

# ANNOUNCEMENTS For more information, please approach Gladys or Priscilla.

## 1. Global Day of Prayer 2009

Date: 31 May (Sunday)  
 Time: 7.14pm  
 Venue: Singapore Expo Halls 8 & 10  
 Bus transport would only be provided if the quota is reached. Please sign up at the admin counter TODAY!

## 2. Corporate Prayer Meeting

Date: 29 May 2009  
 Time: 8PM  
 Venue: Honor Room, WCRC

## 3. Playmax

Date: 12 - 13 June 2009  
 Time: 9AM - 5PM  
 Venue: St. Andrew's Cathedral  
 Experience High-Energy Fun-Filled Excitement in 6 Amazing Sectors

## 4. The Voyage That Shook The World

Date: 30 May Sat  
 Time: 11.00am, 2.00pm, 4.30pm, 7.00pm  
 Venue: St. Andrew's Cathedral  
 CMI's long awaited Darwin Film, (The Voyage That Shook The World), will be screened in high definition. There will be four screening sessions. Purchase tickets at the following link: <https://store.creationontheweb.com/meetings/index.php?ci=4>

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

|      |         |             |   |
|------|---------|-------------|---|
| May  | 24      | (Sun)       | Council Meeting<br>Confirmation Class #4          |
|      | 29      | (Fri)       | Corporate Prayer Meeting                          |
|      | 31      | (Sun)       | Global Day of Prayer<br>Confirmation Class #5     |
| June | 07      | (Sun)       | Ministry Leaders Meeting<br>Confirmation Class #6 |
|      | 12 & 13 | (Fri & Sat) | PlayMax   |
|      | 14      | (Sun)       | Confirmation Class #7                             |
|      | 16 - 19 | (Tue - Fri) | Family Camp                                       |
|      | 26      | (Fri)       | Corporate Prayer Meeting                          |
|      | 28      | (Sun)       | Council Meeting<br>Confirmation Class #8          |

Any announcements, articles or testimonies to share? Email Gladys @ [wacoffice@livingstreams.org.sg](mailto:wacoffice@livingstreams.org.sg)

### SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE

9.10AM BOON LAY WAY - BOON LAY MRT (BUS STOP)  
 9.15AM JURONG WEST ST 51 BLK 511 CARPARK  
 9.30AM CLEMENTI MRT - BUS STOP TOWARDS CITY



# WESTSIDE ANGLICAN CHURCH

## STRENGTHENING FAMILIES. IMPACTING COMMUNITY

**BISHOP:** The Most Revd Dr John Chew     **ASSOCIATE VICAR:** The Revd Canon Dr Louis Tay  
**DEAN & VICAR:** The Very Revd Kuan Kim Seng     **PRIEST-IN-CHARGE:** Revd Timothy Chow

24 May 2009

## HUNGERING AND THIRSTING FOR GOD

### BY PASTOR TIMOTHY CHOW

Our hunger is for God. Not God as a doctrine... or as an idea... or as the necessary conclusion of our "proofs." But God as a living Being. As a Someone who pursues a relationship – with us!

For those of us with a Christian heritage this seems so obvious. But there are a couple of problems we face as Christians: barriers that can easily sidetrack us in our response to God, barriers that keep us from realizing we are all God-hungry and that only he can fill us.

#### Barrier One: Our Confusion

One problem is our tendency to confuse knowledge about God with knowing God. We easily fall into the trap of believing that information is the key to eternal life. So we turn to "data-based Christianity" to fill us with knowledge about God. We then open the pages of Scripture to memorize events that can later be regurgitated as if Christian living were similar to a sophomore history class. What happened on the fifth day of Creation? Who were Moses' parents? Who was the second judge? What objects were in the Ark of the Covenant? How many chapters are in the Book of Psalms?

We can buzz through the Old Testament without ever pausing to ask, "What is this text trying to accomplish?" As a result, we can become proficient in biblical information without becoming closer to God or more sensitive to the people he created.

Don't misunderstand me: I'm all in favor of learning the information of Scripture. Biblical illiteracy isn't a virtue! But biblical knowledge shouldn't be the goal of our reading. Scripture was written to reveal to us a God who longs for relationships. It pleads with us to long for him as well. The goal of Scripture isn't minds filled with facts about God but hearts using those facts to be full of his presence.



**West Coast Recreation Centre**  
 No. 12 West Coast Walk

#### Sunday Services

10am - 12pm  
**English Service @ Auditorium**  
 10am - 12pm  
**Mandarin Service @ Thanksgiving**  
 10am - 12pm  
**Children In Action @ Honor**

#### Saturday

3.30pm - 6.30pm  
**Destiny Impact (Youth) @ Honor**

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**EVERY MEMBER A FRUIT BEARING DISCIPLE** 

I remember reading about Dennis Wise, a young man who spent all his time collecting Elvis memorabilia: clothes, records, photographs, programs. He even underwent plastic surgery to try to look more like his hero. But his great regret was that he never got to meet the man he adored.

A similar but much greater tragedy with many Christians is that they spend years listening to sermons, reading Scripture, and teaching Sunday school classes, but fail to enjoy an intimate relationship with God. They could pass any theological exam or answer any Bible trivia question. But they don't hunger and thirst to know God personally, to be filled with his presence, to be changed into his likeness. No wonder religion often becomes empty!

**Barrier Two: Our Satisfaction**

A second problem we face is that we're too easily satisfied. We're like the toddler who could wait and have a wonderful meal at 6:00 but who finds an old hot dog from lunch on the floor at 5:40 and gobbles it down. We are offered a fabulous vacation by the ocean and settle instead for wading in a ditch.

Instead of craving a vibrant relationship with the God who made us, we settle for a house, a family, a few friends, a job, a TV and DVD, and a yearly vacation. We think we can survive with this and just a bit of religion. Yet our souls starve!

Frederick Buechner, author and theologian, tells of a twelve-year-old who, in a fit of rage, killed his father. Later a guard was walking down the hall where the boy was being held and heard him whimpering. When he neared the door to the youngster's room, he heard him crying, "I want my father. I want my father." That is the sobbing that can be heard all around us – even though people may not know what or whom they are crying for. But the things we accumulate in life can't satisfy us and can't give us purpose.

Only God can fill our deepest hunger. We'll focus on our Father satiating that hunger next time.

**OUR PRIMARY GOAL**

More than acceptance, significance, satisfaction, fulfillment, achievements, friendships, we need intimacy and union with the Father. This comes only through a hunger for Him. And when we truly hunger for God we seek him with a holy desperation. We also sense a holy discontent with life as we are having it now, no matter how successful or affluent we are. Whether we are single or married, young or old, we all need to hunger for God.



**DUTY SCHEDULE**

|                     | Today<br><u>24<sup>th</sup> May (H.C.)</u>                   | Next Week<br><u>31<sup>st</sup> May</u> |
|---------------------|--|---|
| Chairperson         | Chia Siew Choo   | Kelvin Koo                              |
| Speaker             | Revd Charley Cleverly  | Revd Timothy Chow                       |
| Worship Leader      | Arlene   | Andy Philip Sng                         |
| Music Team          | Seng Choon, Kelvin, Althea, Astrid, Jakob, Jethro, Jun Hoong | TBA                                     |
| Projectionist       | Rachel, Violet   | Scarlet, Priscilla                      |
| Soundworks          | Eric Matthew Sng   | You Fu, Carol                           |
| H.C. Server         | Raymond, Tony, Kevin   | -                                       |
| Intercessory Prayer | Koh Bock Yin   | Susy Tan                                |
| Scripture Reader    | Eunice Ng  | David Yong                              |

**WISDOM DISCIPLINE TRAINING**

| DATE    | PROGRAM        |
|---------|----------------|
| 29 May  | Prayer Meeting |
| 05 June | No WDT         |
| 12 June | No WDT         |
| 19 June | No WDT         |

\*Cell groups are suspended till further notice due to WDT. For further enquiries, you may contact the Office at 63376104 ext 188/189 or email [wacoffice@livingstreams.org.sg](mailto:wacoffice@livingstreams.org.sg)

**MISSIONS**

|                                      |          |                    |
|--------------------------------------|----------|--------------------|
| <b>MISSIONS FUNDS NEEDED IN 2009</b> | <b>:</b> | <b>S\$20,000</b>   |
| <b>AMOUNT PLEDGED TO DATE</b>        | <b>:</b> | <b>S\$9,310.50</b> |
| <b>AMOUNT COLLECTED TO DATE</b>      | <b>:</b> | <b>S\$6,646.50</b> |



**VISION STATEMENT**

**A home and family focused church committed to building godly families that are the centers of worship, faith formation, discipleship ministry fellowship and witness for Jesus Christ**