

# Canaan Communiqué

June 2011 | Monthly Newsletter of Canaan Church  
Volume 23, Issue 6 - Internal Publication



## Canaan's Theme 2011



### Mission Statement

To glorify God by leading people to Christ and to maturity in Christ through Evangelism, Education, Edification, Exaltation and Equipping them for the work of ministry.

### Vision Statement

To lead the church towards intentional discipling cell church that will transform lives and impact close ones, community and countries for the glory of God.

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## Shifting Sand

Elder Arthur Lee

The world is changing fast and new ideas are evolving. What we believed yesterday may not be applicable today. Yesterday's nightmares become today's reality. Friends will applaud you when you are somebody and will dismiss you when you are nobody. Nothing stays permanent. We are standing on shifting sand.



Wallowing in sensual indulgence and self-worship, small wonder that human decency and morals have all but disappeared. Relationships are milked to the last drop and friendships abused for personal gain at the expense of integrity and honesty. This is the age of individualism, where high expectations and self-interest are greatly encouraged. Living in this tainted world, our faith is challenged every day and our will tested moment by moment. In times like this, it is difficult to see straight and live clean. We compromise our belief and dilute our faith to adapt in order to survive in today's society. But God has the power to free us from the bondage of sin and overcome temptation. He wants us to be free from strongholds. "I am always with you" God's most powerful promise to us in times of need. We only need to trust Him.

*Do not labor for food that perishes, but instead labor for the food that endures to everlasting life. Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. Matt 4:4.*

God wants us to succeed and be happy. But, success and happiness are not found in making our own way but in doing what God wants us to do. God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power. But due to our overwhelming ambition and insatiable desire for worldly comforts, we live tough,

despondent and desperate lives. This is not what God had in mind when He created us. Jesus won for us on Calvary an abundant and victorious life. Many live buried lives; buried by work and greed. There was never a firm ground under our feet. Life was a roller coaster ride from unhappiness to misery. But misery was caused by wrong choices and unhappiness by wrong decisions. The world makes a lot of promises, smoke and mirrors mostly, to distract us from the emptiness in our souls. Yet, we continue to pursue material things without respite. We rely on the world to fulfill our desires and friends to provide excitement. Our God can supply all our needs but we continue to choose greed instead of contentment.

No man is an island. In today's competitive climate we need friends to make life easier. The market place requires us to be on top of everything, to look at the bottom line, and in between, be aware of what is going on around us. We network and cultivate friendships with hidden motives all for the sake of self-preservation and advancement. Friends are important but we need to choose our friends carefully; true friends will help us to be a better person because the influence upon us is so great either for the better or for the worse. Real friends provoke one another to love, to good works and to make one another wiser. God wants us to put off falsehood and speak truthfully to our friends.

*"Iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" Proverbs 27:17.* A good friend is not someone who necessarily agrees with everything you do and say. It is somebody who lovingly challenges you to be a better person.



***"Shifting Sand" –  
Elder Arthur Lee***

We grow in maturity when we can test our thoughts and ideas against another person, and when we're open to correction when we're wrong.

*"All men are like grass and all their glory is like flowers of the field, the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever." 1 Peter 1:24*

Deceitful friends will only pull us down with them. But when friendship is used and abused; where relationship is manipulated for selfish purposes and hinged on lies and deception, that friendship is never true and will never last.

True friendship will be revealed through crisis. Years ago, an incident impacted my life for a long time. Some things are best left unsaid because when truth is told, it hurts. What may seem right in our hearts may sound so wrong when put into words. My colleague who worked in a small division in our department would often disappear from his post for long period of time. He knew it was only a matter of time he would be called up by management. One evening we were having supper with other colleagues and enjoying ourselves with a few beer. In the midst of our conversation this friend asked me, being his overall superior, if I would cover up for him in case one day management discovered his constant absence. In other words he wanted me to lie for him. Without a second thought I told him no. I would certainly not do that.

That was disastrous. The very next morning I found many of my supposedly close friends stopped talking to me. I was isolated and ostracized, not only that, sarcastic remarks were thrown around in my presence. I was only doing what was right according to my conscience. But I could not accept the fact that what seemed to be so right turned out to be so wrong. I began to question myself whether it was wise to be honest, to do what was right. There was a feeling of friendship betrayed on both sides. Stunned and disillusioned, I regretted very much for being so naïve. This traumatic experience left a bitter after taste in my mouth and an indelible shadow in my memory.

But God's word reaffirmed my belief that I was right in doing so, and must continue to do right in the eyes of God no matter what the world may say, even at the expense of losing friends. I must be bold enough to say what I mean as an effective Christian, no matter what it entails and stick with it. *Isaiah 43:3 "When you walk through fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior".* We must focus on Him and His goodness, so that we will not feel squeeze from all sides and be molded by society. As I continue to focus on Jesus my Redeemer, I begin to understand that all the absurdities of humanity seem trivial, easily dispensable.

The world may change but God remains constant and unchanging, for the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever.

I know God loves me. His word tells me so. The cross demonstrates His love for me. God is concerned in what concerns me. His way has given me more elbow room to live life to the fullest without anxiety or doubt. When I internalized more of my understanding of God's will for me, I felt a sense of freedom and peace within me, like a breath of fresh air to my soul. I am more alive than at any other time in my life. I have regained my joy of living. I do not begrudge others of their good fortune and instead I bless them for turning the corner. God is all I need. I feel a new excitement in my life. I no longer feel lost or disconnected. I am standing on solid ground. I learn to live simply and care deeply. God's Word is alive. It releases me from the complexities and pressures of life. I will have an abundant and victorious life. I once was blind but now I see. I once was bound but now I am free.

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## "Shifting Sand" –

Elder Arthur Lee

*"All men are like grass and all their glory is like flowers of the field, the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever."*

1 Peter 1:24



## Alpha Course 2011

Ask Anything



DO NOT  
MISS OUT!

- 16 July – 11 September 2011
  - Every Saturday 3.30 pm – 5.45 pm
  - @ Canaan Church Level 4
- Invite your prebelieving and unchurched friends to come.

# Upcoming Events

## Jun

- 5-10 Chiang Mai Mission Trip
- 12 Filipino Independence Day Celebration
- 12 Global Day of Prayer
- 14 SWAT Prayer
- 19 Bi-Monthly Lunch Fellowship
- 25 Elders Meeting
- 25 LC Meeting
- 26 Youth Outreach
- 28 SWAT Prayer

## Jul

- 1 40 Day Fast
- 2 5L2F Reading Program
- 5 MC Meeting
- 9 5L2F Reading Program
- 9 Kindergarten Family Day
- 10 Filipino MC Meeting
- 10 Filipino Evangelistic Fellowship
- 12 SWAT Prayer
- 16 5L2F Reading Program
- 16 Alpha Course
- 22 Love Singapore Prayer
- 23 5L2F Reading Program
- 23 Alpha Course
- 26 SWAT Prayer
- 29 Kindergarten Kids Church
- 30 5L2F Reading Program
- 30 Elders Meeting
- 30 Alpha Course

## Aug

- 6 5L2F Reading Program – Movie & Manna
- 6 Alpha Course
- 13 5L2F Reading Program
- 13 Alpha Course
- 14 Filipino Evangelistic Fellowship
- 20 5L2F Reading Program
- 20 Alpha Course
- 23 SWAT Prayer
- 26 Kindergarten Kids Church
- 27 5L2F Reading Program
- 27 Elders Meeting
- 27 Alpha Course

## BAKING & COOKING DEMONSTRATION

25 June 2011  
Sat 3 pm – 5 pm  
Canaan Centre  
Level 1



Menu:

- Chicken Salad & Rice
- Sweet Potato Pudding

Our Chef

Christina Ho



# News Flash



Every Sunday  
8:00 A.M.

## Prayer Meeting

Join us for a time of corporate prayer before the Celebration Service. Come and experience how exciting prayer meeting can be in Canaan.

*It is FUN and SIMPLE, CREATIVE and DYNAMIC, GUIDED and SPIRIT-FILLED.*

## CELL GROUP

All members are encouraged to attend one of the cell groups listed below. Please contact the church Pastors for more details.

### ONGOING ACCOUNTABILITY GROUP (OAG)

- \* Bishan (Fri, 8.30 pm)
- \* North East (Wed, 8 pm)
- \* Potong Pasir (Wed, 8 pm)
- \* Sin Ming (Fri, 8 pm)
- \* Woodleigh (Fri, 8.15 pm)

### OPEN/COVENANT GROUP

- \* Re!Fresh (Thu/Fri, 8 pm)

### FILIPINO OPEN/COVENANT GROUP

- \* Ang Mo Kio Filipino (Fri, 8 pm)
- \* Dover Filipino (Fri, 8 pm)
- \* Pioneer Filipino (Fri, 7.30pm)
- \* RM4@12 Filipino (Sun, 12 pm)
- \* Sembawang Filipino (Fri, 8 pm)
- \* Tiong Bahru Filipino (Sat, 3 pm)
- \* Young Adult (Sun, 12.30 pm)

## SONSHINE KIDS CHURCH

For all children aged 2 - 12 years old! It will be a time of FUN, learning & experiencing God's truth in creative ways.

Dates: Every Sunday (Apr - Jun) & (Oct - Dec)

Time: 9 am to 11 am

Place: Canaan Centre  
Level 1 Fellowship Hall



## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES (SUNDAY)

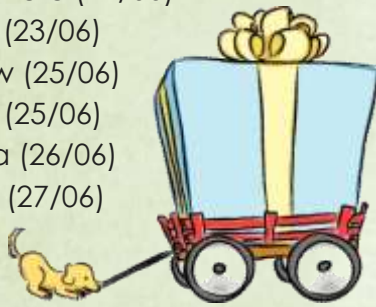
- **8.00 am**  
Prayer Meeting
- **9.00 am**  
Sunday Celebration Service  
Sonshine Kids Sunday School  
Youth Service (4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)
- **11.15 am**  
Fellowship Time
- **11.30 am**  
Filipino Adult Bible Fellowship  
Mandarin/Cantonese Service
- **11.45 am**  
Adult Bible Fellowship
- **1.00 pm**  
Youth Fellowship

## SERMON

Our Sunday weekly sermons are available on the church's website. If you missed a particular week, please feel free to listen to the online sermon via the church website at: [www.mycanaan.org](http://www.mycanaan.org) (Click <<Sermons>> under the "MENU" navigation bar).

# BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

- ☺ Anita Wong (01/06)
- ☺ Jerry Wee (01/06)
- ☺ Andrew Lu (06/06 – NZ)
- ☺ Diego Viernes (11/06)
- ☺ Timothy Chia (12/06)
- ☺ Glenda Noble (15/06)
- ☺ Fiona Ameresekere (21/06)
- ☺ Winnie Cheng (23/06)
- ☺ Amanda Chew (25/06)
- ☺ Elisha Vergara (25/06)
- ☺ Tamae Ogawa (26/06)
- ☺ Chan Mei Ling (27/06)



## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

- ♥ Andrew & Debbie Lu (06/06 – NZ)
- ♥ Roland & Lilia Suaiso (08/06)
- ♥ Ferdie & Tess Yunzal (09/06)
- ♥ Carlo & Lennie Vergara (12/06)
- ♥ Victor & Evelyn Sim (16/06)
- ♥ Charlotte & Phede Asegurado (17/06)
- ♥ Ps Brian Wong & Lai Kuan (19/06)
- ♥ Jimmy Tan & Bee Hong (20/06)
- ♥ Low Wee Chiang & Lee Fong (22/06)

## NEW BIRTH

Congratulations to **Jeremy & Maureen Awitan** on the birth of their 3<sup>rd</sup> child, Ely Renz Jemuel Bides Awitan on 8 May 2011.



## BAPTISMS

Congratulations to Mr Wong Sin Hin & Mdm Yap Shook Kin who were baptized on 29 May 2011.



Take me Higher  
**Canaan Polo Tees**  
Price: \$12

Sizes available:  
Kids: 28 (Pink & Black), 30, 32, 34 (Pink only)  
Adults: S, M (Pink & Black), XL (Pink only)

For purchase pls contact 6292-8850 ext 800 or  
Email: daphne@mycanaan.org

# Adult Bible Fellowship

## David – A Man after God's Heart

Every Sunday 11.45 am – 12.45 pm

Venue: Level 3 Word and Prayer Room

Teacher: **Yap Say Chung**

### Synopsis - Life of King David



Many remember David as the fair-haired shepherd boy who defeated a giant named Goliath. Others recall David as the wise Jewish ruler who brought the tribes of Israel together as a united nation. The ancient texts also present David as a powerful warrior, cunning diplomat, and talented musician. However, with all these tremendous accolades, the foundation of David's fame

and faith can be traced to a period of severe trial and doubting in his life. Indeed, David was a true philosopher.

Early in his journey, David was chosen to succeed Saul as the king of Judah. Saul became wary of his successor, so he put out a contract on David's life. David was forced to live on the run, often spending weeks hiding in the network of caves surrounding the Dead Sea.

It is here that David really began asking the tough questions of life. Alone in the dark or on the run through enemy territory, David opened-up and honestly shared his thoughts, struggles, and fears. David was frustrated with God's plan for his life, and he wrote about it in his prayer journals. David's years alone with God forged his exemplary character and unflinching faith. Through loneliness and struggle, David learned to be fully dependant on God.

David wasn't a perfect leader or a perfect man, but his years alone with God, humbled and crumbled in the dark, developed the soul of a legendary philosopher-king, and forged a legacy that endures to this day. Let's take a journey with this man who is after God's heart to learn how we can worship God like David and develop a lifestyle that is after God's heart.

## Proverbs 25:14

Whoever falsely boasts of giving is like clouds and wind without rain.



## PASTORAL MINISTRY

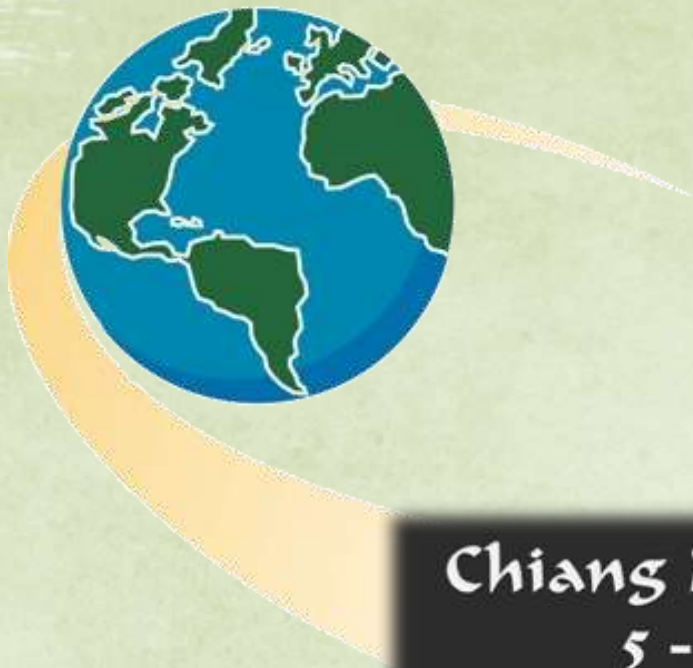
Anyone who is sick, troubled, requires home blessing, baby dedication, idol removal, wedding, etc., please do not hesitate to call your Pastors, Elders or your Cell Group Leader for prayers and assistance.



## BAPTISM

If you are considering baptism, please see any of our Pastoral Staff for biblical instructions and arrangement.





**FILIPINO MINISTRY PRESENTS**  
**KALAYAAN!**

June 12, 2011 @12:15 pm  
Canaan Centre, Level 2 Hall

**I Am Proud To Be a Filipino!**

## Chiang Mai Mission Trip 5 - 10 June 2011

Do keep the following mission trippers in prayer:

- |                                  |                   |                      |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Jacky Chuang<br>(Team Leader) | 9. Ho Wan Weng    | 18. Linda Hun        |
| 2. SP Richard Wong               | 10. Wong Ka Moe   | 19. Cherine Chong    |
| 3. Vivian Hun                    | 11. Ethan Ho      | 20. Lazarus Sim      |
| 4. Ezra Chuang                   | 12. Elena Ho      | 21. Elder Arthur Lee |
| 5. Kayla Wong                    | 13. Lee Kwai Seng | 22. Alice Soon       |
| 6. Joan Tham                     | 14. Nancy Hun     |                      |
| 7. G. Sandhu                     | 15. Keith Lee     |                      |
| 8. Amrish Sandhu                 | 16. Neville Lee   |                      |
|                                  | 17. Kerry Lee     |                      |



**THE GLOBAL**  
Day of  
**Prayer**

A Prayer  
for the World

12 June  
2011  
7 pm @ Singapore Expo Hall 3

Free  
Admission

We encourage you to go as a CG or with your family and be a part of this united nationwide corporate prayer.

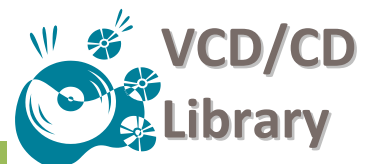
# Roster – June 2011

## Sunday Celebration

| DATE                | 5 Jun  | 12 Jun  | 19 Jun  | 26 Jun  |
|---------------------|--|---|---|---|
| TOPIC               | Take Me Higher by Building Stronger Part 1 – Building Stronger Anointing | Take Me Higher by Building Stronger Part 2 – Building Stronger Leadership | Take Me Higher by Building Stronger Part 3 – Building Stronger Headship | Take Me Higher by Building Stronger Part 4 – Building Stronger Fellowship |
| SPEAKER             | SP Richard Wong<br>Ps Brian Wong<br>Ps Larry Arienzano                   | Ps Brian Wong   | Ps Larry Arienzano  | SP Richard Wong   |
| WORSHIP             | Nimrod Chuang  | Ferdie Yunzal   | Ley Anselmo   | Ferdie Yunzal   |
| COMMUNION           | Arthur Lee   | David Tham  | Dexter Agustines  | Carlo Vergara   |
| GREETERS/<br>USHERS | Jimmy Tan, Lee Bee Hong, Tan Sing Poh & Renelyn Ocampo                   |   |   |   |
| AV TECH             | Charles Frivaldo<br>Delle Tan  | Dexter Agustines<br>Tan Kim Huat  | Wong Ka Yun   | Charles Frivaldo<br>Delle Tan   |

## Sonshine Kids – Teachers

| DATE                                    | 5 Jun   | 12 Jun | 19 Jun | 26 Jun |
|---|---|--------|--------|--------|
| CHAMPIONS<br>(1-4 yrs) Word & Prayer Rm | No Sunday School from April – Jun 2011. Kids Church will be held weekly for this period and led by Wong Lai Kuan, Vivian Hun, Josephine Wong, Joanne Hun and Fiona Ameresekere. |        |        |        |
| ACHIEVERS<br>(5-6 yrs) Rm 1 & 2         |   |        |        |        |
| CONQUERORS<br>(7-9 yrs) Rm 3 & 4        |   |        |        |        |
| OVERCOMERS<br>(10-12 yrs) Rm 7          |   |        |        |        |



\* The Library will be open right after worship service in the Fellowship Hall on Level 1 on **12 & 26 Jun 2011**.

Librarian:  
Rachel Lee

## SUNDAY ATTENDANCE (MAY 2011)

1 May  
Main Service: 185  
Sonshine Kids: 37

15 May  
Main Service: 203  
Sonshine Kids: 38

29 May  
Main Service: 178  
Sonshine Kids: 35

8 May  
Main Service: 195  
Sonshine Kids: 35

22 May  
Main Service: 173  
Sonshine Kids: 29

