



Bishop: Rt Revd Dr Titus Chung

Vicar: Revd Ian Chew

COLLECT FOR TODAY

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in Him
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above, where He reigns with You in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

30 Apr 2023
Easter 4

8am & 10:30am

Preacher: Ps Edward Zaccheus

Sermon: "Grace of Forgiveness"

Bible Reading: Ephesians 4:17-32
Matthew 18:21-35

Connect with the Ascension Family



13 Francis Thomas Drive S(359339)
T(65) 6283 3988 F: (65) 6283 3220

Email: admin@ascension.org.sg
Website: www.ascension.org.sg

UPCOMING

6 May (Sat) 7:30am-9am	Men's Network Monthly Prayer Meeting "God - Our Help in Time of Trouble" Ascension Hall Shaun Foo
6 May (Sat) 10am	Elder Fellowship Talk "Fall Prevention for Seniors" Ascension Hall Ms Clara Lee, Physiotherapist from SACH
6 May (Sat) 7pm - 9pm	Kardia - Youth Encounter Night Ascension Hall
7 May (Sun) 8am & 10:30am	Easter 5/ SAV Area Group Sunday "Faith and Team Work" Exodus 17:7-16 John 14:1-14 Revd Joseph You
10 May (Wed) 8pm	Hour of Power Via Zoom
18 May (Thurs) 9:45am-11:30am	ComLink - "What's A Cooking?" Mother's Day Special LKC Hall

VICAR'S MESSAGE 30 APR 2023

ADDRESS AT AGM 2023 (PART 1)

Dear COA Family,

What is the difference between a church's AGM and a normal AGM? I believe it is this word: life. A normal company's AGM aims to get the operations ongoing and answer queries, if any. A church's AGM is different because we are not a company. We are God's chosen people and his family. God's life resides in us. Therefore, our AGM is not so much about doing business but about all of us participating in the life of God's church. So I am very thankful to the Lord to be able to engage all of you in this AGM and not just to go through the motions.

This year is a momentous year. We enter into our 71st year in May and into the future that God has laid out for us. Last year was a year of thanksgiving and celebration for our 70th anniversary. We were led by the committee to commemorate it, starting with our Anniversary Service, the Gratitude Challenge, the 70th anniversary magazine and, finally, our Thanksgiving Dinner. This year, it is time to roll up our sleeves and work out His plans for our church and in our lives. It is no time to be complacent as we face a lost world who needs the Gospel of Christ in an increasingly complex world environment.

1. Life of the Church

I will begin by sharing about God's direction for us as a church. Firstly, we must realise that we are God's church and no one exists individually. Society may tell you that you are capable on your own, but not the Bible. We are all members of God's family and the body of Christ, and we have the Spirit's gifts to build others and the church up which we must utilize. Otherwise, we will not grow.

With that in mind, last year's theme was Rebuilding God's House. We had our sermon series on Nehemiah in the OT and 1 Corinthians in the NT. All of our cell groups embarked on the same bible study series. Even our Chinese Service preached on 1 Cor and our Youth Cell Groups used the same materials for bible study. It was a year of us coming together on the foundation of God's word and moving in the same direction.

This year, we are building on that. Our direction is Growing Deeper. It can mean both Growing Deeper in our Knowledge of God's Word as well as Growing Deeper in our Experience and Trust in God. Both are related and cannot be left out. I have detailed the reason for our direction in the foreword. And this year we have completed two sermon series – Encountering Jesus in the OT and Brokenness, with two more sermon series to come.

Both directions for our church can only be effective if we, as a church, commit to coming together and growing together. We need to prioritise coming back to worship services in a physical manner. In the OT, God's people have to go to the temple to worship God and celebrate the feasts. In the NT, Acts tells us that the church gathered daily in the temple courts and homes. Online services are not substitutes for in-person services. We continue with them because there are members who are sick or are travelling. They can continue to connect with us. But for the rest, we must come back physically. We worship God with our bodies, we have fellowship with others and we receive Holy Communion. We cannot do these online.

The call for gathering together extends to our Cell Groups. I appeal to all of our members to join a cell. Here is where the life of the church exists. You share more deeply, study God's word more deeply and pray for and support each other more in a cell. You will miss out on the life of the church if you don't belong to a cell.

Just a few weeks ago, I attended a cell meeting. (Now, I visit all of the cells in COA every week and it takes me 6 months to complete visiting every cell. And after 6 months, I will restart the same cycle again. So, I will see all of you in your cells twice a year.) At that cell meeting, everyone shared about the specific people God has placed in their lives to reach out to. We ended up praying for them. And God answered our prayers in a miraculous way throughout the week. We were able to share the testimonies among our cell and also look out for each other's friends. It was such a faith-building journey. That is how a cell group can support and encourage each other.

This is why we will continue to build up our cell groups. There will be common bible study materials based on the sermon series to help every cell grow. We have also set up a Cell Group Structure to support all of our cell leaders, in the form of Cell Facilitators to help support, encourage and pray with the cell group leaders. I'm very thankful for this group because some of them serve as cell leaders too. And together with the cell facilitators, the cell leaders provide pastoral care for all of the members which is a very important part of our church life. So, please join a cell and be committed to the fortnightly meetings too.

I am also thankful for another group of people – the Lay Readers (LRs). The LR's lead in the worship of the church. Their authority to lead in services, preach at wakes and distribute the Holy Communion (HC) elements comes directly from the Bishop. HC is important because it is God's means of grace to us. We cannot simply partake of the HC by ourselves as is the practice of some churches. There is a good reason for that because 1 Cor 11 warns us that we need to discern or be aware of the Body of Christ. HC is a communal family meal before God. That's why only specific people are authorised – priests to celebrate and LR's to distribute. As Revd Soon is stepping down from serving in services, for the English services, the LR's will be stepping up to distribute the elements.

One more thing which I want to report to the church is a change in our service timings. Our Chinese Service will be switching to the same time as our 10.30am English Service timing from 28 May. We have arrived at this decision after a long period of discussion and prayer. We don't take such decisions lightly. The main reasons are that having services at the same time helps in the support of the worship, youth and children ministries more effectively. Also, it enables families to worship together – members can bring elderly Mandarin speaking parents and relatives to the service while attending the English Service. The Chinese congregation will worship in the Ascension Hall and will remain an integral part of us. We will grow together.

As for our 10.30am English Service, we will keep to our current timing. This is because the longer gap in between both services helps our ministries to have enough time to prepare. Also it works out well for our Senior Sunday School youths who can attend our 10.30am service after their classes. Of course, there are concerns for a lack of interaction between the 8am and 10.30am services. To mitigate this, we will provide for combined services at suitable occasions for members to interact – such as the Ascension Sunday Service or Christmas Day Service. Ultimately, for greater fellowship, I appeal to you to take the initiative to connect with others on the ground.

Blessings,
Revd Ian



WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

We warmly welcome you to worship with us at our Sunday Services.

The Church Office is open daily from Tuesday to Saturday (9am to 5.30pm), except for public holidays.
Office Phone: 62833988
Emergency contact: 81002203

Sunday Service	Time	Venue
English Traditional Holy Communion	8:00am	Sanctuary (Level 2)
English Contemporary Holy Communion 1 st & 3 rd Sun	10:30am	Sanctuary (Level 2)
Mandarin Holy Communion 1 st & 3 rd Sun	2:00pm	Sanctuary (Level 2)

NEW TO COA?

Whether you have joined our service today, onsite or online, or found us on the web, we are glad you have! Do let us know if you would like more information or prayer, or to just give us some feedback. Please contact us at admin@ascension.org.sg

If you are driving to church:

- Register for your new car decal via this link <https://bit.ly/3omt1Y9> (Please contact the church office if you cannot access the online form.)
- We encourage everyone to register for the new decal to enter St Andrew's Village. The SAV guards have the authority to deny entry to vehicle without proper identification.
- Parking in the school compound is allowed on Sundays **only**.

UPDATE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

If your home or email address or contact number has been changed, please notify the church office to ensure you continue to receive COA correspondence. You can notify us in any of the following ways:

1. Call the church office at 62833988
2. Email to admin@ascension.org.sg
3. Write to 13 Francis Thomas Drive, Singapore 359339

ELECTRONIC OFFERTORY

INTERNET BANKING (BANK TRANSFER)

Account Name: Church of The Ascension
Bank Name: OCBC
Account Number: 511010332001
Reference: Tithing number (if any), and any other description e.g. month of contribution etc.

PAYNOW VIA UEN

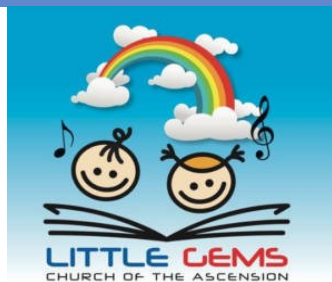
- Step 1: Log in to your internet banking account
- Step 2: On the PayNow transfer screen, enter the UEN number T08CC4066A for the Church of the Ascension



COA CHILDREN MINISTRY

Sunday School classes start at 10:30am. The children will be dismissed after 10:30am English Service.

Enquiries: [Shirley Kwek](#)



COA BREAKFAST CLUB

By the grace of God, we can now serve breakfast in church. We are appealing for generous contributors and volunteers.

Please email Clare at admin@ascension.org.sg or call the Church Office if you wish to serve in this area.

Come serve with us!



VACANCY FOR COA STAFF POSITION

We are looking for a suitable candidate to fill the following position:

- Chinese Ministry pastoral staff. Interested applicants, please click on the below URL <https://ascension.org.sg/pastoral-worker-chinese-ministry/>

If you are interested to apply for the above positions, please send your resume to admin@ascension.org.sg

EVENT CALENDAR 2023

The COA 2023 Event calendar is available for download. Please use the below link for the event calendar: <https://ascension.org.sg/coa-calendar>

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

The COA Marriage Preparation Course (MPC) starts on 15 Aug for 6 Tuesday evenings from 7.30pm to 9pm, led by the Vicar and his wife. This course is meant for those who are exploring or preparing for marriage. Interested participants can sign up with the Church Office or click [here](#) to sign up.

COA - TELEGRAM

We are on Telegram!

Subscribe to Church of The Ascension to receive updates on our latest announcements, events, programmes and more. Click on the link <https://t.me/Ascensionaires>

CLOSURE OF CHURCH OFFICE - 2 MAY & 30-31 MAY 2023

Church office will be closed on the following dates:-

- 1) **2 May 2023** - for PH (Labour Day). The office will reopen on 3 May (Wednesday).
- 2) **30-31 May 2023** - for Staff Retreat (29-31 May 2023). The office will reopen on 1 June (Thursday).

For urgent matters, please contact 81002203.

KIDS FOR CHRIST CAMP (8 - 9 JUNE 23)

Rise Up!



**GROW DEEPER IN FAITH
KIDS FOR CHRIST CAMP**

**BUT GROW IN GRACE, AND IN THE KNOWLEDGE
OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST.
2 PETER 3:18A**

**8 (THURS) TO 9 (FRI) JUNE 2023
9AM TO 4PM
CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION**

**7 TO 12
YEARS
OLD**

**\$20
PER CHILD**

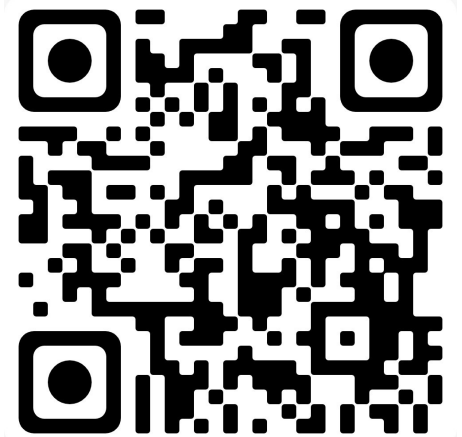
**SCAN HERE
TO SIGN UP**



**IF YOU HAVE ANY
QUERIES, PLEASE
CONTACT SHIRLEY
AT 07667304**

KIDS FOR CHRIST CAMP - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to help with Kids For Christ Camp from 8th to 9th June 2023. Interested in joining us? Please scan the QR code to sign up.



KARDIA - YOUTH ENCOUNTER NIGHT: 6 MAY 2023

Kardia

YOUTH ENCOUNTER NIGHT

"TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD"
PSALM 34: 8



DATE: 6 MAY 2023

TIME: 7PM

LOCATION: ASCENSION HALL

kardia

SAVCPs EVENT - MOTHER'S DAY FAMILY TALKS: 13 MAY 2023



Speaker: Mdm Belinda Yuan

- Master of Social Science Counselling
- Certified Professional Counsellor
- License of China Psychological Consultant
- CEO of Ao Xiang Counselling Service
- Lecturer of BSS Dao Geng Discipleship Training Institute

Mother's Day Family Talks

Bridge of
Communication

Date: 13 May 2023

Time: 10.30am-12.00noon

Venue: Potong Pasir Community Club #02-04

HAPPY SATURDAY



Supported by: Potong Pasir CCC

St Andrew's Village Community Projects
圣安德烈村社区服务计划

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

1. THANK YOU

To all Ascensionaires who attended and participated in the Annual General Meeting on 23 April.

2. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL 2023/2024

Vicar's Warden - Loh Kok Chi

People's Warden - Goh Chee Kong

Honorary Treasurer - Priscilla Chin

Honorary Secretary - Vincent Lim

Synod Representatives:

Andrew Cheang

Victor Ong

Vincent Lim

Committee Members:

Paul Chua

Randy Eng

Winston Tay

Jenny Quek

Marcus Sia -

We wish to thank the outgoing members of the PCC 2022/2023 — Yvonne Teo, Sandra Au, Peter Moey, Teo Swee Pieu, Ray Leung and Patricia Tan — for their service over the past year.

Please continue to pray for the new PCC in the year ahead.

WELCOME TO NEW INTERN - NIGEL LIM

We warmly welcome Mr Nigel Lim, who joined us as intern on 25 April 2023. He will be involved in school chaplaincy ministry as well as other ministries.

HOUR OF POWER ONLINE 10 MAY 2023

Date: Wed 10 May 2023

Time: 8 pm

Join us as one Ascension family to pray and seek the Lord.

The online Prayer Meeting will be conducted via Zoom:

(Click here for the link.)

Meeting ID: 822 3756 7980

Passcode: matt1820





TALK ON FALL PREVENTION FOR SENIORS



The view that falls are an inevitable part of life, particularly as we age, can create fatalism and complacency when it comes to how we respond to the problem. But there is growing evidence and awareness that many falls are preventable and that prevention efforts are effective (WHO, 2016).

Hence, the purpose of this interactive talk is to educate the stakeholders on practical measures they can take to “Stay In The R.A.C.E” to prevent falls throughout their golden years.

6 May, Saturday at 10am

Location: Ascension Hall (Level 3)

Speaker: Ms Clara Lee, Physiotherapist
from St Andrew's Community Hospital

Clara has been serving the community as a community physiotherapist for more than 7 years and she is motivated to help patients with chronic conditions, injuries, disabilities or surgical complications live full lives through rehabilitation. She is passionate about bringing rehabilitation to the local heartlands as well as overseas particularly in lower income countries.

All Seniors of COA (including Chinese Ministry) are welcome to be a part of this event! Young church members who have elderly parents may wish to attend to know more about the subject for caregiving purposes.

**To register, call the church office at 6283 3988
or Whatsapp @COAelderfellowship**

WHAT'S A COOKING?



Mother's Day Special

Baked Honey Soy Chicken (with mash potatoes) and Broccoli Apple Walnut Cranberry Salad



DATE: 18 MAY 23 (THURS)

TIME: 9.45AM TO 11.30AM

**COST : \$10 PER PERSON
(WITH 3 COURSE MEAL)**

**VENUE : LKC HALL, CHURCH
OF THE ASCENSION**

CLOSING DATE : 12 MAY 23

**To register, please call Church of the Ascension at
6283-3988 (office hours only, closed on Monday)**

The organizer reserves the right to cancel the event should unforeseen circumstances occur.



DIOCESAN APOLOGETICS COURSE

Diocesan Apologetics Course: The Evidences for God



Course Teacher: Dr Andrew Loke, Associate Professor, Hong Kong Baptist University

Dates: 12, 19, 26 April, 3, 10, 17 May, 21 & 28 June (Wednesdays) Via Zoom

Time: 7.30-9.30 pm Cost: \$20

Register at: <https://bit.ly/3YitpXc>

DIOCESAN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES



Diocesan Theological Studies THE CHRISTIAN AND SALVATION

Course Details

Dates: 18 April - 6 June 2023 (Tuesdays)

Time: 7.30 - 9.30 pm Via Zoom Cost: \$20

Register at <https://bit.ly/3kMJKpD>

For more information, drop an email to
lucillateoh.dts@gmail.com

COA HOLY LAND STUDY TOUR

COA HOLY LAND STUDY TOUR

19 November to 1 December 2023



Registration at LKC Hall after 8am and 10:30am service on 30 April (Today).

To submit the following upon registration:

1. Tour Booking Form
2. A copy of passport
3. One passport-size photo
4. Sign up deposit of \$1000 by Cash/Cheque or PayNow)

Led by Revd Ian Chew
& Revd Huang Hui Jen

\$5450/adult (twin sharing)

MEN'S NETWORK MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING - 6 MAY 2023

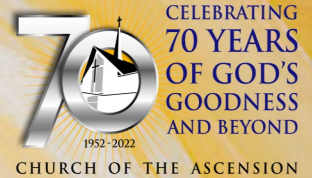
Men's Network Monthly Prayer Meeting

Saturday 6th May | 7.30am |
Ascension Hall
All are Welcome !

G O D - O U R H E L P
I N T I M E O F
T R O U B L E
A S H A R I N G B Y
S H A U N F O O

Church of the Ascension

May Service Schedule



7 May **SAV Area Group Sunday (8am & 10.30am)**
Faith and Team Work
Revd Joseph You

14 May **Mother's Day Sunday (8am & 10.30am)**
Living with Love and Generosity
Joyce Ewing-Chow

21 May **Ascension Day Sunday (10am)**
The Joy of Eternal Life
Revd Ian Chew

28 May **Pentecost Sunday (8am & 10.30am)**
Day of Power and Presence
Revd Soon Soo Kee



Mother's Day Service

70 CELEBRATING
70 YEARS
OF GOD'S
GOODNESS
AND BEYOND
1952-2022
CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



Living
with
Love and
Generosity

James 1:2-18

Joyce Ewing-Chow
14 May 2023, Sunday
8am & 10:30am, Sanctuary



Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers

PRAYER FOCUS FOR WEEK: 30 APR - 6 MAY 2023

1) DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE:

DEANERY OF THAILAND

Dean:

Revd Canon Yee Ching Wah

Home Base Coordinator:

Revd Tang Wai Lung

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN THAILAND (ACT)

Christ Church, Bangkok

Vicar: Revd Matthew Fitters

Priests, deaconess, pastoral workers, and officers serving in the various churches, schools, and outreach ministries in ACT:

Rainbowland Child Development Centre and Rainbow Community Service (Bangkok), Alpha Student Centre and Korat Phisut Logos Centre (Korat), Christ Church (Sawang Daendin), Christ Church (Banchang), Pai and Omkoi District, Anglican Outreach Centre (Rangsit), St Andrew's Church & St Andrew's Anglican School (Chiang Mai), Anglican Church and Cornerstone Student Centre (Lat Krabang)

2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD:

- Singapore: Pray for God's healing and protection upon Singapore as we experience a fresh Covid-19 wave.
- World: Pray for God's protection against the emergence of deadly diseases such as malaria, dengue fever and Rift Valley fever, and Zika virus as the world heats up.

3) PARISH:

- Easter season - renewal, restoration and empowerment.
- God's leading, guidance and wisdom for the PCC as they embark on a new term in 2023/24.
- God's leading and favour on the Home Visitation Teams in ministering to the sick and the homebound.

4) THE SICK AND SUFFERING:

For health and recovery

Evelyn Tan, Joanne Lau,
Lily Chan, Mary Yee, Tan Teck Hin,
Wong Wah Kum, Zephan Heng

Relatives and Friends of COA members

Benjamin (Lesley Ho's nephew) - Hepatitis B
David Yeong (Margaret Onn's husband) -
cancer
Sng Hock Meng - healing of the mind
Soo Ngook Khinn (Sien Yee's father) - salvation
Ong Chwee Hock (Ong Siew Chin's brother) -
physiotherapy and lymphoma

For healing

Annie Huan - strength for her legs
Conelius Loo - sleep apnea
Joseph Phua - muscular degeneration
Nancy Chan (Low) - stroke & heart
Felicia Koh - scan to show results to be
normal and blood tests to
show improvement in the
results.

"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption...Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

Ephesians 4:30;32