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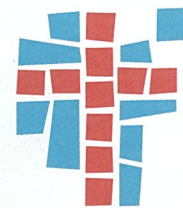
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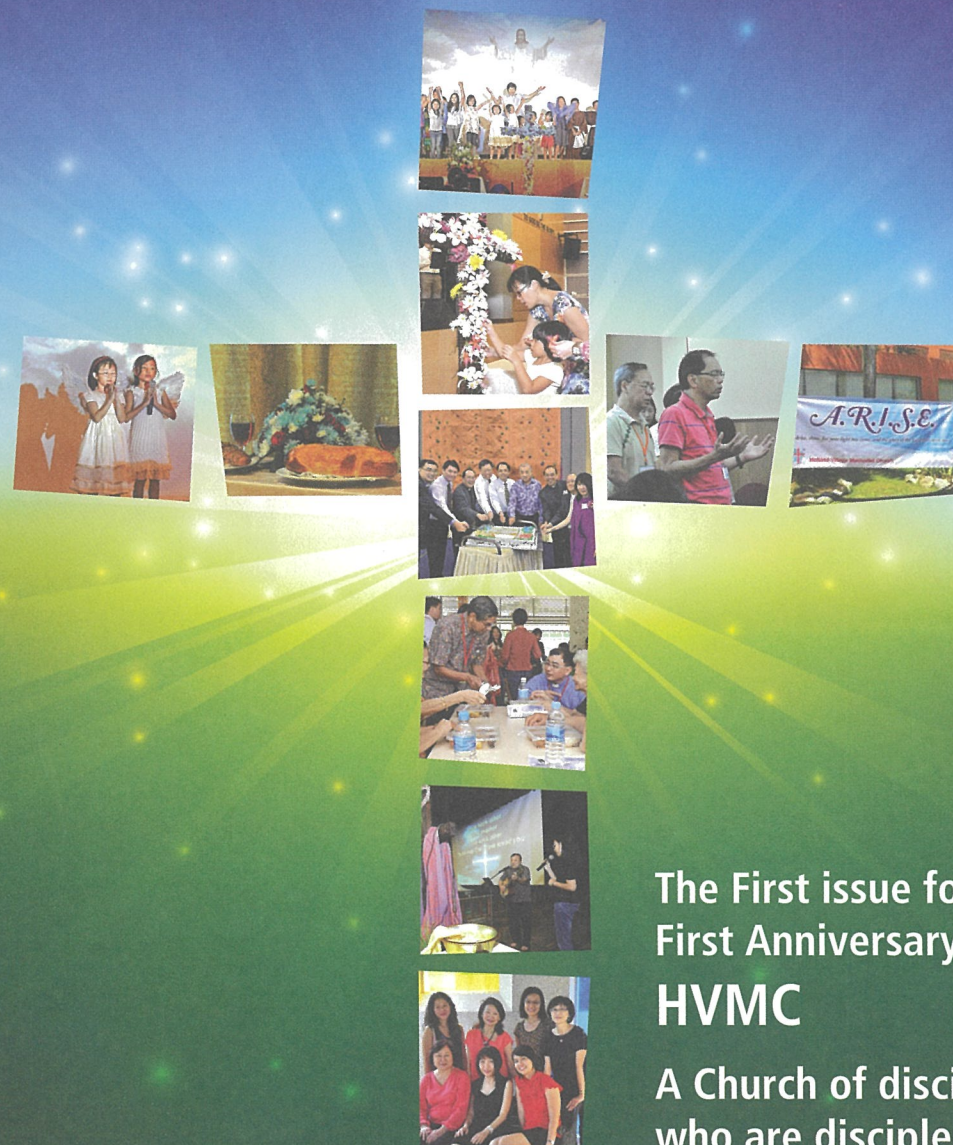
# MOSAIC

@ HOLLAND VILLAGE METHODIST CHURCH

Where loving God and loving others matter

July 2013

## WE ARE 1!



The First issue for the  
First Anniversary of  
**HVMC**

A Church of disciples  
who are disciplers

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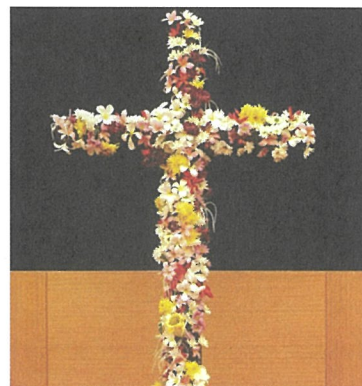
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#### Pastor's Message

# A Mosaic of Disciples



The church is a mosaic of people drawn from different situations and experiences to a shared faith and purpose centered on the Lord Jesus. That is why our logo is formed by a mosaic of different shapes, and our new church magazine is called "MOSAIC".

#### Our Identity

At HVMC, we've decided to focus on becoming a church of disciples who are disciplers. We want to be a mosaic of disciples - a faith community that calls persons from all walks of life to believe and follow Jesus seriously, where loving God and loving others matter. This should show in our lives individually, at home, at work and as a church.

Jesus calls us to such a unity of identity and activity. Jesus said:

*"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35)*

#### Our Activity

Every mosaic reflects the design and intention of its creator. The way we fit together - how we journey together in unity of heart and mind - reflects God's design. The church is a place where every person counts and has a part to play in revealing the

presence of Jesus more fully by our obedience to Jesus and loving others.

Because this is so important, at HVMC we have identified five areas of activity that should exist in the life of every disciple who desires to live in obedience and love.

- A**ccountability for discipleship - taking sin and faithful living seriously
- R**everence for God - worshipping God with both praise and the witness of our lives
- I**ntegration of God's Word - where the Bible infuses and shapes our attitudes and actions
- S**haring of life - being involved with each other's lives that leads to real family intimacy
- E**ncouragement of service - doing good works in the church, community and marketplace

Together, these activities form the acronym, "A.R.I.S.E.", reflecting our hope that Isaiah 60:1 will be both our experience and witness, as a church that reflects the glory of God.

*"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you." (Isaiah 60:1)*

# A Mosaic of Disciples

## Our Community

Just like no mosaic is comprised of only one piece, but a pattern of myriad pieces, being a disciple means being part of the body of Christ – the church. Discipleship is, by definition, a community. For us to “A.R.I.S.E.”, we need meaningful relationships within our faith community.

At a most basic level, this is the family that embraces Christ as Lord, or the relationship between a discipler, and the disciple he/she has led to faith. Whether as a family, or between two spiritual friends, we should be taking discipleship seriously, and be engaged in the five areas of activities of a disciple.

## Our Response To New Disciples

We must think of others beyond our family or discipler-disciple relationships. We need to include new believers and newcomers into our community. Each of us must consider how we can help others in their faith journey. This may entail our helping to form, or lead, a new small group.

At HVMC, we want to encourage flexibility and variety in our small groups. We recognize that the church

draws people into the community at different stages of their faith journey and in different seasons of life. We can have small groups of three, five or fifteen persons. We can have groups composed of youth, young adults, or families. We can have women’s or men’s groups.

There is no compulsory form, just a common commitment to nurture disciples into disciplers for whom loving God and loving others matter, and to be accountable to be active and work towards the disciple’s five areas of activities. Because of the Great Commission, every group should be ready to welcome and care for new persons.

## Our Readiness

Each of us needs to be prepared to be a discipler and a small group leader, so that this mosaic of HVMC may shine as a light to our community. Our readiness to do so, will increase our capacity to grow as a church.

Let’s get ready!

*Rev Bernard Chao*

# We are 1!

## Growing By the Grace of God



Holland Village Methodist Church began as a Preaching Point in 2007, the result of a partnership between ACS (International) and Barker Road Methodist Church to provide Christian ministry to the school. It was also committed to reach out to the neighbouring community in Christian love.

Holland Village Preaching Point held its first service on 8 July 2007 and the congregation grew steadily in number with activities involving both ACS(International) and the surrounding community. Five years later, the leaders together with its pastors then, Rev Wee CS David and Rev Bernard Chao, prayerfully discerned that the congregation was ready, and it was time for the preaching point to be formed as a local church. With the approval of the BRMC LCEC and the TRAC Executive Board,

the Holland Village Methodist Church was birthed and constituted on Sunday 8 July 2012. It became the 45th local conference in The Methodist Church in Singapore, with 132 founding members.

Today on 7 July 2013, HVMC is celebrating its 1st anniversary. At our inaugural service a year ago, Rev Malcolm Tan, Pastor-in-Charge of BRMC had delivered a thought-provoking sermon entitled “Will This Church Survive?”, exhorting the fledgling congregation that, “If we stick to our core business, which is God’s business for the world today, we will more than survive – we will flourish!”

Our current weekly average attendance stands at around 200. There have been various “firsts” this year for our young church – the formation of a Hospitality Team, HVMC WSCS in April, our first church camp in June, our first issue of the church newsletter in July, to name a few. Our focus in 2013 and onwards is to “build HVMC as an intentional community of disciples who are disciplers for whom loving God and loving others matter.” We are growing, we are evolving and with God’s grace and leading, we pray we will flourish in the years to come.

# Who's Who in the Local Church Executive Committee (LCEC)

**Lay Leader /  
Missions**

Mun Kwok On



**Assoc Lay Leader /  
Women's Society of  
Christian Service**

Eunice Yeo



**LCEC Chairman /  
Church Archivist**

Christopher Ong Siu Jin



**Property Management**

Jeffrey Bose



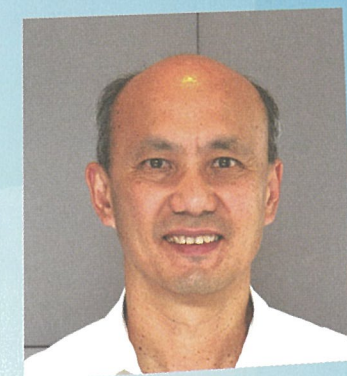
**Church Governance**

Goh Yew Lin



**Outreach & Social  
Concerns**

Hui Choon Ho



**Secretary / Pastor-Parish  
Relations and Staff**

Edric Pan



**Treasurer /  
Filipino Fellowship**

Angela Tan



**Finance Committee**

Tan Choon Hiong



**Witness and Evangelism /  
Disciple & Nurture**

Jenny Bose



**Worship & Music**

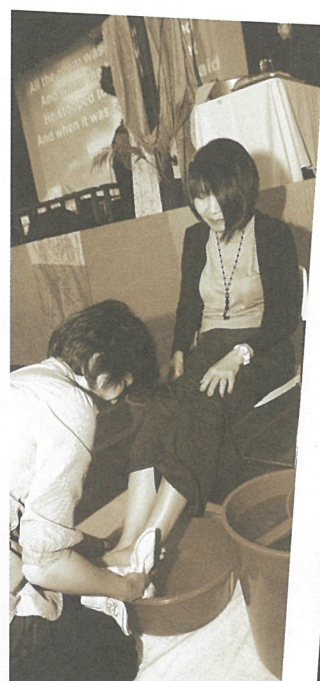
Eugel Yeo



**Children & Youth  
Ministry**

Jacqueline Seow

# An Act Of Christian Love



Maundy Thursday is observed during Holy Week on the Thursday before Easter. It commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples, on the night before he was crucified. Before the Passover meal, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. By performing this lowly act of service, the Bible says in John 13:1 that Jesus showed them the full extent of his love and demonstrated how Christians are to love one another through humble service.

So, acting upon Christ's example, our church members took turns to wash each other's feet as part of this year's Maundy Thursday service. It was a first-time experience for many, if not all, of the worshippers and gave them a profound sense of what it means to show love for their Christian brothers and sisters in a simple, yet humbling way.

*May Oon*



# Celebrating Easter With Our Neighbours

Our Easter Sunday service on 31 March 2013 began with the symbolically meaningful Stripping of the Altar followed by the Crowning of the Cross to proclaim the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. On the Sundays leading up to the Easter service, the symbols of the Lenten Cross - the crown of thorns and purple robe, the bread and wine, the money bag, the whip, the palm branch, towel and bowl and the nails - had reminded us of the betrayal and suffering of Christ during his final days on earth and His crucifixion. But on this Resurrection Day, all the solemnity of the past weeks gave way to celebration as each member of the congregation filed up to the front to place a fresh flower on the bare wooden cross, gradually transforming it into a Tree of Life, signifying beauty and hope as the flowers covered the entire cross.

The Crowning of the Cross was made more meaningful with the whole-hearted participation of about 300 residents from the neighbouring four blocks who had been invited to celebrate Easter with us. They were also entertained by a touching Easter presentation by the Children's Ministry. After the service, our neighbours were invited to lunch, and many of us mingled with them, making sure they felt welcomed. Each household was also presented with supermarket vouchers and a goodie bag.

Befriending our neighbours is part of HVMC's Outreach and Social Concerns Committee's "Just for Love" project. We have more than 100 households seeking financial help. About 50 families are befriended by 22 volunteers who share the love of Christ by visiting them monthly to personally deliver the financial aid cheque from the MWS' Walk with the Poor Program. This is an excellent opportunity to spend time getting to know them and their needs better. However, with more needy households than there are befrienders, if you can spare a couple of hours a month to be a volunteer, do contact Mary Yam at 64767795 or mary@hvmc.sg

*Low Yee Ian*

# HVMC's Church Camp 2013

HVMC had its first church camp from the 1st-4th June at Klana Resort, Seremban, Malaysia. 65 church members attended the camp and we truly had an anointed time. The camp theme was "A.R.I.S.E.", taken from Isaiah 60:1.

The adults attended lectures and group discussions conducted by our speaker, Dr. Fred Toke, whilst the children attended a program conducted by Scripture Union. For the early risers, Pastor Bernard conducted morning devotion, where we learnt to be still before God, allowing Him to speak to us instead of our rushing into presenting God with our prayers and petitions.

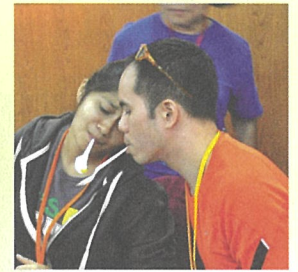
Dr. Fred Toke kept us riveted as he taught us to "arise" to God, ourselves, our families and the world. Firstly, we have to align ourselves to God (UPREACH) in order to be transformed into a new creation (INREACH). A transformed person attains the characteristics of the Fruit of the Spirit. Only then can we outreach to our families (ACCOMPLISHMENT) and to the world (ASSIGNMENT). After each lecture, we dispersed into groups to discuss questions, to examine ourselves and the way we live our Christian lives.

If you think it was all work and no play, then you are wrong! Apart from the lectures, we had great family time as we played team games involving much laughter and camaraderie - Pastor was the perfect party planner. Some of us even had time to hunt down the best food in Seremban and bonded over crabs, pork knuckle and Hokkien mee.

On the last night, each group presented a skit or a song based on the camp's theme. The campers showed creativity, a keen sense of humour and abandoned all inhibitions in their performances. The children also presented their own song and dance, led by Pastor Flora and her team of dedicated Scripture Union volunteers. At the end of the evening, we were treated to a feast of 10 different types of fruits, minus durians to the great disappointment of durian-lovers.

Besides a personal encounter with God, we were challenged to arise to be better disciples and disciplers for Christ. Pastor reiterated the necessity of accountability to allow the glory of God to shine within us, that we might reveal God's light to others.

*Lee Tang Yin*



# Church Camp 2013



# HVMC'S Women's Society of Christian Service (WSCS)



On 20th April 2013, the youngest chapter of the Women's Society of Christian Service (WSCS) was born at Holland Village Methodist Church (HVMC).

Following the inauguration of the HVMC on 8th July 2012, the obvious question was whether the existing Women's Ministry was going to evolve into WSCS. In the 4 years before the inauguration, the Women's Ministry of Holland Village Preaching Point had served actively through bible study groups and the floral ministry. Many women were also involved in the outreach work in the neighbourhood through the Methodist Welfare Services' Walk with the Poor Program.

Being part of the local church ministry, however, did not connect us to the rest of the good work that other Methodist women were involved in. I was leading the Women's Ministry in HVMC and also an active member of the Trinity Annual Conference (TRAC) and General Conference WSCS Executive Committees and in my years there, I saw a new perspective. I discovered the diversity of talents and personalities in the 35 chapters united by a common vision of bringing women closer to God. I was convinced that the network of Methodist women is vital to the scale of the impact of our ministry. HVMC WSCS is small – very small. Yet, God showed

me Luke 12:32, where Jesus said, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom". The tender tone of Jesus in these words "little flock" reassured me that we are His little flock and that it was alright to start small and to demonstrate our willingness to do work of eternal value, focusing on His leadership.

When I launched the membership drive in February 2013, the Lord was faithful to His promise and drew 37 members to start WSCS at HVMC. At the inauguration meeting on 20th April 2013, Ms Daisy Pang, TRAC WSCS President, conducted the proceedings. 24 members attended the meeting to approve the formation of the 36th chapter. There was such an air of joy and excitement as the chapter was formed and a sense of a new beginning prevailed.

We pray with a humble heart that God will truly and tenderly lead our little flock at HVMC and for the women to make an impact for the growth of God's kingdom.

*Eunice Yeo*



## Interview with Jenny Bose on Small Groups

### Q. What are small groups?

At HVMC, our small groups are not confined to any fixed configuration. A small group can be made up of 2 or more people either of the same, or mixed genders, singles or families.

The idea is to have a group of people coming together to seek God and wanting to organize their lives around God. 1 John 4:7 says it is love to keep one another accountable to follow Jesus closely.

### Q. Why are small groups important?

A small group is the essence of a God-created life, for in Genesis 1:18, God said it is not good for man to be alone. It is also characteristic of a Christian life. The early church in Acts 2:42 devoted themselves to joyful fellowship and sharing of their lives in Christ.

### Q. When should one start participating in a small group – at which stage of one's spiritual journey?

Right now is a perfect time. For a start, come to us and we can arrange for you to visit the existing small groups.

### Q. Will there be different types of small groups to serve different people?

At HVMC, our small groups are life groups that represent vibrant Christian living. Each small group is an intentional group seeking God together. Each group is Christ-focused and people-oriented, so do speak to the church about your needs.

### Q. What role do they play in the congregation?

Small groups are like branches in the body of Christ. In John 15:1 Jesus says He is the true Vine that bears fruitful branches.

The small groups in HVMC allow our congregation a personal yet corporate integration into the life of the church. They play an integral role to spur each other on as they keep meeting and encouraging each other in their walk with God. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

### Q. How can more people be encouraged to attend small groups?

At HVMC, the focus of our small groups is based on Isaiah 60:1 "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you."

Here, our small groups allow the individual seeker the opportunity of a nurturing atmosphere to grow to love God and others with the love of Christ.

The comfort is that we are walking together in the Lord as we grow in reverence for God and accountability for our Christian faith as a community of intentional disciples.



# Kids' Quips



Our Sunday School kids (the 10 to 12-year-old group) were asked how they, as disciples, could be disciplers. Here are some of their inspiring quotes...

"We must encourage people to believe in God."

"A discipler is a more advanced disciple."

"My neighbour was a free thinker and I told her not to say bad things about God."

"You have to repeat the Old Testament 1000 times to someone until he gets it."

"Everyday you tell them the 10 commandments. But if they don't want to learn it's their choice. I'll just go find someone else – I won't give up!"

"Being a discipler is being a teacher."

"I will teach them the bible and will give them a prize if they want to learn - maybe a pen."

"I will tell them about Jesus dying on the cross."



If you're interested to talk to someone about joining a small group, please contact either of the following persons:  
Jenny Bose : [j5bose@hotmail.com](mailto:j5bose@hotmail.com) or Liew Ying Hock : [yinghock@hvmc.sg](mailto:yinghock@hvmc.sg)