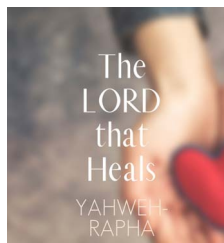


Dear Friends and Prayer Partners

The university campus ministry in semester one has concluded with mixed feelings. The first quarter of the year saw the completion of Beyond Brisbane Project 2021; the revitalization of student leadership (Movement Multiplier MM); the harmonization of campus-based (Catalyst) & home-based (House of Peace) fellowship, whereas the second quarter felt a bit heavy-hearted because the fear of COVID was lurking in our city. Brisbane was imposed with two lockdowns in April and June respectively. While most of our students are safe and sound here, some individuals have their family members succumbed to the virus in their homes overseas. Therefore, Ken and Florence want to begin this newsletter with a prayer of compassion: "Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name. Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all His benefits who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases." (Psalm 103:1-3).



The LORD who Heals



God is known by many names in the Bible. Each name reveals a certain aspect of His character. Yahweh-Rophe is one such name which means the LORD who heals in the Hebrew text (Exodus 15:26b). Rophe is used more than sixty times throughout the Old Testament to

assure healing, cure and restoration. It is our wish that we are blessedly assured by Jesus: "When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, 'Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.' Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be clean!' Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy." (Matthew 8:1-3). Therefore, the theme of this newsletter is 'The LORD who Heals'.

Post-Easter Outreach Accomplished

The 3-day outreach planned at Easter in UQ was rescheduled to 13-15 April due to a COVID lockdown in Brisbane. The post Easter activity of giving free hot cross buns to students in exchange for thoughts on Easter still attracted much attention. We were able to engage some new students with spiritual conversations and meet up with them in the following weeks.



Testimonies from the Students Close and Afar

The nature of International Student Ministry (ISM) is not bounded by physical distance. Coping with COVID extends our discipleship for students close and afar.

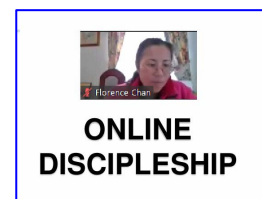
From Della

"Isaiah 49:15 comes to my mind when I recall UQ's Market Day during Semester 1 of 2021. I perchance sat across a lady who was a Power to Change ministry worker talking the message of Christ and His salvation. To date, I don't know why I decided to share with this lady my testimony of a miracle of God's might witnessed within my family, along with it, my burden and questions as a Christian. I was invited to my first Catalyst fellowship where I was introduced to Florence. One question that grounded me was "Do I think I will go to heaven?" I immediately answered "No" and shared my feelings why. I am a sinner and an alcoholic. Despite being a Christian, my heart was filled with anger and hurt. Florence disciplined me and we met every week from then on and explore the word of the Lord. These meetings revitalized my waning faith that was becoming riddled with doubts. I learnt to forgive and seek the Lord's forgiveness and acceptance. I began to share scriptures from our sessions to my friends, both Christians and non-Christians. I am in a better place now than I was prior to meeting this Power to Change lady. This meeting, I have come to realize, was not a coincidental encounter but the Lord's miracles working. He did not forsake me, he has not forgotten me."



From Mona

"I am grateful to God for bringing Florence to me. In the past year, I have been under a lot of physical and mental stress. The online study of school and work had often left me on the verge of emotional breakdown. However, I am grateful for the pressures of the past year that have pushed me to God for help. Especially in my conversations with Florence and Bible study, through the experience of Ruth and Daniel, I learned about God's work on people and how to deal with difficulties as a Christian. Although we could not communicate face to face, I could see the message that God conveyed to me through Florence every time. In addition, I also want to thank Florence for her prayer for my study, work and spiritual life, which saved me from losing confidence when I was at a low point. Mona."



Last ISM Team Meeting of Semester One

Our last ISM team meeting was held on 16 June in our home and concluded with luncheon at a Japanese restaurant for reflection, celebration and farewell. As we came to the semester completion, we reflected how God is at work to carry us all the way through challenges; we celebrated new believers coming to Christ and already believers reaffirmed in faith; and farewelled our international interns who will be sent or returned to work in the harvest field.



Hospitality Gatherings during Semester Break

Break between semesters does not have to eventuate into suspense in ministry. Moreover semester break enables us time to cultivate relationship with ministry partners and extend pastoral care for students. For this we have hosted 2 gatherings in our home in this recess period.

Gathering on 18 June

This gathering was intended for a group of Indian students having different beliefs in Hinduism and Catholicism. We also invited a coworker and a church friend to share our belief in Christianity.



Gathering on 25 June

This gathering was planned for a group of Chinese students mixed with believers and non believers. We shared our testimonies and discussed our interpretations of the meaning of truth in the Bible.



QLD/NSW Mid Year Conference (MYC) 2021

The combined Queensland and New South Wales MYC was convened from 28 June to 2 July in YMCA Camp Warrawee with the theme 'Your Kingdom Come'. The keynote speaker was Peter Luu who unpacked what the Bible has to say about the Presence, Pursuit, Product and Purpose of the Kingdom of God.

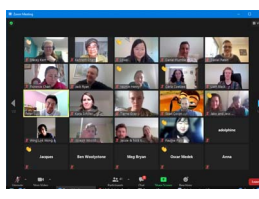
Partial-lockdown

Conference started with a partial lockdown. Our NSW participants could not come due to NSW's COVID outbreak, nevertheless our QLD participants proceeded with care to attend the programs.



Full-lockdown

Conference was met with a full lockdown after a day due to the QLD's outbreak. We switched to online and are grateful that all the sessions, most seminars and trainings were able to complete.



Family News

Evangelism can be overwhelming but it can also be a natural and exciting way of life. In this quarter Ken and Florence experienced evangelism as a way of life. In an evening, Ken and Florence went to Wellington Point to watch sunset. While taking self portraits, a girl came up to offer help and we ended up in a long conversation. The girl named Zoey is a UQ student. We invited her to our gathering mentioned earlier. In the same gathering, we came across a girl called Ella who is also a UQ student. We invited her to come to our local church for Sunday service. On a day we came visit our ministry supporter in Toowoomba. While walking in a park, we bumped into a lady and her young son. She revealed to us they just settled with her husband in Australia for a few months. She realized that she is pregnant and was considering an abortion. We prayed with her to receive Christ and to treasure the conceived baby.



Praise & Prayer

- Thankful for the post-Easter outreach on UQ campus accomplished with meaningful spiritual conversations.
- Thank the Lord that Della and Mona who are disciples by Florence have graduated in semester 1. Pray for the blessing of their future in loving God and continuing the spiritual movement.
- Praise the Lord for the 2 gatherings to celebrate students' completion of exams. Thankful for Christian friends Adrian, Kelvin and Jiali came to help to meet up with non believers. It was a wonderful dinner where 2 non believers were encouraged to go to church. Pray for the others are also interested in attending church.
- Thank the Lord that in MYC, Allan could shared the Gospel for the first time with friends. We are so excited and grateful for Allan's passion in evangelism.
- Remember Ken and Florence to follow up 12 not yet believing students in semester 2. Pray for the sowing and reaping before they return to their home country.
- The Toowoomba lady who received Christ on 7 Jul. Pray for her spiritual growth in Christ and the healthy growth of the conceived baby.

Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.

3 John 1:2

Yours in Christ,
Ken & Florence
Kenneth and Florence Chan