

# COVENANT VISION

# News

Covenant Vision Christian Mission (ROS 286/99 REL)



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Christian Church**  
opens its doors

**School of Ministry**  
sees its first batch  
of graduates

**Sharing the love  
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A Trans-denominational Christian ministry seeking to extend love, provide hope through faith in Jesus Christ.

## **Our Vision**

To be a living bridge to a lost and needy world.

## **Our Mission**

To provide Word-based, Spirit-led and Faith-filled teaching, training and ministry to fulfil the Commission of Jesus Christ, to preach the Kingdom of God, to heal the sick and set the captives free.

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# From the desk of Rev Francis Khoo



The year 2009 is going to be an exciting and challenging journey. It will be a year of contradictions, conflicts and confusion, yet a year that will see a completion of what God is doing. It will be a year that will call for us to be laying foundations for things to come. It will also be a time of consolidation, concentration and receiving comfort from the Lord.

As a prelude to the Prophetic Word that God gave us for 2009, He brought us into remembrance of Isaiah 43:18, 19. This scripture brings the revelation that God is going to do a “new thing” in 2009. What our understanding of these words, “a new thing” is, will in turn shape how we are to respond to God’s Word for the year.

“ Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ”  
Isaiah 43:18, 19

The interesting observation is that if there is a “new thing”, then there must be an “old thing”. If there is an “old thing”, then there must first be an “original thing”. In this, perhaps we have a deeper understanding of the “new thing”. Actually, the word itself in scripture does not mean that something totally new is being created or formed. Instead, it carries a connotation of renewal and restoration of an old thing, making it a new thing by putting it through a process of renewing or restoring that brings it back to the original condition it was before it became an old thing. This process also carries with it a connotation of cleaning, polishing, sharpening and laborious work to bring it back to its original condition through repetitive action.

If we can fully grasp an understanding of this, we can understand why in the chain of events, we often see that “history seems to repeat itself”. Although the events or process may seem to be repetitive, but yet it does not “duplicate” itself. As the actions are being repeated, new results are being achieved. Circumstances and situations are changing with each time the action is applied until out of the labor applied, a “new thing” seems to spring forth as we arrive at the end result. In that lies the understanding of why we are “not to consider the former things, or look at the things of old” as each stage brings about the start of another stage.

It took us quite sometime to understand and grasp what God was doing and also what He wanted us as Covenant Vision Ministry to do in response. The revelation and understanding of this “a new thing” began to shape the focus, direction and what we will be doing as a Ministry going into 2009 and beyond. Are we changing direction and moving onto new fields of endeavour?

Our Identity to be a Transdenominational Ministry extending Love and Hope through Faith in Jesus Christ has not changed. The vision to be a “Living Bridge to a lost and needy world” has not changed. The Mission to bring “Word-based, Spirit-led and Faith-filled Teaching and Ministry to fulfill the Commission of Jesus to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom” has not changed. The 5 faceted calling to be Preaching, Teaching, Pastoring, Prophetic and Missions based has not changed. The 7 Foundational Pillars of the Ministry have not changed.

“ We have not changed... but the understanding of that new thing in 2009 has birthed out extensions to the different areas of work undertaken by our Ministry. ”



However, the understanding of that new thing in 2009 has birthed out extensions to the different areas of work undertaken by our Ministry in our desire to “equip a Chosen Generation, to reach Lost Nations and to transform our World for Jesus”. It has led us to launch a Diploma program in our School of Ministry. It has seen the birth of Covenant Vision Christian Church with a vision to form a “community of radically transformed believers that will be engaging our world to establish the Kingdom of God”. 2009 will also see many new milestones being laid, crossed and established.

As you read the various reports in this Newsletter, we hope you will catch the Covenant Vision dream to be what God has birthed us out to be. It is my prayer that you will be able to join us in our labour of love for Jesus! Our prayer is also that what you read within these pages would also give you fresh insights for your walk of Glory with Jesus!

To God be the Glory in all things!

*Rev Francis S.H. Khoo*



*Now Available*

The Prophetic Word for 2009 released by Rev Francis is available on CD at our E-store ([covenantvision.org/estore](http://covenantvision.org/estore)) or at Covenant Vision Centre for \$5.00.

The follow-on 5-part Prophetic Series titled "Our Response", also by Rev Francis Khoo is also available for \$22.50.



# our church opens its doors

It has been a long time coming, but finally, we are open for business! Not just any business... God's business. Rev Francis had been waiting on the Lord for the go-ahead to start the church and as the team prayed, each felt the Lord confirm that the time had finally arrived.

So at 10am on Sunday, 2nd November 2008, Covenant Vision Christian Church held it's inaugural service at Covenant Vision Centre. About 100 people, including those who wanted to start attending the church as well as well-wishers filled the hall. And as the worship started, God's presence in the service was unmistakable. For us, it was God endorsing the start of this new journey for the ministry.

In Rev Francis' opening message, he shared how God led him to start the church-arm of Covenant Vision Ministry. He also outlined the vision and mission of the church. Since then we have seen our church attendance grow steadily and are excited about what God is doing in our midst as we go about His business.



## Pastors Commissioned

Any church would be hard pressed to function without pastors. So in the month before the opening of our church, Rev Francis commissioned not one, not two, but three pastors. On the 18th of October 2008, friends and family members of Bro Andrew Teo, Bro Henson Lim and Bro George Gunter turned up to support them as they took the step into a new chapter of their lives: shepherd-hood.

As Rev Francis laid hands on them, we saw them assume their new roles with joy. We even saw some shed tears of joy. It was truly an emotional time for the three new pastors.

Pastors of various churches were also present to witness this very first milestone of the church. After the commissioning, as those who have gone before, they were invited to lay hands and pray for the new pastors.

After the service, gifts were exchanged, hugs and well wishes were freely given and the air was filled with an expectation that God was going to use each of them mightily in their new capacities.



# Dazzling Christmas

**Celebrate Christmas @ Tyrwhitt.** Covenant Vision Christian Church's very first church-wide community project, kicked the festive season off with a blast. Tyrwhitt Road came alive on the 22nd of December 2008 when seven dazzling floats depicting the spirit of Christmas lined the street, which was closed off specially for the event.

The Guest of Honour was Dr Lee Boon Yang, Minister of Information, Communications & the Arts and Member of Parliament of Jalan Besar GRC. He, together with Ms Denise Phua, Member of Parliament, Jalan Besar GRC, Rev Francis Khoo, Rev Foo Chee Meng of Holy Trinity Church and Jalan Besar Grassroot Leaders, arrived on the floats to a crowd of a few hundred people who came to soak in the carnival atmosphere.

As part of the project, 800 needy families registered with the Kampong Kapor Family Centre received food parcels containing essential food items such as rice and oil. Dr Lee Boon Yang and Ms Denise Phua both handed out food parcels to selected needy families.

Residents of Jalan Besar were also treated to a host of exciting activities including shofar blowing, dances, carol singing, a percussion tin band, a Boys' Brigade Bagpipers band, and balloon sculpting.

Even in the planning stages, no one foresaw how massive Celebrate Christmas @ Tyrwhitt was going to be. But God knew and He provided everything needed for the staging of the event. And as the church banded together to bring this event to fruition, and by God's grace, it was a huge success.







# “New Birth” Day

the church’s very first baptism



On the morning of 7th of February 2009, a group of 17 gathered with their family and friends at the Garden Hotel swimming pool. The demographics of the group could not be more diverse. There were children, adults, singles, married couples, a pair of twins, civil servants, corporates... the list goes on. But they all had one thing in common. They all wanted to outwardly declare their faith by symbolically dying and rising again with Christ. They gathered to be baptised.

The sun was blazing as if God was smiling down on us. The pastoral team was in full swing as Ps George led worship, Ps Henson and Ps Andrew baptised the candidates, and Rev Francis prayed for each one as they emerged

from the pool. Testimonies were also shared in the presence of not only family and friends, but some hotel guests as well, who had joined in the celebrations. The service ended with a sumptuous buffet lunch at the coffee house.

They all wanted to outwardly declare their faith by symbolically dying and rising again with Christ.

The church’s very first batch of baptismal candidates were received the next day during the worship service and presented with their certificates. It was indeed very memorable for everyone involved and the next baptism is already being planned for mid 2009.



# LET THE CHILDREN COME ...

Dedicating the next generation

8<sup>th</sup> February 2009. It was the day John Ch'ng, Ruth Lim, Deborah Hope Lim, Joan Foo, Jeremiah Foo and Aaron Wong were dedicated to the Lord by their parents in the presence of the church. In a momentous ceremony within the worship service, these parents declared that they would devote their lives to bringing up their children the way God would want them to. Grandparents, god parents, family members and the church body were likewise challenged to support these parents in this endeavour. To 'seal the deal', each set of parents were given a certificate as a reminder of the commitment they had made that day.

As we seek to be an inter-generational church, it was significant to see the little ones at the "altar". This is the first step for us as a church in bringing the little ones to Jesus, not hindering them, for to them the kingdom of God belongs (Matt 19:14).





## CLASS IN SESSION

God is good! In fact God is VERY good! 2008 was a significant year for Covenant Vision School of Ministry (CVSOM) and it wouldn't have been if not for the hand of God on the School.

As 2008 closed and 2009 began, the school's enrolment had increased fourfold to 86 students, many of whom had either heard of the course through a friend or had seen the fruits of the students' ministry. What's more amazing is the sense of camaraderie the students have developed with each other. The practical nature of the course has given them the spiritual tools and confidence to be ministers even to one another.

The Certificate programme has drawn more than 20 new students for its new intake. They come from different churches and denominations, thereby enhancing the fabric of the student body. Much of the learning in CVSOM comes

from the exposure to and interaction with others within the Body of Christ.

We also saw the launch of the Diploma in Practical Christian Ministry - a follow-on course to the Certificate programme. Students in this 2nd year programme will complete another 8 Equipping Courses and 3 Ministry Modules.

The School's teaching faculty has grown with the introduction of Ps George Gunter, Rev Wilfred Png, Bro Jacob Sim and Bro Isaac Tan. This will greatly increase the depth of knowledge and experience, not to mention the anointing, of the School.

We believe that God is a big God with big plans for the School and we look forward to a wonderful year ahead seeing God move in the lives of the students of the School of Ministry.

## A Milestone Laid with the first batch of graduates

The stage was set and the hall was filled. And as the music burst through the speakers, it was soon masked by cheers, laughter and applause welcoming the School of Ministry's very first batch of graduates in the Certificate in Practical Christian Ministry. The procession was led by a dancing Ps Henson Lim, Dean of the School who was beaming from ear to ear, like a proud father.

Altogether, 17 students graduated in the ceremony themed **'ARISE SHINE'**. As the graduands walked forward to receive their certificates, it reinforced their resolve to make a difference in this day and age. Two special awards were given out to Audrey Yeo (Best Student Award) and Wilson Yeo (Spiritual Transformation Award). Audrey also spoke on behalf of the graduating batch quoting each of her fellow graduands on how their lives had been changed. It was all made that much special when the instructors, together with family members and friends, laid hands and prayed for each of them.

6 December 2008. The day the School laid this significant milestone with each of its 17 graduates. Here's to many more to come!



...and you shall receive

# POWER

POWER Week with Rev John Cairns



The School of Ministry ended its second term with POWER Week from 29th July to 2nd August 2008, conducted by Rev John Cairns from Australia.

The 3-night Seminar was definitely power-packed! Everyone present definitely caught the POWER and the FIRE anointing that filled the sanctuary. The thrust of the seminar was this: Evangelism is NOT A JOB, it is a 'LIFESTYLE'. With great enthusiasm and humour, Rev John Cairns unraveled the power, fire and empowerment of the Holy Spirit, and with many examples of his wonderful experiences in ministering to people from over twenty countries, he showed how easy it is to reach out to the lost in today's world, to be the light and salt that God wants us to be.

At the 1-day session on 2nd August, Rev Cairns spoke on being 'Dynamic Disciples of Jesus'. He taught on qualities of a dynamic disciple, such as being a Worshipper, a Pray-er, living a life based on the Word of God, a servant submitted and surrendered to God's will, faithful, dependable and trustworthy and many others. Rev Cairns also shared how we can go about discipling those we bring into the kingdom, and helping to bring transformation in their lives.

At the end of the POWER Week, participants were challenged to reflect on their lifestyle and to be aware of the obstacles that hinder us in being wholehearted followers of Jesus Christ.

# Sharing God's love

## Ministry Project at St. Luke's Hospital

The School of Ministry held a ministry project for its students at St Luke's Hospital, a community hospital with patients from all walks of life and different religious backgrounds. The project was held over two Saturdays – a training session on 16 August 2008 and ward visitations on 23 August 2008.

Three chaplains, led by Ps Richard Woo, conducted the training session. The students learnt that in giving care to the elderly patients and attending to their wide range of needs, the key is to give them respect. They were also briefed on the physiological and psychological aspects of the patients so that they could relate to them during the visits. The following week, the students were paired up and they visited eight wards of patients.

During the debrief, experiences were exchanged and valuable lessons were shared. The students learnt how to communicate with the patients and earn their trust. They also used many creative ways to overcome their initial uncertainty about communicating with the patients who were total strangers. They were able to share God's love by either speaking words of comfort and encouragement or even praying with both Christians and pre-believers.

The students were truly blessed and enriched by this experience and thankful for the opportunity to work with St. Luke's Hospital.



## “Embrace the New!”

Encounter Weekend 2009



As part of its Certificate programme, the Covenant Vision School of Ministry held “Embrace the New!” – Encounter weekend 2009 on February 14 & 15 at YWCA Fort Canning Lodge. Altogether 50 students, pastors and facilitators were there expecting to meet God. And boy did He show up! It was simply awesome!!!

From the word go, many received words and impressions from the Lord. Some spectacular, some in small nudgings. As worship began, a student felt a gust of wind blow into the room. During another worship session, a student saw Jesus and angels! Through the teachings, discussions and devotions, many were touched and blessed. God spoke in so many ways and met everyone at their specific point of need.

What was most amazing was how miraculously each of the five teaching sessions flowed seamlessly into the next. Only the theme was given to each speaker and God led each of them to speak as He laid topics upon their hearts. Rev Francis Khoo laid the foundation for “All Things New”, explaining that the new was actually a restoration of God’s original intent and

purpose. Then Bro Jacob Sim taught on how one had to “Leave the Old to Embrace the New”. After that, Ps Henson spoke on “Restoration and Reformation”, challenging everyone to carry the rubbish out of the Holy Place within them, and reminding them that true restoration may begin with the individual but it will eventually lead to community and societal reformation.

*“Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”  
Isaiah 43:18, 19*







“I can't help but to share what I have learnt and how God has ministered to me in this season.”

*Ruby Than*

The second morning, Rev Wilfred Png gave a practical lesson on “Sowing in Times of Famine”, affirming how personal restoration must impact the poor and needy amongst us. Finally, Rev Francis concluded with a Kingdom message and challenged all to engage their communities. The result? A comprehensive and cohesive message that stirred the hearts of the students to embrace all that God has for them!

WOW - what a weekend! God is so good, so faithful and so merciful! Praise the Lord! And we are thankful that God gave us this wonderful opportunity to sow into the lives of the students at Covenant Vision School of Ministry.



“ Basking in the overpowering presence and love of GOD set me free from all the pains, hurt and disappointments.

All defiled things in my soul were swept away in HIS Presence. Praise the LORD for I experienced the breakthrough that I asked GOD for.

**GLORY TO GOD! ”**

*Esther Ng*



# We believe in GROWTH

Spiritual Growth that is. Judging from the feedback we get from those who attend our Spiritual Growth Seminars every Friday, this belief that first led to the birth of the meetings has indeed borne fruit. Not because we hold these meetings, but because of the obedience of the people who come to listen and learn of what God is saying and doing in this time and season. And He has been faithful to bring the speakers, both local and international. Our prayer is that God will continue to direct our Spiritual Growth Seminars so that His Word can be planted in the hearts of His people so they can be made complete for every good work.



# SURVIVING

## the Economic Disorder

Seminar with Dr Larry Bates

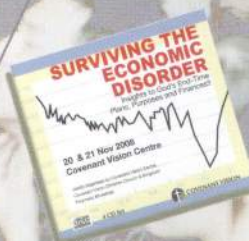


The Lehman Brothers' collapse in September 2008 sent shock waves through the world's financial system and though it happened on the other side of the world, for many of us, it was too close for comfort. Our wallets, investments and futures were suddenly in question as worldwide recession loomed.

It had to be a divine appointment that on November 20 & 21 2008, Dr Larry Bates, an internationally recognised speaker on political systems and the Federal Reserve, was due to share on God's end-time plans, purposes and finances. On both nights, the sanctuary was packed with eager listeners as Dr Bates spoke on how the Word of God applied to the current crisis. He shared, based on biblical principles, how to invest and how to be wise with our money. He gave personal examples and gave insights into how we as Christians can survive the current economic disorder.

Many went away feeling more assured and comforted that God was in control and with a fresh need to seek Him for direction in this time of uncertainty and turmoil. Praise God for that!

If you missed the session with Dr Larry Bates, the 'Surviving the Economic Disorder' 4-CD/DVD set can be purchased at our Estore [www.covenantvision.org/estore](http://www.covenantvision.org/estore) at \$20.00/\$45.00.





## Fall on your knees

### Worship Month 2008

The Word of God says that the Father is seeking out those who worship in spirit and truth (John 4:23) and as a ministry, we set aside the month of October 2008 to teach about worship in a bid to bring people into a different experience of worship. And what a month it was! Perspectives of worship were changed as Rev Francis Khoo shared on the *Heart of Worship*, Ps George Gunter taught on leading a *Lifestyle of worship* and Ps Francis Ng and his team from Tabernacle of Christ Church led us all in a time of *Prophetic Worship*. Even Ps Henson Lim shared his life testimony in song in an evening called *I will sing of His goodness*.

Throughout the month, we saw lives impacted as the Holy Spirit swept the congregation up in what seemed like waves of anointing. Many felt a change in the spiritual atmosphere as God inhabited the praises of His people. Even pre-believers were weeping in their seats. It was awesome. God willing, we will have more such life-changing offerings at our Spiritual Growth meetings.



# REVIVAL MEETINGS

with Dr Guy & Ilke Peh

The husband and wife team of Dr Guy and Ilke Peh flew in from the United States for a tremendous week of revival and healing meetings from 13 – 18 November 2008. A dynamic and humorous speaker whom God has used to raise the dead, Dr Guy shared on the need to spend time with God and other aspects of living the Christian life daily.

Many felt God's stirring during the services as we saw attendances increase night after night. During the altar calls, we saw God's hand move with many signs and wonders. One lady with a fractured ankle bone came with a crutch on the first night. She was delivered and left without the crutch she had used for nine months! The next night, she brought her husband who was skeptical about God, and he was touched! Hallelujah! This is just one example. There were many more!

It has indeed been our privilege that God has used us to host revival meetings here. We pray that God will continue to use us to change the spiritual atmosphere in our community and in our country.



If you missed the meetings, you can still hear Dr Guy's powerful messages. The 5-CD set of the Revival Meetings is available at Covenant Vision Centre or at our E-store for \$25.00.



# Ploughing Hands

We thank God for people who give their time to serve in Covenant Vision. Truly, the harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few. Our prayer is that more like Eddy and Catherine will volunteer their efforts to the glory of God. Read about how they came to Covenant Vision and how they have been blessed.

## About them...

Eddy is a Business Development Manager and Catherine is a Finance Manager. They have been attending Covenant Vision since September 2007. Eddy's our resident photographer and you'll see Catherine on stage stretching her vocal cords for Jesus. They both attend the School of Ministry. Oh, and yes, they are husband and wife.



## In conversation...

### How did you both come to serve at Covenant Vision?

We went through a period of stagnant growth in the Lord and the Lord convicted us to seek spiritual help. We began to search for a suitable bible class or bible school to provide us the assistance. God is so good; He led us to Covenant Vision School of Ministry. We began our lessons in September 2007 and since then, our lives have never been the same again. The faith, love, unity and submission to one another within the leadership attracted us to remain and serve in Covenant Vision.

### How have you both been blessed since serving here at Covenant Vision?

Eddy was blessed with the breakthrough in his spiritual life and he received the gift of tongues, a gift that he wanted the most. We experienced faith, love, unity and all the biblical truths that we were taught we saw exercised in Covenant Vision. It has broadened our Spiritual horizons and we are no longer inward looking but truly understand and know the will of God in our lives. We were saved for good works, which is pleasing and acceptable to God in Jesus Christ.

a peek at...

# Covenant Vision *Life*



# join us.

## **Covenant Vision Prayer Powerhouse**

every monday 7.30pm

## **Covenant Vision Spiritual Growth Seminars**

every Friday 8.00pm

## **Covenant Vision Christian Church Service**

every Sunday 10.00am

## **Touch Jesus, He Heals! Healing Service**

every 3rd Saturday of the month 4.30pm

all services held at Covenant Vision Centre  
154 Tyrwhitt Road Singapore 207567

more information?

call 6391 0027 or

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email [cvcentre@covenantvision.org](mailto:cvcentre@covenantvision.org)

