

#### **COLLECT FOR TODAY**

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech You to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of Your laws and the works of Your commandments; that through Your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

#### 30 Jul 2023 Trinity 8

8am & 10:30am

Preacher: Ps Edward Zaccheus

Sermon: "I am the Good Shepherd"

Bible Reading: Psalm 23;

John 10:11-18

#### **UPCOMING**

5 Aug (Sat) 8am - 10am	Men's Network National Day Prayer Walk MPH There is no Hour of Power in August.
6 Aug (Sun) 8am & 10:30am	Trinity 9 "I am the Resurrection and the Life" 1 Cor 15:12-20 John 11:17-27 Revd Soon Soo Kee

17 Aug (Thur) Comlink

9:45am - "What's A Cooking" - 11:30am Kueh Salat

LKC Hall, COA

Connect with the Ascension Family









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

Email: <a href="mailto:admin@ascension.org.sg">admin@ascension.org.sg</a> Website: <a href="mailto:www.ascension.org.sg">www.ascension.org.sg</a>

Event Calendar: https://ascension.org.sg/coa-calendar

#### VICAR'S MESSAGE 30 Jul 2023

Dear COA Family,

Just this week I was conversing with a very experienced pastor about church ministry and he shared with me the state of his church.

Everything has been going well in his church – the members are going regularly for church services, serving faithfully in various ministries and enjoying the fellowship with one another. In other words, they are all very happy to belong to the church. Yet he still feels a sense of deep unease.

And this is the main issue – they have grown to be too comfortable in the state that they are. They seem unwilling to consider stepping out in new areas of ministry that the Lord is possibly calling them as a church. The church has grown to become inward-looking and self-serving. And he is deeply concerned and grieved about this state of affairs.

This is an especially dangerous state for any church to be in. Jesus' response to the church in Laodicea which had grown satisfied and complacent was this:

"I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked" Revelation 3:15-17.

Jesus was rebuking the church harshly and spoke of his ultimate judgment of rejecting the church if they continued in their self-satisfied ways.

Church, let us learn from the lesson of my fellow pastor's church and the church in Laodicea. It is important always to be spiritually hungry for God and his kingdom.

The first blessing of the beatitudes that Jesus pronounced to his disciples was this: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" Matthew 5:3. The word "poor" in the Greek refers to being destitute, like a beggar on the street with totally nothing in his possession. Our Lord desires us to be hungry for him, his righteousness and his kingdom at all times!

In other words, the church of Christ must always be characterised by a deep yearning and hunger for God, and is never satisfied or complacent where they are.

I pray that this will help all of us to examine our own lives.

Have we reached a stage where we think that it is enough, we will limit God to ruling in some areas of our lives but not others? That we will respond in certain areas of ministry but not in all that He is calling us? That we have other priorities of our own besides our Lord's will for us?

May we not come to this dangerous state but continue to fervently seek his kingdom in our lives. Then our church will truly be in a blessed place.

God bless,

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 1st & 3rd Sun	10:30am	Sanctuary (Level 2)
<b>Mandarin</b> Holy Communion 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun	10:30am	Ascension Hall (Level 3)

#### **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 <a href="mailto:admin@ascension.org.sg">admin@ascension.org.sg</a> or click on the link and kindly fill in the form to help us keep in touch with you. Click here.

If you are driving to church:

- Register for your new car decal via this link <a href="https://bit.ly/3omt1Y9">https://bit.ly/3omt1Y9</a> (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.

#### **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





#### **BREAKFAST AT LKC**

Welcome to our 'Refreshment Corner' and enjoy your fellowship with the food and beverage.

We praise God and are grateful for the generous monetary contribution we have been receiving.

If anyone is interested in contributing in kind (eg. food and drinks), please contact Elaine Koh (94511625) or Clare at the church office. In consideration of hygiene and proper coordination, we seek your kind cooperation in informing Elaine or Clare before placing any food contribution at the 'Refreshment Corner'.



#### **MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE**

The COA Marriage Preparation Course (MPC) starts on 15 Aug for six 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 <a href="here">here</a> to sign up.

#### **VACANCY FOR COA STAFF POSITION**

We are looking for suitable candidates to fill the following position:

 Associate Chaplain for St Andrew's Nursing Home (Aljunied). Interested applicants, please click on the below URL <a href="https://ascension.org.sg/jd03">https://ascension.org.sg/jd03</a> and send your resume to admin@ascension.org.sg

#### **VICAR AWAY (5 - 9 AUG 2023)**

Revd Ian and Vincent Lim will be in Thailand from 5-9 August on a mission exploration and engagement trip with the Deanery of Thailand leaders. Please keep them in prayer.

#### **COA HOLY LAND STUDY TOUR - TEACHING & BRIEFING SESSIONS**

For those who have signed up for the Holy Land Study Tour (19 Nov - 1 Dec), there will be teaching and briefing sessions before the trip. The details are as follows:-

Dates: 27 Aug, 24 Sept & 22 Oct.

**Time**: 12.30pm - 2pm

Venue: Ascension Hall, Level 3

For any queries, please contact 81002203.

#### PRAYER SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS

We are starting a church prayer support group for parents whose children have gone astray or are in need of prayer. The group will meet once a month to:

- 1. create a safe space for concerned parents to share openly,
- 2. assure and extend comfort to the parents that they are not alone in this journey and
- 3. pray for God's divine intervention in the lives of the children.

The prayer support group's first meeting is on **26 Aug (Sat)** at **9am** in **Ascension Hall**. Interested parents, please contact Ps Edward at 81571244 or email to: <a href="mailto:edward.z@ascension.org.sg">edward.z@ascension.org.sg</a> to register.



#### **CONFIRMATION COURSES**

**Confirmation Course (Sep-Oct 2023)** 

Date: 24 Sep - 28 Oct 2023,

**Time**: 1:30pm-3pm

Venue: Church of the Ascension

Confirmation marks the point in the Christian journey at which you affirm for yourself the faith into which you have been

baptised and your intention to live a life of

committed discipleship. This affirmation is confirmed through prayer and the laying on of hands by the confirming Bishop.



- 1. Those seeking confirmation / membership in Church of the Ascension (COA).
- 2. Those baptised and currently attending church services regularly at COA.

#### Schedule for Confirmation Course

Sunday 24 Sep - The Ten Commandments (1-4)

Sunday 1 Oct - The Ten Commandments (5-10)
Sunday 8 Oct - The Work of the Holy Spirit

Sunday 15 Oct - Anglicanism & Church History

Sunday 22 Oct - The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Saturday 28 Oct (10am-12pm) - Confirmation Retreat

Confirmation Service: Sunday 29 Oct 2022, 10.30 am

To register, please click on the QR code or the link here.



#### **ALPHA COURSE: JUL - SEP 2023**



#### Who is Alpha for?

Alpha is for everyone, especially:

Those who are searching for the meaning of life

Those who are exploring Christianity and the Church

New Christians or Newcomers to Church

#### Schedule:

Dates: 16 July – 10 Sep, 2023 Sundays

**Time**: 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm **Venue**: DOS Building, #01-06

No. 1, Francis Thomas Drive

Venue: DOS Building, #01-06

No. 1, Francis Thomas Drive

Singapore 359340

16/7: Is there More to Life Than This?

23/7: **Who is Jesus?** 

30/7: Why did Jesus die?

6/8: How can we have faith?

13/8: Why & how do I pray?

20/8: Why and how should I read the

Bible?

26/8 (Sat) 9 am - 3:30 pm **Alpha Weekend** 

Venue: 3rd Floor, Ascension Hall, Church of the Ascension.

- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- What does the Holy Spirit do?
- How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?
- How can I make the most of the rest of my life?

10/9: Why and how should I tell others?

13/9: How does God guide us?

Cost: It's free! (Lunch Included)

Register by 9 July! Click here to register online

Enquiries: admin@ascension.org.sg

**COMLINK - WHAT'S A COOKING: 17 AUG 2023** 

# What's A Cooking? *Kueh Salat*



DATE: 17 AUG 23 (THURS)

TIME: 9.45AM TO 11.30AM

COST: \$6 PER PERSON

VENUE: LKC HALL, CHURCH

OF THE ASCENSION

**CLOSING DATE: 11 AUG 23** 

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

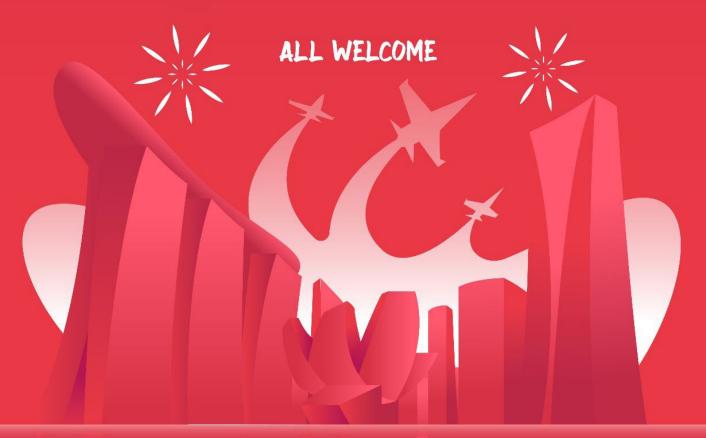
The organiser reserves the right to cancel the event should any unforeseen circumstances arise.

# NATIONAL DAY PRAYER WALK 2023



5/8/23 (SAT) 8.00 - 10.00AM MULTI PURPOSE HALL





organised by

MEN'S NETWORK



**Speakers** 

Sat: Pastor Ian Chew

**Sun: Pastor Edward** 

19/8 - 20/8

St. Giles Hotel

The Mall Mid Valley Southkey (JB)

\$200/pax

Spouse \$150/pax 2 lunch are included.

Without joining meeting

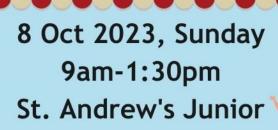
Cost including: Hotel room (Twin sharing w/breakfast), Conference Room for 2 days with 2 lunch & 2 Teabreaks.

Two ways tranfer from COA - Hotel - COA ( MPV)

All are welcome

















Church of the Ascension

# Church Gamps 2024

FULFILLING GOD'S PURPOSES

TOGETHER

DATE: 1ST - 4TH JUNE

VENUE: AMERALD RESORT

HOTEL, DESARU

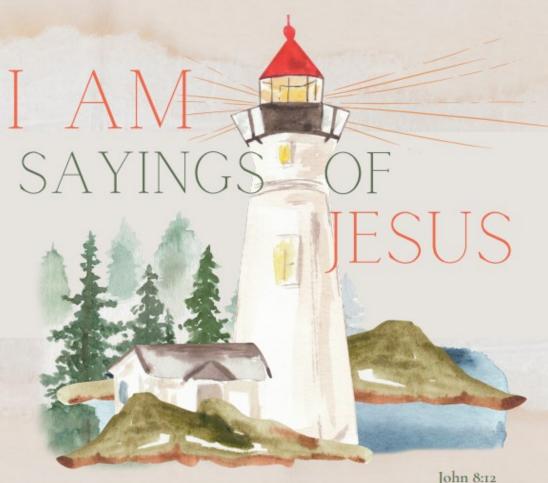
SPEAKERS:

REVD TIMOTHY &
MRS JOYCE EWING CHOW

More details to come

#### **JULY -- AUGUST SERMON SERIES**

### Church of the Ascension July-August Sermon Series



John 8:12

Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

9 July	Revd Ian Chew	1:
16 July	Ps Barnabas Sim	I a
23 July	Ps Loke Chi Shyan	I
30 July	Ps Edward Zaccheus	I a
6 August	Revd Soon Soo Kee	I a
13 August	Dr Leow Theng Huat	I a
20 August	Revd Ian Chew	L

am the Bread of Life

am the Light of the World

am the Gate for the Sheep

am the Good Shepherd

am the Resurrection and the Life

am the Way, Truth and Life

am the True Vine

#### **DIOCESAN DIGEST (JULY 2023)**





The latest issue of the Diocesan Digest is out! Find out the latest news and developments within the diocese.

Download your copy at www.anglican.org.sg/diocesan-digest/

#### NATIONAL DAY THANKSGIVING SERVICE 2023 - 17 AUG 2023

The National Council of Churches Singapore (NCCS) will join Singaporeans to celebrate our nation's 58th National Day by holding the National Day Thanksgiving Service. All Christians are invited to join this meaningful occasion of worship, prayer and thanksgiving where we seek the Lord together for Singapore.

No registration is required.

Date: Thursday 17 August 2023

**Time**: 7:45pm to 8:45pm

Venue: St Andrew's Cathedral, New Sanctuary

### National Day Thanksgiving Service 2023

Let us come together with praise and thanksgiving unto our God for Singapore

Thursday 17 August, 7:45pm to 8:45pm St Andrew's Cathedral, New Sanctuary

Message by Rt Rev Lu Guan Hoe "May All The Peoples Praise You, God"

No registration required



# STUDYING AND INTERPRETING THE BIBLE BY CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

We all interpret the Bible when we read it. The question is whether we interpret it accurately. This course will help us look at selected genres of the Bible and provide basic principles of interpretation of each of the genre. We will also look at selected Bible passage of each genre to learn how to apply the principles of interpretation in understanding the Word of God in the different genres.

Speaker: Mr Kua Wee Seng

**Date**: 5, 12, 19, 26 August 2023(Saturday)

Time: 10am - 12nn

**Venue**: Church of the Good Shepherd 2 Dundee Road S(149454) Block B, Level 2, Room 1

Interested participants please email: evangelinekhoo@cogsanglican.org Registration closes on **4 August 2023** 



Interested particpants may email to evangelinekhoo@cogsanglican.org



#### **TTC OPEN HOUSE 2023**







Considering a theological education?

Come join us for lectures, worship at our chapel, to dine with our community, to tour our campus, and to interact with our faculty and students.

Wed 23 Aug 2023 | 8.30am–2pm Trinity Theological College 490 Upper Bukit Timah Rd

Register by Sun 20 Aug 2023 at ttc.edu.sg/english/**OpenHouse2023** or via this QR code



## DIOCESE OF SABAH PRAYER CONFERENCE: PROMISE OF BREAKTHOUGH



Join us for a powerful time of prayer as we seek God's guidance and blessing for our personal lives, families, churches, and nations. Together, we pray strategically with deeper understanding for the church and our nation. We will also focus on praying for Sabah, asking God to break through spiritual strongholds and bring salvation, transformation and revival to the region.

Date: 30 Aug - 1 Sep 2023

Venue: St Patrick's Church, Tawau, Sabah, Malaysia

Closing Date: 30 August 2023

Interested participants may find out more and register at <a href="http://bit.ly/PRAYCON23">http://bit.ly/PRAYCON23</a>



#### 1) DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE:

#### Area Group 5 (COR, COA, CHS)

- 1. Unity of Purpose
- 2. Wisdom and strength for Chaplaincy work to St Andrew's schools
- 3. Favour for outreach to Potong Pasir and Bidadari

#### 2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD:

Singapore: Pray for God's leading that the right candidates to contest for the Presidential elections. Pray for His guidance and wisdom on the eventual chosen one to lead the country with righteousness and integrity.

World: Pray for relief from the heat wave that is affecting many countries in North America, Europe and Asia. Pray for God's protection and deliverance of people caught in forest fires due to the record high temperatures as well.

#### 3) PARISH

- July August sermon series: Pray that we will grow in our knowledge of and faith in our Lord through the seven "I Am" Sayings of Jesus series.
- Alpha: Pray for a wonderful response to our Alpha course which has commenced on 16 July. Pray also for God's Spirit to continue to bless the hosts, helpers and all the participants.
- COA Prayer Walk -- 5 Aug 23.

#### 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

stones in left kidney.urinary tract infection.

Nancy Chan (Low) - stroke & heart

Felicia Koh - tiny cyst on the liver.

Awaiting for MRI scan. Pray for favorable results and no further tests need to be

done.

Steven Syn - restoration and wellness.

Janet Hale - relief from pain in the

stomach.

Wilson Lim - continued recovery from loss of red blood cells