

● 2023

**PART I**  
MINISTRY  
REPORTS



# ANNUAL REPORT

Clayton Church of Christ Fellowship Inc.





Who is your  
EVERYONE?

Where is your  
EVERYWHERE?



What is your  
EVERYTHING?

# CONTENTS

OUR VISION	4
SHARED FUTURES	5
SENIOR PASTOR	6

<b>AN ENABLING CHURCH</b> A church enabled by strong governance & the right support	<b>7</b>
CHURCH BOARD	8
TREASURER	9
BUSINESS OPERATIONS	10
CENTRAL MINISTRY SYSTEMS	11

<b>A CHRIST-CENTRED GATHERED CHURCH</b> A church thriving in groups gathered around Jesus	<b>12</b>
ENGLISH CAMPUS	13
SERVICES	14
GROUPS & NEXT GENERATIONS	16
GATHERINGS	18
CHINESE CAMPUS	20
MANDARIN CONGREGATION	20
CANTONESE CONGREGATION	21

<b>A LOCAL CHURCH</b> A church walking alongside stakeholders to transform Clayton	<b>22</b>
FREE MEAL DELIVERY	23
SOW A SEED	23
YOU FIT	24
LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR	25
ENCOUNTER ENGLISH LEARNING	25

<b>A GLOBAL CHURCH</b> A church reaching the unreached people groups	<b>26</b>
GLOBAL CHURC	27
GLOBAL PARTNER	28
GLOBAL WORKERS	29-35

<b>A PIONEERING CHURCH</b> A church pioneering new frontiers and spheres	<b>36</b>
PIONEERING CHURCH	37

# OUR VISION

To Build  
**DISCIPLES**

Who Represent  
**JESUS**

to **EVERYONE,**  
**EVERYWHERE,**  
with **EVERYTHING**

# SHARED FUTURE

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

<p><b>AN ENABLING CHURCH</b>  <i>... enabled by strong governance &amp; the right support</i></p>	<p>A church that builds adaptability in its governance &amp; operations to enable and empower the fulfilment of the vision. A church that is above reproach, that faithfully stewards its resources and cultivates healthy accountability &amp; empowerment of its people.</p>
<p><b>A CHRIST-CENTRED GATHERED CHURCH</b>  <i>... thriving in groups gathered around Jesus</i></p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><b>AN EVERYDAY CHURCH</b>  <i>... representing Jesus in our everyday moments</i></p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><b>A LOCAL CHURCH</b>  <i>... walking alongside stakeholders to transform Clayton</i></p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><b>A GLOBAL CHURCH</b>  <i>... reaching the unreached people groups</i></p>	<p>A church that welcomes and makes a home for international students, to disciple and send 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</p>
<p><b>A PIONEERING CHURCH</b>  <i>... pioneering new frontiers and spheres</i></p>	<p>A church whose focus is in 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.</p>

# SENIOR PASTOR

What an amazing year 2023 has been! It brought both fruitful moments and challenges, but through every season, God has proven faithful. As I enter my second year in the bi-vocational role of Senior Pastor, I am profoundly grateful for this opportunity. Engaging beyond our church walls has given me a deeper appreciation of God's unique work in Clayton. The support from our church board and members is heartening, as we increasingly believe that our church is uniquely positioned to make a significant impact beyond our own community and into the broader kingdom.

Operating in a 'non-traditional' Senior Pastor role has been enabled by our exceptional staff, who have embraced larger roles and responsibilities. This underscores our church's focus on the priesthood of all believers rather than solely on the Senior Pastor. I remain steadfast in my belief that the Holy Spirit is the ultimate leader in our church, and my role is to facilitate His guidance.

Reflecting on the seven years as Senior Pastor, it is exciting to witness the seeds we planted bear fruit. This fills us with godly confidence in our vision and inspires us to move faithfully into the future God has for our church. As our members increasingly embody the vision of being 'disciples who represent Jesus to everyone, everywhere with everything,' we eagerly anticipate the fulfilment of our shared futures.

As **an Everyday Church** we invested resources, time and energy into defining our discipleship pathway which will help individuals live out this vision in their everyday lives. This will unfold in the coming years.

As **a Christ-Centred Church**, we witnessed growth in services, gatherings, and groups, with people embracing faith, undergoing baptism, finding community, and encountering God. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is increasingly evident, facilitated by our prayer team, preaching, and receptive congregations. We've restructured to prioritise next-generation ministry, enhancing discipleship across our English, Mandarin, and Cantonese congregations. Notably, we commissioned Ps Phanin along with our first female pastor in the English campus - Ps Sheron.



**Chee Seng Fah**  
Senior Pastor

As **an Enabled Church**, we managed our finances well despite lower offerings, aiding our members in financial discipleship. We're also continually improving our area of governance.

As **a Local Church**, we became a trusted part of the community, epitomised by the Clayton Community dinner after seven years of actively loving our community with no strings attached.

As **a Global Church**, we welcomed new missionaries, celebrated returning workers' faithfulness, and sent our second post-COVID mission team to India.

As **a Pioneering Church**, we have invested into the kingdom advancement in Together For Clayton and in different organisations. I also work one day a week with the Different Co, developing a network of 17 churches nationally on this whole of life discipleship journey, which our church is a part of.

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff as we farewellled Virginia Lau, Connie Tay, and Sally Zhang. A big thank you to Ps Phoebe as she stepped up into the Chinese Campus pastor role in light of Ps Lin Hai's sickness. . To all our church members, thank you for your love for God and service in our community, exemplifying the priesthood of all believers. As we enter 2024, let's hold firm to the belief that God is more than able to move in our lives and our church.

Love in Christ,  
**Pastor Chee Seng Fah**



# AN ENABLING CHURCH

# CHURCH BOARD

**Charles Skadiang, Board Chair**



Edmond Ng, Ahann Ker (Treasurer), Jun-Hoi Lok, Charles Skadiang (Chair),  
Anna Fernando (Secretary), Ps Chee Seng Fah (Senior Pastor)

**2023 was certainly an eventful and fruitful year for our church and it was incredible to be part of it. We acknowledge the work of God in this season and the incredible blessing He has bestowed upon our church. So many people have contributed and our position is a culmination of God working through all these people over the years.**

We thank Ps. Chee for his strong and courageous leadership. We recognise God has placed him here for a reason and gifted him with a unique ability, skillset and the character to lead us in this season. Along with him, we are constantly encouraged by the executive team and all church staff. The deep love for God and church is obvious, and we acknowledge all their hard work throughout the year.

It has been a fruitful year for the Board. We welcomed Jun Hoi Lok, who brings great insight and professional expertise.

Nominations Committee changes:

- Thank you & farewell Edmund Fong
- Welcome Dharshi Bubb
- Welcome Andrew Ah Sang (2nd Term)

We are keen to work with them to add a new Board member in 2024 and are working on a Board Pipeline process to facilitate future stability.

In all things, we acknowledge we can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps.

**Proverbs 16:9**

We implemented the Senior Pastor Role Framework, which gives clarity and structure to the bi-vocational nature of the role. Ps Chee is empowered to operate effectively in his different roles whilst ensuring appropriate accountability to the Board.

Submission to achieve CMA Standards Council (CMASC) Accreditation is expected in early 2024. Additionally, constant work on strengthening church policies remains a focus. Overseeing the financial stewardship of our church in a challenging season has ensured the Board remains diligent in strengthening the foundations of God's house.

Thank you for the support, encouragement and prayers we have received from many of you this year. We are pleased to say we are a united Board, with a common purpose to see Clayton Church continue to grow in influence and a desire to see our congregation honour God in every area of their lives.



# TREASURER

**How faithful is Clayton Church in responding to God's invitation to participate with Him in His Mission for the year ended 31 December 2023.**

These Ministry reports tell you stories of investing time and resources in people outside of Clayton Church, the unreached people groups and communities.

We want to be prudent in our financial management, yet generous and remain dependent on God, recognising that He is the source of our provision. We had prudently built up sufficient financial resources over the past years for the Church future needs.

In 2023, the Church had expended a lot more resources in line with its vision of discipleship making despite a decrease in the general offering income since 2022.



**Ahann Ker**  
Treasurer

Here is the financial summary for the Actuals of 2023 comparing to the Actuals of 2022 and the Budget for 2023:

	2022 Actuals	2023 Actuals	2023 Budget
<b>Total Offering [a]</b>	\$1,420,480	\$1,401,940	\$1,610,004
<b>Total Income [b]</b>	\$1,694,188	\$1,671,280	\$1,817,180
<b>Total Expenses [c]</b>	\$1,493,375	\$1,674,038	\$1,844,800
<b>Net Cash Surplus (Deficit) [d = b-c]</b>	\$200,813	\$242	-\$27,620
<b>Depreciation (Non Cash Item) [e]</b>	\$216,124	\$212,006	\$212,006
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit) [f = d-e]</b>	-\$15,311	-\$211,764	-\$239,626
<b>Cash Reserves</b>	9 months @ \$119,018/month	7 months @ \$129,247/month	-
<b>Building Maintenance Fund</b>	\$219,000	\$289,000	-

# BUSINESS OPERATIONS

**Review to Advance was the work theme for 2023. As a group who work behind the scenes, it was an extremely busy year with many changes.**

Business Operations serves the Church in providing assistance, striving for best practice, aiding your pastors and their teams to do their jobs.

2023 saw this mixed group of people and roles have their first all-day retreat. The team heard the strategic vision from Ps Chee and Ps Paul, which helped them appreciate their individual roles as part of the wider church operations.

The team consists of:

- Church Administrator: Meenoi Teo
- Book-keeper: Sally Zhang (Tracy Huang)
- Risk & Compliance: Chong Wong
- Cook: Irene Goh
- Maintenance: Brian Pedersen
- Facilities: John Vlahos

We are assisted by volunteers who help out as well - Robin & Sue Clarke, Gordon Tucker, Anita Tam, Penny Ker, Susie Tan & Lloyd Panteleon.

**Digitising History:** 2023 saw staff with the aid of volunteers start to digitise our archived records. With storage an issue, this exercise will free up space needed for other items. This will take a year or two to complete. Rest-assured, items such as publications produced by the church are still held in hardcopy.

Mid-year saw Sally having to travel to and work from Shanghai as she had a family bereavement. Due to personal issues over the last 6 months she has had to step down from her role as book-keeper as of early 2024. We thank a few past staff members for their assistance during this period of transition. We also thank Sally for her service and wish her well.



**Stephen Gullery**  
Business Operations Director

Over the last 6 months a full review of all positions and duties was conducted with resource reallocations determined for 2024 and beyond. The recommendations are being considered by the senior management team.

Some changes have already occurred during the review time. Changes to come include the establishment of a volunteer team, assisting in maintenance, grounds and facility cleaning and setup. We are considering establishing a version of a mens-shed where Brian, our craftsman will share his knowledge and receive assistance in not only maintaining the church but constructing items required. When next in the chapel, look at the large cross. This is just one example of Brian's workmanship. If you admire the gardens and lawns when you attend the church, this also needs help from volunteers to be maintained. Then there are the special events that are put on by the church - Pentecost Pause, the community dinner, all need extra assistance.

2024 has already started as a year of change concerning personnel. We look forward to the year ahead and the support we will give to the church. Thank you all for your support.

# CENTRAL MINISTRY SYSTEMS

We start by acknowledging the tireless effort of Pastor Sheron in overseeing the Central Ministry Systems for the last few years. With the arrival of baby Bianca and her current maternity leave, this area of support has no doubt been a key pillar essential to the continued operations of our ministries. We thank and appreciate all that you have done Pastor Sheron.



**Ngoc Ng**  
Connections Coordinator

**Design & Communications** are crucial in keeping our congregation updated and informed. This covers the Church News email, announcement slides, sermon slides, website, broadcasting on social media, banners, billboards, posters, connect and prayer cards, and this annual report.

**Connections** you can't miss our Connect Team volunteers who cheerfully dress in red t-shirts, warmly greet and welcome our congregation each Sunday. They do a wonderful job of creating a welcoming space for both the congregation and newcomers. The team makes every effort to connect with newcomers and assist them in filling out the Connect Card. Every completed Connect Card is followed up during the week, and great effort is made to establish a connection.

**Assimilation** ensures people are effectively integrated into life, ministry and vision of the Church. This includes joining a life group, getting baptised, becoming a member, assisting with child dedication, and making it easy for church members to join or volunteer for various groups. Central Ministry Systems helps to coordinate all of this.

**Tracking & Reporting** covers the responsibility for the organisation and tracking of Church data and metrics for the purpose of evaluation in our disciple-making ministries. Providing clear and informative data which can be used to make ministry decisions. With help from staff and volunteer leaders who enter the weekly statistics into the Church Metrics, enabling us to monitor, plan and improve our ministry efforts. Quarterly reporting is provided to the Church Leadership & Board.

**Events** include the Newcomer's Lunch, Volunteer Thank You Lunch, (whole) Church Camp, Mother's Day and Father's Day, and other ad-hoc events. This year, Mother's Day and Father's Day were outstanding, thanks to the exceptional help from the talented Elevate Design team, led by Dena and Kah Ung. We feel very grateful and spoiled as parents. Thank you so much, Elevate Design team!

We are blessed and incredibly grateful to our wonderful team of staff and volunteers, and we are excited to continue building more connections in 2024.

## WHOLE OF CHURCH STATS

Average Service	Total Visitors	New Members	Joined a Life Group	Salvations	Baptisms	Child Dedications	Volunteer Positions filled
555	586	24	101	44	23	8	422



# A CHRIST-CENTRED GATHERED CHURCH

# ENGLISH CAMPUS

**There is great joy and gratitude as I share & reflect on 2023 - incredible stories of transformation that have marked our journey from being refreshed to experiencing revival.**

As English Campus Pastor, my role centres on cultivating a culture that propels us forward as a people embodying the love of Christ. Our theme, "Refreshed to Revival" encapsulated the journey we embarked on. We sought a refreshing of our daily walk with Jesus, leading to the revival of our lives and the church toward God.

A profound story of change is found in our collective journey to understand and experience the Holy Spirit as a person rather than a feeling or experience. **Pentecost Pause** was a pivotal prayer & worship night where the presence and power of God were felt in unprecedented ways. The spiritual temperature of our church rose significantly, evident from youth gatherings to our Sunday services and impacted lives.

Healing and newfound confidence to step forward in faith were tangible outcomes, a testament to the perfect love that drives out fear. Our emphasis on prayer became a catalyst for the Holy Spirit to move; **prayer is central heartbeat of our church.**

We value the family unit and know that God uses strong marriages to build the next generation and represent Jesus at home as well as in the community. Feedback from completing the **Alpha Marriage** course was "Each session opened up areas we hadn't spoken about. We have improved our communication and understanding. We are listening more. Taking time before responding. Honest sharing, not bottling up".



**Paul Tucker**  
English Campus Pastor

Feedback from the **Marriage Enrich** course: "We are... closer than we have been before [with each other and with God]".

In 2023 we celebrated 4 weddings, 7 child dedications and also saw the passing of 3 long time church members:

- Athol Edwards, aged 94
- Venetia Pereria, aged 93
- Ray Thorpe, aged 72

I commend our dedicated leaders - Ps Kyle, Ps Phanin, Ps Sheron, Shamilla, Stephen, Margaret, and Bill. Commissioning Ps Sheron and Ps Phanin into expanded roles in 2023 was a significant acknowledgment of their calling and maturity as spiritual leaders.

Our theme for 2024 is "More Than Able" and our focus will be on ministry depth and leadership development, bringing out the best of each member. Revitalising life groups is a priority, as we seek the heart of God and build our faith, knowing that He is indeed more than able. Let us celebrate the incredible stories of transformation and look forward to the greater things God has in store for Clayton Church of Christ.

## ENGLISH 10AM SERVICE STATS:

Average Service	Total Visitors	New Members	Joined a Life Group	Salvations	Baptisms	Child Dedications	Volunteer Positions filled
420	409	18	35	18	9	14	311

# SERVICES

**“During worship, it feels like I can let go of everything. The worship here is different, authentic, honest and it just flows, it’s just the best”**

What an incredible year it has been, and it remains a constant privilege to guide the church into the presence of God, facilitating meaningful moments with our Lord and Saviour. In expressing gratitude, it's important to acknowledge that the seamless operation of our endeavours each Sunday would not be possible without the invaluable assistance of our dedicated volunteers who selflessly serve.

Over the years, we know many volunteers enjoy contributing to various service ministry teams. However, some have encountered difficulties in managing multiple team rosters. After engaging in numerous conversations with members who actively participate in multiple ministries or serve alongside their family members, we identified a significant challenge – frequent clashes with different team schedules, such as those of the worship team and kids church.

To address this issue, this year we initiated a trial of a rotational roster system involving the teams across all Sunday Service teams, including the connect team, worship team, coffee team, and kids church team.



**Phanin Soeur**  
Services Pastor

Implementing this rotational roster has provided every service member with a clear schedule for the entire year right from the outset. It has greatly contributed to stronger team dynamics and more robust bonds among team members. Knowing who is on your team in advance has proven to be an effective strategy in enhancing the overall volunteer experience.

The standout moments of this year for many included the **Pentecost Pause** weekend, a Worship Night in the latter part of the year, a special Mothers Day service where all the women were treated to a delightful morning tea, and our festive **Let There Be Light** night that brought together over 300 people at our church to celebrate Christmas.

For the Worship Team, the highlights were the Easter and Christmas services. Easter was particularly memorable with the addition of extra singers in our Choir, and Christmas, as always, held a special place in our hearts as we united to sing songs that have resonated across many generations.

**“I love that we can come together as family to serve even though we are serving in different ministries”**





Here are a few words from Winston Chin-Lenn who leads the Monthly Chapel Service team.

We thank God for His many blessings that He bestowed upon us as we worship, praise, listen to His Word and serve Him especially amongst the seniors group in 2023. Through the Monthly Chapel Service, the Lord has knitted the seniors group closely together resulting in encouragement and care for one another, and released some to use their gifts to serve Him.

Guest speakers across our 9 services included Ps Sue Brownless, Ps Barry & Anne Cutchie, Andrew (Mong Hock) Lian, Shamilla T & Ps Kyle.

It was also a joy to see many freely contribute to the lovely afternoon tea. We were very encouraged and inspired by the messages from our Speakers. **To God be the glory!**

**“I attend another church but I tune into your services if I can’t make it to my own church, please don’t tell them”  
(it’s ok, we won’t)**

ONLINE STATS	2023 (2022)
Subscribers	1,156 (+142)
Views	32,134 (-16,573)
% Local Views	61% (+7%)
% Global Views	39% (-7%)
Viewer Top Countries	US India Malaysia Philippines Singapore
Viewer Top Demographic	35-44 years

**Sunday 10AM**

**Monthly Chapel**



**420**



**66**

**“I watch your service online and especially enjoy the worship, thank you!”**



# GROUPS & NEXT GEN

All English Next Generation ministries have worked so hard to meet so many different needs in so many different contexts - all towards the one goal of making disciples who represent Jesus to everyone, everywhere, with everything.

I am proud that we have leaders who are so willing to move with where we feel the Holy Spirit is leading, and we trust that if we listen and obey God's calling then the future is secure.



**Kyle Schroder**  
Next Generations Pastor

## Kid's Church

Kid's Church, under the leadership of Evelyn Chan, has had another very big and busy year. We are proud of the way in which Kid's Church has actively connected with some of the themes that were presented in the Sunday service, been visible and active in the wider church through Love Loud projects, Mother's & Father's Day events, and participating with the Prayer Ministry Team. We successfully ran a Holiday Program, which has not happened in a decade!

The focus on disciple making has grown as we personalise our teaching material, spend more time modelling the values that make up a follower of Christ, and create more and better opportunities for "discipleship in the home" through parents and guardians.

This has been a great year, with many reasons to praise the Lord. Thank you Eve & your wonderful Kid's Church team.

## Emerge Youth

Emerge Youth, led by Duc Tran, has continued to grow; both numerically and in disciples! The team deep dived into key areas of life - relationships and faith that can stand firm through hardships. Parents were invited into various sessions and have worked hard at enlarging the community around our youth.

It was such a joy to see our Youth present at church wide events, such as Pentecost Pause and Let There Be Light Christmas Night. Our youth leadership team has farewelled some long serving leaders who will be greatly missed and have welcomed on board some wonderful fresh faces who we are sure will journey with EmERGE Youth for many years to come.

### Star Kids



### Mighty Kids



### Emerge Youth



### Ji En Kids



### Ji En Youth





Emerge Youth hosted a fancy dress formal, worship nights, fishing trips, movie nights, and the ever-anticipated camp at the end of the year. The camp seems to grow every year and this year we had over 40 campers attend, saw youth accept Jesus as their Saviour, and make some lasting relationships.

We also saw two youth baptised this year, and many others take steps to deepen their faith. None of this would happen without Emerge Youth Leadership team's commitment to the ministry, the integrity in which they conduct themselves, and the love they have for the youth. Thank you Duc and your hardworking and amazing team.



## Emerge Campus & Young Adults

Emerge Campus, as led by Kyle, and the Young Adults ministry, led by Kenneth and Samantha, changed format in 2023 and took a big risk in meeting up weekly at the church on Wednesday nights.

Young Adults previously hosted Life Groups in homes, and Emerge Campus used to meet fortnightly. Thus, this was a big change. We are grateful that the leaders and members were all so flexible and understanding.

It was certainly a big year, and when planning the **Welcome Dinner**, we did not expect over 100 people to show up!

The year settled into a new routine with a total of 5 Life Groups operating each week, and we were able to hear from over a dozen different speakers, most were C&YA members who were speaking up the front for the first time. We developed our own worship team and saw the leadership team expand as the year went on. We even were able to go through the entire Alpha series as a combined group.

We were proud to see members of our C&YA body displaying fruits of their faith with two of them being baptised, some stepping into leadership positions, and having members participate in three different overseas mission trips. We feel like we are stepping into the newest form of Emerge Campus and Young Adults, and are excited to see where this leads.

### Emerge Campus Young Adults



# GATHERINGS

**As we continue to release and hold things loosely, we start to experience a shift in the way we respond to our everyday life situations, the way God wants to lead His people to the next level, the way we see our team members, their role and gifting, and walking at His pace not ours. Ministry with a purpose, instead of Ministry with events.**

It has been an honour to work alongside each of the Gathering leaders and I thank them and their teams for serving God despite their busy schedules.

## Empower Men's Ministry

***A community where men can find genuine connection & friendship***

Adrian Low led Empower with Joe Chen, Simon Edgecombe, Nic Lee and Phil Pham in 2023. The team farewell and thank Nic & Phil who both concluded their service. In March 2023, over 20 men gathered for an enriching camping experience at Maryborough. One heartwarming moment occurred around the campfire, as they welcomed our Ukrainian brothers. Despite it being their first meeting, the camaraderie was instant and it set the tone for a weekend filled with shared memories during devotions and free time.

Another event was a seminar by Jose Thomas from Manna Fitness on men's mental health and wellbeing. It provided a platform for meaningful discussions, highlighting the importance of such topics. One participant explained why he joined - being new to church, it was a great opportunity for him to meet other guys. It is so good to know that these events are small beginnings of connections for men with the hope that the conversation continues on Sunday service or other events.



**Shamilla Thiruganasevan**  
Local & Gathering Director

## Alpha

***An opportunity to explore life, faith & meaning***

The team of Rosalind Ng, Beng Ng, Bob Oh, Audrey Lam and Lawrence Sim under Ahann and Penny Ker are so passionate to walk with people exploring Christianity or new to the faith. Having served in this space for many years, they have witnessed some individuals come to faith after Alpha and find it an incredible privilege to be part of God's mission.

This year, 16 people joined Alpha, each seeking to understand the basics of the Christian faith through the weekly sessions. Each talk explored a different faith-based question and was designed to create an opportunity for participants to reflect on and resolve questions like:

- Who is Jesus
- Why did Jesus die?
- How can I have faith?

Their responses would often lead to an invitation to come to faith in Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.



## Embrace Women's Ministry

The Embrace core team led by Juliet Soeur and comprising of Lauren Ng, Cecilia Au, Dena Ngieng, Vivienne Ho, Sam Gan and Louise Cassar flourished by recognising each other's gifts and talents.

2023 events included an Enneagram Workshop for the core team, guest speaker Susanna Koch, Clothes Swap and annual Ladies dinner. Embrace provided varied spaces for ladies to connect and deepen friendships, make new and even unexpected relationships, praying for one another, sharing of stories and intentionally inviting family and friends into safe spaces where Jesus was present. Embrace was also very intentional in their inviting of youth/high schoolers and mums with their daughters to some events as they continue to build a sisterhood across generations.

Embrace desired for our ladies to feel valued, seen and loved by Jesus and each other. It was lovely to see women supporting women, lifting each other up (this year Embrace also recognised the ladies on staff and pastors wives), caring for one another, being brave and sharing their journeys, and simply having uninterrupted time to sit with one another and share life.

***A sisterhood where women connect, inspire & grow together***



## Playgroup

***A place of belonging, support & encouragement for parents with toddlers***

2023 has been an encouraging year, where we saw many more families attending weekly and beautiful connections starting to blossom with one another - a testament on how God has been working in and through our wonderful leaders and helpers in particular Haley Pease, Koon Yee Chan and Kazue Kitamura with our playgroup community.

Our playgroup leaders value the opportunity to watch these young children grow and thrive, as well as connect with parents and carers. In particular, they have journeyed with some mothers from the community as they have navigated new pregnancies, moving house, losing parents, and raising children far away from their family networks. Countless times we have seen grandparents return with new cohorts of grandchildren, or parents returning with younger siblings, thankful that "We are still here!" When this happens, we praise God for them to see playgroup as a place of belonging, support and encouragement.

"To me, playgroup is not only a place for my kids to explore, learn and play, it is also a safe place for me to laugh and cry with other mums. It is a place where I know I am not alone in this journey of parenthood, a place full of encouragement and grace" - **Winnie P, Playgroup mum**



# CHINESE CAMPUS

Whilst Ps Lin Hai's health deteriorated throughout 2023 with God's abundant grace, Ji En, the Chinese Campus, was empowered and able to focus on four essentials of discipleship: Word of God, People of Jesus, Spirit of Jesus, Mission of Jesus.

For 2024, we look forward to developing deeper connections and a sense of community to get to the next level of discipleship for God's kingdom.

## MANDARIN SERVICE

Thank you to the leadership team of Shi Shi Shao, James Jing, Xiao-Min Jiang, Eric Xu & David Wei-Hua Liu.

### Word of God: Source of Growth

In order to help Christians to live out a Christ-centred life – becoming more and more like Jesus, a new course called **The Life of Christ** was added to the existing series in 2023. The course inspires Christians to represent Jesus by systematically studying the life of Jesus. Through 4 classes of 32 participants, over 50% of the congregation has joined systematic study of God's Words.

### People of God: Fruit of Discipleship

James Jing (Tian Sui Jing) was been appointed a volunteer ministry director (Chuan Dao Ren). Tian Sui sensed an inward call from God to preach and teach the Word, and to minister to the people of God voluntarily. He will provide pastoral care and run a foundation course for new believers.

"I came to Ji En after migrating to Melbourne in 2013. In 2015, I started studying at MST. At a Sunday seminar, I answered the Lord's call. I feel honoured to serve our Lord, stepping up in 2024."



**James Tian Sui Jing**  
Volunteer Ministry Director

## MANDARIN 2PM SERVICE STATS:

Average Service	Total Visitors	New Members	Joined a Life Group	Salvations	Baptisms	Child Dedications	Volunteer Positions filled
109	121	0	53	25	12	6	85



**Phoebe Chan**  
Chinese Campus Pastor

## Spirit of Jesus (Next Generation Realignment)

Moved by the Holy Spirit, the church leadership is in the midst of formulating an aligned long-term vision for discipling children and youth for the whole church - an answer to prayer from previous years within the Ji En Leadership team. In 2024, work will continue on developing the discipleship strategy in conjunction with the new Next Generation team under Ps Kyle's leadership.

Support from the English Campus helps to nurture Ji En's next generation. The work of the Spirit has been witnessed through Ji En's monthly English worshipping, sharing and mentoring to young adults and youth.

## Mission of Jesus

God partners with us in disciple making. He calls His people to expand His Kingdom. A mission trip in 2024 has been planned. It will be lead by Ps Phoebe and James (Tian Sui), around 10 people will visit two remote churches which are serving the unreached people.

## CANTONESE SERVICE

Thank you to the Leadership team of Thomas Lui, Hebe Cheng, Alan Ngo, Eddie Wong, Felix Chiu.

### Word of God

Cantonese congregation has regular systematic study of God's word after the worship on Sunday. They finished the Alpha course and a New Believers' foundation series in 2023

### People of God

More leaders came forward to obey God's commands in Chinese Campus - Thomas and Hebe stepped up to lead the Cantonese congregation in Sept 2023 is another one of the fruits.



**Thomas Liu**  
Cantonese Director

Thomas received the calling to be a preacher in 2009 during a biblical seminar run by Pastor Stephen Tong (唐崇榮牧師). In 2012, all his four family members were miraculously rescued in the Hong Kong Lamma Island shipwreck, that claimed 39 lives. Thomas and his wife Hebe started serving the Cantonese congregation in 2022. In September 2023, Thomas was appointed Cantonese Ministry Director to lead the Cantonese congregation. He is now studying for Master of Arts in Christian Studies at Thirdmill Seminary.

## Spirit of Jesus

The ultimate power that brings change in discipling relationships is the Holy Spirit. The Chinese Campus, Ji En, had actively participated in English Campus' Pentecostal prayer meeting. What's more, both the Mandarin and Cantonese congregation greatly experienced fellowship with the Holy Spirit on a dedicated Chinese Praise and Prayer Sunday afternoon.

## Mission of Jesus

Under the leadership of Thomas and Hebe started in Sept 2023, the gospel is proclaimed and celebrated among the vibrant Cantonese community.



*It is a privilege to dedicate myself to serving God and saving souls for Him*



## CANTONESE 2PM SERVICE STATS:

Average Service	Total Visitors	New Members	Joined a Life Group	Salvations	Baptisms	Child Dedications	Volunteer Positions Filled
26	56	6	13	1	2	0	26



# A LOCAL CHURCH

# LOVE LOUD

## Report by Shamilla Thiruganaselvam, Local & Gathering Director

Coming into the Local role slightly more than 3 years now, I'm starting to see the jigsaw puzzles slowly making sense and forming a beautiful story - on how Clayton church has been hand-picked and positioned to be His light in the heart of Clayton (the most multicultural suburb) - where hope is rebirthed, restoration discovered and Christ is found.

### Free Meal Deliveries

*Meals of love,  
hope & connection*

At the start of 2023, drivers were starting to take their next steps - genuinely wanting to connect and engage with the recipients whenever an opportunity existed. This led to building of trust and friendships being formed. We started receiving news of recipients inviting our drivers into their homes for a chat to share some of their everyday life struggles and some even seeking for prayer. We also saw drivers going above and beyond, helping some of our recipients with further assistance ie clothes, food, groceries etc.

Praise God the funds started coming in through congregation contribution and we also gained a Bendigo Pinewood Community Bank grant.



### Sow a Seed

*Practical & financial support  
for those in need*

"I'm seeing a shift in our congregation in how we see our community. A church member had gone to the city and encountered a homeless person, who her husband happened to know from work. The interesting point here is that they stopped, talked to him, and said that help was available if he was open to it.

As a Church, we now have a mindset that every person is a creation of God, no matter their situation, and we need not judge or label people, thinking that they are too far gone. Even when we don't know what to do, we ask others around us, and we can pass on advice and help. We no longer just walk away, and say "it's not my problem, someone else will deal with it", or if this person is on the street, he probably deserves it. As we start to change our thinking, God will bring more opportunities for us to make a difference in someone's life".

**Bill Pontikis**



<b>Meal Recipients</b>	<b>Meals Delivered</b>	<b>Sow a Seed Recipients</b>	<b>Sow a Seed Funds Raised</b>
 <b>35</b>	 <b>4,208</b>	 <b>11</b>	 <b>\$14.8K</b>

In 2023 we birthed **Love Loud You Fit**, which was totally funded by the Victorian Government through the Suburban Rail Loop Community Project Fund of \$78,534 - a testament of His will and favour, as clearly we didn't plan or ask for it.

# YOU *fit*

*Building a healthy community by building a healthier you*



**48 Bootcamps**  
by Manna Fitness

**Weekly Participants**



**Connection Opportunities**



**24 Self Defence sessions**  
by Caydam Self Defence

**Weekly Participants**



**Connection Opportunities**



**14 Let's Talk sessions**  
by Focus on the Family & partners

**Average Participants**



**Connection Opportunities**



**Community Dinner**

**Participants**



**Volunteers**



Among the distinguished guests at the **Community Dinner** were the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, 4 council members, 2 Members of Parliament, City of Monash Council - community team, SRLA, OC Connections, Monash University, Clayton Traders Association, Local schools, Bendigo Pinewood Community Bank, Focus on the Family, Islamic Association Monash Mosque, Notting Hill Neighbourhood House, Dixon House, Friends of the Children Foundation & Korean Association and more. 1000 members of Together For Clayton & Beyond were also mobilised throughout the year!

Thank you to the team: Connie Tay, Andrew Gan, Elizabeth Panteleon, Becky Liu, Robert Ferrera, Oliver Morris, Lloyd Panteleon, Janice La and Nathan Cheuk for all your valuable insights & support. *You made a difference!*



# Love Thy Neighbour

*Loving our neighbours with no strings attached during Christmas*

We truly lit up Clayton Church and the surrounding community this year, transforming our building into a beacon of joy. We recorded amazing videos, decorated windows, and, most importantly, brought the community together for a festive event.



### Partners:



Sponsor: \$2000 funds contributed Proudly supporting



## Encounter English Learning

*Equipping you with confidence to speak English, build friendship & call this country home*

Planning for 2023 was quite challenging at the start due to insufficient teachers and tutors, however Bob (Program Lead) was reminded of the verse Luke 11:9 **So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.**

In God's perfect timing, two weeks prior to the start of classes, we welcomed 5 new volunteers and saw 86 students register for our classes from China, Ukraine, Bangladesh, Egypt, and Japan, and partnered with Monash University Master of TESOL Department

For the first time, we commenced a 'beginner' level class and 'Intermediate' level class for advanced students for Ukrainian students in collaboration with **Compass Church**. We were encouraged to see 8-10 students from our 'elementary' level stay on for the Bible class each week. We also witnessed one of them take their next step and **publicly declared her faith through baptism.**

Thank you Bob, Luning, Helen, Beng, Annie, Yeah Yin, Lily, Chunhua, Christina, Shi Shi, Siu, Joan, Robin and Rosy for your love, passion and dedication.



Encounter Class attendees



Bible Class attendees





# A GLOBAL CHURCH

# GLOBAL CHURCH

**We are excited and thrilled to have Steven Jacob join the Church staff on an interim basis (one day/week) while Ps Sheron is on maternity leave. Thank you also to Ps Paul for stewarding the role during the final months of 2023.**

Thank you Sheron for your passion and dedication in 2023 to the Global mission. Clayton Church had the privilege to host the Activate Mission conference in 2023 and also send 2 teams on Short Term mission trips. Our India team had a great opportunity to minister in Villages, Church and Youth Meetings and due to sensitivity we cannot share any more details.

Cecilia Au and Jonathan Ah Sang went to Japan with Mission Megumi, a Power to Change missions trip. They visited 3 different universities during their one month stay in Nagoya. The team spent most of the time talking to the students in university and supporting the local team. It was a rewarding experience for the team to be part of God's work in Japan.

## Global Partners

Throughout the year, we continued to partner with Ps Skinnar, Empart, Cambodia Campus Crusade for Christ, and Compassion Australia. Ps Skinnar's church and Empart remained strong in their calling and purpose as we partnered together in prayer and petition. We also praise God for the lives impacted by the gospel through Cambodia Campus Crusade for Christ, in which you can read about in the following mission reports.

Furthermore, as of October 2023, our church members were sponsoring 82 children through Compassion Australia across 23 countries; 50 of which were located among unreached people groups - 332 letters exchanged between sponsors and children. On average, each sponsor introduces the gospel of Jesus Christ to four family members. It is truly amazing and encouraging to continue the good work.



**Steven Jacobs**  
Global Director (Interim)

***Our global vision is to see indigenous disciple-making movements among unreached people groups***

As you read the following mission reports from our Global Workers, may you be encouraged by the way our God continues to work.

## Global Team

Thank you to the Global team for their continued support and guidance to the Global mission of our church. As travel is back to normal after COVID, we pray for many more Short Term Mission trips to be encouraged for His Kingdom work especially to the unreached people groups in 2024 and beyond!

### Global Partners



### Global Workers





# GLOBAL PARTNER

## Cambodia Campus Crusade for Christ

**Cambodia Campus Crusade for Christ (CCCC) is a parachurch non-governmental organisation that helps to fulfill the Great Commission until every Cambodian knows someone who follows Jesus Christ.**

Thank you to our brothers and sisters in Christ at Clayton Church of Christ for your prayer and financial support towards helping to fulfill the Great Commission in Cambodia through evangelism and discipleship. We long for the time that we can be reunited to serve in missions together in Cambodia.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Student Led Movement

This year, the campus team celebrates 3379 conversations about Jesus, 2687 gospel presentations, 631 people who prayed to receive Christ and 443 students trained in evangelism and discipleship skills. Most of the regular campus evangelism and discipleship activities are based in Phnom Penh, however, the team had the opportunity to conduct student evangelism and discipleship training events in many provinces such as Kampot, Sihanoukville, Siem Reap and Battambang to name a few. In post-COVID times, the campus team have hosted short-term mission teams with fellow Campus Crusade for Christ/CRU campus teams from Australia, Singapore and Hong Kong. We praise God for the opportunities to connect youths and students to God and Christians on campus.

### Global Church Movement

Our church planting team is utilising digital resources to widely share the gospel in communities and rural villages. The "Jesus Film Project" has produced a free Android and Apple app with short evangelistic video clips and spiritual reflective questions to lead into gospel presentations.

The "God Tools" app has gospel tracts in Khmer such as "The Four Spiritual Laws" and "The Four" that can be read by any curious seeker. Presenting the gospel in video form has been an effective gospel presentation tool for illiterate people, such as older people and farmers in rural communities.

From January to June 2023, 23,905 people viewed an evangelistic video clip and 5,061 people prayed to receive Christ. There were 165 follow up groups of seekers and new believers eager to learn more about Jesus. The hope is that believers and their families will regularly meet in their homes and grow in their love, knowledge and obedience to God.

### Leader Strategies

The year began with two part-time staff to cover families, professionals and teacher ministries. The team focused on staff upskill training and development to be better equipped to launch programs and projects in 2024. This included regional and global staff training in leading movements (Thailand), leading professionals (Vietnam & Philippines), and life coaching (Philippines). Currently, there are 2 Family Life groups, 1 young professional women's life group, 3 teacher community groups, and 10 professional key volunteers across 3 provinces.

In 2024, we hope to build momentum through hosting mission teams, running outreach events and training volunteers to become leaders of godly impact in their workplaces, families and communities.

# ANGE & SAKAL WITH SONYA

## Serving in Cambodia Campus Crusade for Christ

Thank you to Clayton Church of Christ for your faithful financial and prayer support for our family's mission to reach the lost and make disciples in Cambodia. We feel privileged to have this opportunity to serve as your missionaries and be a part of His Kingdom work in Cambodia for God's eternal glory.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### National Team Leadership

We are grateful for the opportunities to meet, encourage, and pray with Great Commission colleagues around the world this year. In March, our family joined team training and a retreat for the National Team Leaders in our region in the Philippines. In May, our Leadership Team spent two weeks in Southern Vietnam for team-building training and a spiritual retreat. In September, our organisation coordinated a meeting of 100 church and Christian leaders from 10 different denominations to meet, pray and commit together in the spirit of "Let Us" serve the body of Christ together to reach Cambodia for Christ. Lastly, we were able to visit and pray with international Ministry Partners in Australia, Singapore, the United States and Canada to partner together in sharing resources to share the gospel and make disciples in Cambodia.

Sakal is studying his final year in a Master of Arts (Leadership) and Ange is studying her first year in a Graduate Diploma in Christian Ministry at the East Asia School of Theology, Singapore.

Our first five-year term as the National Team Leaders pursued unity so that the local body of Christ be united in love and Jesus Christ. Our next term will focus on growth in spiritual, personal, and professional lives of our staff and the body of Christ. We are excited to see how God will continue to move in uniting the Cambodian Church and seeing resources being shared to reach Cambodia for Christ.



### "Where Are They Now?" (Story of Change)

For close to 15 years, Sakal served in campus ministry to bring the gospel to university students. Once they graduate, some relocate to different provinces or continue to live and work in the capital city, Phnom Penh. However, the once frequent gatherings and Bible studies on campus with these former students often reduces to seeing ad hoc life updates on social media. Since our re-assignment from campus to professionals and families (Leaders Strategies), we reconnect with our former student key volunteers to support them in being Christian leaders living with impact in their professional, personal and spiritual lives.

SW joined our campus ministry as a Dentistry student in the early-2010s. Through participating in short-term medical missions and engaging with the international Christian volunteers (including Clayton Church of Christ members), this gave him an incredible vision to leave the capital city and return to his home province to live and serve missionally. Now, he runs a dental clinic in his hometown. In place of a traditional Buddhist offering altar, the reception shines a big sign, "In God We Trust", while playing Christian sermons and instrumental worship music in the background.

His professional connections in the provincial government helps incoming medical evangelistic outreach mission events to be quickly approved by local authorities and conducted without police intervention – giving the sick and needy opportunities to hear the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. Today, SW stays connected with CCCC as a Leader Strategies Key Volunteer and a faithful Ministry Partner to some of our missionaries with the support of his wife and three young children.

SK joined campus ministry as a Social Science student in the late-2010s. She was always involved in campus and church ministry – using her gifts of administration and music worship to help and serve others.

After graduation, she worked in the marketplace as an Accountant for five years and completed a Masters in Finance. Whilst juggling serving in young adults ministry during COVID and thereafter, her passion and burden in young adults discipleship grew and grew. Last month, she has taken a leap of faith to leave marketplace employment and serve as an admin and young adults intern at her local church for 6 months. She hopes to serve the Lord and her local church to encourage young adults to love God and make Him known to others.

SK continues her involvement in CCCC as a Ministry Partner and regularly joins Bible studies with our Leader Strategies team.



**Campus team doing a follow up group study**



**Campus team sharing the gospel with international mission teams**

SA join our campus ministry as a medical student in the early-2010s, and actively participated in short-term medical missions and regular campus evangelism and fellowship gatherings. Now working as an Ophthalmologist, he makes weekly trips to work across two provinces and occasionally joins medical training stints in South Korea and the US.

Experiencing the loneliness from busyness and demanding work pressures, he believed that other Christian healthcare professionals were feeling disconnected with Christian community too. He decided to reconnect and gather with Christian colleagues from his university years and work placements to meet monthly for worship and fellowship. Now, this Christian medical network of young adults has been meeting monthly for over a year to create a loving community connected to Jesus and each other. Our CCCC staff are regular speakers at SA's Christian gatherings for healthcare professionals and we are excited to partner together in sharing the gospel and bringing high quality healthcare to the people in Cambodia together.



**Cambodia CCC leadership**

# CECILIA AU

## Reaching International Students at Monash Uni with Power to Change

**At the start of 2023, I reported back to full ministry duties after taking 6 months off to deal with burnout. Throughout my period of rest, I continued to feel God's call for me to help reach international students at Monash (and beyond). During my time off, we had to close the international students' ministry at Monash Uni, so I was unsure how to continue to minister to international students but I was trusting in the Lord.**

Surprisingly, I found myself enjoying this return to pioneering a new ministry. Freed from having to manage a team, I enjoyed exercising my creativity to try out new ideas as well as connecting with key stakeholders who could potentially partner with me to reach the international students at Monash. God kept placing people around me to be allies, co-labourers and prayer warriors. I learnt to trust Him more and more each day.

In July, we had the opportunity to collaborate with a mission team of Hong Kong missionaries and uni students. The team brought a lot of energy, and helped us to find potential next-generation leaders amongst the international students at Monash. In September, I was able to visit Hong Kong to learn from the international students team there as well as discuss possible ways to partner more in the future. In January 2024, we were able to welcome our first short-term missionary from Hong Kong, who will be working with me to reach international students throughout this year.



With the prayers and help of people from our church as well as key individuals God led me to meet in 2023, I'm feeling hopeful about seeing a Power to Change ministry raised up again to specifically reach international students. Watch this space!

In other news, I was thankful for the opportunity to co-lead a mission trip to Nagoya, Japan, for uni students involved with Power to Change. This trip was extra special for me because it's been exactly 10 years since I finished up my ministry in Nagoya and returned to Melbourne. It was wonderful to be able to expose a new generation of Aussie students to the spiritual need in Japan, and to what the Lord is doing there.

My hope is that we will see more young people submit to the Lord and be willing to help bring the gospel to the Japanese people.



# DEREK & ROSEMARY SNIBSON

## Indigenous Ministry in Darwin with CMS

**Thank you for partnering with us in our work with Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory. We have seen prayers answered, received God's guidance and provision, and are grateful for our good health.**

In 2023, we supported and encouraged Aboriginal Christians and leaders in Darwin and their remote communities. Derek regularly meets with leaders in the Bagot Community for Bible study and prayer. Additionally, we have bi-weekly Bible studies with James Woods from Nungalinga College, which is crucial as he teaches Aboriginal leaders in a cross-cultural setting.

Rosemary developed a friendship with Mandy, another assistant teacher from the same college, splitting her time between Darwin and Numbulwar. She provides Mandy with practical support.

We visit Royal Darwin Hospital weekly and bring other Aboriginal individuals to provide pastoral care and language assistance, distributing brochures in their languages and reading the Bible together.

We lead weekly Bible studies at Howard Springs Prison - Rosemary with the women and Derek with the men in the High Dependency Unit. Additionally, monthly services we host for the women with volunteers are well-received, offering ministry and prayer opportunities. Many participants, are open-hearted and eager for a fresh start.



Our weekly Bible studies at a Drug Rehab Centre have been impactful, encouraging attendees to join Sunday church services at our local church. This facilitates a lasting church connection post-rehab. Many continue to attend after resettling in Darwin. One individual progressed from prison to rehab and church, was baptised, completed an Alpha Course, and is now evangelising on the streets!

We visit several hostels in Darwin, including Anglicare's housing project for those transitioning from remote areas to urban living. Rosemary leads cooking and sewing groups, fostering opportunities for sharing and prayer among the women.

In October, we spent 3 weeks in Ngukurr, SE Arnhem Land. During our stay, we attended the ordinations of James and Edwin from Numbulwar. We are thankful to see men stepping up for leadership roles in these communities.

We face numerous challenges including sickness, family violence, drug addiction, and vicarious trauma among those we encounter. Gratefully, we've helped establish a network in Darwin uniting Indigenous and non-Indigenous individuals from various churches to pray and collaborate on ministry across cultures. Please pray for the Indigenous church, that they remain steadfast in relying on Jesus for wisdom, direction, and strength amidst their vulnerabilities.





# JONO & STEPH BAILEY WITH AZARIA, LEVI & MATAYA

Served in Cambodia with Brave Home  
Relocated back to Australia

We are so grateful for everyone who has supported, encouraged and prayed for us over the many years of serving Jesus, through the amazing seasons and the challenges. We couldn't have done this journey if God didn't provide people who sacrificed and cared for us each step of the way.

Also we want to say thank you for the grace and understanding in helping us during this time of adjustment back to Australia. We are so incredibly thankful for everyone God has surrounded us with.

While we grieved leaving Cambodia, we praise God that the Brave Home was in a place where the local leadership was ready and able to take up the responsibility. Jono has remained in close contact with various ministry partners and individuals since we left and we have both been encouraged how God continues to move and bless the Brave Home and other ministries.

If you'd personally like to keep in touch with what God continues to do in the lives of Cambodians with whom we are in close connection: your prayers, support and encouragement would be much appreciated.



To keep in touch with caring for Cambodia together with us, please reach out:  
jbaileyjono@gmail.com  
stephaniemarie91@gmail.com

Thanks for all the genuine care, generosity and faithfulness for well over a decade as we've journeyed together. We have a very high respect and appreciation for Clayton Church of Christ.

Much love,  
Jono, Steph, Azaria, Levi & Mataya Bailey.



# MEGUMI CRITTLE

## Japanese Diaspora Returnees Ministry with OMF International

**It has been quite an eventful year including a long-awaited trip to Japan, moving house in late August and commencing involvement with Cross Culture Japanese in the city. I continue to lead the online ladies Bible study and fellowship twice a month.**

### Japan Trip: April – May

A highlight for 2023 was making a trip back to Japan. This was the first time to go without Simon. I didn't know how I was going to manage it but I felt strengthened knowing that God was going with me and ahead of me. The main purpose was to visit returnees. Almost all the returnees have a connection through the church, either through a Mother's English class run by Simon, life group and special events such as Easter and Christmas services. It was especially encouraging to meet up with the three ladies who are part of the online Bible study and fellowship group.

I was touched by so many sharing their fond memories of Simon and the lasting impression he made in their lives.

### Moving House: August

Praise God for answering prayers regarding a suitable rental despite the severe shortage of rentals available. I have the space to use my home for ministry.

#### Oct 25th

4 young people from Mission Megumi came for dinner and an introduction to Japanese customs and manners. (Jonathan helped to coordinate)

#### Dec 10th

20 young people from the free English conversation classes and helpers came for lunch, games and I gave a Christmas message in Japanese.

#### Dec 20th

A small group that study the Bible with the Japanese pastor came for a traditional Japanese meal and good heart felt sharing afterwards.



#### Dec 25th

One Japanese family and 4 young women who have no family here, joined me in celebrating Christmas.

### Cross Culture Japanese

A new pathway to continue to share God's love amongst the Japanese in Melbourne, Cross Culture Japanese is a relatively new outreach to Japanese living in Melbourne. It is part of Cross Culture Church in Melbourne. Simon and Greg Seymour (OMF colleague) worked together in establishing the framework for this new ministry. It was Simon's last significant task. It is led by a Japanese pastor. Members from various churches volunteer their time and gifts.

As of October I am involved in their seek-friendly service, a bilingual worship service and "Sunday Conversations", an informal gathering where Japanese can practice their English with a short Bible passage to discuss afterwards.

# SIMON & JANET EDGECOMBE

## WITH CHARLOTTE & SARAH

### Serving in Australia with OMF International

Simon and Janet together with their daughters Charlotte (10) and Sarah (7) served and lived in a province in Western China from 2017-2021.

Simon and Janet have been members of Clayton Church of Christ since 2010 and responded to the church's vision to build disciples who represent Jesus to everyone, everywhere with everything. Simon had served in this area of China before as a single (2003-2008) and met Janet there in 2007. The area of China had been on their hearts and they made a plan to return in 2017 with Charlotte and Sarah (then 3 and 1 years old) with the aim to live and work there with grateful support and sending from Clayton Church of Christ.

The area is home to some of the least reached people groups in the world some who have never heard the name of Jesus. One such minority group, the Hui are a Chinese speaking group who are Muslim not only in faith but also culture identity. Another group, the Amdo Tibetans are another group who are Buddhist by faith and have their own language, customs and traditions.

After a period of both Chinese and Tibetan language study, Simon and Janet were able to use their skills as ICU Nurse Educators and work in a local hospital. Charlotte and Sarah went to local Mandarin speaking kindergarten and later primary school. It was a special time for the family where they could together learn what it meant to be followers of Jesus in a place that did not have many opportunities to know him.



The family returned at the end of 2021 and went through a period of re-entry and adjusting back to life in Melbourne. Simon now works as an ICU Nurse Educator and Janet is working for the organisation International China Concern. Although they cannot be in China in this season of life, they still share the burden of reaching the unreached.

Simon and Janet are also studying at Melbourne School of Theology and are praying and preparing for what direction the Lord will lead them next. They anticipate that this will be in Melbourne for the time being so they have finished their service as Global Workers in Clayton Church of Christ.

We thank you brothers and sisters of the church for your support over many years and ask you to continue to pray for them as a family. Please pray for the many unreached people groups of China especially Hui Muslims and Amdo Tibetans - that He will reveal himself to them and that ministry among these people will grow.





# A PIONEERING CHURCH

# PIONEERING CHURCH

## Report by Ps Chee

**In 2023, we made significant progress by expanding our engagement beyond Clayton Church. Achieving our vision hinges on collaborative networks that will provide the opportunity for every member to grow and find living examples who will help in authentically representing Jesus within their unique life context.**

### Whole of Life Discipleship

Through various invitations and connections, we have seized multiple opportunities to share and minister in diverse spaces. I had a chance to share about my story of discipleship through Hope Fm 103.2, a Christian radio station in Sydney, on their [podcast](#) and [YouTube channel](#). He shared faith's impact on singleness at the Indivisible Singles Conference and providing a necessary space for singles in our church.

I spoke to church leaders of Arrow Leadership about leadership and emphasised the importance of discipling people not just into the church but also into God's bigger world. Chee also spoke at Lifegate Church Camp to share about [whole of life discipleship](#) to assist the pastor influence the discipleship culture. I even had the opportunity to pray *on behalf of churches* at the **Melbourne Prayer Breakfast**, along with speaking on the **Life @ Work Conference** [podcast](#) of City Bible Forum to encourage pastors to help their members integrate faith and work.

These diverse spaces serve as networks for members to explore discipleship in various life areas, while also witnessing God's work in cultivating a deeper desire within the body of Christ to integrate faith into all aspects of life.

### Together for Clayton & Beyond

In our second year, Together for Clayton & Beyond achieved significant milestones through collective effort and growing momentum. Weekly prayers, monthly pastors' breakfasts and quarterly equipping gatherings deepened connections among church leaders. Expansion efforts welcomed more churches into the network, while collaboration with campus ministries at Monash University enhanced our unity in spreading the gospel.

With support from City to City Australia, we developed a 5-year strategy reflecting our local vision, featured in their movements newsletter. We gained clarity on areas of mutual support and collaboration within the network. Participation in events like the Victorian Unity Roundtable by Nayba provided valuable insights for city service. Expert input from Roger Sutton of Gather Movements in the UK reaffirmed our focus on prayer, partnership, and planting, underscoring our commitment to serving the city.





The **Clayton Community Dinner** served as a platform to introduce the churches as a united group to key stakeholders and shared our collective impact as a community (watch [impact video](#)). This is part and parcel of us growing together into the future of Clayton becoming the next largest CBD. We want to grow with the city and churches that walk alongside stakeholders to see the gospel and its impact to flourish the city.

## Co-Working Business Centre

Our faith/work series featured insights from community managers at Waterman, offering tangible examples of integrating faith into professional life. This initiative, aimed at modeling faith in action, provided valuable lessons on fulfilling the Great Commission within the marketplace.

Additionally, Ps Chee still provides occasional strategic input into the thinking of how to build community and how faith can be integrated in the marketplace in this space.

## The Different Co. Church Pilot Network

This year Reventure rebranded to the Different Co. We had the opportunity to hear from them through our Faith/Work series. The launch of the Church Pilot Summit in October saw engagement with 17 churches nationally, transcending denominational boundaries. Embarking on an 18-month journey with senior pastors and marketplace leaders, learning from one another the wrestles and practicalities of building churches fostering whole-life discipleship with a focus on faith and work.

These endeavours epitomise our dedication to advancing God's kingdom beyond the confines of our church, fostering vibrant discipleship, and amplifying the transformative impact of the gospel in Clayton and beyond.



**Scott Morrison**  
Georges River Life Church



**Andee Sellman**  
Rest & Rhythm



**Shady Gendy**  
Waterman Business Centres





# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

In addition to the Church Leaders who authored their respective reports, we thank the following people for working on the Annual Report:

Carolyn Yong  
Christine Wang  
Koon Yee Chan  
Meenoi Teo  
Nic Lee





**Clayton Church of Christ Fellowship Inc.**  
**A0037112C**

(03) 9544 2155  
25 Burton Ave, Clayton VIC 3168  
[claytonchurch.org.au](http://claytonchurch.org.au)