

heartbeat@PLMC

Observing Holy Week @PLMC 在PLMC 守圣周



**But God demonstrates his own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
— Romans 5:8**

**但基督却在我们还做罪人的时候为我们死！
上帝的爱就这样显明了。
— 罗马书 5:8**

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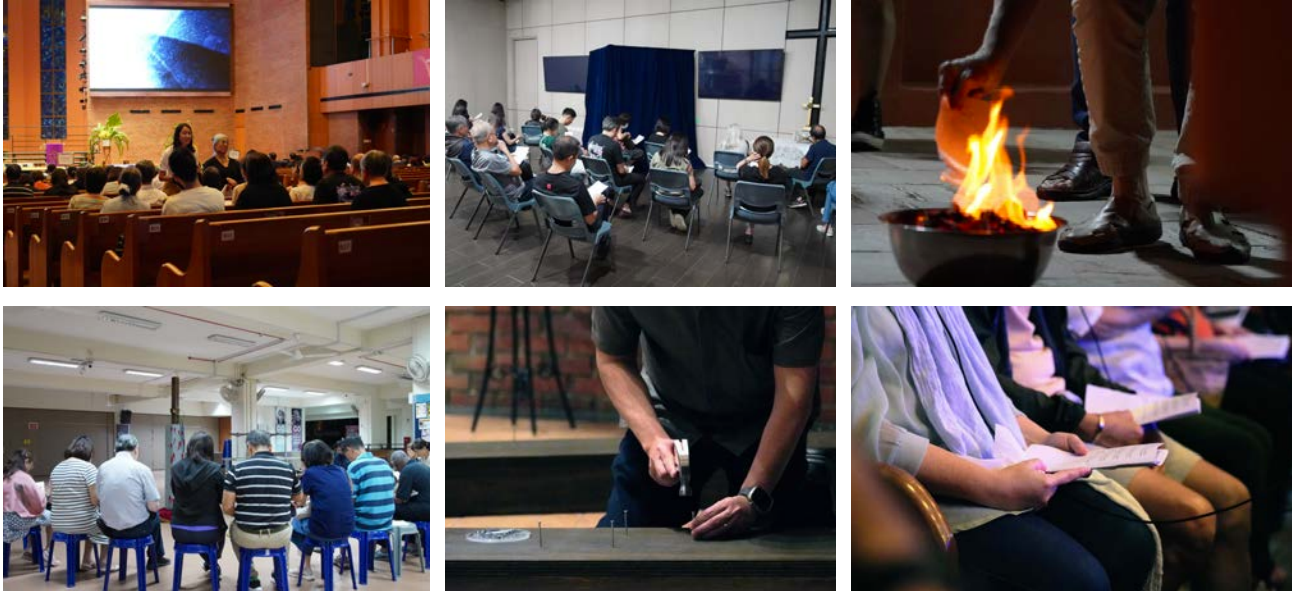
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Holy Week @ PLMC

This year's Holy Week events at PLMC started with Holy Wednesday, which marked Judas Iscariot's betrayal of Jesus. Worshippers gathered for a time of reflection at simple but thought-provoking stations around the church, designed to remind us of the key moments of Christ's journey to the cross.



The first station began in the Sanctuary, with silent meditation on Scripture and reflecting on God's love for us, and how we are to love others. Participants were invited to be still and hear from God before responding in prayer. It was an exercise of being open to the Holy Spirit's prompting to love as He loves us, especially those whom we find difficult to love.

The second station at Jordan Hall (top, middle) gave us space and time to ponder the betrayal of Jesus, and how we too might have betrayed Him in our daily habits, thoughts and attitudes. Participants penned their reflections and surrendered hidden emotions to the Lord, before tearing them up and tossing them in the fire (top, right) – a symbolic act of renouncing our sins and burdens so we no longer bear them.

At the third station, we came face to face with the scourging of Jesus (bottom, left). Spending some moments in prayerful consideration of the pain and suffering He bore on our behalf, it was also a time of reflection on areas of our brokenness that need His healing and restoration.

Returning to the Sanctuary, participants contemplated the crucifixion, hammering a nail into a wooden beam in a visceral reminder that our sin put Jesus on the cross.

The choral piece, *The Appeal of the Crucified*, poignantly asked: Is it nothing to you? It brought many to tears as they considered the suffering and punishment Christ bore on our behalf.

Jesus paid the ultimate price so we can have the ultimate prize of redemption and life eternal. The experience set the tone for the Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter observances.

Holy Week @ PLMC



Maundy Thursday was marked with a night service, where Rev Jacob Lim took worshippers on a journey into the Garden of Gethsemane to commune with Jesus in the last hours of His life on earth. In the sombre and reflective atmosphere, the church partook of the Holy Communion in response.

On Good Friday, Rev Dr Kow Shih Ming spoke about God's love being The Greatest Love of All—He chose us, gave His best for us to the extent of dying for us. Guest speaker Pastor Don Wong of New Charis Mission (below, top right), reiterated that God's love has power to save and transform. At the Living Stones Mandarin Service, guest speaker Simon Boy (bottom, left) shared his testimony, giving glory to God's transformative power and love that rescued him from a life of bondage to drugs and vice.



Silver Boxes Easter Celebration

The Silver Boxes Children's Ministry celebrated Easter with fun-filled programs brimming with joy, creativity, and Gospel learning across all age groups.

Age-Group Highlights

- Shiny Tots (Ages 1–3): Our youngest ones enjoyed a lively Easter egg passing game and a hands-on craft session, introducing them to the joy of the season through play.
- Zone 2 (Ages 4–7): Guest speaker Pastor Nicholas Choo shared a special message on the Resurrection. Following the teaching, the children created colourful crafts to remember Jesus' sacrifice and victory.
- Zones 3 & 4 (Ages 8–12): Led by the Sec 3 youth cluster, these zones engaged in high-energy games and a biblical skit. The session wrapped up with a tombstone craft, symbolising the empty grave.

The celebration wrapped up with a ministry-wide group photo, capturing a sea of joyful faces. It is a wonderful testimony to a morning where play, creativity, and the Gospel met to create lasting memories for our youngest disciples.



(From top left to right) Pastor Nicholas with the children at zone 2, Shiny Tots toddlers playing an Easter egg game, tombstone craft in zones 3 & 4.



Above: Youths from the Sec 3 cluster presenting a skit, interacting during lesson time, while crafts were being done.



GYM SENIOR CONNECT

— Growing in Confidence and Community

BY TAN CHIN CHOO

The Glowing Years Ministry's Senior Connect session in April featured the second part of their ongoing digital journey, as senior members learnt to navigate digital communication tools in a session titled "Communicating via Instant Messaging".

The first session in March saw the SG Digital Office sharing about "Staying Safe and in the Age of Generative AI".

In today's fast-paced world, platforms such as WhatsApp and Telegram are part of daily life, yet they can still feel daunting to those less familiar with technology.

Our senior participants were very eager, embracing learning with humble and willing hearts. Step by step, they have been growing in confidence—sending messages, sharing photos, and staying meaningfully connected with loved ones. Their perseverance is a quiet testimony of courage and adaptability.

These sessions go beyond skills training to nurture wisdom and discernment. With the rise of online scams and cyber threats, vigilance is essential. Through such sessions, GYM aims to equip seniors with practical knowledge to recognise risks, safeguard personal information, and use digital tools with greater confidence and peace of mind.

As with any learning journey, differences in ability are natural. Yet we were reminded of God's commandments. While we would not steal, learning to guard against scams helps prevent others from doing so—upholding the spirit of the Eighth Commandment: "You shall not steal."

For those seeking additional support, SG Digital Community Hubs offer patient, one-to-one guidance, allowing seniors to learn at their own pace.

Senior Connect is not only about learning, but also fellowship. Our monthly gatherings and fellowship lunches create precious opportunities for connection—strengthening friendships, sharing stories, and uplifting hearts. It is a joy to witness the warmth and care within our community.

It is our prayer that through these efforts, our seniors will grow not only in knowledge, but also in belonging, encouragement, and joy within the church family.

Senior Connect is held on the last Thursday of the month, from 9am to 1:30pm. Do check the GYM noticeboard at the Fellowship Hall and on our website plmc.org for upcoming activities.

Photos by Jack Kwok



Ignited at AFLAME Worship Night

BY VERA MENG



Spirit-filled, God-centered — two hours of just being in God's presence, seeking Him, beholding Him, encountering Him. PLMC's worshippers were stood as one, hosting the Presence of God with humble but ignited hearts at the Aflame Worship Night on Friday, 24 April.

It was an evening of song and prayer, with worshippers lifting voices and melodies, proclaiming prayers and prophecy; a dedicated time of uninhibited worship with its still moments to soak in God's Presence.

Members heard from and shared the Lord's word to them — words of knowledge, visions and promptings from the Holy Spirit, released to build up and edify the Church.

It was truly an intimate time of enjoying the tangible presence of God and His anointing, and of sharing and encountering the Holy Spirit as a community in worship and heartfelt seeking.



Photos by Crystal Tan

D&N Talk: Truth, Goodness... and Beauty?

BY SHARLYN KOK



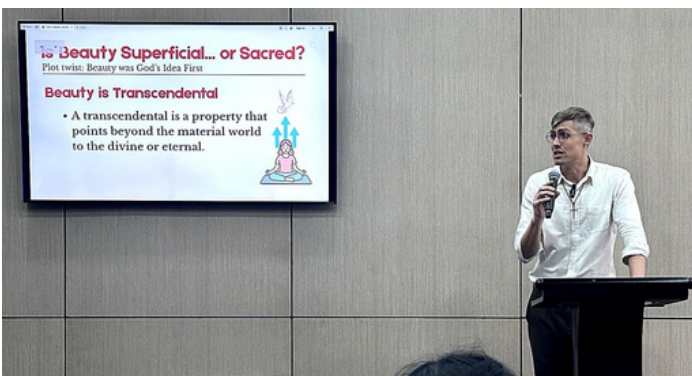
I attended the talk, "The Theology of Beauty", on 19 April, which was jointly organised by the Discipleship & Nurture ministry (D&N) as well as the ministry to Young Adults.

My main takeaway was that God *is* beauty. Before, I had always thought of creation as something God made beautiful as a good creator. However, D&N's Bradley Garrett, who conducted the session, shared how God Himself *is* beauty hence He is an unlimited source of beauty.

Everything is beautiful in its own way because it is made in God's image. Creation is a mirror of God and it is beautiful because He is beautiful — something I didn't fully understand before.

The panel session helped me better understand when one of the panelists shared how she saw beauty in creation as she did her research in her line of work, and how God's design of plants pointed back to His beauty.

I was refreshed and now have a new perspective, having opened my eyes to see how amazing and detailed God is, with a better understanding of the beauty of God and His purpose for it.



ABOUT BEAUTY

Is beauty superficial or sacred? Beauty is a reminder of who God is and what He has done. The Theology of Beauty explores the profound relationship between God and the beauty of creation. Beauty is not merely an aesthetic quality but a fundamental aspect of God's nature (Psalm 27:4) and purpose.

We see beauty in the different creations of God (Romans 1:18-20) and, even, our human body which is created in God's own image (Genesis 1:27).

Our understanding of beauty matters greatly in how we see our world and how we live as Christians. Beauty inspires virtue in us and encourages us to reflect on the beauty of God in all aspects of our lives, leading us to a deeper understanding of faith, and a renewed appreciation for God's creation around us. – *Discipleship & Nurture*

Photos by Joshua Heng

REFLECTIONS OF A FIRST-TIME MISSION TRIPPER

BY SI CHENG CHOON

This was the first mission trip for my wife, Ing Ling, and me. Arriving at Klang to serve at ElShaddai Centre without prior experience, we felt both excited and apprehensive, yet we were prepared to serve in whatever capacity was needed.

While we had previously read about the challenges refugees face, this trip provided our first meaningful face-to-face encounter with them. It was heartening to see that the learning environment at the school exceeded our expectations, a testament to ElShaddai being a well-run organisation guided by God. We were also struck by the fact that the refugee families live within the town community rather than being confined to a camp.

The trip was especially significant as we focused on children who have their whole lives ahead of them, and we hope we have contributed in some small way to a better future for them. Our primary mission was to assess the children's height, weight, nourishment and eye-sight. While their futures may seem daunting, the school's mission to provide education offers them a better chance to integrate into society. God's love is clearly demonstrated through ElShaddai's effort to plant seeds of faith in the young and their families, while offering practical help.



As the backup photographer for our team, I was privileged to witness every member working passionately and lovingly. I also observed the constant smiles on every team member's face—memories I still hold vividly.

During our final debrief, we reflected on how our work was only possible through God's love. His love motivated the team to serve the children joyfully and selflessly.

Our commitment extended beyond the trip; we continued seeking solutions for the children and found a way to provide them with much-needed spectacles for their studies. Praise the Lord!



As team member Becky shared, "Words can't express the joy that is welling up in me."



As 1 John 3:18 says: "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."

Acts 20:35 also reminds us: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Cheng Choon will be serving at ElShaddai again in August.
