



## Editors' Welcome - The Launch of NLCC Epistles

A big welcome to everyone reading this inaugural Winter edition of *NLCC Epistles*!

For those wondering how the newsletter came about: As you may know, we have been putting together the weekly church bulletin for some time now, and it became apparent that we needed something more which could include full-length recaps on how awesome and life-changing (most of!) our events are. It was time for a church newsletter.

Our aim is to increase the awareness of New Life City Church members as well as people outside NLCC, of what we do as a

church, and thus to improve our sense of community and of 'belonging' to each other.

It took a lot of prayer, faith and hard work from all involved, but we are thrilled that this was finished in time to be distributed at the 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner. On behalf of the Committee, we would like to thank everyone who attended the dinner, and in particular, our Gold Corporate Sponsors, whose names are provided on page 11.

We already have huge plans for the Spring edition, so keep a look out for a review of the Anniversary Dinner, the upcoming Family Camp, and more



**Stephanie Tan and Tricia Kao**

information on the cells in NLCC!

Happy reading and God Bless!

## Hybels and Bibles at Hillsong



**NLCC's Hillsong Delegates outside the Acer Arena**

**By Tricia Kao**

From 3 to 7 July, 19 members of New Life City Church flew over to Sydney to attend the Hillsong Conference – the 20<sup>th</sup> in its history. It was held at the Acer Arena at Olympic Park, and we were overwhelmed by the thousands of people who attended with us. But at the same time, we were grateful that we could worship the Lord as one massive body of Christ!

We were treated to a host of amazing speakers from around the world – Rick Warren (author of *The Purpose Driven Life*), Reinhard Bonnke, Jentezen Franklin, Louie Giglio, Charlotte Scanlon-Gambill, Brian Houston, Darlene Zschech and our favourite, Bill Hybels (Senior Pastor of Willow Creek church in the US)... just to name a few!

As a group, we attended a variety of streams and electives, ranging from youth leaders, Biblical studies, evangelism, worship leading, to dance! We took full advantage of the five days of intense spiritual feeding as we learned about stepping out of our comfort zone to say hello to someone who doesn't know Jesus, finding our "holy discontent", and knowing the true meaning of worship. It was at these sessions where God made definite impressions upon each of our hearts.

Despite being in the same arena with the most popular Christian band in Australia, we were not afraid to seize the opportunity to truly worship God. What an experience, and what an honour!

Just like in Samuel 1 and 2 when David brought the glory of God back to His people, it is our desire for everyone to be consumed with a passion for God, and to see His glory fall amongst His people. Be that person and see God use you in amazing ways! ■

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## A Message from our Pastors...



Pastors Angelina and Yat Wan Eu

Welcome to our first edition of *NLCC Epistles!* Angelina and I are extremely privileged to serve New Life City Church as its pastors.

As we celebrate NLCC's 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we believe that God has called us to be a church without walls, that our doors will always be open to everyone, and that our ministries extend beyond the church's borders.

In the future years, we can expect the services and ministries of NLCC to shift in these ways:

### 1. From living in the past to engaging with the present

We must not dwell on the past but live dynamically and be inspired by future possibilities. We must discover our God-given purpose with a sense of urgency.

### 2. From market-driven to mission-oriented

Have a mission for the heartbeat of God rather than a clubhouse mentality. We are a church that proclaims the Gospel, where all members grow as disciples of Christ.

### 3. From dead orthodoxy to living faith

We seek to be relevant and sensitive to the community by understanding their perspectives, priorities and needs. We want them to see our faith through our actions.

Thank you for praying with us for God's blessing and guidance, as we step out in faith to be obedient to His calling! We encourage you to walk in obedience to God.

En Agape  
Yat Wan and Angelina Eu

## Bruce and Kay's Farewell

We would like to thank everyone at NLCC for allowing us to be a part of this great church. We believe it is a very sufficient church that will reach Perth and beyond with the Gospel. A special thanks to Pastors Yat Wan and Angelina for their leadership and friendship.

We are excited about expanding our TV ministry to other parts of the world, especially to the United States. In the coming months, we will be setting up an office in Orlando, Florida and will begin producing some

of our programs there. Currently, we are broadcasting nine times a week in Australia; two cable networks in India and via satellite to Costa Rica. Now God has opened the door to enlarge our TV outreach in the United States.

Again, we would like to express our deepest appreciation for permitting us to be a member of NLCC. May God bless each of you.

Bruce and Kay Mumm



Pastors Bruce and Kay Mumm

## Prayer Group

*If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place.*

**2 Chronicles 7:14-15**

By Fionna Gan

Prayer is for all and all should be for prayer. God's church is built on prayer, not just works. We need to seek after God's heart and face in humility, knowing that without Him, the church has no foundation. We want to see God's hand move in our lives, our family's, our local churches and on the whole, the nation of Australia.

About six people consistently come together every Thursday to pray for the needs of the church as well as personal needs. We have seen our faithful God answer our prayers in ways beyond our human comprehension. Most of the time we start by having a study of the Word, usually led by Pastor Angelina, and from there we share our personal thoughts. With that we bring forth different prayer requests and encourage one another to pray. Not everyone is comfortable to pray aloud so anyone can choose to pray and the rest agree in unity.

Some time ago, some of our brothers were seeking employment and we prayed for God's favour and open doors. God is GOOD

as He granted them the desires of their heart! One of our sisters also had a breakthrough in learning to pray aloud in groups. She joined us because she knew the importance of prayer, but she feared praying in a group. After a short period, she boldly took that step to speak forth and now she prays with a passion. The prayer group has had times of shedding tears, laughter, comfort, exhorting, encouraging, rejoicing, and even rebuking in love; we never know what God is going to do in our midst!

Prayer is the key to unlocking heaven's gates. We have to recognise that more time spent on prayer will reduce time spent on murmuring and complaining, so why not come and join us for a life changing time as we seek God, the Almighty One, together! Be part of the building pillars of the Church.

Prayer Group is held every Thursday in Applecross from 9.30 am to 11.00 am.

If you would like more information or if you want to submit a prayer request, feel free to contact **Pastor Angelina Eu** (9417 1015) or **Fionna Gan** (9316 4843). ■



# Our New Elders

On Sunday 18 June, Seng Kian Gan (more affectionately known as “SK”) and James Seow were affirmed as NLCC’s newest Elders. The ceremony involved the reading of oaths by SK and James in front of Pastor Yat Wan, the pre-existing Elders (Keat Wong and Richard Tai) and the congregation. The entire room then prayed for God’s anointing and blessings upon their lives.



Pastor Yat Wan leads in a time of prayer

To give you an insight into the thoughts and personalities of SK and James, we conducted an interview, and even asked their wives – Fionna Gan and Sarah Seow – a question!

## Three Questions for SK

### What led you to NLCC?

Number one – is for sure God has led myself and my family to continue the work He wants to do in my life and my family’s too (my wife and children). Secondly, I’d met Pastor Yat Wan before so that was an influence. Also after worshipping here for awhile, I felt that what God had been speaking to my heart was that yes, I should be staying here, that this is my home church – serve! There are some needs within the church that not only I can do but everyone can pull together to do something for the Lord.

(SK and his family joined NLCC in 2005).

### Where do you see NLCC going in the future?

I always believe that our vision for a mission or any church must fall in line with God’s great commission – to reach out to the lost with His Good News. Whatever we do at NLCC we do for His glory and His purposes. We are fulfilling that – every small little detail everyone does in church, we might not see; we might have short-sighted vision and can’t see far away, but years down the track we’ll be very surprised that we do fall in line with God’s commission.

So in New Life we just have to focus more on that – change our thinking on visions and missions – to fall in line with our God’s great commission.

### Is there anything that you’d like to share with the church, as a newly appointed elder?



Sarah and James Seow

## Three Questions for James

### So what led you to NLCC?

I was being mentored by Ps Benny Ho when I was attending FCC at the time. He was speaking to me about joining NLCC, as he felt that he wanted a leadership team to ‘join’ with him. I really felt the calling that NLCC was the place that God wanted me to be. Therefore I joined in about 2001!

### Where do you see NLCC going in the future?

I think that now is a really exciting time for NLCC. I think there are a lot of changes that are happening at the moment in terms of a lot of different ministries. And obviously my heart is with the Twelve Stones ministry. We’ve spent a lot of time in the last few years building foundations – building the people to be strong such that they can look after themselves enough – but I think in the future what we’re going to be doing is doing a lot more in terms of outreach. Now that we’ve set those foundations, we’re ready to go out and start sharing with our friends, sharing with our family and sharing the love of Christ.

### Is there anything that you’d like to share with the church, as a newly appointed elder?

If I were to pick an Elder, I wouldn’t pick myself! Like today’s message by Reverend Samuel Lam – be obedient to God. I had to really seek the Lord regarding this matter of being an Elder; it’s just about being obedient to what He wants in my life. He said “yes, do it,” so I have to do it. And whatever I go through, so be it!

### SK’s favourite...

**Food:** Pasta!

**Book of the Bible:** Genesis. A lot of the first-mentioned principles are mentioned in Genesis. I always like to go back to Genesis because it has the root-principles of our lives right through the whole Bible.

**Verse:** Proverbs 3:5-6

**Christian song:** “Trust In The Lord With All Your Heart” by Don Moen

**One word to describe your wife:** My helpmeet.

**Question for Fionna - What are SK’s three best characteristics?**

- His love for God and the things of God
- His integrity
- His loving kindness



Fionna and SK Gan

Please be kind to me! I think we need a real sense of unity in the church and that if we’re going to achieve anything as a church, we really need to stand together as one body, because if we’re united then we can stand; if not, we could fall.

### James’ favourite ...

**Food:** Kway chap (noodle dish with intestines and all that kind of stuff) and Mushroom Swiss burgers at Burger King.

**Book of the Bible:** I actually do like the book of James – it’s very practical! My favourite at the moment is 1 Corinthians. It’s a very practical book that we’re currently studying – there’s just so many areas that it’s relevant to in terms of what we go through at church.

**Verse:** Proverbs 3:5-6 (*Uncannily, the same as SK’s!*)

**Christian song:** “Lord Reign In Me” by Brenton Brown

**One word to describe your wife:** Understanding

**Question for Sarah – What are James’ three best characteristics?**

- Honesty
- Consistency
- Trustworthiness



# TWELVE STONES

## Can Stones Really Give Birth?

By Jason Lim

Interesting question. Probably more interesting is the question of what their kids would look like (pebbles, I presume). Even more perplexing would be if they needed an emergency C-section! Ponder that for a split second before I grab your full attention on the birth of Twelve Stones.

So what's the story behind the Twelve Stones? For the last three or so years, the number of young adults at NLCC has continually increased and due to the dynamics of J-Life (catering for those under the scholastic whip) a new branch of care groups needed to evolve. They formed the "YA" clan, which as you guessed, stood for Young Adults. Clearly, years of schooling have robbed our creativity! Thus, the humble beginnings of our first Young Adults ministry began.

Psalm 1: 2, 3 *"But their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper."*

In 2005, God began to bless this new branch, and the one leaf began to show – YA2! Growth is essential to any living branch in Christ and in Him WE GREW AND CONTINUE TO GROW. (Amen!) In fact, one month ago, we sprouted a third leaf! Yes, you guessed it – YA3. Truly, our God is faithful.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the hemisphere, a young YA recruit was discussing with our Heavenly Daddy the issues surrounding his return back to Perth and New Life City Church. High on the agenda for discussion was the name for the Young Adults – "YA". Although it was certainly practical, it lacked a personal side to it – it lacked identity.

Psalm 147:4 *"He counts the stars and calls them all by name."*

If the stars in the sky have names, then the eyes that witness the glory of this creation, that testify with their hearts, minds and mouths that the glorious heavens are amazing are surely also known by a name. It's who we are, who we are

known as. I believe humans are, although sometimes the nails in our Friend's hands, the apple of His eye, and that we are so special to Him. With this in mind, I approached His throne and asked Him: "Who are we?" And He spoke...

"Twelve Stones."

Cool. He pointed me to the book of Joshua chapter 4. Joshua was instructed by the Lord that when he crossed the river Jordan into the Promised Land, he had to place 12 stones into the middle of the river which actually dried up as they stepped into the river (an amazing miracle similar to the parting of the Red Sea during Moses' time). This was to be a memorial for them and all generations after them of the faithfulness, power and devotion of the Lord their God. It also represented leaving Egypt and all the sins and wrongdoings that they had done in the past, moving on to a new life, the promised life that God had always said He would do and did do. In essence it reminded them of who they were, where they are now and where they are going.

I instantly loved the name. It showed us that we were clearly chosen by Him to move forward into the things He had promised us. Yes it meant greater things but it also showed His **faithfulness** through the "Egypt" (dark tough periods) of our lives.

Added bonus? You bet! Our Twelve Stones is pretty much a graduation away from J-Life – Joshua Life. Thus we are "Joshua people who crossed over" – a fitting analogy for Joshua campus students who have crossed over to working life!

And that's how Twelve Stones was born. Now we may look a little jagged, perhaps even a little cracked, but I tell you, we're going to shine and represent Him and His glory all over Perth and around this globe. We're fresh, we're excited and we are living.

We hope that if you are a young adult reading this article and hoping to find a group that you'd fit in, you will give us a try – a chance to show you how much we value you, value Him and how we're going to achieve His fullest in you, in us and in Him. Amen! ■

## Racing Around Kings Park

By Wilmot Loh

The Twelve Stones Easter Amazing Race was held at Kings Park on Easter Saturday. It was truly a day of fun and bonding for all the young adults. God had not only blessed us with awesome weather, but also with the opportunity to meet and share the gospel with a number of new friends who joined in this Twelve Stones activity.

The race saw over 25 participants divided into 5 teams racing 3 kilometres through Kings Park (entirely by foot!) to solve various clues and puzzles which brought them through the various memorials and gardens in Kings Park. The teams quickly learnt that attention to detail would save them a lot of time and backtracking.

The race was accented with various checkpoint activities that tested the participants' ability to work effectively with their team members – of course teams which completed the activities most effectively were awarded bonus points to get them ahead in the race.

After a couple of hours of sprinting through Kings Park, the winning team finished mere seconds ahead of their competition. It was a day of fun and excitement for most of us, and definitely a thorough workout for all of us!

Special thanks to the organising team: Cristal Kwa, Dee May Yeoh, Claire Goh, Sandy Widjaja and Samantha Wong. ■



# The Quest for the Treasures of Kings Park



Run, Pat, run!

By Jason Tan

Hunt upon hunts

Quest upon quests

Seeking, searching, probing through  
From Southern Cross to soaring birds  
From fair lady Wilmotts' to sprouting herbs

Will we ever find?  
Will we ever win?

Our thoughts run dry  
Our strength runs low  
Strangely, surprisingly, peculiarly though  
Filled with indescribable joy overflow

Oh, will we ever find?  
Oh, will we ever win?

From paper airplanes to juggling balls  
From Kings Park to Rottneest, here we come  
Balancing water on strings so short  
A rest so near, yet seems so far

Yes, we have found  
Friendships we have found  
Lasting relationships we have built  
All at the quest for the treasures of Kings Park

It is not all about winning, it is the friends that we make along the way, the fellowship that we have, the lasting relationships that we have built in the process. Only then, will you be a true champion in our heavenly Father's eye. Jesus said in Mark 8:36, "What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?"

Let us stop competing with one another and begin to value each other above ourselves. ■

# Discovering Our Identity

By James Seow

It all seemed a little orchestrated leading up to the retreat. We took the stones from the river and unceremoniously dumped them in the boot of Trish's car. The committee had planned this for some time now, but when we came together on that grass and that first stone was laid down, it didn't seem to matter.

The second annual Young Adults Retreat held on the Labour Day weekend in Guilderton became the inaugural Twelve Stones retreat to which all attendees arrived intact minus one native bird, and Tian's front fender.

We were blessed to have Pastor Ashley Crane from Harvest West Bible College as our guest speaker and were touched as he shared with us important keys in our journeys with Christ, such as about overcoming negativity, maintaining motivation and the importance of unity.

There was a sense of discovery as well. On the games night we discovered Bernard knew the surnames of almost all the 22 attendees, apart from Pastor Yat Wan's. Then I discovered I should not be the person designated to hold the house



Pastor Ashley prays over the ministry



The stones

keys, which rapidly led to Patrick discovering his adeptness at climbing through bathroom windows. More significantly, we discovered the hidden talents of many a leader, and after three years of anonymity, the Young Adults ministry discovered an identity.

In our quiet times, we took a journey with the Ark. The tragedy of Eli's life taught us the importance of seeking not the power of God but the presence of God, whilst David's encounter with the Ark revealed to us the necessity of living rightly in the eyes of God, rather than in those of man.

However it was on that grass that we discovered our most important lesson. As the Israelites crossed the River Jordan in Joshua 3-4, they were commanded by God to take 12 stones from the middle of the river and to set them up as a memorial on the other side in the Promised Land.

Symbolically, as we commissioned the new name and new ministry, we gathered outside, and as twelve of us laid those stones down on the grass and declared before Him that He is our sole foundation, we realised that it is Him and Him alone who orchestrates all things.

Praise be to God. ■

A cknowledging my yesterday...

Embracing our today...

F ulfilling H is tomorrow...



# The Fire in China

By Jason Lim

As most in our beautiful church are aware, I spent six months of 2005 in Cheng Du, China doing missionary work – or “M” work as we say on the mission field (typical Christian words are forbidden and likely to be traced by local authorities, so we communicate in code). It was the most unbelievable ride of my life – six months last year and two weeks this year of immersion in the fire of God that is consuming the Motherland.

I thought my ability to make it to Cheng Du would have taken the parting of, perhaps not the Red Sea, but something smaller like Lake Monger. There were a number of obstacles that prevented me from joining the *Heart to Heart* medical missions program – ranging from acceptances by the foundation and by professors in the USA, and the “mission impossible” of the Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital doctor shortage – leave from work.

After eventually receiving my acceptances, I discovered that obtaining leave would be near impossible; yet something inside me knew that He was going to “make a way.” Sure enough, He did! Then, to my surprise, *all* flights out of Perth to Cheng Du were booked out for two weeks! I couldn’t believe it. But a few days later, our very own Stephanie Pee in Singapore helped get me and my friend aboard an Air China flight to Cheng Du! Did I mention that He makes a way where no one else will or can?

Our trip to China was divided into two parts – the first week was spent working with *Heart to Heart* in the ophthalmology stream, and the second week was spent with my local house church.

## Week 1

The first day was spent meeting government officials, head of departments and other VIPs. Anything “international” in China is heavily overstated and publicly made aware of – for instance, we were greeted in one city with banners, marching bands(!), a salute by dancing



Surgeries in Cheng Du

women in red and beautiful young nurses in traditional outfits, TV crews and a throng of locals! We participated in lectures, clinics and surgeries – with the aim of improving their surgical skills and medical knowledge, and blessing hundreds of patients. Two events in particular stood out for me.

Firstly, we pleasantly discovered that the Chinese people had arranged a clinic for us; this was advertised in the newspaper a few days before our arrival. In China, if you put two and two together you get 400 – 400 patients that is, pushing to see you in 35°C heat. At one point there were three old ladies fighting to get on the coveted examination chair, and I realised that there are so many desperately sick patients in China.

I was particularly moved when my professor said to me, “Jason, if you spent the next 30 years of your life here, doing 30 cataracts a day, 7 days a week, you wouldn’t



Clinics in the sun

even touch the need that is here for eye surgery.” My heart broke, and yet my courage and boldness seemed to grow. Seeing this need inspires me to become an outstanding eye surgeon – to levels I could never dream of. Praise God that He is Lord and He is leading my heart down paths created within His perfect will.

The second instance involved a man who had a motor vehicle accident and sustained a most disfiguring injury. He was in the intensive care unit for the

better part of two weeks until he was brought to our attention. We were amazed when we saw his face; his eye was completely removed, his upper eyelid shifted about 3 cm to the side of his face and his lower eyelid shifted about 5 cm. Remaining in his eye socket or “globe” were pockets of pus.

My professor didn’t know how to help him, but, being a Christian, knew God was with him. Under much pressure from the local doctors, they decided to repair his globe by a surgical procedure that demanded a minimum of three hours; but God makes ways where no one else can ... the surgery took just two hours! The results were astounding. When my professor went to visit him, the patient’s son ran up and tightly hugged him, with tears in his eyes and only deep words of gratification to express the depths of his touched heart.

How can one not be moved? It’s experiences like these that make me realise if you have two hands, why wouldn’t you want to serve Him with all that you are and can?



One of the more expressive patients

## Week 2

This week was such a busy week that we only found time to rest when we were sleeping! We met up with countless locals – from doctors to college students and even chefs – and visited four universities. Ultimately, wherever we went, we had opportunities to talk about who Christ is, and how He changes lives! I don’t know how to express how hungry they are to hear who He is! For some reason, the season is now; the harvest is truly ripe and ready in China.

I visited one friend who had received Christ after our second encounter in 2005



and was amazed at how much he has grown in one year! Two entire walls of his room are plastered with posters of Scriptures – all declaring how faithful and loving God is. His roommate asked me a number of questions about God, such as how Christianity is different to Buddhism, how Christ saved us and what He can do for us. I replied his questions as best as I could with my limited Chinese. What struck me was how he devoured all my words, digesting them with amazement at the truth that His Word and His salvation brings. I didn't have the chance to help him receive Christ, but my friend believes that it will only be a short time before his roommate is also a brother.

Another amazing thing that He has been up to in our house church in China is growth! New leaders (including a sister who battled self esteem and meaning of life issues) and a CD of songs, one of which was written by a sister who had only been a Christian for 9 months, and had been learning the guitar for less than that!



I cannot fully express how He has touched my life and those around me on this trip and on my visit to Cheng Du last year, but He does and He continues to do so. God changes lives. All you have to do is listen to His voice as the whole of creation does! If God calls you to a mission field, please consider following Him ... your life will have so much more meaning and purpose, and believe me, the blessings will rain down in ways that will make it seem like your life has been in a drought until now.

If you are interested in going to Cheng Du, our very own fantastic Pastor Yat Wan or I can help you out – with accommodation, contacts, Mandarin teachers and friends who will take care of you. In fact, you'd be pleasantly amazed at how many missionaries there are in China...

P.S. My co-worker from the USA is going to Cheng Du in September and will be bringing in a team of "M" workers who will stay there for 6 to 12 months. If you've just graduated, have a heart for "M" work, and want to grow phenomenally in Him, come along and join this team! Contact Jason on 0411 600 198. ■

**2 Corinthians 1:8-11**

*We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On Him we have set our hope that He will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favour granted us in answer to the prayers of many.*



# Ministry Focus: Ushering

By Derrick Lee and Calvin Yong

To many, the ushering ministry has traditionally been viewed as the people responsible for handing out bulletins and managing the offering bags. While this may be true, ushering encompasses much more than that. It is a ministry of service – to God, to the church and to the new.

We have been fortunate to have been handed this ministry with its logistical cogs already oiled and running smoothly. This has made our job a little easier, but at the same time, more challenging. We see the potential for this ministry to grow in numbers and in spirit, and now have a firm foundation from which to propel ourselves forward.

Our vision can be captured in the saying "service above self". This may sound vaguely similar to a phrase from the McDonald's employee's guide to customer service (no, we didn't pinch it from them!), but it also makes sense when applied to our cause. We want to see ushering expand beyond the logistics of bulletins, offerings, general housekeeping and the usual behind-the-scenes, nitty-gritty things – we want it to involve a newcomer ministry as well as tying in the refreshments ministry.

Sound exciting? Then perhaps you'd like to be part of this dynamic group. You are never too old, too young, too shy or too outspoken to be an usher. The only pre-requisite to serve God and His people is a "heart of service". If you are unsure, just do it anyway – what have you got to lose?

We look forward to serving God with you. ■



Derrick Lee and Calvin Yong

For more information about ushering, please do not hesitate to contact:

**Derrick:** 0402 129 109  
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**Calvin:** 0411 839 161  
calv500@yahoo.com



# Homecall of a Beloved Grandfather

By Stephanie Tan

This is my family's testimony about God's grace and His perfect timing.

In late April 2006, my grandfather Samuel Chan Kum Hei was diagnosed with advanced stomach cancer.<sup>1</sup> As soon as we found out, my family flew to Sydney. At this time however, the way my grandfather looked did not reflect what was happening inside him, so we were astonished to find him walking around and in such good spirits. While we were there, we arranged to hold a family-reunion lunch on Saturday, 8 July.

By this date, the lunch had to be held in my eldest uncle and aunt's home, as my grandfather's condition had clearly deteriorated and he was extremely frail. However, by God's grace, our reunion was amazing. All of our immediate family was able to be present – that 15 autonomous adults could gather together is incredible in itself! – and we were able to lay aside all our family differences and to simply enjoy our time together. As we were aware that this was probably the last time we would all be together, we held a short prayer session, in which each of us thanked God for the time that we had had with our Dad, Yeh-Yeh and Koong-Koong, and for His faithfulness to each of us throughout the years. We also sang several of our favourite hymns including 'Rock of Ages' and 'Amazing Grace' and my cousins and I introduced the family to our version of 'How Great Is Our God'.

My grandfather passed away at approximately 8.35 pm on Monday, 10 July. My brother had returned to his medical conference after the

lunch, while I had flown back to Perth on Sunday night so we were not there, but I thank God that everyone else (my grandmother, parents, uncles, aunts and cousins) was able to be around his bedside as he passed away, and that my brother and I were able to speak with him on the telephone less than an hour before he died, and to receive his final blessing.

The way in which my grandfather died is another example of God's grace, because he died exactly as he wished – peacefully, at home, coherent until the end, surrounded by his family and very importantly, without having experienced any pain (close to miraculous as stomach cancer is one of the more aggressive cancers).

Another cause for rejoicing is that one of my cousins, who has not attended church for the past 11 years, and for whom my grandparents have been praying on a daily basis, chose to re-dedicate his life to God that night. He told my grandfather of his decision, and although my grandfather could barely speak by this time, he was able to clearly utter the heartfelt words of "Praise the Lord". (Now we have to make sure that we provide my cousin with all the support that he will need!)



I came back to Sydney for the funeral, which was held on Wednesday, 12 July, less than two days after my grandfather died. The fact that all this could occur so swiftly is yet another example of God's grace and goodness. In a very short space of time, my family was able to make all the necessary arrangements that normally take far longer, such as obtaining a plot of land for his grave and organising the funeral service.

We are extremely grateful for everyone's prayers, love and support during this time and are constantly reminded of the fact that "the Lord is good to those whose hope is in him" (Lamentations 3:25). I am especially grateful for the consideration that my firm showed to me during this time, and in particular, for my supervising partner's support.

My Koong-Koong is with God now in an imperishable body, and I believe that all my family will see him again, when the Lord returns.

As it is written in Lamentations 3:23, "Great is Your faithfulness, O Lord". ■

<sup>1</sup> For the doctors reading this: the laparoscopy that was conducted confirmed the presence of cancerous cells in his abdominal fluid and the invasion of cancer throughout his abdomen, while the CT scan results indicated that the primary cancer was in his stomach, but had invaded through the stomach's blood vessels through to his liver, small intestines, the lesser sac around the stomach as well as the kidneys. There were cysts in his liver, cancerous deposits in the tissue around his stomach and some free fluid accumulating in his abdomen.

## NLCC CD Project Update

By Patrick Yeoh

The worship and music ministry of NLCC has always played an important role in the church. Our aim is to lead His people into a deeper relationship with God by complementing and working together with the other ministries, mainly the pulpit ministry, by providing a conducive atmosphere for the congregation to praise and worship God in Spirit and in Truth.

Having started off with a relatively young team, the members and leaders of the ministry have grown and matured both spiritually and musically throughout the years. Now, the leaders of the worship team all agree that the time is right to take the ministry to the next level.

After some discussion and prayer, the idea of producing a NLCC music CD was brought up and pursued. It is our

prayer and hope that the members and congregation of the church will stand united with us to make this project a success, reflecting God's amazing glory and work through NLCC!



### TESTIMONY IN ACTION

The main reason for this project is to testify of God's works and faithfulness to NLCC. The worship team has been blessed with many talents and skills which we would like to share, and bless others in return as they listen to the CD. The goals for the project are to:

1. Provide an avenue to channel our talents and gifts.
2. Write songs which capture the essence of God's works in New Life City Church and its members.
3. Create a unique identity for NLCC.

The worship ministry leaders have agreed that the CDs will be sold for an indefinite period, with all proceeds to go towards the church's Building Fund. If this project is successful, we will make it a recurring one, possibly on an annual basis. We ask for your support in prayer – and remember, get a copy (or a few) of the new CD due to be released in September! ■



By Amanda Tan

OverDrive is a vibrant movement of teenagers committed to living lifestyles of faith, passion and purity. We are zealous about empowering a

generation completely sold out to our Hero – Jesus Christ.

Since the ministry's launch in September 2004, we have experienced amazing times of worship, fellowship and life-changing encounters with our phenomenal God. We praise Him for the five salvations we've seen this semester, and continually look forward to being part of His plans to impact our world. OverDrive currently partners with *Compassion* in sponsoring two Indonesian children, Aris and Eno. It is heart-warming to know that our prayers and dollar-a-week contribution go a long way and make a huge difference in the lives of Aris and Eno.

Of course, we have our fair share of **fun** in OverDrive. OverDrive goes out at least once a semester for a blast – just hanging out, doing some wacky activity like ice-skating, rollerblading, or even making cookies! We sure had fun rollerblading along the Swan River earlier this semester. There may have been a few 'handicapped skaters', but hey... we were lucky to have blue 'taxis' to pull them along!

Coming up on 18-19 August is *Adrenalin 06* – the biggest event on the Youth Alive WA calendar. Stay tuned for more information very shortly!

So if you are aged between 13 and 18 and are not currently connected



Rollerblading along the Swan River

to a cell group, we welcome you to join our fortnightly gatherings on Sundays, 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

We are so excited about sharing with you the awesome things God is doing in our midst, so come and talk to us to find out more! ■

### Ministry Heads



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angman82@gmail.com



**Amanda Tan**

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a.tan0907@gmail.com



**Rowenna Yeo**

0433 219 872  
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## Yay for Yoy! Yay for Yoy!

By Alex Chen

This year's retreat, the second in the history of NLCC, was held at Swan Barracks, Northbridge. Despite having the youth camp a week before, there was a great turnout, with about 30 people present.



Pastor Yoy gives some tips about playing in a team

The guest speaker was Pastor Yoy from Faith Community Church and he shared with us about having an encounter with God. Pastor Yat Wan also spoke to us about King David's passion for worship and cultivating passion in the church.

We then had an afternoon workshop, where we broke up into our various sections – singers, guitarists, keyboardists

and drummers – and learned from our section leaders about using our musical gifts for glorifying God with all our hearts, souls and minds.

I think everyone had a great time and definitely learned something from it! There was also a time where both the youth worship team and the main worship team could come together in unity, just to play together as well as share with each other their thoughts on worship in general and on developing instrumental skills.

The next retreat will be later this year sometime in September. Watch this space, because it promises to be an even better and more inspiring worship retreat! ■



The worship team practices a new song



# Living Life and Changing Lives

By Andrew Ng

J-Life Youth Services have been rather like optical illusions in the life of NLCC... sometimes there, sometimes not. Over the course of the past three years, we have seen numbers go up and down, old faces leaving, new faces joining. We've had services in five different locations and speakers from across the spectrum such as Youth Alive WA director Dave Reardon, FCC's Pastor Melvin Ang and even our in-house talent Pastor Angelina Eu and Rowenna Yeo.

Last year our J-Life services went into that phase of 'sometimes not' but this year the J-Life-leader-one-more-thing-to-do-oh-my-goodness-I-forgot-to-settle-that Youth services recommenced.

In semester 1 we've been meeting at the Home Base Expo in Subiaco and the Swan Barracks – and every week it gets better and better. Even the setup has become more efficient; by the fifth service, worship practice time returned to the normal one hour, as opposed to the first service where *setting up* took one hour! (Boy, was the worship leader stressed that day.) Despite those first few hiccups, the worship team still rocked and they get better every service!

The best part of the nights is after service, during pack-up where everyone chills out and the room fills with chat and laughter. There is a definite sense of community, to the point where I have to chase everyone out with threats of, "I'm not sure if the alarms will go off once it reaches 10 pm, so let's all clear out now."



So, that's our Youth service – nothing extreme, just a bunch of young people coming together to celebrate God, to know a little bit more of Him and to walk away changed (however large or small), all alongside their friends.

Speaking of change, in the last J-Life Service, we saw five of our kids saved. Looking back it had to be totally a God thing. The message wasn't about salvation, the altar call wasn't about salvation and the people who asked those kids if they wanted Jesus did it independently of each other. Youth ministry may not be found in the Bible but I do know God does have a heart for generations.

With our church moving into the direction of a main service and youth service, things can only get better. I believe what happened in the last J-Life service was just a snapshot of what is to come for the youth of NLCC. I'm not sure what exactly is going to happen next semester, but I know for sure that I am looking forward to it. ■

# The Unofficial View of



By Nickolas Sin

Revelate '06 was held from 19 to 22 April, and is probably the most eventful camp I've attended. For entertainment value, it had the lot; an outbreak of gastric flu, frisky rodents and 40-plus high school and university students ensconced in a Spartan log cabin. So what was it all about?

From the Committee's perspective, we came into it prayerfully, hoping for God to impact everyone. We also expected three sleepless nights.

Setting aside the events which constitute a camp – games which go *slightly* overtime, great food, the obligatory stricken campers (which always pop up, slightly more so this year), who make camp interesting for all participants, and a chaotic exercise in multi-tasking for the Committee – what was it about?

Seeking God. From an objective, human point of view, the fourth day was a nightmare. The speaker, Mark Varughese, was sick, along with ten campers. Rain poured down, hampering efforts by the recreation ICs to organise outdoor games. But even when things are going haywire

from a human perspective, God is still there, in the cold and the sickness.

I believe everyone learnt something at Camp. God showed up in a big way, and was there throughout it. It was touching to see the camp groups bravely perform their skits at the end, even with sick or absent members. It was great to see people who don't normally mix just gel together in their groups and pick each other up when they were down.

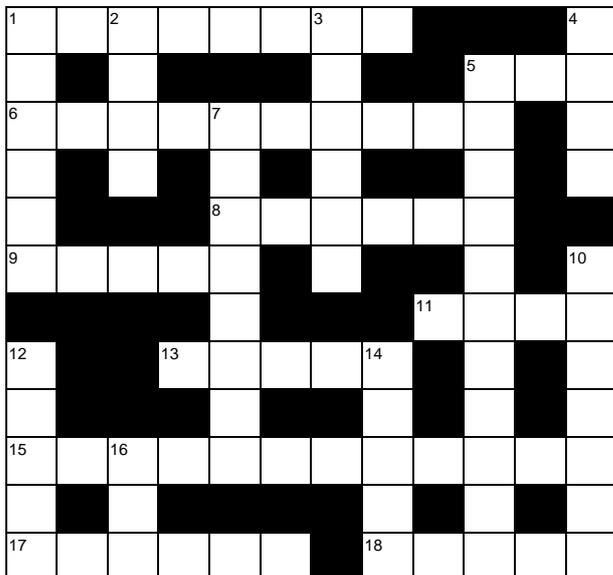
It was also hilarious to see some impromptu stand-up comedy, and a very talented blues band materialising on the fourth day. And on the last night, at Powerhouse, even when the day as a whole had been a bit of a downer, we banded together to worship God nonetheless. We prayed for the sick, those still with us, and those who had gone back to Perth; we prayed for ourselves. And we worshipped Him for all he had done for us.

God spoke to us through the speakers. We learnt the importance of getting hungry for Him. We learnt about maturing in our spiritual giftings, about what it means to be men and women of God, and what it means to truly follow His voice. But most importantly throughout Camp, God's voice was audible in our hearts. ■



# epistles FUN

## Christian Cryptic Crossword



Solution next issue

### ACROSS

- 1 Lee surrounded by beaver sounds like an adherent. (8)
- 5 My French friend is confused about God Almighty. (1,2)
- 6 Eye-opener caused Reverend to find great joy. (10)
- 8 Obese woman was actually a priest. (6)
- 9 Removed Sonny's wife from Chernobyl to hear the righteous. (5)
- 11 Ned went back to the East to see beautiful garden. (4)
- 13 Saddened, you attached a postscript to the extra-terrestrial. (5)
- 15 Eat tin salmon in different ways to yield expressions of grief. (12)
- 17 Famine caused Queen to follow those suspended by nooses. (6)
- 18 Levitate North to be ascended. (5)

### DOWN

- 1 Desolate conditions concealed the towbar Renee had brought. (6)
- 2 Great affection lay hidden in the returned revolver. (4)
- 3 Identity loses its identification to become a single being. (6)
- 4 The morning joined little Enzo to affirm the truth. (5)
- 5 Dr Neo Lucius turned but remained unconvinced. (11)
- 7 Oddly, loin fuels sprains in its existence. (8)
- 10 The sly noon was disturbed by a solitary lad. (4,3)
- 12 Methuselah contained himself for the pause in music. (5)
- 14 Finally, the tutu decorator has become an instructor. (5)
- 16 To be in charge of a bloke. (3)

## Do you recognise these people?

Send us your wittiest captions!  
Your best submissions will be published in the  
Spring edition of *NLCC Epistles*.

Email your captions to [nlcc.epistles@gmail.com](mailto:nlcc.epistles@gmail.com).

## Gold Corporate Sponsors

New Life City Church wishes to express its deepest thanks to the following organisations who have supported us at our 8th Anniversary Dinner. They have generously contributed towards the growth of our Building Fund.



**Trinix Computers**  
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**Shulnc**  
Shop H14, Carillon City  
207 Murray Street  
Perth WA 6000



**Jade Dynasty Restaurant**  
40 Francis Street  
Northbridge WA 6000



# Upcoming Events!



## Friday 18 to Saturday 19 August

*Adrenalin 06*  
Challenge Stadium  
Tickets: \$15.00 (pre-ordered)  
Featuring: Guy Sebastian, Motocross,  
The Nubian Gents, and more!  
For more details, visit  
[youthalive.com.au/ya/wa](http://youthalive.com.au/ya/wa)

## Saturday 2 September

Men's Fellowship Breakfast  
(also open to the church community)  
9.00 am - 11.00 am  
Swan Barracks Café, Northbridge  
Guest speaker: Dr Kameel Majdali

Young Adults Seminar – a combined  
event for several churches  
2.00 pm – 5.00 pm  
Topic: Integrity

## Sunday 3 September

Christian Education Class for Adults  
9.00 am - 10.00 am  
Law Lecture Room 1, UWA  
Guest speaker: Dr Kameel Majdali  
Topic: Leadership

## Sunday 17 September

Christian Education Class for Adults  
9.00 am - 10.00 am  
Law Lecture Room 1, UWA  
Guest speaker: Pastor Steven Teo  
Topic: Leadership Group – Managing  
Relationships

10.30 am - 12.00 pm  
Social Science Lecture Theatre, UWA  
Guest speaker: Pastor Steven Teo  
Topic: Are You Offended By God?

## Saturday 23 September

Combined Cell  
Guest speaker: Pastor Steven Teo  
Topic: Secrets to Lasting Relationships

## Saturday 30 September to Monday 2 October

New Life City Church Camp  
Orchard Glory Farm Resort, Bindoon  
Speakers: Reverends Richard Bowie  
and Audrey Bowie

## Sunday 8 October

10.30 am - 12.00 pm  
Social Science Lecture Theatre, UWA  
Guest speaker: Reverend Vincent Lun

For more information about any of our events, please contact **Pastor Yat Wan** (9417 1015).

## FAQ: What does our church's logo mean?

The warm colours at the base of the logo progress vertically through the earthy yellows and greens and into the cool blues and purples. This represents the fact that we were originally dead in our sin, but through the (red) blood of Christ, we are able to rise up in Him and have new life.

The first arch speaks of the new life we have as believers of Christ. It meets the next arch in earth tones above the word "life". This represents the growth and discipleship that a believer undertakes as

they strive to become more like Christ.

The second arch soars over the city and ultimately settles upon the church. As Christians, we are called by God in the great commission to have a vision for our community, city, nation and world. We want to see the lost brought back into the body of Christ, His church.

Our Vision: *To raise a strong people who can carry a spiritual atmosphere of faith and purity, conducive for revival in the city of Perth.* ■



### Worship Services are conducted at:

Social Science Lecture Theatre (SSLT)  
The University of Western Australia  
Crawley WA 6009

### Sunday Schedule

#### Pre-Service Prayer

10.00 am to 10.20 am

#### Worship Service

10.30 am to 12.00 pm

#### Children's Ministry

11.15 am to 12.00 pm

### Please contact our church leaders if you need a pastoral visit or prayer.

Elder Seng Kian Gan	0431 362 979
Elder James Seow	0411 288 275
Elder Richard Tai	9246 1166
Elder Keat Wong	9443 2822
Pastors Yat Wan and Angelina Eu	9417 1015



## Spring Submissions

If you have any:

- Articles
- Comments
- Event reviews
- Jokes
- Questions you want answered
- Suggestions or
- Testimonies

please email all submissions to the Editors at:  
[nlcc.epistles@gmail.com](mailto:nlcc.epistles@gmail.com)

**Deadline:**  
**Sunday, 8 October 2006**

