

# NEWS LETTER

## Otahuhu Community Baptist Church

*Knowing Christ - Growing in Christ - Going with Christ*

### TAKE NOTE:

**10th November 2019**

### MISSION SUNDAY

This Mission Sunday will be the final day for collecting gifts and offerings towards shoe boxes for the children in the community.

**30th November 2019**

### CAROL SERVICE

Saturday, 30th November, we will be having Christmas Carols service. Groups of families of the church will be presenting Carol Songs and followed by a fellowship potluck dinner. Members are requested to bring in their friends to this music night. Check for more information on page 2.

### PRAY FOR 2019 TARGET:

**20 Baptisms,**

**50 Born Again Experiences,**

**200 Witnessing's**

### KIDS & YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE



On 29th September 2019, the opportunity was given to our Church Youth and Kids to conduct a worship service and they did it in great style. The kids and youth put in a lot of effort for every part of the service. The songs, skits and prayers offered to God and as a ministry to the people was a fine tuned performance. The Sunday School Teachers, especially Nishal, put in a lot of effort to teach the kids their respective parts and they did a commendable job on the day. God bless our Sunday School Teachers and the future generation of the church.

### PASTOR GRACE'S INDUCTION: 29th Sep

Pastor Grace Shen was inducted into the pastorate of the Chinese Congregation of OCBC. Ps. Lindsay Jones officiated the Induction. God has blessed the church with three pastors now. All glory



and praise be to God alone and Christ who is building the church with the help of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FASTING PRAYER MEETING:

Friday, 1 November, 8pm - 10pm @ Church

### COMMUNION SERVICES :

Sunday, 3rd November in all the three services of the church at 8:15am, 10:30am and 4pm.

### HAMILTON MINISTRY:

Saturday's, 5:30pm - 9th October and 23rd November at Discovery Christian Centre, Hamilton.

**CAROL SERVICE: Saturday, 30th November - from 6:30pm. Potluck dinner will start at 6pm and the program will begin at 7pm.**

## PRAYER NEEDS

Pray for the families of the church who are struggling with various challenges. May God help them overcome and make them victorious in Jesus' Name

Pray for all the Christmas activities this year. May God give us success as we give and share with the needy and most importantly share the gospel to the lost.

## VERSE FOR THE MONTH

**Mark 14: 38**

**"Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak"**

## MISSIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE: Rachel Jacob

This month the Missions Committee are continuing to focus on local missions Christmas project. Gifts for the children in the Otahuhu neighbourhood are being collected and our final day of collections is the 10th November. Please approach the Missions Team if you have any questions or donations. Please contact Rachel for more information on this.

### IN MEMORIAM:

It is with sadness that we remember the passing of Brother Cameron's older brother James and Ian's father 'Arch' who lived for an amazing 94 years! Our prayers are with you Cameron and Ian, that God's grace will be with you both as you adjust after losing loved family members.

### CHRISTMAS MINISTRIES:

Christmas season is here and as a church we will begin the Christmas season on the on the 30th November, Saturday evening with a music night of Carol Singing. Church members are requested to form groups comprising of two or more number of families and present one Carol Song. The song should be a Christmas song only. The Cell Groups and Bible Study Groups may present a song respectively from each group.

**The Carol Rounds Schedule and other Christmas ministries are on Page 4.**

### MEMORY VERSE COMPETITION RESULTS

On the 29th September, Sudha announced and felicitated the winners of the Memory Verse Competition. Thanks to Sudha for organising this competition and once again bringing success to it.

### PRAYER & PRAISE

Prayer and Praise it is going well and is held on the last Friday of each month at 7:30pm, led by Bro. Neven. It's a time of spiritual strengthening and empowerment as we glorify God. Please do join and be blessed.

### CHURCH INTRANET

Members are reminded once again to sign in to the Church Intranet. Those who have done it, can access the church OG minutes and Mission Committee minutes.

## **PASTORS COLUMN: Repentance in Revival and Revival in Repentance - Ptr. Mike**

Perhaps we want to see a great turning toward God in our community or a renewed fervency for Him among Christians. But we tend to forget where Revival begins, and that beginning is with personal repentance. Revival comes to a humbled heart. There is no short cut - no magic formula where we can avoid repentance and personally dealing with *self and sin*.

God doesn't send Revival because we are so *right*, but because we are willing to humble ourselves before Him, and acknowledge that we are so *wrong*. The Apostle Paul talks about a certain kind of personal sorrow and grief: "*For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.*" 1 Corinthians 7:10. Even the Church at Ephesus needed reviving, and in doing so Christ didn't skip over repentance: "*Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lamp stand from its place, unless you repent.*" Revelation 2:5

Andrew Murray once said, "A true revival means nothing less than a revolution, casting out the spirit of worldliness and selfishness, and making God and his love triumph in the heart and life." Revival therefore will be in Repentance, and Repentance will be in Revival!

Here are 2 key points:

### **1. Awaken me Lord, so that I will see sin as it truly is.**

In 1 Corinthians 15:34, we see a spiritual awakening and rejection of sin as simultaneous choices: "Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning..."

Often we are happy to see sin as something less than the ugly rebellion against God that it is. Instead of seeing sin as a life-threatening infection, we see it as a 'sometimes-annoying-pet' which causes the occasional inconvenience, but is otherwise worth keeping around. But if we desire a godly spiritual awakening in our lives, we cannot allow sin to continue to have its way in our hearts.

Scripture tells us about two kinds of sin. The first is the sin of *commission*, that is sin we willingly commit. This is when God says "No", but we say "Yes". It is when God says "Don't", but we say "I will."

The second kind of sin is the sin of *omission*, that is sin by omitting what we know to be right. This is when God says "Do", but we simply ignore Him or say "I won't". James 4:17 describes this type of sin: "*So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.*"

### **2. Now that I'm awake Lord, help me to turn from the sin that I see.**

Repentance is not something we conjure up - personally or corporately- through casting guilt or wallowing in shame. True repentance is a work of the Holy Spirit who will "convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgement" (John 16:8).

The Holy Spirit faithfully uses the Word of God, which is "living and active, sharper than any two edged sword...discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12)

But if we are to desire the Holy Spirit's work of conviction, we must expose our hearts to His Word and humbly and openly pray, "Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!" (Psalm 139:23-24)

A heart that is personally desiring to live right and to please the Lord, will no doubt need on-going times of repentance, but will also experience the refreshment of *Revival from God!*

*So let us desire Revival, but first let us all desire Repentance. May God bring His awakening!*

## CHRISTMAS MINISTRY SCHEDULE 2019



**16th November - Carols Starts from 3pm - Round 1**

**17th November - Carol Rounds 2 from 4pm**

**23rd November - Carol Rounds 3 from 3pm**

**24th November - Carol Rounds 4 from 4pm**

**30th November - Combined Carol Service @ Church,  
(6pm - 7pm Potluck Dinner ; 7pm - 8:30pm - Carol Singing)**

**1st December - Carol Rounds 5 from 4pm**

**6 December - Fasting Prayer Meeting at Church**

**7th December - Carol Rounds 6 from 3:30pm**

**8th December - Christmas Celebration Service , 10:30am**

**14th December - Hamilton Carols and Program**

**15th December - Carol Rounds 7 from 4pm**

**24th December - Christmas Eve Service ( English), Service at  
5:30pm followed by Christmas Dinner**

**25th December - Christmas Morning Service at 7am**

**3 1st December - Watch Night Service at 10:30pm**