



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

August 27th, 2017

SUNDAY COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

1 The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

The Lord is in His holy temple, The Lord is in His holy temple: Let all the earth keep silence, Let all the earth keep silence before Him Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen.

Prelude/Preparatory Hymn Karen Ee/Kenny Tan

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple 1

Call to Worship Deacon Michael Lee/Deacon Joel Wong

*Hymn **HOP 2** To God Be the Glory

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 2

Responsive Reading Psalm 136:13-26

Hymn **HOP 355** Jesus Is All the World to Me

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings **HOP 396** Give of Your Best to the Master

*Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading Ephesians 1:18-23

Hymn **HOP 278** Sweet Hour of Prayer

Pastoral Prayer/Message Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip

2 Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

3 Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

3 Things We Must Know

*Hymn **HOP 147** Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus

*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 4

*Congregation Standing

4 The Lord Bless You and Keep You

The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace, and give you peace, The Lord make His face to shine upon you, And be gracious unto you, be gracious, The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.



THEME FOR 2017:

“... STAND FAST IN ONE SPIRIT, WITH ONE MIND STRIVING TOGETHER FOR THE FAITH OF THE GOSPEL” (Philippians 1:27)

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PASTORAL LETTER

The Importance of Session Elections

Dear BPCWAIans, Last week, we learned about the importance of a church. I hope that this will help us to re-examine ourselves and our relationship with the church. God intends a sound church to be a vital part of a Christian's life. We should learn God's Word in church. We should build bonds with His people in church. We should care for one another in church. We should serve together with His people in church. All these are so that the church will bear forth His Light to the world. Church is not a dispensable part of our walk as believers. I remember an occasion when I visited a member in his home sometime back. In the course of our conversation, he pointed over to a chair and told me of how he and another man would come together regularly to pray fervently for the church during a particularly difficult time. He thanked God for answering their prayers. Love for the church drives us to care for the church, pray for the church, and be concerned about the wellbeing of the church. So, whenever church elections arise, we must be concerned about who stands for leaders in the church election.

What happens in the nomination process? It is important this process is transparent and understood by all who are casting their votes. The process is robust and carefully planned for and adhered to objectively and impartially. It begins several months before the election. The Board of Elders carefully reviews and considers every candidate that it puts up for election. For potential new Deacons selection, I have been observing and considering their consistency in meeting all the qualifications of a Deacon (which has been dealt with in detail in earlier Pastoral letters in

June) over the past years. After careful and prayerful assessment, and having BOE discussions, I then had specific discussions with the candidates individually. The candidates were then asked to prayerfully consider the role. The decisions of the candidates who, after consideration, declined were respectfully accepted. We must trust God's provision and leading, and those who are not ready should not be coerced and cajoled into the role. We may desire more workers, but our desires must never overrule God's timing, and His preceptive and co-operative will.

What did the qualified candidates go through? Before being presented for election, every candidate must sign a form indicating, amongst other things, a declaration of their regular attendance at “public worship and prayer meetings of the Church”, full and ready acceptance of our church's doctrinal position and a readiness “to participate wholeheartedly in the ministry of the Church, with the Pastor” (BPCWA Constitution Articles 13.1.2-4). In these forms, they promise also to uphold the “peace, purity and unity” of BPCWA as well. For the Session to work together in unity, it is critically important that they are likeminded and united in beliefs. In making decisions for the church, they must have the same convictions on the faith and common understanding of how church should be run.

In addition, since this is the first time that Mr Eugene Leong will be standing for election into the Office of Deacon, he was required to write 3 papers and submit it to the Board of Elders. The topics for his papers were: 1) To explain a number of key doctrines and his personal convictions

and beliefs in several areas and how he would respond to people within and outside of the church who criticise these beliefs. These areas were a) Biblical Separation, b) Total abstinence, c) Verbal Plenary Preservation of Scriptures, and d) Distinctives of Bible Presbyterianism. 2) To explain, from relevant passages from the Bible and BPCWA's Constitution, the qualifications, and differences in roles and responsibilities of the Pastor, Elder and Deacon in the church, and how he would endeavour to uphold and perform these duties in the church and in his family. 3) To explain what were the doctrines that BPCWA holds which he struggled with, if any, and how they were resolved. He was also required to defend, uphold, and promote those doctrines from the Bible. Based upon these and the forms he submitted, he was thoroughly interviewed and tested by the Board of Elders. Only after the BOE was satisfied with the soundness of his papers and upon him passing the interview, he was then approved to be put up for election.

With this process, we hope that it will strengthen your understanding of what has gone into the nomination process. The Board of Elders have done their necessary due diligence to try to ensure that the men that are being put up for elections have been screened carefully. This was to ensure that they fulfilled all the biblical qualifications for the role they are standing, and that they honestly declare their convictions to be in line with all the church's beliefs and practices. All these are done to protect BPCWA in its elections, and ensure unity in the Session as it serves God's church. As a member, we hope that you will support the upcoming Session elections in prayer.

Yours in our Lord's service

Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

1. **Triennial Session Election Testimonies:** Members are requested to read the testimonies of the candidates approved by the Board of Elders for the upcoming election. This is inserted into today's Church bulletin to allow members time to prayerfully consider the candidates prior to the elections next month.
2. **Retirement from Office:** Deacon Michael Lee has requested to retire from holding Office in the Session in view of aging health and will not stand for Elections next month. Deacon Stephen Chia has decided not to stand for Elections. We wish to extend our thanks to them for their service during their tenure as Deacons.
3. **Fellowship Lunch (Today, after Worship):** All worshippers and visitors are welcome to join the lunch fellowship after Worship Service today. Do take the opportunity to mingle and get to know one another better.
4. **September 30in30 (Collect packs today):** To help participants develop an obedient response every day to the Great Commission, we encourage worshippers join the September 30in30 outreach to give out 30 tracts in September. Please collect your participants packs in the fellowship hall today and start this week to share the gospel and encourage one another in this outreach. Read testimonies from participants at www.sept30in30.com
5. **Adelphie Bible Study (Today, 3:30 pm):** Come join us today at this Bible study group as we begin in depth studies from topics taken from "Theology for Every Christian". Proper understanding of our faith affects our view of God and hence our Christian walk. Come, learn, and ask questions that you always wanted to but never got the chance. Pastor will be leading us in this study.

6. **Church Combined Fellowship (This Friday, 1 September, 7:30 pm):** We will commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation with a series of messages on “The Spirit and Men of the 1517 Protestant Reformation”. Do come and hear more about the events and men God used to change the whole course of Church history. Interpretation will be available.
7. **Father’s Day (Next Sunday, 3 September, after Worship):** We will have a tea fellowship to celebrate this occasion. Please bring a plate of finger food to share. All are welcome.
8. **Evangelism Training & City Evangelism (Saturday, 9 September, 1:30 pm):** An Evangelism Training Workshop will be held to learn how to evangelise to friends, family and strangers. City Evangelism for this month will be on that Saturday straight after the Evangelism Training Workshop. All are welcome and encouraged to attend and interpretation will be available.
9. **Annual Congregational Meeting & Triennial Election (Sunday, 17 September, 11:30 am):** All members are required to attend the Triennial Elections and ACM which will be held after the Worship Service. Please note also that worship service will commence at 9 am that Sunday. Please obtain a copy of the agenda and ACM reports from Deacon Adrian next Sunday (3rd September). Members who wish to submit questions for the ACM can email them to session@bpcwa.org.au by 6 September.
10. **English Adults Sunday School (Sunday, 9 am)** is currently in recess. Until it resumes, those who attend this Bible Study are encouraged to attend either the English BBK or the Chinese Adults Sunday School.

11. Programs planned for September:

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM
1, 8 & 22/9 Friday	7:30 pm	Church Combined Fellowship
9/9 Saturday	1:30 pm	City Evangelism
10/9 Sunday	3:30 pm	Husbands & Fathers Fellowship
17/9 Sunday	9:00 am	Sunday Worship Service
	11:30 am	Annual Congregational Meeting & Triennial Election
	3:30 pm	Adelphie Bible Study
23/9 Saturday	10:30 am	Seniors Fellowship

12. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

- Thank God for the service of the Session in BPCWA over the past 3 years. Thank God for His provision of labourers for His church, and for the contributions of Deacon Michael and Deacon Stephen over the past years.
- Thank God for the opportunity to learn God's Word together to grow in Christlikeness at the Men Fellowship and Ladies Fellowship. Thank God for those that came to fellowship together and encourage each other in Christ.
- Pray for the sisters at the Adelphie Bible Study to continue to be interested in learning God's Word together as they start out on a new topic of study.
- Pray for September 30in30 to be used to build up in Christians the importance of evangelism every day of our lives, in all our interactions and outreaches.
- Pray for the teaching and study of God's Word at the Church Combined Lecture Series as we commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Pray that this study will imbibe in every worshipper the zeal to continue in the spirit of the Reformation at BPCWA.
- Pray for the preparation of hearts and lives for those standing for election into Session. Pray for God fearing leaders that will uphold and defend the faith in the unity of truth at BPCWA, and live godly lives as examples.

SERVICE DUTY	27/8 COMBINED - Fellowship Lunch	3/9 COMBINED - Holy Communion
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Michael Lee/Deacon Joel Wong	Deacon Joel Wong/Kong Vui Yip
Preparatory Hymn	Kenny Tan	Jason Tey
Musician(s)	Karen Ee	Sharon Poon
Welcomers (Foyer)	Colin Tey, May Chee Tey, Lee Lian Yong	Claude Yiu, Esther Yiu, Ellainne Cheng
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Kenny Tan, *Allan Ang Deacon Stephen Chia, Jason Tey Deacon Adrian Cheng, Yi Choong Liew	*Claude Yiu, *Jason Tey, Edward Ee Pei Shion Chai, Benjamin Kan Mark Heath
Ushers (Sanctuary)	Yi Choong Liew, Julia Chia, Shie Tian Wong	Edward Ee, Nancy Chai, Vincent Naing
P.A. System	Caleb Cheng	Yi Choong Liew
Kitchen Duties	Lee Lian Yong, Victoria Lew Christine Chia, Illhoa Ramachandran Mable Soon	Yi Min Chieng, Phyllis Voun Shuin Ning Jong, Yi Jye Chieng Valerie Wan
Transport	Allan Ang (0433 032 709) / Eugene Leong (0401 155 386)	

Nursing Home Ministry

Subiaco	Edward Ee (Hannah Th'ng)	Pastor Joseph Poon (Sharon Poon)
South Perth	A: Allan Ang B: Mark Heath	A: Mark Heath B: Allan Ang
Berrington	Edward Ee (Hannah Th'ng)	Pastor Joseph Poon (Sharon Poon)
Bull Creek	Mark Heath	Mark Heath

APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK

Sunday	27/8	12:45 pm	Teens Q and A
		3:30 pm	Adelphie Bible Study
Tuesday	29/8	7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Deacon Joel Wong, Deacon Adrian Cheng, Sharon Poon
Wednesday	30/8	7:30 pm	Far Eastern Bible College Online Courses: Deuteronomy
Friday	1/9	10:00 am	Mothers Fellowship
		7:30 pm	Combined Fellowship: The Spirit and Men of the 1517 Protestant Reformation
Sunday	3/9	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	Mandarin Sunday School/English Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00 am	Sunday Combined Worship Service
		2:00 pm	Nursing Home: Concorde – 25 Anstey Street, South Perth Onslow Gardens – 39 Hamersley Road, Subiaco
		3:30 pm	Nursing Home: Berrington, Subiaco – 45 Bishop St, Jolimont Bull Creek – RAAFA Memorial Estate, 2 Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek WA 6149

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (20/8)

Attendance: 216 (Combined-185; JSS-31); Prayer Meeting: 82

Offerings in Total: \$10,580.60; General Fund: \$10,580.60

(#4295-\$29.50; #4296-\$90.00; #4297-\$153.50; #4298-\$195.00; #4299-Camp T-shirt-\$30.00)

SHORTER CATECHISM: What doth God require of us, that we may escape his wrath and curse, due to us for sin? To escape the wrath and curse of God, due to us for sin, God requireth of us faith in Jesus Christ, repentance unto life, (Mark 1:15; Acts 20:21) with the diligent use of all the outward means whereby Christ communicateth to us the benefits of redemption. (Acts 2:38; 1 Corinthians 11:24-25; Colossians 3:16)