussion, the questions were interesting and everyone participated in a non-threatening environment.”

“Alpha has greatly encouraged me and invigorated my passion for Jesus Christ. It taught me to take a step of faith for my future and to trust God to open doors for me to serve Him.”



JI EN CHINESE CAMPUS REPORT



OVERVIEW

*By Ps Hai Lin, Chinese Campus Pastor &
Ps Phoebe Chan, Groups & Gatherings Pastor (Chinese Campus)*

Challenges in 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic has proved to be one of the most difficult times for **Ji En** as we had no alternatives but to continue ministries online for eight months. The challenges facing pastors have been many, with comforting young adults in isolation, or responding to issues of fear and hopelessness in mourning families one of many challenges. We have lost so much of what makes the church the church –personal touch, connection with God, and camaraderie. So, we had to ask: how do we hang onto God to turn a dilemma into an opportunity again?

How Ji En untangle itself from different challenges?

Same as in the year 2020, we continue to uphold our church's disciple-making values. The move started with the value of "Connecting":

- **Connecting with God** – Life groups had been encouraged to adhere to daily Bible reading and meditation routines. Deeply rooting in words of God is important as seen in the teaching of Colossians 2: 6-7: So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him.....
- **Connecting with people** – This is the time to turn to prayer and to show kindness for one another as Grace needs to blossom. Many members have been highly intentional in reaching out to people in need of help in the community. Care had been demonstrated by making phone calls and sending little comforting gifts to life group members who then learned that they were in isolation but not forgotten.
- **Connecting with non-believers** – The pandemic has made us more aware and experienced that the gospel is the real need of human beings. Through the Holy Spirit, our hearts are rekindled for evangelism as evangelising non-believers is our mission.

Approaches that we adopted...

Building and sharpening each other in leadership teams have always been our priority. The “team” culture makes us more united in seeking God's guidance and learning to grow together in humility and obedience.

At the end of 2020, we made an important decision to worship in person on the first Sunday of 2021. We also stopped the live broadcast to encourage the congregation to come to church to rebuild the sense of personal touch. By the end of March, the number of worshippers present in Ji En had reached 165. This has greatly reduced the impact of the lockdown in the second half of the year.

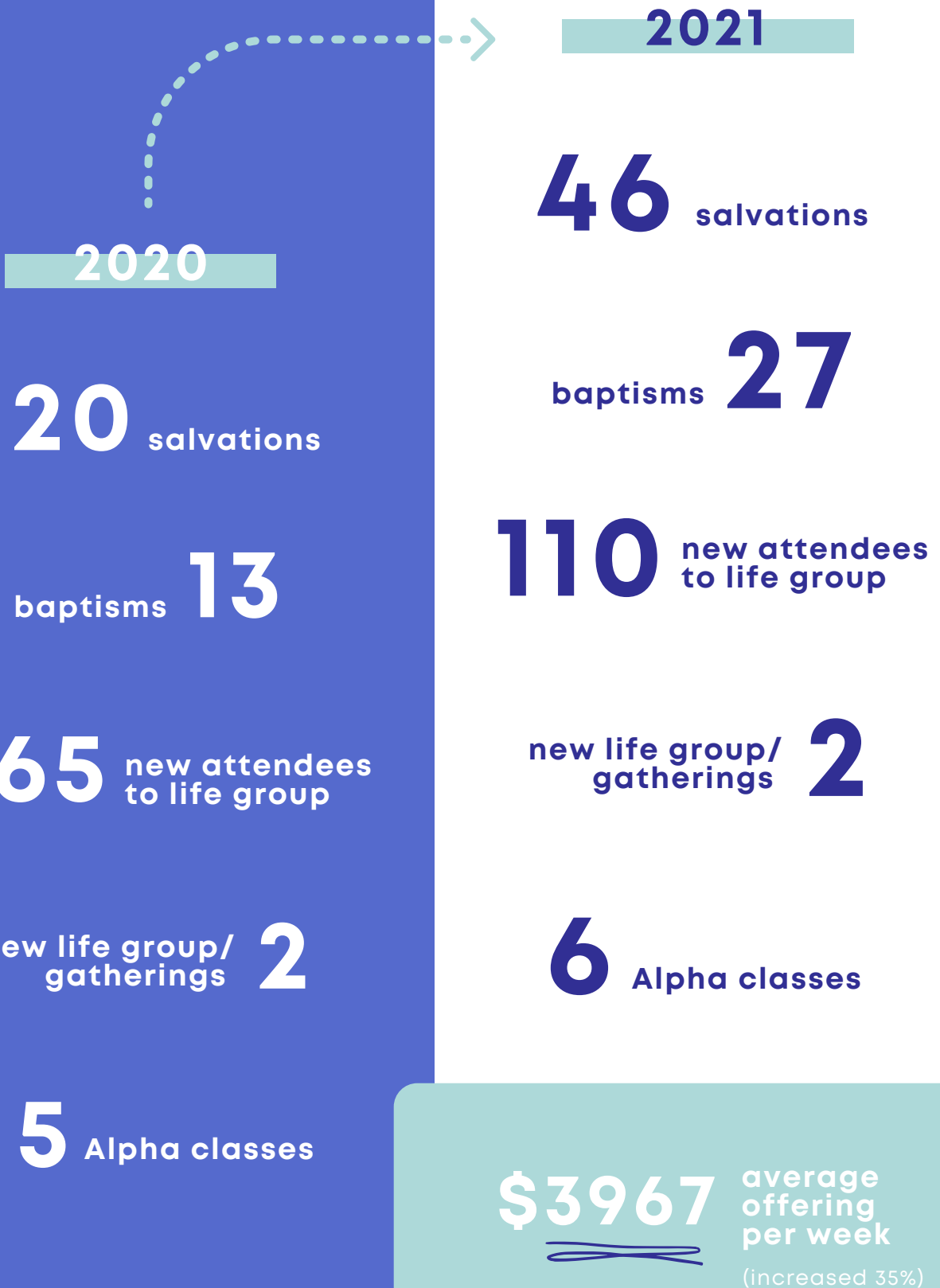
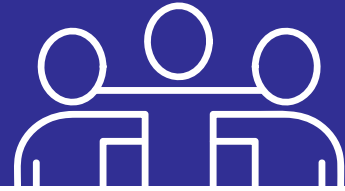
On the other hand, by encouraging cell group members to be rooted and growing in God's Word, we built the culture of "By God, we walk with one another in unity ". Living out God's word on a daily basis had helped us to be more like Jesus. By jointly upholding struggling families, for example, the family of Tina and Tim, cell group members had built more cherished and loving relationships during the difficult time.

Finally, Ji En seized every opportunity for evangelism. For example, 77 non-believers were brought to join cell groups, working with English campus' Encounter ministry and introduced God's word on English teaching platforms, and by sponsoring missionaries in China. Last but not least, our members, GuoYing, Shi-Shi, TianSui, voluntarily initiated and supported a number of Bible study groups in China through the internet. All are great point celebrations. Glory be to God!

Achievements in 2021

2021 was a difficult year but we trusted in the Lord and expected that He can do great things. We also are grateful for the great contribution of our volunteers, core members and leaders of ministries. God has blessed us despite the pandemic. In 2021 We did better financially and in other areas than the previous year. To God be the glory!

J I E N METRICS



2020

20 salvations

baptisms 13

65 new attendees to life group

new life group/gatherings 2

5 Alpha classes

2021

46 salvations

baptisms 27

110 new attendees to life group

new life group/gatherings 2

6 Alpha classes

\$3967 average offering per week
(increased 35%)





“

**EVERYDAY
CHURCH
REPORT**

CARE AND PRAYER

By Shamilla, Local Gathering and Care Director & Margaret, Pastoral Care Director (English Campus)

An Everyday Church is all about God's people representing Jesus in our everyday moments. A church where people are freed from the disease of ME and everyday life becomes opportunities to represent Jesus - where mistakes become opportunities to model Christlike humility, promotion to model Christ-like servanthood, work to contribute to society, family to pass the baton of faith to the next generation, hobbies to build relationships with those far from Jesus, money to bless and serve those in need.

This year we are so blessed to have Margaret Ruhl take on the helm of our Pastoral Care and Prayer Ministry. She is no stranger to the church. She's been serving the Lord in Clayton church for over 20 years overseeing our Playgroup and Kids Church - discipling many families, women and kids. Her warm heart, hospitality and genuine care and interest in people have always been her natural gifting - enabling an easy transition from Kids Church to the Pastoral Care and Pray Ministry.

2021 has definitely been a year of changes and challenges. Despite not being able to worship the Lord at church physically the majority of the time, we are so encouraged to still see people continue to connect and engage in life groups and care and prayer happening organically at this level.

- We see our people and leaders step up to disciple others going through difficult times as the Lord continues to minister and disciple them through their own brokenness.
- We see people bringing the church to homes where worshipping is happening, communion is taken and the word is shared - bringing encouragement and healing to those going through the valley.
- We see marriages being restored and families being reunited as our people point those hurting back to Jesus and to be anchored in Him!
- We see people coming forward generously to provide care through meals offering and/or transportation especially to those grieving, sick, elderly and isolated.
- We see people garner their life groups together to bless, pray, care and give hope to those that are far away from Jesus and terminally ill.
- We see people offer their business as a partnership to the Lord to provide free services to those less fortunate when they themselves are still at an early stage of start-up.
- We see people coming together as one united body to pray for those impacted by Covid and in hospital, as they see the importance and power of prayer upon lives.
- We see people generously contributing their finances to sow back into God's kingdom to help those in need or build up God's people.

In the last 12 months...

PRAYER

- Thanks to the power of technology, our intercessory prayer team continue to stand in the gap to pray for all urgent prayer needs via our WhatsApp group chat.
- On one occasion, in an urgent call for backup support, a house was spiritually cleaned, with two lives committed to the Lord. This is a testimony of the body of Christ empowered by the Holy Spirit in the fivefold ministry at work.
- Sometime in late October, we saw the whole church coming together as one united body praying for Bill and Barbara, as they were going through some difficult health challenges. The team also managed to mobilise an online zoom prayer meeting for God's intervention and healing over this couple – which drew over 120 people, believers and non-believers.

The day after the prayer meeting, Barbara testifies that she witnessed God's miraculous healing power where she started regaining strength. Her skin colour turned around from sickly grey to pink and the doctors were surprised with how quickly things started to turn around for her. Another testimony of the Holy Spirit at work in this Body of Christ.

- Compared to previous years, we have been also pleased to prayerfully watch the growth of our Sunday online 9:00 am Zoom prayer – where we witnessed the largest number, approximately between 20-24 people joining together each week for the sole purpose of praying for our nation, church, community and missionaries. An uplifting time of communal dwelling in the presence of God. This was moved to 8:00 pm Tuesday Night during December.

CARE

- The Pandemic might have locked us down and visitations might be restricted, but our people continue to connect and care for the sick, the elderly or widows - phone calls and online zoom meetings became the mode of connecting with one another, even with our Prime Timers and Pacesetters, during the longest lockdown in the world.
- We were also so touched to see many come forward to reach out and bless others in need with hot meals through the set up of meals train especially those going through a tough time of sickness, bereavement or moving house with no extended help and having very young kids.
- 2021 was also a very difficult year, as we grieve with the respective families the sad loss of their loved ones, David Soffe, Philip Koh, Simon Crittle, Zarina Vancuylenberg and John Cheah. Each and everyone fought such a good fight for the Lord.
- 2021 also welcomed 6 new babies to our community where we celebrated with the parents the dedication of their babies on Mother's and Father's day.



“We are all called into service, just as the Lord Himself did, and to care for one another in need”

1 Timothy 5:3-16

We are all His Ministers. When God calls us to himself, he also calls us to be a servant, an instrument in his redeeming hands. All of his children are called into ministry. God uses people, who are themselves in need of change, as instruments of the same kind of change in others. People’s lives would be changed as they give help and receive it. God’s plan is that through faithful service and ministry of everyone, every day with everything, the whole body will grow into full maturity in Christ.

As such, we are truly encouraged to see the shift happening in our people. Many now start seeing themselves as God’s vessel. His hands and legs and through their own brokenness being used by Christ to disciple and minister to others rather than it being solely the role or responsibility of the Pastors, staff or leaders.

In closing, we would like to take the opportunity to thank all our 19 prayer warriors in our intercessory prayer team, our Sunday 9:00 am facilitators for their weekly commitment to stand in the gap to pray for our people, church and nation and to all our 15 Prepare-Enrich facilitator couples who are all trained and equipped to help other couples prepare or enrich their marriages.



Above: 9:00 am Prayer Meeting



“

**LOCAL
CHURCH
REPORT**

OVERVIEW

By Shamilla (Local Gathering and Care Director), Bill (Community Care and Crisis Director) and Nic (Point Lead, Love Loud initiatives).



Left to right above: Shamilla and Bill with our stakeholders Therese (OC Connections), Colin (City of Monash), and Ibrahim (Monash University).

2021 was definitely a year full of surprises with various interruptions and challenges. However, one pleasant surprise that unfolded gracefully over the 12 months period was God's hand of favour and provision.

Our leaders and people as His image-bearers grew from strength to strength through their God instilled gifting, talents and passion. We started seeing more of our people not just only serve faithfully, but being more intentional for Him when engaging with our community – being witnessed and openly sharing their life's journey of what God is doing in and through them.

When everything seemed hard, difficult and depleting (especially our resources), we were in awe of how quickly God turned around the situation as we continued to trust, believe and wait patiently. We started seeing emails come through and shoulder tapping happening – people indicating interest in wanting to serve the Lord in this Ministry. We started seeing finances pouring in from various sources and people calling us to apply for Government grants as they have personally witnessed the good work Clayton church is doing for our community.

We started seeing new stakeholder partnerships being established from zero bases to them knowing more about what we do and how we can partner in the future. In sum, we saw God continue to solidify the team, our finances and stakeholder partnerships – where all obstacles no longer exist, in order for His people to continue carrying out the good works, in order to build goodwill enabling the good news to be shared as He leads.

This truly reflects our vision – Our leaders and people as God’s ambassadors who God individually handpicked and placed on earth for a purpose - to reflect and represent Him as we steward the earth. We saw a local church that embraces the community as our own, walking alongside stakeholders seeking to make the city better together.

A people through whom acceptance is given, hope is re-birthed, restoration discovered and Christ is found. A people who embrace our unique calling to be His light in the most multicultural suburb in one of the most multicultural nations. A people where Jesus has broken down our walls of prejudice so we can build a diverse, multicultural and united church that reflects our community.





(LOVE LOUD MEALS)

Start date: **April 2020**

GOALS

- To assist those going through difficult times with a free meal.
- It's more than a meals program, but a way to connect, identify and assist people in need.

REACH/IMPACT

4000 meals (7400+ in total) ~
Approximately 70 household

FREQUENCY

Weekly (every Saturday)

FUNDS RAISED

- Public/congregation: \$30K+
- Victoria state govt grant: \$11,800
- Bendigo Community Bank Pinewood: \$3080

LEADERS/ VOLUNTEERS

Over 40

KEY STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

- International Student Engagement, Monash University
- Mama Gourmet Delights
- Monash Council
- Multicultural Ministry
- Local Member of Parliament (Clarinda)
- OC Connections
- Nottingham Neighbourhood House
- Regeneration church
- Bendigo Community Bank, Pinewood
- Clayton Pastors Network



(SOW A SEED)

Start date: **June 2020**

GOALS

- To practically and financially help those who have been impacted by the effects of COVID-19 or doing it hard, generally, to get back on their feet.
- This may range from providing meals, temporary rent or bills assistance to monthly groceries.

REACH/IMPACT

17 families/individuals (29 in total)

FREQUENCY

Ad Hoc (throughout the year)

FUNDS RAISED

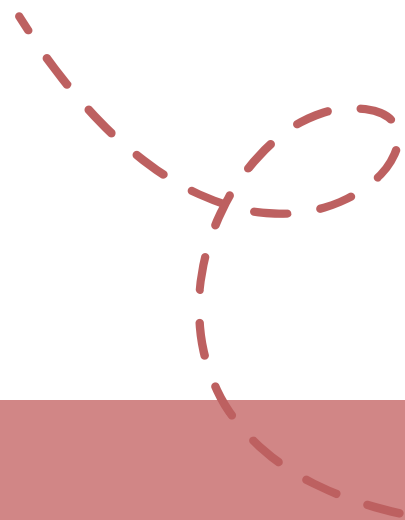
- Public/congregation: \$80K+
- Two cars donated that were transferred to 2 families

LEADERS/ VOLUNTEERS

8

KEY STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

- Monash Council
- Kingston Council
- General Practitioners (GPs)
- Salvation Army
- Regeneration Church
- Notting Hill Neighbourhood House
- Clayton Pastors Network



LOVE *thy* NEIGHBOUR

(LOVE THY
NEIGHBOUR)

Start date: **Dec 2020**

GOALS

- An initiative during the festive season to love our community with no strings attached.
- This may range from setting up a busy bee group to help clean up a school, a community centre or age care facility to blessing hampers, community lunches, tree works, baking and cooking for the community/ neighbours or raising funds for a specific cause.

REACH/IMPACT

- 18 OC Connections families
- 27 Love Loud meal/Sow A seed families
- 100 Frontline Health Care workers, Monash Health Emergency Department, ICU and Covid Wards
- Power to Change students that aren't able to return home for Christmas
- Youth in Manila that lost all their dwellings in a massive fire this year

FREQUENCY

Nov – early December

FUNDS RAISED

All in items and/or gift/food vouchers for 45 families, 100 individuals, a group of Power to change students and youth in Manila.

LEADERS/ VOLUNTEERS

Approximately 250 to 300 people (ie life groups in English and Ji En campus and regeneration church; approximately 35 life groups, averaging 6-8 members per group and kids from kids church)

KEY STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

- Regeneration church
- OC Connections
- Power to Change
- Monash Health Care Workers

1

Salvation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS AND INSIGHTS

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” - Galatians 6:9-10

Loving God and Loving People has always been and will continue to be our key focus.

Our Team: 2021 was a year where we started equipping the team to not just be able to run well-managed initiatives but truly discern what God is stirring in our hearts and what He is wanting us to do for His Kingdom in this ministry. We led the team through a discipleship-making framework and challenged everyone on how we build whole of life disciples in both our drivers and ultimately our recipients and also how this applies in our own everyday living. In collaboration with Ps Stephen Tan from Regeneration Church, the team were empowered to really invest in each other and our recipients.

Our Community: Loving our community with practical needs with no strings attached has always been Love Loud's main focus. Whether it is the Meal Delivery Program, Sow a Seed, or Love Thy Neighbour, our focal point has always remained on connecting and journeying

with people especially during this isolated period. As we continue to invest in people's lives, many times, we do find ourselves also sharing our own everyday life struggles and how we are all still work in progress but thankful for God's grace and love in our lives that enables us to keep going. Through the year, we've seen how this has formed many great friendships and genuine relationships between our volunteers and recipients, where many do not hesitate to call or text when in need or to reach out as we are no longer a stranger to them.

Our Engagement: Back in 2017, Pastor Chee cast a vision where our community outreach would eventually translate into having a “seat at the table” alongside other key community stakeholders – in 2021 this vision is become reality.

Local community engagement and Love Loud has definitely been one of the most visible and active areas of service during COVID and lockdown. This was not because we had it all figured out! There were many times we didn't know what to do, and there were times we were very confident in our next steps. Regardless, what we constantly started doing more and more is coming together as a team to discern what the Holy Spirit is wanting us to do. That led us to be right at the forefront of pioneering the church in engagement with the local community and providing practical solutions for those hurting in our community.



When families within the local community have faced hardship, it is not uncommon for them to turn to organisations like the Salvation Army for support, but in the last year, even the Salvos have referred recipients to us! How amazing is that?

We have established our reputation and gained a seat at the table of community engagement

The fact that we have sown consistently and conscientiously into relationships like the City of Monash/aka council have shown great fruits in the way they directed and encouraged us to apply for State Government funding. Just in November 2021, we were able to announce the fruits in the form of our successful grants.

We were also so encouraged to know that we are the only church-based organisation to have pursued this engagement and succeeded.

As part of the grant known as Priority Response for Multicultural Communities during Coronavirus (COVID-19) Phase 3, local Clarinda Member of Parliament – Mr Meng Heang Tak came out on behalf of the Minister (the Honourable Ros Spence) on Saturday 20 November 2021. A special ride-along visit on one of the delivery routes saw Pastor Paul also get first-hand experience connecting with our recipients.

We were also thankful to the Lord for granting us the opportunity to meet and interview stakeholders that have partnered with us this year. We had the honour of meeting up with OC Connection CEO Therese, together with Colin from the City of Monash and Ibrahim from Monash University, Monash Connect – International Student Engagement.



Community Bank
Pinewood

Bendigo Bank

\$3080



VICTORIA
State
Government

\$11,800



Our harvest: *Monique, one of our core team members, was praying during the Christmas season when hampers were being delivered that they would not just be a physical gift, but also be a gift that would touch hearts, and for a revelation of God's love towards the broken-hearted. When she delivered one of the hampers, she felt led by the Holy Spirit to stay back and asked the recipient (single mum with two kids) if they wanted to talk further. This recipient showed much gratitude for simply being asked if she wanted to talk; appearing very distressed and teary.*

The next day, Monique followed up with her, and the recipient mentioned that she was overwhelmed because her house was messy, and was finding it challenging to keep up. She also said her landlord told her she needed to move out. In response, Monique brought a friend to help clean the house.

However, when they got there, the recipient said she would rather talk. The recipient began to question why they are doing what they were doing and wanted to know more about their faith. It opened a door for them to share the Gospel with her, and as they talked about God's grace, His love and mercy, she expressed that she could not have enough of what they talked about. She said there was something so peaceful about them.

Monique and her friend boldly asked the recipient if she wanted to know this Jesus that they talked about. And the recipient said, "yes, of course, I do". They then explained to her how we all fall short, and we need to acknowledge that we are sinners and in need of a Saviour. This Saviour is our Lord Jesus. If she is serious, she needs to confess all her sins to God and invite Jesus as her Lord and Saviour to come and dwell in her heart. Monique led her through the sinner's prayer and then prayed with her. After they finished, the recipient declared she felt like a load had been lifted off her shoulders and said, "I feel so happy and light". Monique provided her God's word as a gift and invited her to church – to be part of a bigger community, which she was open to.

This is a great testimony of how God uses ordinary people like you and me for His glory. He is forever faithful. Pray for the Lord to continue to stir up this recipient's heart for His glory. May she hunger and thirst for God.

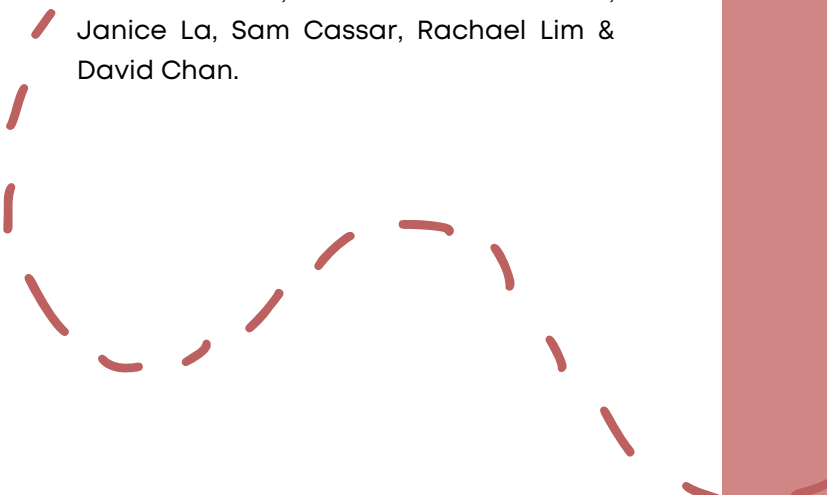


Our gratitude: Without a doubt, Love Loud would not function without our team of 40 lovely volunteers – who are not only drawn from the community of faith alone but from various stakeholder groups and individuals.



We would like to thank the following volunteer drivers from the bottom of our hearts for their love, faithfulness and commitment towards the Love Loud Ministry - Bennie Gow, Solomon & Sujaya, Darren Tan, Camille Santos, Andrew, Wendy & Bethany AhSang, Abby Xu, Steven & Sabitha, Charlie Phu, Andrew Coward, Moshe Jasper, Feba Thomas, Robin & Mary, Andrew Gan, Ben Oommen, Eric Gajjala, Dani Lisbon, Mario Pavlou, Steven Papadopoulos, Shamilla & Lawrence, Ps Kyle, Cecylia Kee, David Tay, Nitin & Veena, Sammy Grech, Mark Schoenfisch, Wade Dix, David Brown, Lena Kha, Gerry Laing, Kay Anandas, Karen & Natalie, Anand, Jenny Fujiyasu, Lambert Abba, Nhiem Tran & Noel Liu.

A special note of appreciation to all our stakeholders that have partnered with us, our meals supplier, Mama Gourmets Delights and our team of coordinators who have all gone above and beyond in helping to make each Saturday's deliveries possible: Nic Lee, Barbara Pontikis, Grace Baulch, Ray Cunliffe, Michel & Monique Viney, Cecilia Au, Dharshi Bubb, Elizabeth Panteleon, Janice La, Sam Cassar, Rachael Lim & David Chan.





“

**GLOBAL
CHURCH
REPORT**

GLOBAL CHURCH KEY METRICS 2021

*By Sharon Wong,
Global & Ministry Systems Director*

10

global
workers



4

global
partners



10

Children in Unreached
Areas Sponsored
through Compassion



153

Letters written to the
Compassion Children



225

Letters received from
the Compassion
Children

GLOBAL CHURCH OVERVIEW

In 2021, we experienced a lot of ups and downs in the Global Mission space and continued to see the global pandemic negatively impact international travel, the ability for short-term teams to explore their mission calling overseas and the ability for our Global Workers to come back to Australia for rest and home assignment.

One of our biggest losses this year was, no doubt, the unexpected passing of our dear brother and colleague in Christ, Simon Crittle, who continues to leave an empty space in our hearts.

Our Global Partners Ps Skinner, CCC Cambodia, and Empart faced much persecution and many difficult challenges themselves but worked tirelessly to provide aid, support, food and medication to those who could not afford it during the pandemic, all while continuing to share the love of Christ with those they encountered.

In spite of it all, God was still faithful. Our workers got creative in their outreach, shared the good news through many different mediums and saw people coming to faith in powerful and sometimes non-traditional ways. While in Cambodia, Jono and Steph even welcomed a new addition to their family on Christmas Eve with the safe arrival of their daughter Mataya. So, as you read the following individual reports and stories from our Global Workers, I trust that you would gain the same sense of gratitude for God's grace as I did.

Furthermore, we established a new partnership with Compassion Australia to see children in unreached cities and regions around the world released from poverty in Jesus' name. Compassion report that on average, four family members come to know the gospel of Jesus with every child sponsored in the nations, and during our Compassion Sunday in 2021, members of our church sponsored 73 new children – Praise God!

A huge thank you to Amir Lingham, Ash Chan, Rachel Lim, Cecilia Au, Levi Truong and Voon Yee Lee for their faithful contribution to the Global Team, and for always being so wise in their counsel and advice to me. In 2022, may we continue to adapt and find creative ways to bring Christ glory among the nations!

GLOBAL WORKERS



CECILIA AU

Reaching international students at Monash University with Power to Change



We had two very different semesters this year.

In Semester 1, we were able to return to the campus in person after being away for a year. We had a few new student leaders and volunteers who had never experienced in-person ministry on campus, so it was great to be able to bring them along as we met students in person and shared the gospel with them. The semester culminated in a student conference called 'Mid Year Conference' where we were able to go away with a hundred of our students to Anglesea for Bible teaching, training and fellowship together.

We had high hopes for Semester 2, so we were dismayed to find ourselves in lockdown again – and for the whole semester. Yet God revived our spirits, and we persevered in setting up our ministry to be back online. Unable to reach new students on campus, we switched our attention to helping our students to reach their friends and families online. We saw God grow our students' hearts and skills to see more spiritual multiplication happen.

Key Metrics

3 missionaries

3 volunteers

6 student leaders total

2 new student leaders

163 approaches to initiate spiritual conversations

106 spiritual conversations (e.g. sharing testimonies, etc)

25 gospel presentations

6 evangelistic contacts (i.e. did a Discovery Bible Study with us)

1 salvation decisions

29 House of Peace

attendees (about 40% are non-Christians)

Story of Change

At our Mid Year Conference (student training conference) in July, God convicted many of our students and volunteers to step out in faith to make disciples. This looked different for each person. One student, Ada*, realised that she did not really know God despite being a leader in another ministry, so she prayed that God would provide her with someone to disciple her so that she can be better equipped to serve Him. One of our volunteers, Heidi*, prayed for an opportunity to disciple someone. Another student, Leon*, prayed that God would give him an opportunity to do a Discovery Bible Study with someone around him.

At the start of Semester 2, Heidi challenged Ada to discipleship, and Ada said yes. They have been meeting ever since, and we've witnessed growth in their faith and walk with God – both in the one being discipled and the one doing the discipling. Ada introduced her friend Cynthia to Heidi, and Heidi invited Cynthia to learn more about Jesus through a Discovery Bible Study.

So praise God for answering Heidi's prayer to be able to disciple two girls this semester.

Despite his desire to do a Discovery Bible Study with someone, Leon struggled with his energy levels as we went back into lockdown. Yet God was gracious and helped Leon every step of the way. Leon had befriended a student named Sam* via our Badminton Socials in Semester 1. When lockdown happened, Sam actually reached out to Leon, asking if they could catch up weekly online. From there, Leon mustered up his courage to invite Sam to do a Discovery Bible Study together, and Sam said yes! They have been meeting up for a few weeks now.

God has demonstrated once again that his ministry is not limited by lockdowns. He is still at work in the lives of the international students at Monash University.

*Names changed for security reasons.



JONO & STEPH BAILEY

with Azaria, Levi and Mataya

Brave Home, Cambodia



This has been the second year of running the Brave Home. It has been a year of both slower times and hectic ones. We have witnessed God bring breakthrough and hope into men's lives and we have also walked through the frustration of men backsliding into old habits. Brave Home exists to help reintegrate men by providing a loving and supportive Christian environment. Our goal is to see them build their lives in God, develop in their work and study and to live free and whole into the future. We aim to connect with men who are in a difficult situation and who don't have supportive networks.

Various Bible studies and prayer times have been held throughout the year for our neighbours and the men at both the Brave Home and at our own home. At times these have had to be put on hold due to different lockdowns that have occurred because of Covid.

We are currently still homeschooling our two young children and will give birth to our third (a daughter) in December 2021. We are really excited to see what God will do in this coming year in the Brave Home, our neighbourhood and our family.



Key Metrics

- Baptisms of those we helped to disciple: 3
- Neighbours interested more in Jesus: 6 +
- Successfully married and reintegrated into the community and still a dedicated follower of Jesus after graduating from Brave Home: 1
- Men joined the Brave Home to have a better future: 5
- Opportunities found to develop skills for men staying at the Brave Home: 7
- Outreaches to an injured man and his family: 5
- Outreaches to Teen Challenge, a Christian drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre in the province: 7
- Bible studies at the Brave Home: 200+
- Grace shown to men who relapse or need another chance to change: 3
- Conversations had to find ways to best support broken men and be leaders who love more like Jesus: 60+
- Outings for men who haven't had many opportunities to enjoy themselves without using drugs or alcohol: 10+
- Soccer games played together: 7+
- Cups of tea and coffee with love and encouragement: 120+
- Obstacles and challenges overcome: 16+
- Days of much needed perseverance during covid: 150+



Story of Change

Before I knew Jesus I was angry, impatient and I didn't know how to forgive. Now I have hope and peace in Jesus.

Years ago it was difficult for my family because we were the poorest on the street and people would look down on us, especially my kids and I. They would exclude our family. It was really hard.

When I first met with Steph and Jono, I was pregnant with my 3rd child. After giving birth my youngest daughter and I were often very unwell and Steph always offered to pray. When Steph prayed to Jesus things would start to get better. Then when I had other issues in my life I began asking Steph to pray for me. Neighbours would speak negatively about the various issues in my life and give bad advice, but Steph and Jono would encourage and pray for me. I was nervous and uncomfortable to open up to other people because they would say different things like I should divorce my husband. However, Steph and Jono would always encourage me to speak with my husband and pray through our issues. I started to compare the advice of others with Steph and Jono and wonder why they would act differently and encourage me to love. I started to go to church and I saw a big difference between those who believed in Jesus and those who didn't.



Sithon and Steph

Since then Jesus has helped my family so much. I was worried that my family would cut me off when they found out I believed in Jesus. But it was obvious to them that Jesus has changed my heart, character and my life.

I am now hopeful and happy, because before I was the only one in my family who believed in Jesus. I am so thankful because my husband now believes in Jesus along with some other family members too. Also step by step, my parents are opening up as I share about Jesus with them.

It can be difficult being a Christian in a Buddhist community and at first I thought if I told people that I believed in Jesus that they would hate me. Now I am not shy to share about how my life is different and that I believe in Jesus.

No matter what I will continue to tell people how Jesus has changed my life. If they aren't happy or won't listen it doesn't bother me. I am bold and glad for the opportunity to share about Jesus.

I'm really encouraged when I think about when they had almost finished killing Jesus and He says "please forgive them because they don't know what they do". Jesus is so amazing because usually if people kill or hurt us, people think they should kill them back and take revenge. I want to love like Jesus.

I thank God because my relationships have all improved, with my children, my husband and all my family. I am like a new creation.

I have never seen God's light in my life like there is now. I am thankful for my husband. We understand each other so much more. Before I didn't know how to encourage and love my children, I would yell and hit them when I was upset but now I am so much more gentle and patient with them.

For two years I haven't had any big arguments with my husband. Before if we would have an argument we would not talk and ignore each other for 2-3 months. But now there is so much more love in my house because of Jesus. Forgiveness and love are so powerful. I praise Jesus for the hope He's given me. Please pray I lead more people to Jesus.

- Sithon



MEGUMI CRITTLE

2021 commenced with the usual planning and preparation to continue and develop new ways of ministering within the present Covid context.

All of our ministries had to continue online due to the ongoing Covid 19 situation. Simon was able to teach the Thursday morning ladies English class, on Zoom. I concluded the session with parenting from a Biblical perspective. Even though we missed the face to face contact the positive was, we were able to invite mums who had returned to Japan to join. Particularly the mums who had been regular participants in the face to face classes. They were so happy they could resume lessons with Simon.

Simon continued with private English lessons with returnee men and also did personal bible studies with one of them.

I was able to, twice a month, host the Japanese ladies fellowship life group. Three local ladies and two returnees. (The initial contact for the women were through Simon's English class.) These women had many questions; such as Why is there so much evil in the world? How did man begin? Who is Jesus? I have been taking them through a series called Foundations for Faith, starting from Genesis. Praise God that their hearts are open and ears willing to hear. Pray that they will come to faith.

But who could foresee that in 2021 our ministry would come to a jarring halt with the sudden death of Simon on 3rd August?

As of August 3 2021, I took bereavement leave. This meant ministry was been put on hold for the time being, allowing me to mourn well.



What happens now?

I no longer have my soulmate and my partner in mission to journey with me. Some of you might be wondering do I continue the task to minister to Japanese people or do I resign.

Let me reassure you that I have no plans to retire or resign from OMF. God's words to me are "The job is not finished. Continue in ministry to the Japanese people." (my mother's last words to us were "keep sharing God's love with the Japanese.)

Thank you church for supporting me in so many ways during this incredibly difficult time.

Romans 8:38-39 Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Under His Mercy
Meg Crittle

SIMON & JANET

with Charlotte and Sarah

Professional hospital work, focusing on friendship and discipleship

We both feel very blessed to have experienced open doors and provision in what is sometimes a difficult environment for some to live in as a foreign worker. We are still able to work in an entirely Chinese speaking work environment, do our profession (ICU Nursing) and have a role in clinical teaching and support. We are going into the 4th year of work at the hospital. Simon has less of a role in training and is now able to focus on developing research activities and providing clinical support. He enrolled in a professional doctorate research degree in La Trobe University Australia and is able to combine this with work in the hospital.

Janet is working at developing the Neonatal ICU and does this 3 days a week.

We are making friends in our work and community, building into relationships and the rewarding part has been to be able to 'enter' into a secular working environment which has given us exposure to a wide range of people. The most rewarding parts of the work are just continued presence here and investing in peoples lives. This is probably getting wider than just hospital staff and we have found ourselves investing in other foreigners lives who are not yet family, parents at school and neighbours.



Highlighted strengths through work

- Calling to a 'restricted access' (closed) region- We have found we are relational people and that is really a strength. In this environment direct sharing of his word straight away is not possible. We can be reported and deported for any form of sharing with staff members and so the need to build long term relationships is a key aspect. The calling is quite different to joining a church or organisation working in an open country. Working in a 'restricted access' country requires patience and wisdom. There are days when we question if we are achieving anything at all, but our call is to respond to his call and not design or look for an activity that suits the traditional model of evangelism. It requires patience and obedience, but we feel we are developing this burden and this calling, a set of unique gifts.
- Teamwork. We live and function as a foreign community and team and feel blessed to fit into and contribute to this aspect.
- Adaptability. There are some tense moments living in another culture which is now a 3rd or even 4th culture for us! However, after 4 years we now feel settled and can see this as our home for as long as he allows us to be here.

Weaknesses

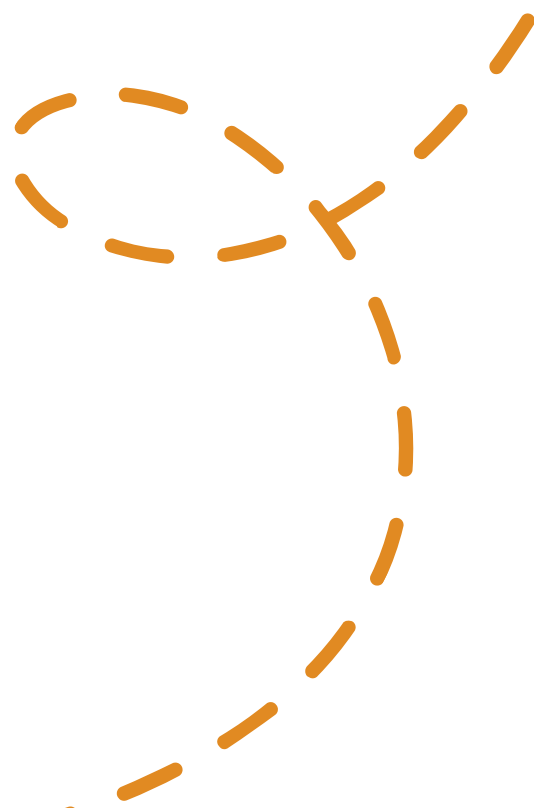
We continue to struggle with professional identity in the past year and still experience conflicts with our colleagues. Hospital leadership are withdrawing support from us as foreigners slowly and that can be upsetting and frustrating at times. We have had to remind ourselves that while we do need to have respect in the workplace to make this a long-term thing, individual relationships are still the most important thing in building into people's lives. It is a difficult balance as in mainland Chinese culture unless you have respect it's hard to

take the relationships further, but on the other hand not to make respect the most important thing! Aiming to be diplomatic and yet Christ-like... A learning curve for us.

We continue to learn not to take things too seriously in the workplace. Draw boundaries on how we work, realise what we can change and what we can't and make revealing him to them the most important goal of all.

In December 2021, we returned to Melbourne after serving on the field for four and a half years. At this moment, we are going through a period of 're-entry' and processing our future direction. We will both work with OMF in 2022 as part of the 'State Ministry Team' for Victoria. We hope to use our experiences in China to help in the mobilization of others considering going onto the field as well as assisting OMF on the field and returnees.

Please pray for our future direction as a family.



ANGE & SAKAL

with Sonya

National Team Leaders in Cambodia Campus Crusade for Christ

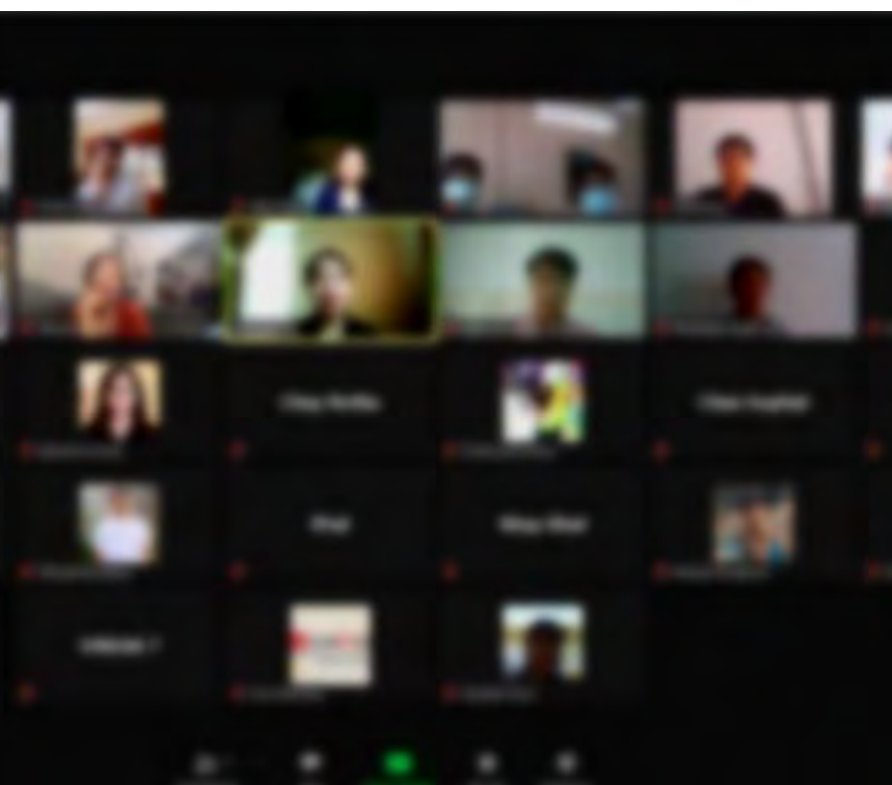
We serve as the National Team Leaders in Cambodia Campus Crusade for Christ based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Our organisation is a non-profit parachurch organisation that helps to fulfil the Great Commission in the local Khmer language through evangelism and discipleship activities with disciples and church partners. Our team of 19 full-time field missionaries and interns and 10 church planting staff serve across Phnom Penh municipality and 9 provinces in Cambodia.

Under our leadership, we pray and serve to bring the staff team together in unity in love and Jesus Christ. On August 10, there were 36 CCCC field staff, interns, and employees from all CCCC ministries who gathered together for the National Staff Conference for over two hours via Zoom. We heard praise and prayer points from each other. We committed our national plans and each ministry priorities in the existing eight cities and provinces to God.

Personally, we host 3 discipleship groups with 4 of the members being trained to lead city teams. Ange focuses on the '5 Things' bible study which explores how to plan and take action in God's personal calling for young Cambodian women. She is also a co-facilitator for an English bible study group for foreign women missionaries. Sakal is reconnecting with former SLM alumni in the medical and marketplace professions to form a network of discipleship groups across 4 provinces. In addition to this, Sakal is a church elder with monthly preaching responsibilities at our local church and completing a Master of Arts in Transformational Leadership via distance education at the East Asia School of Theology (EAST) in Singapore.

Key Metrics

- Field team of **29** staff and interns
- Ministry presence in **Phnom Penh** and **9 provinces across Cambodia**
- **3** discipleship groups of alumni and professional workers
- **8** sermons preached at a local church
- **Over 10** New Staff Training lessons conducted by Sakal
- **Conducted training in online evangelism** with 1 partner organisation



Story of Change

My name is Sreyphoas. My siblings and I are the first in our family to study at university. As I was finishing my final year at university, I joined the '5 Things' bible study series with Ange and three other students from my Christian dormitory. Before joining the study, I felt lost about what to do after I completed my studies.

During the bible study, I discovered and embraced my gift of hospitality from God. With my joyful experience of serving in children's ministry, I desired to become a School Teacher. When it came time to apply for jobs, I focused on teaching opportunities at schools.

I was offered two teaching positions – a higher salary job at a secular school or a Primary School Teacher at a Christian school with a lesser salary. I prayed about the two opportunities and God led me to take the position at the Christian school. I just completed new teacher orientation and am so excited to begin teaching at a school that share my Christian values. Studying '5 Things' gave me the confidence to embrace my personality, gifts and desires to serve children and my church community.



DEREK & ROSEMARY SNIBSON

Urban Indigenous Ministry in Darwin with CMS



As ministry with Indigenous people is different, (diverse cultures and languages) we don't have metrics based on a 'Come to' model. Most of the ministry is a 'go to' model in the communities around Darwin. We find Indigenous Christians and support them in their context. We also serve people in the remote communities, through Hospital visitation, Prison Services, phone calls and hospitality as well as encouraging students and assistant staff at Nungalinga College.

Key Metrics

- Small weekly Bible studies: Bagot Community 6-8 people
- Bible Study at CAAPS the Drug Rehab Centre: 9 people (in the past term)
- Garaworra Transitional Housing Activities Group: 6 women
- Visitation of houses in the communities over 5 months Garaworra: 10 families, Bagot: 8 families
- Christian Ministries Darwin Temporary Accommodation: 9
- Hospital Visitation: 20 visited, usually with short Bible reading and prayer, with 1 Indigenous volunteer
- Darwin Correctional Centre only one Service with 25 people
- NT Government Department Division of Fisheries: 45 people
- People turning back to follow Jesus after being away for some time: 6
- Leadership Training Conference for remote leaders: 30 people
- Hospitality of remote people in our home: 4
- Visitors: 13
- 2 volunteers at the Activities Program at Garaworra
- 4 volunteers at Bagot church
- 4 volunteers helping with church transport to a small local church

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

We have been in Darwin for almost three years and have developed relationships with a diverse range of people in different settings and contexts. The aim is to find and disciple Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Darwin who are open to growing in faith and being enabled and equipped for ministry.

We have developed strong connections with leaders in the Bagot Community church, and with two Assistant teachers at Nungalinga College. They have asked for times of Bible study and reflection and we can see growth in their faith and understanding of their role as leaders and mentors. In addition, we have contact with people from all over the Territory through people travelling to Darwin for medical care. Contact with the Prison, Division of Fisheries and Drug Rehabilitation Centre also provides wide exposure to different communities and language groups. Language learning continues in Kriol.



Story of Change

We met 'Taya' last year whilst visiting Garaworra Transitional Housing. She indicated that she is a Christian and promptly showed us a painting of Pentecost in her traditional cultural style. (See photo) She seemed open to talking and engaging with us.

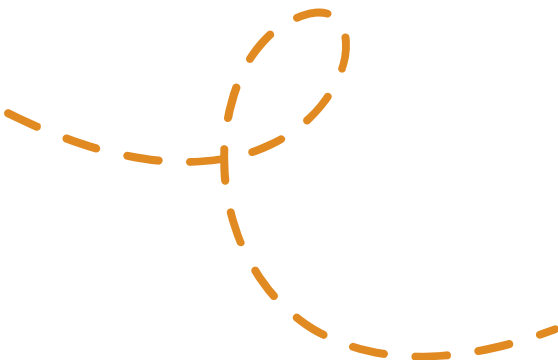
Over the next few months, I asked Taya if she would like to attend our sewing group at the Centre on-site. At first, she seemed eager to come but never presented. I thought this was due to overwhelming family issues. She didn't seem to respond to visits or open the door. In some ways, I wondered if it was worth persisting.

Three weeks ago, she finally turned up to the Sewing Group and as soon as she walked in the door, said. 'Can I come to church with you on Sunday?' Her remote community had gone into Lock-down and she was fearful and anxious for her family there.

I picked Taya up for church and she was very happy to attend and asked for prayer for her community. Last week she came to the sewing class again to finish the curtains she had commenced for her kitchen. Taya again requested to attend church and this time asked us to come to her house and pray with her family. This has been a long journey of caring for her needs, being patient and relating to her in a practical way along with prayer for and with her. Ministry needs to be holistic for people to experience grace in multi-faceted ways. A spark of faith has been re-ignited in her, Taya.



Taya's painting: called Pentecost. Note the Trinity at the top of the painting



GLOBAL PARTNERS



CAMBODIA CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST

Cambodia Campus Crusade for Christ is a parachurch non-governmental organisation that helps to fulfil the Great Commission until every Cambodian knows someone who follows Jesus Christ. Our staff and key volunteers bring the gospel of Jesus Christ by winning people to faith in Jesus Christ, building them in their faith and sending them to win and build others. Our ministry presence covers 10 out of 24 provinces and Phnom Penh municipality. Our key ministries are:

- Student-Led Movement (SLM) – high school and university students;
- Global Church Movement (GCM) – church planting, community aid and development, and the Jesus Film project; and
- Leader Strategy (LS) – alumni, professional workers, teachers and families.

Our evangelism and discipleship activities are delivered in the local language, Khmer; which involves one-on-one, small group or outreach events. New believers and key volunteers join our discipleship groups for bible study, fellowship, and evangelism activities to nurture their Christian faith. We also run intensive training courses in evangelism and discipleship through the New Life Training Centre and the Leadership Training Institute for key volunteers and church partners.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we utilise social media, videos and Zoom meetings for interactive evangelism and discipleship activities with new and existing disciples. The SLM team hosted a hybrid outreach digital mission run by staff and Key Volunteers from Cambodia and the Philippines from June 11-27, 2021. Using Facebook, their messages reached over 1,400 people; engaging through the gospel presentation and other activities such as writing competition, photography competition, mental health seminar and time management seminar.

Key Metrics

- **19** full-time missionaries and 10 church planting staff
- **Over 7,000** people heard the gospel of Jesus Christ
- **611** people prayed to receive Jesus Christ
- **84** trained student key volunteers
- **6** online training seminars for over **200** teacher participants
- **3** discipleship groups for alumni and professional workers
- **2** discipleship groups for family life
- **9** new house churches and **20** discipleship groups in churches

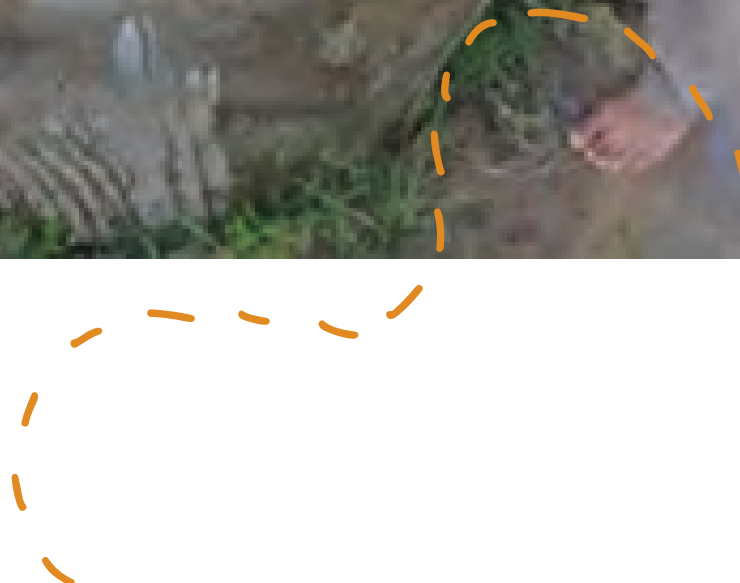


Story of Change

Go and make disciples, baptise and teach them...

In April 2021, Mrs Sandan heard the gospel from a GCM staff who visited her home. Both Mrs Sandan and her husband, Mr Chantha, accepted Christ into their lives that day. Three weeks later, she invited her neighbour, Mrs Thy, to join the worship service at her house church. Mrs Thy opened her heart to receive Christ. They all continued to share about God's love and goodness with their neighbours.

On 23 June 2021, the three of them and another house church member all decided to get baptised by the GCM staff. There was no pool or lake so they got baptised in the water cistern in their garden. Now, all of them are under the follow-up care of a GCM staff. They are growing in their new Christian faith and continue to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with others.





“

**PIONEERING
CHURCH
REPORT**



PIONEERING CHURCH

By Ps Chee Fah, Senior Pastor

The year 2021 was an extremely interesting year in this space. Given covid restrictions, we were unable to engage with the MCity Initiative, but God willing we will look to explore that space again next year. It was exciting to see the Cantonese Service continue to be resilient as a new congregation, having started face to face but spending most of its lifetime in covid. We are looking forward to seeing that congregation grow in 2022.

I believe the next season will open the doors for us to see our vision implemented and influenced beyond the four walls of the church. The hire of Paul Tucker as our English Campus pastor is a strategic move that will ensure the implementation of our vision within Clayton, and release me to focus my time and strengths in the pioneering church space. There were three collaborative works that happened in 2021, which we will be spending more time exploring in 2022 as a church:

1. Together for Clayton

I'm excited to share that our church has formally partnered with Regeneration Baptist Church Monash, All Saints Anglican Church, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church and Cafe Care. Together we will form a relational and collaborative network that will invite other churches to come together to pray, partner with local stakeholders and plant churches for the purpose of seeing Clayton and beyond being transformed by the gospel. This has been approved by the leadership of all parties involved, and next year we will take the first steps to work together in a more intentional way. Our prayer is that we can bring churches together to walk alongside stakeholders to transform Clayton and the surrounding suburbs.

2. Co-Working Business Centres

I have had the invitation to work with the leadership of co-working business centres to help bring strategic thinking and partnership between churches and these centres to see how together we can fulfil the great commission in these emerging harvest fields. It enables us to explore building a bridge between the church and this world of work. This collaboration will be explored and worked on in 2022.

3. Reventure - Faith & Work

Reventure is an organisation that champions whole of life discipleship with a focus on faith and work. We have an opportunity to collaborate alongside Reventure to build the relational network in the work, church and academy spaces that will provide the opportunity to find the people, communities and organisations that will assist us to fulfil our vision of building whole of life disciples.

These are exciting opportunities that I look forward to sharing in 2022.



CHURCH OF CHRIST FELLOWSHIP CLAYTON INC.

(03) 9544 2155 | claytonchurch.org.au | hello@claytonchurch.org.au