

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light  
Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness  
On them has light shined  
For to us a child is born  
To us a son is given  
And they shall call his name  
Immanuel: God with us  
Isaiah 9; Matthew 1

VOL 9 NO 48

2 December 2018

8.30 & 10.30 am

## ***Order of Service***

Prayers & Prelude

Call to Worship

\*Doxology

\*Hymn: We Come, O Christ, To You

Responsive Scripture Reading: Luke 1.5-25 KJV

Worship in Song

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 1.1-20 ESV

Message: Rebellious Children

\*Response Song: Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Holy Communion

    The Bread: Lamb of God

    The Cup: There is a Fountain Filled with Blood

Corporate Life & Prayer

Offertory Response

\*Closing Hymn: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Benediction

Announcements

Postlude

\**Congregation stands*

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## Welcome

We are pleased to welcome you to worship with us. If you are new to Zion Bishan, do speak to an usher or hospitality team member to find out about our faith, or about our activities and programmes. You may also approach the Info Desk after service.

## Our Sunday services and activities

### 8.30 am

English service — *Sanctuary L1*

Children's Discipleship — *please ask at the Hospitality or Info Desk*

Mandarin service — *Chapel L4*

(8.45 am) Domestic Helpers Fellowship (English) — *Room 105 L1*

### 9.00 am

Adult Discipleship Class — *see below*

Hokkien service — *Auditorium 2 L4*

### 10.30 am

English service — *Sanctuary L1/2*

Cantonese-Mandarin service — *MPH L1*

Tamil service — *Music Room L3*

Mandarin-English service — *Chapel L4*

Domestic Helpers Fellowship (English-Indonesian) — *Room 103 L1*

Children's & Youth Discipleship — *please ask at the Hospitality or Info Desk*

### 1.30 pm

Adult Discipleship Class — *see below*

### 5.00 pm

English service — *MPH L1*

## Serving You Today

*Speaker:* Pastor Ebi Mohan.

Worship Ministry Team A. Music Team D.

Song leader: Moses Thia.

**8.30 am:** *Coordinator:* Keith Wong & Janna Wong. *Worship Ldr:* Elder Jeffrey Lim.

*Responsive Scripture Reading:* Moses Thia.

*Scripture Reading:* Ravi Shankar.

**10.30 am:** *Coordinator:* Roy Leong. *Worship Ldr:* Timmy Ng. *Responsive Scripture*

*Reading:* Peter Yap. *Scripture Reading:*

Victor Quek.

## Pastors and Ministry Staff

Rev Dr Alby Yip, *Senior Pastor* alby

Rev Dr David Wong, *Pastor (Mentoring)*  
davidwong

Rev Dr Dev Menon, *Pastor* dev

Rev Zheng Haoren, *Pastor (Comm Dev't)* zhenghr

Rev Dr Steven Tan, *Pastor* (on sabbatical)

Rev Ebinezar Mohan, *Pastor (Tamil)* ebi

Rev Kew See Seong, *Pastor (Mand)* sskew

Rev Lim Jit Thye, *Pastor (Cant-Mand)* jtlim

Rev Daniel Nge, *Pastor (Mand-Eng)* daniel

Mrs Emily Quek, *Special Projects* emily

Mrs June Tan, *Children's Ministry* june

Mrs Ruth Quek, *Children/Y. Adults* ruth

Mrs Sharon Quek, *Trg/Mobilisation* sharon

Mr Timmy Ng, *Youth Ministry* timmy

Mr Vernon Quek, *Young Adults/AGs* vernon

Mr Kwek Khee Leng, *Comm Outreach* kheeleng

Mr Darrell Tan, *Communications* darrell

Mr Quek Tze-Ming, *Assoc Min Staff* tzeming

**Confidential Care & Counselling e-mail:**

*care@zionbishan.org.sg*

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## Adult Discipleship Classes — Auditorium L4

### Praying the Word: A Posture and Practice to Deepen our Prayer Lives

2 December, 1–3 pm, Facilitated

by Amelia Ang & Chong Ser Choon

## **Rebellious Children**

Isaiah 1.1-20

### **Introduction**

God is speaking! Let's listen and obey

#### **1. Rebellious people charged (2-9)**

#### **2. Religious people rejected (10-15)**

#### **3. Repenting people restored (16-20)**

### **Conclusion**

- Jesus came to offer us pardon & new life
  
- Jesus will come to judge the selfish and rebellious

## *Prayer Points*

### **Our Church**

**Outreach Event** (8 Dec) — Thank God for the reminder that personal witness and evangelism are essential parts of our lives as disciples of Jesus. Pray for a good sign-up and turnout for the outreach (see p 8). Pray that people who have received invitations (including in the goody bags) will be given a desire to know Jesus.

Pray that we at Zion Bishan will become more ready, more equipped, and more experienced in sharing Jesus.

**SAM Christmas Outreach** (7 Dec) — Thank God for our senior adults and the combined outreach (see p 12). Pray for them to bring God's love to the Golden Jasmine residents.

**SLA Meeting** (13 Dec) — Pastor Alby and team will meet with officials from the Singapore Land Authority (SLA) to discuss matters relating to our land lease renewal. Pray for God's favour that we may continue our work here and for provision of the amount needed.

### **Our People**

**Overseas Trip** (till 4 Dec) — Pray for safety and a good time of building relationships for Pastor Dev and his son Josiah, who are visiting friends at SHI.

### **Our World**

**Ipoh Christmas Outreach** (6–8 Dec) — Thank God for this opportunity to visit families with the good news. Pray for God to bless the Christmas outreach event, that attendees may know and understand His love through the Christmas story. Pray for the group of 9 on this trip, led by Pastor Ebi, that God will empower them to serve.

**Mission Trip** (7–16 Dec) — Thank God for the team of 5, who are sharing about discipleship and early childhood education. Pray for the team's preparation to be completed before the trip, and for God's protection over all involved.

Pray for their close walk with the Lord and the leading of the Holy Spirit, to be teachable, flexible, and united in serving. Pray also for good coordination with the local leaders, and that participants will benefit from the sessions.

**Genetic Editing** — A scientist in Shenzhen claims to have successfully created the world's first genetically edited babies, an act with huge ethical implications. We are reminded by Pastor David (p 7) that when change looms, we need to be anchored to eternal truth. Pray for much wisdom for leaders of church and society in this world that has rebelled against God and is under sin's curse.

## Last Week

Last Sunday, 25 November, we welcomed:

**Morning Services:** Wong Siew Ling, Tony Tay, Adelyn Chan, Wang Zirui and others.

Service	Attendance
English 8.30 am	248
English 10.30 am	493
Children's Discipleship	116
English 5 pm	34
Mandarin	111
Cantonese/Mandarin	70
Mandarin/English	48
Chinese Sunday School	31
Hokkien	58
Tamil	16
<b>TOTAL (*excl. ADCs)</b>	<b>1,225</b>

## Land Lease Renewal Fund

<b>Weekly Total</b>	<b>\$6,262.50</b>
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(Weekly Target: \$90,493)

## Info for Giving

### General & Missions Fund

DBS Current A/C: 070-901056-3  
 PayNow: T10SS0029GGMF  
 ZION BISHAN BP CHURCH

### Land Lease Renewal Fund

DBS Current A/C: 070-901055-5  
 PayNow: T10SS0029GGPF  
 ZION BISHAN BP CHURCH – GPF  
 (please indicate *Land Lease Renewal Fund* on back of cheque)

Please provide your *CONTACT NUMBER* on each cheque

## Your Response

2 December 2018

NAME

PHONE

E-MAIL

You may e-mail your response to **office@zionbishan.org.sg**

PLEASE TICK AS APPROPRIATE

I would like to:

- sign up for an activity
- request prayer
- give feedback
- send a word of encouragement
- other:

RESPONSE DETAILS:

(more space overleaf)

Please note that the church will retain and use your submitted data as needed to process your indicated response.

HAND YOUR RESPONSE TO AN USHER, THE INFO DESK, OR PUT IT IN THE OFFERING BAG

FOLD AND TEAR ALONG LINE TO DETACH

## ***Church Family News***

1. Fellowship Tea and Flowers: Tony and Elena Lim. (Thanksgiving).
2. Deepest condolences to the family of Mdm Liew Mei Yoke, who went Home to the Lord on 26 November, aged 86. She was the mother of Mrs Chiam-Fok Wai Ling, and grandmother of Jia Ying, Jia Yan and Da Ren.
3. Pastor Alby is preaching at Emmanuel BP Church this morning.
4. Pastor Dev is overseas till 4 Dec.
5. Pastor Steven is on sabbatical till 28 Feb.

## ***Looking Ahead***

### **Friday 7 December**

**5.30 pm: SAM Christmas Outreach**, Golden Jasmine

**8 pm: Prayer Fellowship**, AG12 chairing.

### **Saturday 8 December**

**8 pm: Christmas Outreach**, Sanctuary

### **Sunday 9 December**

Worship Ministry Team B. Music Team A.

**8.30 am:** *Coordinator:* Ryan Teo. *Worship Ldr:* Dn Justin Low. *Responsive Scripture Reading:* Janet Wang. *Scripture Reading:* Lionel Lim.

**10.30 am:** *Coordinator:* Colin Chua. *Worship Ldr:* Mr Kwek Khee Leng. *Responsive Scripture Reading:* Edwin Seet. *Scripture Reading:* Jason Leong.

Isaiah 7.1-17 "The Sign" (Mr Vernon Quek)

**5.00 pm December Series: "ieatisave: meals with Jesus"**

**2 Dec** – BBQ Beach Breakfast: The God Who Cooks (Deacon Danny Chua)

**9 Dec** – A Picnic with 5,000 (Mr Quek Tze-Ming)

**16 Dec** – Eating & Drinking—with Levi (Mr Kwek Khee Leng)

**23 Dec** – Eating & Drinking—with the Pharisees (Mr Kwek Khee Leng)

THANKS FOR YOUR RESPONSE!  
YOU MAY HAND IT TO AN USHER  
OR THE INFO DESK, OR PUT IT IN  
THE OFFERING BAG

## **Facing Rapid Change**

When our older daughter started university in the United States, majoring in mass communications, her professor told her class, “By the time you graduate, everything you learn now will be obsolete.” That was not very encouraging for a first-year undergrad! At a conference for educators, the speaker flashed on the screen a list of jobs that had existed five years before, but at that time no longer existed. Again, that begs the question of how prepared we are for the future.

Will we be left behind by the fast pace of change? The generation of our parents or grandparents probably saw one or two major changes in their lifetime. My parents lived through the time when black-and-white TV changed their lives. Today we are likely to witness a major change every few years! How do we face the challenges of such rapid change?

We need to learn to discern between what stays and what passes. Often, changes occur on the surface and don’t last. But they reveal needs underneath that will always be there. For a time, fads like Hello Kitty, Gangnam Style, and Pokemon attracted millions, but they came and went. We all want to be part of the crowd, to be “in”—but the need to belong must find something more durable.

What is durable? “...the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever” (1 Peter 1:24-25 NIV). **Amidst change, we all long to be part of something bigger, stronger and firmer.** The word of the Lord, which proclaims the gospel, the good news of Jesus, tells a story that encompasses all time and fulfils all longings. Everyone who comes to Jesus finds an anchor that holds for eternity. “We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure” (Hebrews 6:19 NIV).

## ***Christmas Outreach***

VERNON QUEK

### **Outreach Event: Saturday 8 December**

How wonderful would it be if you had the opportunity to meet with non-believing friends and family to explore who Jesus is on a regular basis? Our coming Outreach Event next Saturday is designed to help create that very opportunity! The goal of the evening is to help guests see that Jesus is worth looking into, and that the best way to do that is to go straight to the historical account of who He is: the Bible. The evening will begin at 7:45pm in the Sanctuary with our guest speaker Paul Wong, the Campus Pastor of SMU Christian Fellowship, giving a talk from the beginning of John's Gospel. We'll then hear two believers share why they have decided to follow the Lord Jesus. The formal part of the evening will conclude with an invitation to continue exploring Jesus personally with a Christian, and will be followed by light finger food in the fellowship hall to allow us to have follow-up conversations. So this is what the flow of the evening will look like:

- 7:45pm Invite everyone into the sanctuary to take a seat
- 7:55pm Welcome
- 8:00pm Get to know the speaker: Paul Wong
- 8:05pm Talk from John 1:1-18
- 8:30pm Interview with Christians: Why is Jesus worth believing in?
- 8:45pm Closing and invitation to continue exploring Jesus 1-2-1
- 8:50pm onwards: Conversations over finger food

If you are someone who wants to start learning how to do personal evangelism this way, but are intimidated by how challenging it sounds to follow up with someone and read John's gospel with them, do get in touch with me! There'll be continued support for you in the form of a group where those of us reading evangelistically can meet together to pray for and encourage each other, as well as continued training sessions in how to read John with non-believers.

Would you prayerfully consider who you can invite for this event?

Both hardcopy and softcopy flyers are available. Please register at [tinyurl.com/812outreach](http://tinyurl.com/812outreach) for catering purposes. For further enquiries, please feel free to email or Whatsapp me at 9796 0196.



### A Parent's Testimonial

*As term ends for 2018, Zion Bishan Kindergarten (ZBK) would like to thank God for His faithfulness, mercy and grace. Below is a testimonial from a parent that sums up how He works in the lives of little ones entrusted to the kindergarten's care and as we seek to be a blessing to those whom He sends into our midst.*

We have had two of our children in ZBK and it has been nothing short of amazing! Entering at K1, it was their first exposure to school and they loved it from the start!

We picked ZBK because of the close proximity to where we live. We wanted something convenient with no hassle. It's definitely been convenient, but it's gone far beyond that for our children.

One thing that's really stood out to us is the friendliness, flexibility and helpfulness of teachers and staff. There were some situations where our family needed additional assistance in various ways and we were given that with great understanding on the part of the teachers, admin staff and principal, Mrs Jasmine Tan.

We have appreciated the positive social and spiritual environment that our children have been given at ZBK. We have loved that we don't need to worry about the kind of input the kids are receiving, knowing that the spiritual environment is healthy and strong. They've come home with big smiles on their faces telling us of their wonderful teachers, best friends and singing the songs they learned in the morning assemblies. My daughter, who is finishing P4, looks back fondly and enjoys coming to pick up or drop off her younger brother so she can sneak in a little 'hello' to the teachers who taught her in kindergarten.

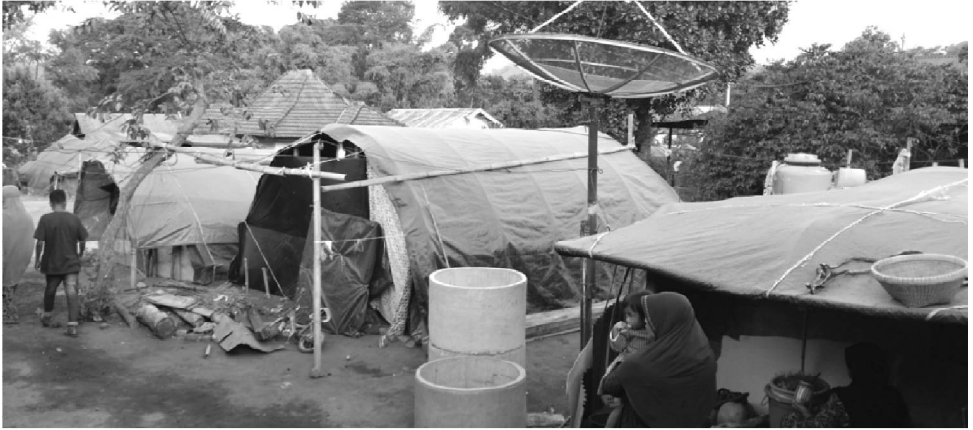
Not only has the kindergarten provided a positive environment socially and spiritually, but academically as well. One of my children needed extra help with reading and the teacher was more than happy to give one-on-one attention when it was possible. Both my son and my daughter enjoyed the various ways in which the teachers taught and because of that, their first perspective on learning was that it's fun and exciting.

We, as parents, couldn't be more grateful for ZBK and count it a privilege that they were able to attend the kindergarten. My son has just graduated this year and I know he will miss it greatly: the environment, the friends and the teachers. I'm sure both my son and daughter will continue to look back positively and try to sneak in visits to their teachers when possible.

Thank you, to all that have made ZBK a success. — Mrs Charissa Seaward

## ***Medical Relief***

*PAUL LIEW*



### **Reflection on Lombok Medical Relief Trip (12–17 October)**

I joined a medical relief mission trip to Lombok in October after hearing about the severe earthquakes there some weeks and months before. The trip was a stretching, eye-opening, encouraging experience.

I felt stretched in several ways. In addition to the fluidity of plans and schedule that's typical of mission trips, I found the daily work of operating a mobile medical clinic physically tiring, and the nature of the work was new to me so I had a lot to learn. Also, it was challenging to learn to work together with many new people within a short time—the team comprised ten people from several different church backgrounds and even different religions, but we had to quickly learn to work together, deal with tensions and disagreements that arose along the way, and forbear and forgive and encourage one another.

I was inspired by the believers I met in Lombok. One local pastor told us how he and his young family narrowly escaped death as they were forced to flee Lombok during a period of fierce persecution some years ago. Yet a few short months later they returned to Lombok and he's been ministering there ever since, because he believes God wants him there.

Other believers shared how their own family members threatened to kill them after they came to Christ, so for many years now, they've been living openly as Christians but estranged from their families. In the presence of these brothers and sisters in Christ, I felt rather small and in awe. Their faith in Christ is tested, lived out, and obviously real. They've suffered significant persecution and loss on account of Him, but in their suffering they stuck with Him and trusted Him to take care of them. After spending a bit of time with them, I realised my own faith is quite small and often theoretical.

This trip also shaped my perspective on mission trips. I learned more about demonstrating Christ's love for people through caring action while strictly refraining from overt evangelism and prayer due to cultural sensitivities. I also learned that, while the medical impact of such trips is actually very small, it's still worthwhile, as it communicates Christ's love and concern to people in need of care and encouragement, and opens doors for future follow-up ministry by local ministers.



I think this trip helped to push me out of myself and make me more aware of the great needs of others. I realised my life is full of stuff, in the sense that I've been given a huge amount of privileges and possessions in life, and also in the sense that my life is full of clutter that endlessly distracts me from more important things. I will need God's help to focus my life and spend it on things that matter.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **YD18 Boys' Missions Fundraising Project**

Raising funds for Student Missionary Outreach (SMO). Latte and root beer float with snacks like cheesy nachos. Look for us in the fellowship hall after both morning services today!

## **SAM Christmas Outreach**

**7 December, 5.30–7 pm, Blk 152B Bishan**

Befrienders needed for this joint ministry at Golden Jasmine by the Senior Adults Ministry & Chinese congregation. Please contact Peter Yap: 9660 6609

## **Outreach Event**

**8 December, 7.45 pm**

An evangelistic event for us to invite our non-believing friends to explore with us who Jesus is through John's Gospel. See p 8 for more info.

Register: [tinyurl.com/812outreach](http://tinyurl.com/812outreach)



## **Infant/Child Baptism**

**23 December**

Class for parents on **9 December** afternoon. Register at the Info Desk.

## **Christmas Day Service**

**25 December, 10 am**

If you would like to stay back for lunch fellowship, (\$5/pax bento lunch), please sign up at the fellowship hall after service.

## **Friendship Meal**

**17–21 December, 6–8 pm**

Our final Friendship Meal of 2018 is happening close to Christmas. Do consider serving the Lord through befriending our neighbourhood over a warm meal. You could contribute a dish, serve food and drinks, befriend our guests, or provide entertainment, e.g. carolling, playing an instrument. Sign up by contacting Rachel (8518 9656) or Zhi-Wen (9092 6095). AGs are welcome to serve together.

## **Special Needs Education Workshops**

Organised by ISEE Care Ministries for parents, grandparents, caregivers, and teachers/leaders of children and youth. For more info, contact Deacon Daniel (9023 7180). Register online: [tinyurl.com/ADCSpecialEd](http://tinyurl.com/ADCSpecialEd)

## **Early Childhood Education — Developmental Milestones/Delay** **6 January, 1.30–3.00 pm**

Learn the milestones of development from birth to 8, and how developmental disabilities (physical, learning, language, or behavioural) may impact day-to-day functioning. Speakers: Celine and Jasmine, special needs educators.

## **Understanding Multi-Sensory Learning** **13 January, 1.30–3.00 pm**

We learn to make sense of our world through our sensory receptors. However, not every child is able to process sensory information adequately. This workshop on multi-sensory learning is facilitated by Mark Lim, special needs consultant.

You may use the tear-off response slip on p5 to sign up for activities.  
Please approach the Info Desk if you would like to find out more.