

18 August 2019

# LAP BULLETIN

Church of Christ 20 Lim Ah Pin Road Singapore 547839 Tel 6286 5605  
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## Worship Schedule

### SUNDAY

9.30 am  
Worship  
(English)

11.15am  
Bible Class  
(English)

3.45pm  
Bible Class  
(Mandarin)

5.00pm  
Worship  
(Mandarin)

7.00pm  
Worship  
(English)

### THURSDAY

7.45pm  
Bible Class  
(English/Mandarin)

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#### **Elders**

Bro Jimmy Lau  
Bro Michael Yeo

#### **Deacons**

Bro Benjamin Tan  
Bro Jerry Cheong

#### **Preacher**

Bro Ernest Lau

#### **Administrator**

Sis Goh Ser Ern



# EVERYTHING HAPPENS FOR A REASON.

*Sometimes it hurts. Sometimes, it's hard.  
But in the end, it's all for the best.  
Never stop trusting God & His Divine Plan.*



# *Elder's exhortation*

*by bro Jimmy Lau*

**Rom 16:16 *Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.***

To salute is an old English word which simply means to greet. The Greek form is “aspazomai” and according to Thayer’s Greek Lexicon, it means:

- 1) to draw to one’s self
- 1a) to salute one, greet, bid welcome, wish well to
- 1b) to receive joyfully, welcome

Paul exhorts the Christians to greet one another with a holy kiss. The word “holy” guards against misconceptions. Barnes wrote: *“The use of the word “holy” here serves to denote that Paul intended it as an expression of “Christian” affection; and to guard against all improper familiarity and scandal,”* (Barnes’ Notes).

In those early times the kiss, as a token of peace, friendship, and brotherly love, was frequent among all people and therefore, it is not unusual for Paul to use the customary form of greetings in his writings. This kiss of friendship is still customary and common today in some countries and races. But, shaking of hands is the norm today for most.

The idea behind to greet one another with a holy kiss is to greet one another affectionately. When a church puts up a signboard which says, All Are Warmly Welcome; are the members warmly welcoming the friends and visitors? Do they even welcome the visitors?

The Chinese has this idiom, 笑里藏刀 (xiaolicangdao) which means “covering the dagger with a smile.” It is a smile that has evil intention. We see it in Judas betraying Christ with a kiss (Luke 22:47-48). Our Lord said to him: **“Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?”**

We also see such a deceptive kiss in Joab. Joab was a general of king David. David had replaced Joab with Amasa as general of his army (2 Sam 19:13). Joab was angry and filled with jealousy. On one occasion, he greeted the unsuspecting Amasa with a kiss and killed him (2 Sam 20:9-10). He was covering the dagger with a smile.

Paul says we are to welcome one another with a holy kiss. It means the greeting should be hearty, affectionate, true, sincere, and without pretension. He said in Romans 12:10: **“Be**

**kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love."** It is a greeting that springs from the heart.

Please note that Paul says, "**Greet one another.**" It means that the greeting is mutual. It means, you greet me and I greet you. It is not one waiting for another to approach him to greet him. Oftentimes, I hear this complaint from members: "No one shakes hands with me." They are expecting love when they could not give it themselves. Paul says, "You greet your brethren; and they will greet you."

Friendliness will beget friendliness. If we want friends, we must first be friendly: "**A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother**" (Pro 18:24).

Is the church warm? To those who emit warmth, the church is warm. But to those who are cold, the church is cold. I say the church is very warm and is filled with love. You see, what you do will come back to you. The love and warmth that you have given out will return to you and in greater abundance: "**Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom**" (Luke 6:38).

Greet one another. Greet your brethren. It is an active command which means, you greet one another. It is not waiting for someone to welcome you but you welcoming your brethren.

Is the church warm or cold? Actually, you decide the weather: The church is cold because of you; she is warm also because of you. Do you greet your brethren?



Hymn #11

## **"ABOVE THE BRIGHT BLUE"**

*"Then we which are alive...shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air..." (1 Thess. 4.17).*

**INTRO.:** A song which pictures the eternal home of the redeemed as being up, beyond the clouds, is "Above The Bright Blue". The text was written and the tune was composed both by Charles Edward Pollock (1853-1924). I have not been able to find much information about him, except that a few of his songs have appeared in some of our books through the years, such as "The Christian's Welcome Home," and the tune



for a song by N. H. Lines that I remember singing when I was growing up, "Glory For Me," beginning, "When in His glory the Savior I see."

"Above the Bright Blue" was published in 1903 and was at one time copyrighted by the Tullar-Meredith Co. The earliest hymnbook published by members of the Lord's church in my collection where I have found it is the 1935 "Christian Hymns" No. 1, where the word "Alt." for "altered" appears after the author's name. What was altered was apparently the third stanza, because when the song appeared in the 1948 "Christian Hymns No. 2," both the third stanza and the "Alt." were omitted.

The song helps to create in our hearts a desire for heaven.

## **I. Stanza 1 tells us where heaven is**

*"There's a beautiful place called heaven; It is hidden above the bright blue,  
Where the good, who from earth ties are riven, Live and love an eternity through."*

- A. This place is called heaven, and the scriptures often refer to the hope that is laid up or reserved in heaven for us: Col. 1.5, 1 Pet. 1.3-4
- B. It is hidden above the bright blue. The English word "heaven" means "that which has been heaved" and is therefore up. Thayer's Lexicon says that both the Greek and the Hebrew words translated heaven refer to "the heights above, the upper regions." As a result, heaven has traditionally been pictured as above the earth, and therefore poetically spoken of as beyond "the bright blue" of the sky which is over the earth. Paul talked about a man who had been caught "UP" into the third heaven: 2 Cor. 12.1-2
- C. And it is a place where the righteous shall live an eternity through. There are people who object, sometimes almost violently, to any use of the word "through" with reference to eternity, saying that "through" implies going into and then out of something, as a needle piercing through a piece of cloth, and since eternity goes on and on forever, we can never go "through" it. Granting that this is the primary meaning of the word "through," we must remember that we are trying to express infinite concepts with our finite language. Furthermore, our blood runs "through" our bodies, but it does not necessarily go in at one point and out at another. Therefore, the word "through" is sometimes used in the sense of "continually going around within," so in the same sense that our blood continually flows through our bodies, we can say that we shall continually exist through eternity. In any event, the Bible certainly teaches that the righteous in heaven will experience eternal life: Matt. 25.46, Mk. 10.30

## II. Stanza 2 tells us what heaven is

*"This land of sweet rest awaits us; Someday it will break on our view.  
'Tis promised by Christ, the Redeemer, To His followers, faithful and true."*

- A. Heaven is a land of sweet rest; just as Joshua led the people of Israel into the rest of Canaan, so Jesus will lead His people into eternal rest: Heb. 4.1-10
- B. This eternal rest is one of the exceeding great and precious promises that Christ has made to His people: 2 Pet. 1.4, 1 Jn. 2.25
- C. But the only ones who will receive this promise are "His followers, faithful and true": Matt. 25.23, 1 Cor. 4.2, Rev. 2.10

## III. Stanza 3 tells us when we shall see heaven

*"We know not when He shall call us, Whether soon the glad summons shall be,  
But we know when we pass o'er the river The glory of Jesus we'll see."*

- A. The fact is that we do not know when He shall call us, whether sooner or later; of course, the time of His coming is unknown, but the time of death is also uncertain: Matt. 24.36, Lk. 12.16-20
- B. But we know that someday, like the Israelites passed over the River Jordan into their promised land of Canaan, we shall pass over the river of death: Josh. 3.14-17, Heb. 9.27
- C. And, ultimately, when the Lord returns, the glory of Jesus we shall see: 1 Jn. 3.1-2

## CONCL.: The chorus encourages us to set our affections on heavenly things:

*"Above the bright blue, the beautiful blue, Jesus is waiting for me and for you;  
Heaven is there, not far from our sight, beautiful city of light" (cf. Col. 3.1-2).*

This hymn study was written on Thanksgiving Day, and we have many wonderful material blessings on this earth to be thankful for, in addition to the spiritual blessings in Christ. But we must remember that this world is not our home. Rather, our hope is "Above The Bright Blue."

*Adapted*

# WEEKLY NEWS

## WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

We thank God and rejoice over the baptism of sis Emily on 11 Aug and sis Louisa on 12 Aug! Let us give them a warm welcome into the family of God! Their particulars are as follows:



Name:

**Emily Esconde**

Birth date:

**18 Dec 1977**

Baptism date:

**11 Aug 2019**

Email: **emsde12@gmail.com**



Name:

**Sum Shu Xin Louisa**

Birth date:

**31 Dec 2003**

Baptism date:

**12 Aug 2019**

## Annual General Meeting

Date & Time: 1 Sep, Sun @ 12.30pm

*The agenda is pinned on the noticeboard.*

## Thank You

A total of SGD\$4136.05 was collected last Sunday for bro Harun's wife's chemotherapy treatment. Thank you for your generous contributions.

## Guests last week

1. Bro Mark & family (USA)
2. Bro Junas & family (Philippines)
3. Bro Justin & sis Bernice Kwan (Eastside COC)
4. Bro Joel Loh (Lavender COC)
- 5 Sis Jenny (Lavender COC)
6. Kenny Kee (sis Debbie's husband)
7. Joycelin Tok (bro Gideon's friend)
8. JQ (sis Jaslyn's friend)
9. Glaiza Tolentino (sis Stephanie's cousin)
10. Lawrence & family (sis Stephanie's friends)
11. Lee Kok Wei & family (sis Lois' friends)
12. Meyske (sis Debbie's helper)
13. Sulis (sis Baby's helper)
14. Kwang Han

# UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!



## FELLOWKIDZ 2019

7 SEP, SAT • 11 AM TO 5 PM

• SIS SARAH'S HOUSE •

Blk 201C, Compassvale Dr,  
#14-547, Singapore 543201

### Mini Coffee Workshop 迷你咖啡分享会



7 September 2019 (9月7日) 10:00 ~ 12:00  
Venue 地点: Lim Ah Pin Church of Christ

Please sign up with Sis Ser Ern if interested  
请向思恩姐妹报名或询问

*Organized by Senior Fellowship Committee*

### Youth Fellowship

Date & Time: 8 Sep @ 1.30pm-3pm

Venue: LAPCOC

*Come relax and get to know one  
another better over icebreaker  
games!*

### Announcer Training

Date & Time: 22 Sep @ 1.30pm

Venue: LAPCOC

Trainer: Peter Chin

*All men are invited to attend.*

### Evangelism Sunday

Date & Time: 29 Sep @ 9.30am

Venue: LAPCOC

Topic: Do I Need to be Baptised?

*Invite your family & friends to hear  
the gospel!*



## COMBINED YOUNG PEOPLE SINGING FELLOWSHIP

21 SEPT (SATURDAY)

LIM AH PIN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
20 LIM AH PIN RD, SINGAPORE 547839

10AM TO 3PM





## Thursday Bible Class

### "The Drawing Power of

### Jesus' Death"

(John 12:20-36)

by bro Ernest Lau

## Next Sunday Sermon

### Standing Up to Fill the Gap:

### Being a Brother's Keeper

by bro Ernest Lau

## Birthdays this week

22 Aug (Thu) – Veronica

23 Aug (Fri) – Jasmine Yong



Please send any news &  
prayer requests to  
[limahpincoc@gmail.com](mailto:limahpincoc@gmail.com)

# PRAYER REQUESTS

## Rezoning

We are presently in the process of applying to have our premises rezoned for worship. Please pray for the success of this project!

## Overseas

- **Bro Kenneth Liong and sis Iris** in San Francisco
- **Bro Jonathan & sis Joan** in UK
- **Sis Shuan Kwee** in Hong Kong
- **Bro Jeshua** in Switzerland (till 27 Sep) and UK (till 30 Apr'20)

## Health

- **Bro Philip Vanwinkle's, sis Suan Kiang's & sis Linda's** health
- **Bro Wee Sin's** recovery from surgery for his right shoulder tendon
- **Sis Shu Fang's father's** recovery from angiogram
- **Bro David Sum's father's** recovery from spine surgery
- The health of **Justina** (sister-in-law of sis Tuan Sang)

## NSF

- Bro Titus, bro Shawn, bro Zachary

# MEN-TO-SERVE SCHEDULE

| Morning Worship @ 9.30am     |                       | 18-Aug-19                     | 25-Aug-19                         | 1-Sep-19                     |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Song Leader                  |                       | Jeremy Kwan                   | Benjamin Kwan                     | Ernest Lau                   |
| Opening Prayer Leader        |                       | Kenneth Quek                  | Michael Yeo                       | Timothy Ng                   |
| Preacher                     |                       | Kwan Tai Choom                | Ernest Lau                        | Trent Kennedy                |
| Lord's Supper Text           |                       | Mat 26:26-29                  | Isa 53:4-9                        | Php 2:5-11                   |
| Lord's<br>Supper<br>Servers  | Scripture Reader      | Gavin Cheah                   | Shawn Wong                        | Axel Chee                    |
|                              | Prayer: Bread         | Chua Kian Hong                | Dave Tapiru                       | Yew Tian Geng                |
|                              | Prayer: Fruit of Vine | Roberto Pascual               | Ling Leong Dak                    | James Mira                   |
|                              | Prayer: Offering      | Farand Lim                    | Alvin Chan                        | Henry Chee                   |
| Assistant                    |                       | Titus Goh                     | Melvin Tan                        | Alvin Foo                    |
| Announcer                    |                       | Benjamin Kwan                 | Jimmy Lau                         | Charlie Teo                  |
| Greeters                     |                       | Naomi Leow<br>Christine Phang | Jonalyn Balagot<br>Ludina Carrido | Wang Tingwei<br>Teo Kim Tian |
| Evening Worship @ 7pm        |                       |                               |                                   |                              |
| Song Leader & O.P.           |                       | Ernest Lau                    | Jimmy Lau                         | Ernest Lau                   |
| Speaker                      |                       | Benjamin Tan                  | Farand Lim                        | Martyn Gostelow              |
| Lord's Supper, Giving & C.P. |                       | Martyn Gostelow               | Ling Leong Dak                    | Benjamin Tan                 |
| Thursday Service @ 7.45pm    |                       | 22-Aug-19                     | 29-Aug-19                         |                              |
| Song Leader                  |                       |                               | Jimmy Lau                         | Peter Chin                   |
| Opening Prayer Leader        |                       |                               | Low Chong Ping                    | Kenneth Quek                 |
| Teacher                      |                       |                               | Ernest Lau                        | Ernest Lau                   |
| Closing Prayer Leader        |                       |                               | Gavin Cheah                       | Ong Jun Wei                  |