



# Welcome to Bethesda Frankel Estate Church

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.— Matthew 11: 28-29

**Rooted in the Living Word   Empowered by the Holy Spirit   Abiding in Christ only   Daring to Hope and to Love   Yielding Fruit To God's Glory**

**Topic: A Living Hope (1 Peter 1:1-9)**

**Service: 8am & 10am Services**

**Speaker: Dr Lai Pak Wah (BGST)**

## Verses: 1 Peter 1:1-9 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, <sup>2</sup> who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance. Praise to God for a Living Hope. <sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. <sup>7</sup> These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

### 1. Introduction

### 2. On Being a Minority (1:1-2)

- Called to be a Minority; Strangers in a Foreign Land (1:3-5)
- Questions: What is the context that we feel alienated? What is God teaching us?

### 3. The Living Hope of Christ

- Reflections on Hope: what is it; why; living vs dead hope
- Resurrection & Death; Inheritance in Christ; Return to Eden

### 4. Faith, Hope and Love under Trial (1:6-9)

- Grievs and trials; trials due to us and others; trials as place God called us
- Experience of Paul and Justin Martyr
- Spiritual Transformation as Work of the Spirit

### Reflection Questions:

1. Where is the context/ place where you feel like a stranger because of your faith?
2. What might God be teaching you during the above circumstances?
3. What were our hopes for 2018? Were they living hopes anchored or Christ, or dead ones based on human expectations? How have these hopes deepened our love of God? Or are they tearing us away instead from our love of Jesus?

**My Response:** Our Response during the service is an act of worship. Do submit your reflections online to <http://bfec.sg/response> or via whatsapp or sms to 9670 1800. **Holy Communion:** We welcome baptized believers to join in the Lord's Supper.

**Tithes & Offerings:** Giving as "unto the Lord" is the privilege of every disciple of Christ. As an act of personal & corporate worship, we encourage members to participate purposefully thro' regular giving during worship services. **Red Bag** - General & Ministry Fund, **Blue Bag** - Missions Fund. Please address your cheque to: "Bethesda Frankel Estate Church".

On occasions when unable to give during service (e.g. o'seas stint, home bound), members may wish to note the following details:  
for Internet Banking: *Bank Code: 7375      General & Ministry Fund: (UOB 451-302-912-2)      Missions Fund: (UOB 451-302-915-7)*

4 La Salle Street, Singapore 456930. Tel: 6448 1800 Fax: 6448 0831 Email: [bfec@bfec.org.sg](mailto:bfec@bfec.org.sg) Website: <http://bfec.org.sg> Church Office Opening Hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-6pm Sat & Sun: 9am-1pm



**Advent Pulpit Series: Our Celebration of Hope**

The first coming of the Messiah is a fulfilment of the Hope that was prophesied in the Old Testament and now fulfilled in the New. We can rejoice and celebrate because Christ has come, he has died on the cross for our sins and we have hope because He has returned to the Father and He will return again soon to establish His kingdom. This Christmas season, in spite of all the fake news circulating and all the bad news that confront us daily, we can be confident and steadfast and look forward to blessed days because HOPE has arrived.

Date	Topic	Bible Ref.	Speaker
16 Dec	A Living Hope	1 Peter 1:1-9	Dr Lai Pak Wah (BGST)
23 Dec	A Blessed Hope	Titus 2:11-14	Ps David Wong (Zion Bishan BP Church)

**Please note:**

- ◆ **25 Dec (Tue)** - Christmas Day Service @ 9.00am, combined with Chinese Ministry.  
Speaker: Dr Tan Soo-Inn on Jesus - The Special Child.  
Headsets will be provided for Chinese translation.
- ◆ **30 Dec (Sun)** - With God Through Time (Psalm 121)  
Speaker: Rev Dr Mark Chan
- ◆ **31 Dec (Mon)** - Watch Night Service (Ps 107)  
Speaker: Elder Caleb Chua Soon Boon



**SERVE GOD THROUGH MUSIC AND TECH!**

- If God has blessed you with the relevant skills, would you consider using them for him in 2019? (note: no prior skills required to serve in tech crew)
- Do consider serving in the area of worship in song at KSS, JSS, G@N, our main worship services & other ministry meetings.
- We'd love to meet up with you and get to know you better so we can find the best fit for the skills God has gifted you with, and the needs of the various ministries.

Do check out more details in the recruitment poster.  
Email [sharon.ngoo@bfec.org.sg](mailto:sharon.ngoo@bfec.org.sg) for more information & enquiries.

**WHAT'S GLOW-ING ON THIS WEEK?**

DATE	GLOW EVENT	GROUPS
18 Dec	Evangelistic party with Alvaro Sanchez sharing Word thro music	Ladies Group
22 Dec	Party for new/pre-believing friends	Gerald Wong's cell
22 Dec	Outreach / Carolling at Dorm of Migrant Workers	Janis & Lay Chin's YA cells, Diana Chin's & Ling's cells, Tzy Peng's & James Sim's cells
22 & 23 Dec	Carolling	Grow@Noon
22 Dec	Beach BBQ for residents of Star Shelter	Chih Yuan & Sharon's YA cell
22 Dec	Haggai cell handing over 70 food hampers to rep from Food for Heart @ Katong Square Outreach to public thro' music at Christmas @ Katong Square	Haggai cell  Ukulele group

**Cheer Gift 2018 (Received to date \$131,545)**

Each year, a Christmas Cheer Gift offering is received during Sunday services in December. The Cheer Gift will be apportioned to our full-time, pastoral & missionary staff (as their year-end bonus), associate missionaries, & the needy. May we prayerfully consider setting aside this gift, to be put in envelopes provided marked "Cheer Gift Offering" and placed in any offering bag. Cheques must be addressed to "Bethesda Frankel Estate Church Ltd" and not to any individual or ministry. Envelopes will be available from the entrance or from church office. Last year, the amount received was: **\$283,336**



Frankel Intercessors Ready Everywhere & everytime

**Have A Prayer Request?** Write it in the Response Form so we can alert the F.I.R.E. team to pray with you.

The family of the late elder of Bethesda Katong Peranakan congregation, Mr Charlie Chan, would like to thank BFEC Council & members for your love and support during their recent bereavement.



**The Ladies' Group is Celebrating Christmas Party this coming Tuesday (18 Dec), 8.00 pm @ BFEC**  
Come & hear God's Word through His music by "The Maestro" Alvaro Sanchez



**Street Evangelism** - 19 Dec (Wed), 6.30pm  
Tampines Hub (Meet at 2nd floor above Kopitiam)  
Contact Betty Lau 91371348 or Letch 93870245



**Give your support this Christmas @ tables outside Annexe**

- The **Treasure Box SG** is a local ministry advocating for Christian families to grow faith at home. A new book launched, "The Christmas Story book" - a bilingual, hardcover picture book at a special price \$12 (UP\$16). Part of the proceeds will go towards supporting the operational costs of Beyond Awesome, a local VWO that works with low-resource and under-privileged families in Singapore.
- **Support Filipino urban poor** communities by buying Yunikraft wallets and bags, on sale only today & next Sunday! Yunikrafts is a livelihood program of Dawn for the Poor Ministries (OMF) in Manila. Prices range from \$12- \$25. For more information: [tan.julienne@gmail.com](mailto:tan.julienne@gmail.com)
- **Newly-released Book** "The Dao of Healing: Christian Perspectives on Chinese Medicine" by Dr Lai Pak Wah and Dr Diarra Boubacar (\$25). This book takes us on an in-depth exploration of the histories and philosophies that have shaped both Western biomedicine and Chinese medicine. If our call is to "love our neighbours", we need to be able to dialogue with them on the basis of mutual respect & understanding. Let this book be the catalyst for meaningful & productive conversations across the divide.

**Kampong Siglap (KS) update & prayer**

- Sub-com now formed: Program, Kitchen, Gardening, Legal.
- New Hope Community Services has appointed 2 representatives to KSMC.
- Pray that renovation works will be completed safely and smoothly by 27 Apr '19.
- Visit our church website for more info on Kampong Siglap & briefing slides: <https://www.bfec.org.sg/kampong-siglap>.
- Email [ksmc@bfec.org.sg](mailto:ksmc@bfec.org.sg) if you have questions.

**OUR OTHER REGULAR MEETINGS**

- Cell Groups** ..... 48 cell groups meet during the week. To join one, contact Shirley Soo Tel: 62414622 Email: [ShirleySoo@bfec.org.sg](mailto:ShirleySoo@bfec.org.sg)
- 9214 (Seniors):** Bible Study & Fellowship (Sun 10am @ ClassRmA1); FrankeLights closes for year-end break. Resume on 7/1/2019. Table Tennis (Tue 6pm, Thu 3pm, Sat 9.30am @ Upper Rm) Hanyu Pinyin Class is closed for now. Will resume in Jan 2019.
- Ladies' Group:** Tue 8pm @ Annexe  
25/12 \* No meeting 01/01 No meeting  
08/01 Dr Ng Peh Cheng 15/01 Health Talk on Dementia  
22/01 Mrs Jingle Cortes 29/01 Gracestration study series
- Chinese Evergreen Fellowship:** Wed 10.30am - 12.30pm  
Celebrate Christmas & Winter Solstice (圣诞庆祝/冬至搓汤圆吃饺子)
- Jesus Club:** Wed 16 Jan 7.30pm @ Chapel
- Church Prayer Ministry:** Fri 8pm @ Chapel  
21/12 Billy Graham Sermon Video #3  
28/12 Billy Graham Sermon Video #4
- Peranakan Ministry:** 2nd & 4th Sat 4pm @ Chapel  
22/12 \* No meeting
- Foreign Indian Workers' Fellowship**  
English Class: Sat (except last Sat) 8-9:30 pm @ Class Room A1
- International Fellowship (Indonesian & Filipino):** Sun 10am-11.40am @ Lvl 3 Excel Room & Class Rm C3
- WAG:** Sat 29 Dec, 7.30pm Speaker: Jonathan Cortes,  
Topic: Lonely Christmas (Psalm 25:14-22)  
Venue: Home of Mr & Mrs Lim Mah Tat