



## Editors' Welcome

It's been a busy season for New Life City Church, and we are pleased to bring you another jam-packed issue of *NLCC Epistles*!

No doubt many of you have been curious about NLCC's history (like us!) - and all has been revealed in our feature articles on the church's origins and milestones.

Spring 06 also contains reviews of the church's 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner and Family Camp for those who couldn't attend, plus a brief overview of what keeps us all connected and spiritually fed - our cell groups!

Since the launch of the newsletter in July, we've received tremendous feedback and encouragement, so thank you all! *NLCC Epistles* is for you, the readers, to keep in step with all aspects of church life so that we can stay united as a body of Christ.

And for those looking into NLCC from the outside, we hope that these publications give you a good idea of what we're about, while keeping you informed of the fantastic things God is doing in our midst!

We trust that you'll enjoy perusing through this edition. Have a happy and blessed Christmas and we'll see you in 2007! ■



Tricia Kao and Stephanie Tan

## If Music Be The Food of Love...

By Mark Yee

**B**BQ. Three simple letters strung together which represent the gathering of friends and families enjoying each other's company, while feasting on char-grilled steaks, succulent lamb, sausages and the occasional salad dish. Now, what makes a successful barbecue? In my opinion, just two things really: good food and good company. Anything else is a bonus.

So on Sunday 15 October, the worship team's core members organised a barbecue for the music, sound and projection teams and their family members. The expected turnout was 60 people but word got out and soon the entire church was invited to attend! That took care of the 'company' part.



Good company - a key ingredient to all enjoyable BBQs!



They don't just make good music, they can cook up a storm, too!  
Tongmasters - Mark, Sarah and Richard

The cooking began early with NLCC's resident chef, yours truly, working over the hot plate. However, I wasn't alone, being accompanied by my competent apprentices - Richard Maganga, Tricia Kao and Sarah Ong - who should be commended for their prowess on the grill.

The second part to a successful barbecue is to ensure you don't run out of food, and from the abundance that was left over, I think we did quite well! Leftovers were distributed and none of the food was left to waste.

Seeing the church come together to share in a simple barbecue was definitely the highlight. It brought to mind the fellowship we all share with each other in Jesus Christ. The event was enjoyed by all and the sunny spring weather made it perfect. ■

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“... in all these things we are **more than conquerors** through him who loved us.”

Romans 8:37

By Sandy Widjaja

Our family camp this year was held at Orchard Glory Farm Resort over 30 September to 2 October. Although we've had several camps there, each has been a unique experience. Just as the theme is different for every camp, the scenery also changes as the farm flourishes under the loving care of Uncle Stephen and Auntie Karen Leong, and David and Michelle Cheah.

**2 Corinthians 2:14 Thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ ...**



Guest Speaker:  
Reverend Mike Keating

On Saturday, our guest speaker Reverend Mike Keating shared that God wants us to be conquerors so that we can change our own world and the world around us - because it is through us that the world sees God today.

We heard about a boy called Matthew with muscular dystrophy, whose dream was to lift weights and win an Olympic gold medal. Matthew knew he could never win it on earth but that in heaven, God *would* give him a gold medal as he was a conqueror. Even death has lost its sting!<sup>1</sup>

Although Jesus was at the lowest point in His life when He hung on the cross<sup>2</sup>, He was *right in the centre* of God's plan. God can use our weaknesses and turn it into victories. For He is "... the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God".<sup>3</sup>

**Judges 6:15 "But Lord," Gideon asked, "how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family."**

That night, we gathered around the campfire while Rev Mike spoke about Gideon, who was called upon by God to save Israel from the Midianites. Gideon was so doubtful of his own



Camp activities: Fun games and yummy BBQs!

abilities that he repeatedly asked God for signs – and yet despite this, God used him to save Israel.<sup>4</sup>

God can use us, no matter where we are in life, because it is not through our might but His power that we can do all things.<sup>5</sup> As a sign of our commitment to God and to declare our availability to do His will, we wrote our weaknesses on pieces of paper, dropped them into the campfire, and watched as they danced in the flames before disappearing into the starlit skies. May God use us, warts and all, mightily for His purposes!

**Ephesians 2:6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.**

Rev Mike's Sunday sermon reminded us about the importance of where we sit in life. The seats of the scoffer<sup>6</sup> and the Pharisee both lead to death, but we can sit on the seat of victory beside Jesus Christ – the only seat that matters.

By His grace God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our transgressions.<sup>7</sup> The same mighty strength which was exerted to raise Christ from the dead is the same great power available for us who believe.<sup>8</sup>

We can choose to feel small, or believe in God's Word and claim the victor's seat because of what He has done for us.

**Afterthoughts**

Retreats allow me to stop from the daily routine and simply sit still – and listen to His voice. The still small voice. Did you hear it? ■

<sup>1</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:51-57. <sup>5</sup> Philippians 2:13.  
<sup>2</sup> Mark 15:34. <sup>6</sup> Psalm 1:1.  
<sup>3</sup> 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. <sup>7</sup> Ephesians 2:4-5.  
<sup>4</sup> Judges 8:28. <sup>8</sup> Ephesians 1:18-20.



Our worship team members are more than conquerors!

# Global Leadership Summit 2006

By Dee May Yeoh

It never ceases to amaze me how God orchestrates circumstances that result in the most melodious songs in life. He is the conductor who knows every turn of the musical score and brings to life a harmony that stirs up a myriad of emotions to the listener, be it joy, excitement or sadness.

Many of us will know speakers such as Frank Damazio, Reinhard Bonnke and Rick Warren, but who is Bill Hybels? He is the founder and senior pastor of Willow Creek Community Church and is chairman of the board for the Willow Creek Association.



I first heard Bill Hybels at the Hillsong Conference and he is now at the top of my list of favourite speakers, as a few of you have come to know. I returned from Hillsong thrilled that he would be speaking at the 2006 Global Leadership Summit in Perth. How cool! (But, this article is not about Bill Hybels or how I (may) idolise him!)

That's how I got others interested, with the glitter in my eyes and excitement expressed in the swift waving of my hands. But oh, how I was disappointed when I realised it was to be DVD telecast. Trust me; we were all a little apprehensive.

However, the summit was conducted with such excellence that we soon forgot that we were just watching a screen. We sat at the edge of our seats absorbing like a dry sponge all the wisdom and insight of the principles and



experiences shared by the A-class selection of speakers. The topics were excellent and so relevant to church leaders; it was as if the organisers knew NLCC personally! Some of the topics were: The Life Cycle of a Leader; Focused Leadership; Enemies of the Growing Church; and many others.

Many a time we leaders grope around the dark not knowing what to do in certain circumstances. It's comforting to hear stories about how others have faced and overcome similar issues. That's what the summit is about; receiving practical insight from the experience of other leaders.

Even before the summit, God had been moving in my life and provoking me out of my comfort zone. He was challenging me to be a better leader, to look out for ways to better serve Him and others. It's uncomfortable and often I'd ponder about these

promptings, then archive it somewhere in my mind. That's why I know that God planned this. It was meant to be.

You may be thinking, "why don't we just buy the DVD and watch it in the comfort of our homes?" Well, I beg to differ. It's just not the same without the experience of worship with other leaders or the ability to immediately discuss some principles.

The summit ended with a final session with Bill Hybels. Everyone was ready for a mind-blowing message as we sat there, ears and hearts opened to receive some great leadership principles. However, the message was something unexpected – Bill reminded us that the reason we are called to serve Him in any capacity, is ultimately because of the lost. If we forget to love our brothers and sisters, we've lost the plot. If we forget the Great Commission, we've also lost the plot. We serve with the goal of changing lives (both saved and unsaved) for the glory of God. Nothing more, nothing less.

And that's why we ought to be better leaders. That's why we ought to serve with excellence. That's why we persevere and tarry God's presence. It's for God's glory, not ours. Praise God and keep on keeping on! ■



*The 2006 Global Leadership Summit was held on 6 and 7 October. New Life City Church was represented by Pastors Yat Wan and Angelina Eu, Keat and Lilian Wong, Richard and Susan Tai, SK and Fionna Gan, James and Sarah Seow, Patrick and Dee May Yeoh and Jason Lim.*

## A Testimony of God's Double Blessing to my Family

By Danny Tang

My mum received Jesus as her Lord and Saviour on Sunday 10 September during the service at Perth Chinese Christian Church (PCCC). We were truly amazed at God's grace and mercy and I have to continuously thank Him for His mighty work and grace at hand!

We praised God for His timing and faithfulness to us as my mum was only here for a 3-month holiday with my dad. As they do not understand English, we accompanied them to the PCCC Chinese service, recommended to us by the mother of one of our cell members. My mum was encouraged by her faithfulness and her friendship and the commitment of the senior members in their cell meetings, some of whom are over 80 years old.

It was a normal Sunday service when Pastor John Yap, the pastor of PCCC, greeted us at the door. When he asked me whether my parents had received Christ, I replied that they had followed me to church in Singapore many times but had not given their lives to Jesus.

The message preached by Pastor John that day was a salvation message. When

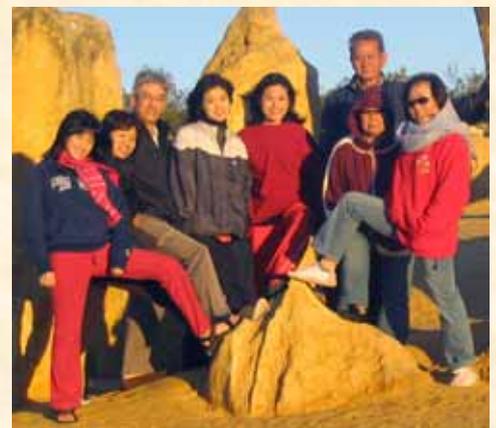
he made the altar calls at the end of the service, I was prompted to open my eyes to look at my parents. To my pleasant surprise I saw my mum put up *both* hands. Later, as Pastor John invited all who had responded to come forward, I smiled and encouraged my mum to go forward. The rest, as you say, is history – or rather, eternity in God's kingdom.

Both Fiona and myself were moved to tears at God's goodness to our family. We broke the good news of my mum's salvation to our daughters and with great joy, they hugged and congratulated my mum.

We continued to trust God to speak to my dad. We trusted in His timing and we continued to remain faithful and obedient in our daily walk with God, while praying that my mum would grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Then on Thursday 28 September, the Chinese cell celebrated the mooncake festival. Our parents attended this meeting for the last time as they were returning to China the following week.

During the meeting, Pastor John shared about my mum's salvation. He prayed for



**The Tang Family**

my parents' safe return and for God to grant them journey mercies. At this juncture, he invited my dad to receive Christ. Although my dad did not worship ancestors, he was brought up in a traditional Chinese custom and was rather skeptical about Christianity. We had been praying that God would break down this barrier for him and it was wonderful to hear from my mum that dad was happy and willingly said the Sinner's Prayer.

Our prayer for my parents is that they will grow in Christ and commit to attending church in Guang Zhou, read the Bible and serve God there. Our praise and thanks to our Heavenly Father for his bountiful blessings. ■

# Character Above All - Biblical Integrity

*"Let me be weighed on honest scales that God may know my integrity."*

*Job 31:6*

By Sandy Widjaja

What is integrity? I remember those years in junior college when I pondered over what it meant. I knew at that point in time that it implies something good. Over the years, I've discovered that integrity means "adherence to moral and ethical principles; soundness of moral character; honesty". This implies adherence to a set of man-made principles. However, as we are all flawed, so are the principles which we create. It is only Biblical integrity or adherence to Biblical principles, that will allow us to be the "salt of the earth"<sup>1</sup> and "light of the world".<sup>2</sup>

## Seven Steps to Biblical Integrity

At the seminar held on Saturday 2 September, Dr Kameel Majdali expounded seven steps to achieve Biblical integrity.

### i) Single minded spiritual devotion

*Matthew 6:33 But seek first His kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

It is important to focus on God and God alone, to seek His perspective with regards to all things. The Bible reminds us not to store up treasures of this earth, but things of heaven which moth and rust do not destroy.<sup>3</sup>

### ii) Clean hands and clean hearts

*Psalms 24:3-4 Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.*

Having a clean heart allows us to see God<sup>4</sup> and God will reward us in accordance with the cleanness of our hands.<sup>5</sup>

### iii) Know God's Word

*Psalms 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.*

It is important to know God's Word, for how can we adhere to God's teaching if we do not know what it is? It is also important to *meditate* on God's Word and "not [to] turn from it to the right or to the left, that [we] may be successful wherever [we] go".<sup>6</sup>

### iv) Walk in the Spirit

*Galatians 5:16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.*

Before Jesus was crucified, He promised us help – so that we will not be alone. "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth."<sup>7</sup> Thus it is important to walk with the Spirit for only the Spirit knows the things of God and reveals them to us.<sup>8</sup>

### v) Walk by faith, not by sight

*2 Corinthians 5:7 We live by faith, not by sight.*

We all know that it is important to live by faith for "without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him".<sup>9</sup> And having that faith, we are to put it into action for "faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead".<sup>10</sup>



### vi) Accountability with an excellent spirit

*Romans 14:12 So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.*

*Daniel 5:6 Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.*

Integrity is honesty and adherence to a set of principles – especially when no one is looking. But God knows – for He knows everything<sup>11</sup> – and one day we will have to account for *all* things which we have done. Knowing this, we should instead then strive to do all things with an excellent spirit<sup>12</sup> as Daniel has so displayed, in *all* circumstances, knowing that we do all things unto the Lord.<sup>13</sup>

### vii) Prayer life

*1 Thessalonians 5:17 Pray continually.*

It is important to pray without ceasing, for, just like our earthly father, our Heavenly Father yearns to commune with us. Dr Majdali also pointed out several important facets of prayer: to seek God diligently<sup>14</sup>, to cleanse ourselves of any unforgiveness<sup>15</sup> and to seek God's will.<sup>16</sup>

## Afterthoughts

We all know that the Great Commission is to make disciples of all nations.<sup>17</sup> While trying to share the Gospel once, I remember being told that there is no point in being a Christian as "they do all the things others do anyway". Only by exercising Biblical integrity can we stand truly different. Whether we like it or not, the world is watching. ■

<sup>1</sup> Matthew 5:13.

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 5:14.

<sup>3</sup> Matthew 6:19-21.

<sup>4</sup> Matthew 5:8.

<sup>5</sup> Psalm 18:20-24.

<sup>6</sup> Joshua 1:7-8.

<sup>7</sup> John 14:16-17.

<sup>8</sup> 1 Corinthians 2:9-12.

<sup>9</sup> Hebrews 11:6.

<sup>10</sup> James 2:17, 21-24.

<sup>11</sup> Psalm 139:15-16.

<sup>12</sup> 1 Thessalonians 4:15-23.

<sup>13</sup> Colossians 3:23-24.

<sup>14</sup> Hebrews 11:6 and Jeremiah 29:13.

<sup>15</sup> Mark 11:25-26.

<sup>16</sup> 1 John 5:14.

<sup>17</sup> Matthew 28:19.

## CD Project Update



By Patrick Yeoh

Some of you may (or may not) be wondering what is happening with the NLCC CD Project. It was initially due to be released in September, but the recent change of service times and addition of the Youth Service has given the worship team a lot to plan and do. Unfortunately, it meant that the CD Project has had to be put on the backburner until we have settled our other responsibilities.

The good news is that the songs have been written and now we only need to record them. We look forward to introducing the new songs to the church and hope you do too! We anticipate that the CD will be released mid 2007 and we ask for your continued support and prayer! ■

# The Twelve Stones "Baddie Bunch"



By Bernard Kho

Let me bring you back before the birth of the Twelve Stones ministry. The young adult cells were simply known as the "Young Adults" or "YA" – genius! If you haven't already heard, each YA cell had a reputation: YA2 was known for their love of fast cars and YA1 for their love of food. Of course, these loves came second to their passion for Christ.

The most frequently heard phrase after YA1's weekly Saturday night dinner was, "Oh, I am so full, I think I'd better start my diet tomorrow!" namely from me, as I have a tendency to over-enjoy my food.

This brought forth a brilliant suggestion from our resident doctor and Twelve Stones leader, James Seow, in mid 2004: "Hey, maybe we should do some exercise ... how about badminton?" Now, those who know James would have immediately responded, "Are you serious James? But you don't like exercising!" Correct! If there was anything that James didn't particularly enjoy, it was getting his heart pumping and muscles moving.

Nevertheless, the Twelve Stones (TS) Badminton nights commenced in March of this

year, through one man's determination to lose some cholesterol and another's to have a healthier heart. Of course, they figured if they were going to do the hard yards, they were definitely bringing a few people with them. The TS Badminton folks, known as the "Baddie Bunch", started with 10 young adults. They only had one goal initially – to work off those weekend meals! It was a painful start (and I mean *physically* painful) but we all managed.

By God's grace the attendance grew and by October, the average attendance reached 33 players. The Baddie Bunch consists of a mixed group of people with ages ranging between 19 and 57 (with an average age of 29) and it is not exclusive to young adults or to Christians. We praise God for creating an exciting and harmonious environment for all players to enjoy. Indeed, God has also provided a window of opportunity to outreach to our non-Christian players each time we play.

The weekly Twelve Stones Badminton night is held on Wednesdays at the Wesley College Sports Centre, between 7.00 pm and 9.00 pm. For further information, you can contact me at [bernard.kho@nlcc.org.au](mailto:bernard.kho@nlcc.org.au). ■

## Baddie Bunch Brunch BBQ

By Jason King

To celebrate the onset of the glorious spring weather that had come in early, on Sunday 20 August the Twelve Stones cell groups combined for the "Baddie Bunch Brunch Barbecue" on the Swan River foreshore at Beaton Park.

As UWA's Open Day caused the church to move its service to a Saturday evening for that particular weekend, there was a Sunday morning left wide open for many of the TS members to spend in relaxed fellowship, soaking up the sunshine and laughter, as well as good food. Beaton Park proved to be excellent with its uninterrupted view of the Swan River and (almost) empty setting.

Food was the main drawcard for the morning gathering, with the barbecue offering a wide array of fried eggs, bacon, mushrooms and tomatoes, as well as some exercise through a game of Ultimate Frisbee for the more adventurous.

The frisbee action took away the edge of the cool breeze, as it had some of the participants (most notably Jason Lim) soaked in sweat before long.

It was a fine form of fellowship with one another, as well as a chance to enjoy the wonderful creation our Lord has provided. ■

## Twelve Stones at DarkZone

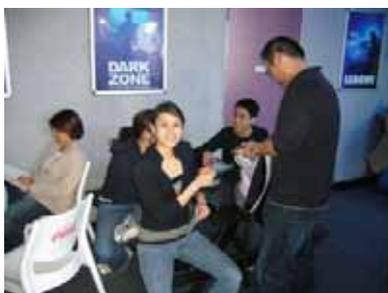
By Jason King

In the grips of Perth's winter on Saturday 22 July, the Twelve Stones (TS) cell groups decided to battle the cold with some recreational competition.

DarkZone is a laser tag game operating in teams where points are scored by using the lasers to 'tag' opponents from other teams, or opponents' home bases. About 30 people from the TS cells and badminton group were present, converging on Northbridge on a sunny but chilly Saturday afternoon. TS1 even brought in some extra muscle from outside the badminton and cell group circles, in their bid for victory. Needless to say, the winter cold was quickly forgotten in the one hour of running that was involved.

The competition was staged across two rounds lasting 20 minutes per round. Although the first round started off a little subdued as people explored the bounds of the game, the second round became a no-holds-barred power struggle as each group searched for dominance.

In the end, TS2 proved that overall youth and exposure to video games lent them a great advantage as they soared to the lead on the points board both times. The following day proved to be a great equaliser amongst all teams however, as the sore muscles from the intense running, dodging and crouching brought every participant slowly staggering to the morning service. ■



Dee May Yeoh and Jason Tan



Jason Lim, Jason King and Bernard Kho



Jasmin Heng, Jamie Chua and Quincy Leung



# The Origins of Our Church

By Robert and Marguerite Ong

Unbeknownst to many, New Life City Church began many years ago in the hearts of a small Bible study group known as Genesis Fellowship – a group of doctors that grew to about 20 people. This group would meet every Saturday afternoon; it was very dynamic, with strong fellowship that usually flowed into dinner.

Just over eight years ago, Full Gospel Assembly was operating in UWA and decided to move to Curtin University. Chew Por Chan, a member of Genesis Fellowship, became aware of the potential gap and raised this with a few other members. This culminated in a meeting on 14 June 1998 of four key individuals (Chew Por Chan, Keat Wong, Richard Tai and Tah Chew Tan).

Initially, no one seemed interested, but the next day Keat rang Chew Por up to excitedly tell him he'd had a dream where a parrot-like animal bit his thumb when he said that he was too busy.

Following this, Philip Cheong (another person involved in our church's conception) also had a vivid dream containing two grotesque creatures that were tying his hands and holding him back as he was deciding to come and help set up the church, while Tah Chew dreamt about his mentor encouraging him to be involved.

These people met again and decided to initiate and formulate a new church at UWA. A majority of this group attended Perth Chinese Christian Church, who endorsed this idea and provided wholehearted blessing and covering.

The Genesis Fellowship church commenced services on 19 July 1998, with Chew Por, Keat, Tah Chew and Philip as the original elders. Our first sermon was preached by Philip (Chairman of the Board of Elders) and we had a grand total of 15 to 20 families in attendance. A few months later Richard joined the Board, which gradually grew to include Noel Tan, Daniel Ong, Larry Tan, Edward Yee and Charles Wu.

So how did we come to be called New Life City Church? In 2001, after three years without a pastor, Benny Ho joined us to become our part-time pastor; a welcome addition. Under his guidance and inspiration, we changed our name and continued to grow in numbers. In 2002, Pastor Yat Wan Eu came to us as our full-time pastor, and since then NLCC has never looked back. ■

# Celestial Splendour

By Sarah Ong

Celestial Splendour... The stars were shining, the moon was bright, and everyone stepped out in their finery to celebrate New Life City Church's 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in dazzling style at the Jade Dynasty Chinese Restaurant in Northbridge. With over 200 people in attendance, the night of Sunday 30 July was a big night with an even bigger number of prizes to give away, a reflection of the generosity of all our sponsors.

Not only was it an evening of nostalgia, reflecting on days gone by, but also a night where new milestones were made. As people arrived, they were distributed copies of the very first edition of *NLCC Epistles*, hot off the press. (If you're reading this now, then good on you!)

Pastor shared our church's vision and launched the building fund (*the progress of which can be seen on page 12*) to aid us in attaining our own building in the future.

The night's festivities bubbled on with sumptuous food flowing out of the kitchens, endless prize-giving, and laughs and embarrassed smiles prompted by the slideshow of historical (and unfashionable!) photos gleaned from NLCC's archives, interrupted only by the flurry of activity caused by furious bidding during the Dutch auction, which was expertly coordinated by Pastor Angie.

Overall, it was a fantastic event befitting such a milestone, filled with fond reminders of our past as well as new developments, a reflection of our values – respectful and appreciative of those who have helped make NLCC the great family church it is today as we strive to continue God's work and grow His people. ■



MCs: Sarah Ong and Joseph Ng



The Worship Team performs an original song

The program was then opened with panache by our Worship Team debuting some of their own original songs, such as "Wonderful Saviour" and "Shout", a preview before the release of NLCC's own music CD. To add to a night of premieres,



# Milestones of NLCC

By Sarah and James Seow

**M**ilestones... No other word could be more apt. Our church has travelled many eventful miles these last eight years. Some were marked by rocky times where we were polished as a church, whilst others were times of solidarity where our foundations were laid down and strengthened.

New Life City Church as we now know it, had its humble beginnings in 1998 with a simple Bible study group from Perth Chinese Christian Church (PCCC).

When Full Gospel Assembly (FGA) moved out of its UWA home of many years, leaving a vacancy in its wake, some members from this group (with the blessings of PCCC), together with some FGA members, determined to form a new church to continue to outreach to the students at UWA.

The Bible study group at that time was studying the book of Genesis, and with this in mind, the church was launched with the moniker of Genesis Fellowship (GF).

During these early years, the church was led by a board of elders, and it was a time of challenge and growth, as the identity of the church began to take form. Blessed with passion in its youth, the church steadily grew, especially welcoming believers from the campus. As the church grew, so did the needs of the congregation, and whilst up to that point GF had been blessed with input and support from many sources, the need for a pastor of their own was readily apparent.

With ongoing strong links to FGA, GF began to develop a particular relationship with one of the newer pastors serving there. After a time of mentoring and leadership development, Pastor Benny Ho was invited to take on the role of supervisory pastor for the church in 2001, which he graciously accepted.

Together with a small pastoral team, Pastor Benny brought a new element into the church, and it was then that the church was relaunched as NLCC.

With a strong passion for teaching and for unity, the vision of the church was cast, *"to build a strong apostolic cell church, committed to reach, disciple and equip students from UWA, families of the western suburbs and beyond - ultimately changing the spiritual atmosphere in the city of Perth, and touching the unreached people groups of South-East Asia."*

The same year, the campus ministry exploded onto the scene in orange glory, taking on the name Joshua Life. Building on the vision of the church, the mission for "J-Life" was *"drawing youth and young adults into a rising body of strong passionate believers committed to encourage and equip one another in living our lives in the abundance of Christ"* – summed up in the maxim, *"Living the Life – Liberated... Intimate... Fruitful... Evangelistic!"*



With a new found sense of direction, vision and passion, both J-Life and NLCC were no longer the new kids on the block, but established as an integral part of the Australian Asian Churches Network.

Still, the need for a fulltime residential pastor was recognised by the board, and in September 2002, NLCC welcomed Pastor Yat Wan Eu, his wife Angelina and their family into the pastoral role where he continues to serve. With a new injection of leadership, the church began to be challenged in many other areas. NLCC was inspired to consider a building fund for a site in Northbridge and whilst God had other plans for us, the event itself was an incredible faith building exercise, as \$1.1 million was raised in pledges from the 140-strong congregation in just one week.

2003 saw the beginning of many new ministries in the church including the men's fellowship, women's ministry and the formation of the first young

adults cell. With Pastor Yat Wan's passion for missions resounding in the church, the first team was sent to Thailand in 2004, with subsequent trips in 2005 to Indonesia and Sabah from J-Life, and a return trip to Thailand headed by the adult cells.



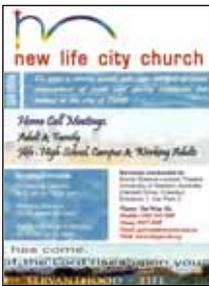
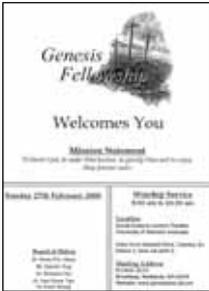
Pastor Yat Wan heads the 40 Days of Purpose Campaign

These years were also critical for the church as a whole, as we journeyed as one in Christian growth. We walked together through Rick Warren's *40 Days of Purpose*, and then Neil Anderson's *Victory Over The Darkness* and *The Bondage Breaker*. The church constitution was also finalised, and the first membership Sunday saw the vast majority of the congregation sign up.

However, if any year has been and will continue to be the year of milestones, it is 2006. The young adults ministry, having remained nameless since inception, is now known as Twelve Stones, with the mission *"acknowledging my yesterday, embracing our today, fulfilling His tomorrow"*, and the third Twelve Stones cell was formed.

The church itself embraced a new mission – *"A united people with purpose and passion for God. Loving God – Making Disciples"*, and two new elders were added to the board. The introduction of two Sunday services was made, and we have been blessed with a church office in nearby Broadway Fair.

With missions to Sabah and Cambodia at the end of this year, and with the relaunch of the building fund, 2006 still has many blessings in store for us, and as we look towards 2007, we look forward to His future as God continues to take NLCC further and further, laying down milestones that remind us of His faithfulness and glory every step of the way. ■





# Cell Groups

As the church is God's apostolic community, all disciples of Christ are called to operate in a community of believers, rather than by themselves. NLCC is a cell-based church – one that is organised and functions in small groups of members known as cells. This facilitates a number of things: quality care, relational discipleship and allows members to form genuine relationships.

Here is a brief overview of the cells in NLCC – if you are not currently in a cell, we hope that it will encourage you to attend one that seems most suited to your needs!

## Dalkeith

**Friday, 8.00 pm**  
**Dalkeith**

**Leaders:**  
Ho Lee Ng  
Robert Ong

**Associate Leader:**  
Stephen Leong



Robert Ong and Stephen Leong  
Absent: Ho Lee Ng

**Something unique about the cell:** Great fellowship.

**Favourite cell activity:** Eating.

Contact Robert (robert.ong@nlcc.org.au; 0413 201 748) for more information about this cell!

## Canning Vale

**Friday, 8.00 pm**  
**Canning Vale**

**Leaders:** Fred Sin, Danny Tang

**Something unique about the cell:** The members are parents and children from similar age groups (which happens to include most of the children in OverDrive!)

**Favourite cell activity:** Golfing for men, birthday celebrations, family get-togethers and eating, karaoke.

Contact Fred (0418 560 224) or Danny (danny.tang@nlcc.org.au) for more information about this cell!

## Applecross / Nedlands

**Friday, 8.00 pm**  
**Applecross**

**Leader:**  
Seng Kian Gan

**Associate Leader:**  
Amelia Leo



SK Gan and Amelia Leo

**Something unique about the cell:** A family cell with ages ranging from 11 months to 66 years old.

**Favourite cell activity:** Feasting and worship.

Contact Amelia (amelia.leo@nlcc.org.au; 0432 655 090) for more information about this cell!



Andrew Ng and Amanda Tan

## OverDrive 1

**Sunday, 9.00 am**  
**Nedlands**

**Leaders:**  
Andrew Ng  
Amanda Tan

**Something unique about the cell:** Unserious.

**Favourite cell activity:** Talking.

Contact Amanda (amanda.tan@nlcc.org.au; 0412 044 436) for more information about this cell!



Timothy Eu and Rowenna Yeo

## OverDrive 2

**Sunday, 9.00 am**  
**Nedlands**

**Leaders:**  
Timothy Eu  
Rowenna Yeo

**Something unique about the cell:** One big happy and exciting family.

**Favourite cell activity:** Eating, hanging out and rollerblading.

Contact Timothy (timothy.eu@nlcc.org.au; 0405 709 848) for more information about this cell!

## J-Life Keypers

**Thursday, 7.30 pm**  
**Nedlands**

**Leaders:**  
Fiona Ng  
Rowenna Yeo

**Associate Leader:**  
Joseph Luo



Fiona Ng, Rowenna Yeo and Joseph Luo

**Something unique about the cell:** We are just special.

**Favourite cell activity:** Eating and talking.

Contact Fiona (fiona.ng@nlcc.org.au; 0422 265 844) for more information about this cell!

## J-Life Latte

**Friday, 7.30 pm**  
**Nedlands**

**Leaders:**  
Genevieve Ong, Evan Wong

**Something unique about the cell:** We're just ordinary people with an extraordinary God, serious about knowing Him and all that He has in store for us, and excited about making an eternal difference by touching and changing hearts as we gather in authentic fellowship.

**Favourite cell activity:** Yet to be determined... eating...? singing?... joking... chatting...

Contact Evan (evan.wong@nlcc.org.au; 0411 035 830) for more information about this cell!



Genevieve Ong and Evan Wong

## Twelve Stones I

Saturday, 5.00 pm

Claremont or Morley

Leader:  
Bernard Kho



Bernard Kho

### Something unique about the cell:

Loving young adult Christians seeking the Lord together.

### Favourite cell activity:

Fellowship and good food.

Contact Bernard (bernard.kho@nlcc.org.au; 0433 010 073) for more information about this cell!

## Twelve Stones II

Saturday, 3.00 pm

East Perth

Leader:  
Dee May Yeoh

Associate Leader:  
Jason Lim



Jason Lim and Dee May Yeoh

### Something unique about the cell:

We meet right in the heart of Perth and are a young bunch with diverse interests (although about 50% are into fast cars).

### Favourite cell activity:

Taboo, BBQs.

Contact Dee May (deemay.ong@nlcc.org.au; 0422 562 505) for more information about this cell!

## Twelve Stones III



James and Sarah Seow

Saturday, 4.00 pm

Nedlands

Leaders:  
James Seow  
Sarah Seow

### Something unique about the cell:

The newest Twelve Stones cell!

### Favourite cell activity:

Finding new and different places to eat!

Contact Sarah (sarah.seow@nlcc.org.au; 0403 311 188) for more information about this cell!

# Combined Cell with Pastor Steven Teo

The combined cell meeting, hosted by the Dalkeith cell, took place on Friday 22 September. A gathering of about 50 met at Dalkeith Uniting Church to enjoy a scrumptious pot bless dinner, and to hear Pastor Steven Teo's sermon on God's Economy – a fitting topic as NLCC is currently seeking a permanent building.

As a token of our appreciation, a collection was taken for Pastor Steven Teo, who kindly donated it back to NLCC's building fund. ■



Pastor Steven Teo is taken aback at the variety of food on offer!

# Family Badminton Tournament

By Stephanie Tan



Following the popularity of the weekly Twelve Stones-initiated badminton sessions, NLCC's inaugural Family Badminton Day was held in the UWA Recreation Centre on an unseasonably warm afternoon on Sunday 8 October. There were nearly 90 players and spectators present, and it was truly a family event as we had participants ranging from 4 to over 50 years of age.

The players were divided into five teams made up of both beginners and experienced players, with each team playing every other team once in a round-robin style. While the children played under the supervision of "Aunty" Sarah Seow, the enthusiasm of some players (and spectators!) led to several mini-games being played behind the courts.

As everyone eagerly awaited the announcement of the results, entertainment was provided in the form of a handicap match featuring Alex Chen and Andy Ng – playing with their shoelaces tied together – against Wai Pheng Cheang and Lynette Yeap. Despite many stumbles and near-mishaps on their part, the guys showed no mercy, fiercely contesting each point and finally winning. The ultimate victory, however, was claimed by Team 1 (ably captained by SK Gan), thereby ending an extremely enjoyable afternoon.



Our youngest player - Joseph Gan



Special thanks go to the "captain of the event", Calvin Yong, and his committee comprising Wilmot Loh, Fred Sin and Bernard Kho, together with assistance on the day from SK Gan and Jason Lim. ■

## 2 Services! Ooh...

By Desiree Chong

With spring comes a new season, bringing change to NLCC with the “blossoming” of two services. Whilst the adults have their service from 9.00 am – 10.30 am, the high-schoolers have their OverDrive cell meetings, and the J-Lifers have their Christian Education Classes. And while the youth have their worship service from 11.00 am – 12.30 pm, the adults attend teachings on the book of Ezra, conducted by Pastor Angelina Eu and Elder SK Gan or leadership classes conducted by Pastor Yat Wan Eu and Elder James Seow. (Talk about convenience!)

To kick-start the launch of the two services on 27 August, we had Pastor Frankie Khoo as our guest speaker. He started preaching as a lay leader in 1983, when he was involved in the Prison Ministry in Penang, Malaysia. In 1995 he answered God’s call and began travelling as an itinerant minister. Since then, he has ministered prophetically in many churches and international conferences.



The J-Life Worship Team

How appropriate it was that he spoke on the topic “Prophetic Message for the End Times Church”. He pointed out that we should not look back on the past because when we do, we are actually living in the past. And also, that we should not stand still in the plains but instead be fruitful and forgive and forget, for without that, we cannot move on.

In the following Sundays, we had Dr Kameel Majdali as a guest speaker for Father’s Day, our own Pastor Yat Wan who spoke on the topic “From Barrenness to Fruitfulness”, Pastor Angelina who gave a brilliant message entitled “When life deals you lemons, make lemonade!” and many other excellent sermons.

Although there are two services now, the worship in both services are just as fantabulous as before. The worship team plays for the first service while the J-Life band has taken over for the youth worship service. The repertoire revolves around songs by Planet Shakers, Youth Alive, etc., as well as many of the good ol’ favourites – hymns.

The launch of the two services has been ideal because now families can enjoy spending quality time together after the services as all is covered in the morning – leaving the whole afternoon free! The only downside to it is that there are no more sleep-ins ... ■



By Aarksara Foo

It has been an awesome year so far for OverDrive, jam-packed with various events and activities to bring cell members and leaders together to experience a great time of fellowship.

We’ve had outings ranging from a picnic at Matilda Bay, to attending one of the big Youth Alive rallies of the year – *Adrenalin*. Friday 18 August was a huge night as 8,000 youth from all across Perth gathered together at Challenge Stadium for a fantastic night featuring the amazing gospel singer Guy Sebastian, Soulframe from Queensland and, of course, the Youth Alive WA band.



Our high-schoolers are all smiles!



Enjoying the BBQ lunch



Amanda Tan and the Tang sisters

Many exciting things have been happening in the OverDrive cells, as we have been learning about our identity as a child of God. We have been challenged to have big dreams because nothing is too big for our God. It has been really interesting to learn about each cell member’s dreams and desires that they would like to accomplish or own in their lifetime. Within our cell, there are dreams to own a state-of-the-art kitchen and recording studio, while many of us want to travel around the world.

The most recent OverDrive event was the BBQ lunch on Saturday 14 October. This was an awesome day filled with fun – a great time to catch up with people and bring our friends. Finally, all the best to all the Year 12 students whose exams are round the corner! ■

Guy Sebastian sang a couple of his latest hits from his first and second albums and gave us a sneak preview of his upcoming album. Guy was an inspiration to us all as he shared his testimony about the new life of being a new superstar and keeping his faith strong in the one and only God, Jesus Christ.

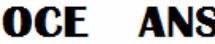
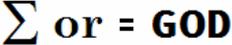
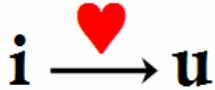
Soulframe, a popular dance group, also gave spectacular items throughout the night. They performed amazing dances reaching out to the crowd across the stadium. *Adrenalin* impacted many people in the stadium that night and has definitely inspired many about Christianity.

# epistles FUN

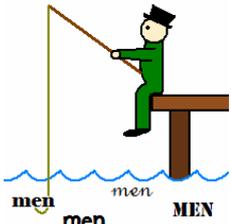
## Word Phrases

Can you figure out what these images depict?  
Can you justify the solutions?

### Christian Songs

1 	2 
3 	4 
5 	6 
7 	8 
9 	10 

### Christian Phrases

11 
12 
13 

### Bible Verse

14  
HOPE kindness  
PEACE JOY  
LOVE  
Faith Patience

Answers next issue

## Ministry Focus: Refreshment / Hospitality

By Betty Teoh

It all started off with a group of dedicated ladies (led by the Elders' wives) providing light refreshments for after the service. In the past few years, coordination had been led by Brother Chew Por and Sister Beng Choo, Pastor Angelina Eu and Sister Alice Yeap. This year, I took on the challenge to head and develop the ministry.

### Purpose / Vision

- To put God's Word into action.  
Matthew 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."  
1 Peter 4:9 "Be hospitable to one another without grumbling."
- To build a loving community within NLCC by helping each person feel the warmth of genuine Christian love through our acts of service and grace.
- To look out for first time visitors and newcomers. We see each person as potential members to NLCC and we do not want to turn them away by unfriendly, indifferent or careless attitudes. So our goal is to be a friend to them by interacting with them, making them feel special, welcomed, wanted and loved.

The ministry basically involves a group of three to four people bringing refreshments on a weekly basis, and setting up and clearing the refreshment corner before and after the service. When called upon, we may also need to help out during special meetings, at combined cell events, seminars and other events.



Betty Teoh

Traditionally, many think that the hospitality ministry involves only the ladies but it is so encouraging to see that some men are already in our team serving God in this arena! By them setting the example, we hope and pray that more men will come forth and avail themselves. You are never too old, too young, too shy or too timid to talk to people to be part of this team!

It's teamwork, and we need dedicated people with a heart to serve to make this dynamic ministry both successful and challenging. Of course, there will always be room for improvement, but we welcome suggestions, proposals and ideas! We see a possibility of forming a welcoming committee and working hand-in-hand with the ushering team to serve more effectively.

Dear friends, if you are looking to serve God and are not sure which ministry to go into, may we suggest you join us in this exciting and purposeful ministry. Come and bless others and be blessed yourself! ■

## Your Winning Captions!

"He poked me in the eye once but I got him back twice! Ha Ha!"  
- Peter May

"They let the two of us out on parole yesterday."  
- Jason Lim

"It takes two to make this look normal."  
- Erwin Chan



### Solution to Last Issue's Christian Cryptic Crossword

**Across:** 1. Believer; 5. I Am; 6. Revelation; 8. Father; 9. Noble; 11. Eden; 13. Upset; 15. Lamentations; 17. Hunger; 18. Risen.

**Down:** 1. Barren; 2. Love; 3. Entity; 4. Amen; 5. Incredulous; 7. Lifespan; 10. Only Son; 12. Selah; 14. Tutor; 16. Man.

# Upcoming Events!



## Sunday 5 November

Church Together: Generations  
6.30 pm - 9.00 pm  
Supreme Court Gardens, Corner  
Barrack Street and Riverside Drive,  
Perth  
Featuring: J John and Hillsong United

## Sunday 12 November

New Life City Church Survey  
(During the morning service)  
Social Science Lecture Theatre, UWA

## 17 November to 1 December

Missions Impact Trip to Cambodia  
Leaders: Pastor Yat Wan Eu  
Elder James Seow

## Friday 24 November

Monthly Prayer Meeting  
8.00 pm - 9.30 pm  
Swan Barracks, Francis Street,  
Northbridge  
Prayer Leader: Pastor Angelina Eu

## 8 to 18 December

Missions Impact Trip to Kota Kinabalu  
Leaders: Pastor Angelina Eu  
Jason Tan

## Sunday 24 December

Christmas Eve Service  
9.00 am - 10.30 am  
Social Science Lecture Theatre, UWA

## Sunday 31 December

Watch-Night / Pot Bless  
Time: tbc  
Venue: tbc

## 16 to 19 January 2007

Planet Shakers Conference  
Challenge Stadium, Stephenson  
Avenue, Mt Claremont

## Guest Speakers at NLCC's Sunday Services

9.00 am - 10.30 am  
Social Science Lecture Theatre, UWA

19 November: Pastor Russell Sage  
10 December: Reverend John Warwick  
17 December: Reverend Richard Tan

For more information about any of our events, please contact **Pastor Yat Wan** (9417 1015).



## NLCC's New Vision and Mission

By Pastor Yat Wan Eu

The Board of Elders and ministry leaders have been meeting for the past few months to review the existing vision and mission statements. After much prayer and discussion, we developed new statements for NLCC.

As believers we need to recognise that God has called and set us apart to transform the community that we are connected with – in the marketplace, educational institutions, and in our neighbourhoods.

As we grow in maturity, our relationship with Jesus Christ needs to grow in intimacy and depth, and we must avail ourselves to serve God and each other. We envision that every person who is part of the NLCC community should possess the attributes contained in our vision statement. Let's join our hearts together to do our best in loving God and making disciples! ■

### Vision

*New Life City Church is called of God to transform our communities through a living relationship with Jesus Christ in passionate worship, persistent prayer, serving hands and victorious faith-living.*

### Mission

*A united people with purpose and passion for God  
Loving God - Making Disciples*

### Worship Services are conducted at:

Social Science Lecture Theatre  
The University of Western Australia  
Crawley WA 6009

### Sunday Schedule (November to January)

#### Worship Service

9.00 am to 10.30 am

#### Children's Ministry

9.45 am to 10.30 am

### Please contact our church leaders if you need a pastoral visit or prayer.

Elder Seng Kian Gan	0431 362 979
Elder James Seow	0411 288 275
Elder Richard Tai	9246 1166
Elder Keat Wong	9443 2822
Pastors Yat Wan and Angelina Eu	9417 1015



## Summer Suggestions

If you have any:

- Articles
- Comments
- Event reviews
- Jokes
- Questions you want answered or
- Testimonies



please email them to the Editors at:

**epistles@nlcc.org.au**

All submissions may be edited for length and clarity.

**Deadline: Sunday, 7 January 2007**