

my family, and I treasure the time I have with them during my home leave. I know all these blessings that I have now is because of God's goodness upon my life, and I am really grateful and thankful.

***Newsletter Through Email***

Our newsletters are now available via email. If you prefer to receive emails rather than hardcopies, please send us an email with the subject, Email Newsletter, along with your name and address as stated on the newsletter address label to [admin@hidplace.com.sg](mailto:admin@hidplace.com.sg)

***Sis Christina's Update***

Sis Christina is in good spirit and doing well physically. She enjoys friends coming by to sing and pray with her. She appreciates the volunteer nurses and therapists who come to attend to her.

*The Board of Directors would like to thank each of you for your prayers and financial giving towards Sis Christina's needs.*

**~ Samuel Chua, Chairman, The Hiding Place Board of Directors ~**

**EXISTING NEEDS OF THE HIDING PLACE**

We are thankful and appreciate your support in prayers and giving to the ministry through the years. Many have been affected financially by the Covid pandemic. If you feel led to give, we are thankful.

NO	Item	Amount	PLS.TICK
1	General Funds (A/C 1)		
2	Hong Leong Loan 42 of 300 mths paid (A/C 2)	\$4131.79	
3	Canvas For Shelter (A/C 1)	\$2480	
4			
5			

NAME:..... TEL: .....

ADDRESS: ..... POSTCODE: .....

Kindly make cheque payable to "THE HIDING PLACE (CHRISTIAN HOME MISSION) LTD and mail to 5A Jalan Haji Salam Singapore 468746 or PayNow to UEN 198301684W and specify A/C 1 or A/C 2 under the comments/remarks section.



**THE HIDING PLACE**

...as long as we live we will open our door to anyone who knocks.

5A Jalan Haji Salam, Singapore 468746 Tel:64835348 Email: [admin@hidplace.com.sg](mailto:admin@hidplace.com.sg)

MCI (P) 040/02/2021 (RCB NO:198301684-W)

March / April 2021

***Letter from Pastor Tan Hock Seng***

**In Quietness and Trust  
is your Strength**

**“In repentance and rest you shall be saved,  
In quietness and trust is your strength.”  
But you were not willing,...**

**Isaiah 30:15**

Looking back at the past year, we have each faced all kinds of challenges. Especially when COVID-19 brought the world to its knees, we also were on our knees, praying. However, we at The Hiding Place also recall all the help and blessings that we have received. Grace upon grace was poured out to us by the many people that God put in our path. These same people have also supported us in many ways and opened doors for us. We are deeply grateful to each of you for your partnership in this ministry.

As we continue to help the residents that come into our one-year programme, I noticed that they basically go through three cycles. The first cycle is to get adjusted to the new environment. The faster they get accustomed to the program and home culture, the faster they will be at peace. As they adapt, their lifestyle will change.

After the first cycle, they enter into the second cycle - which is the monotonous daily routine, or to put it simply, the “boring” stage. Day after day, we repeat

what we did yesterday. No one can help make our own lives interesting but we ourselves addicts have this problem - they always want a higher high. With this attitude, they will run into problems or get themselves overdosed. Routine is part of life, and to make it interesting without drugs, alcohol or other vices is our choice.

The residents will have their first home leave after nine months. Their next stage of development is learning to be guided by the Lord. This involves a lot of waiting, prayer and reading the Bible. They have to overcome their impatience and wait for God to move, understanding that everything is according to His timing, not theirs. If they fail in this area of waiting, they will have to learn it all over again.

In quietness and trust is your strength. May we all say, "Make me willing, O Lord!"

## ***House News***

### **A) RESIDENTS' UPDATE**

The number of residents remains at 14. Rama and Ronnie are settling in well. We praise God William accepted Christ recently.

### **B) HIDING PLACE KITCHEN**

Our mission statement "Aroma from life to life"- transformed to integrate and impact - speaks about our goal to equip residents with work skills, having a right attitude while working as part of their rehabilitation programme and as well to provide those who have completed their programme with opportunity for work.

Matthew, Ryan and Victor are now officially kitchen helpers. The staff and residents are cooking up a small storm in the kitchen, preparing bento orders and pineapple jam.

Pineapple tarts are now available for sale year round. For enquiries of our bento sets and pineapple tarts, please contact us at 6483 5348 / 9730 0500 or [hidingplacekitchen@hidplace.com.sg](mailto:hidingplacekitchen@hidplace.com.sg)

## ***Staff Helper Testimony - Matthew Chew***

My name is Matthew Chew and I am 41 this year. I was addicted to gambling for more than 20 years of my life. I started gambling from a very young age, beginning with the occasional poker game during Chinese New Year. I loved the thrill that gambling brought, but I never thought it would end up destroying my life. My nightmare began when I was introduced to online gambling during my army days. I fell into a vicious cycle of trying to find money either to gamble or to pay back the bookie. I was under tremendous stress, but nothing compared to the hurt I brought to my family. They bore the brunt of my losses as I went to them for money using all kinds of lies. I even embezzled company funds to feed my gambling habit. I was caught and incarcerated for four and a half years. My family was crushed but they harboured the hope that prison could change me. It did not. I was trapped in the prison of addiction. I fell back into gambling immediately upon my release. At their wit's end, my family sent me to a halfway house where I got to know Jesus and accepted Him as my Lord and personal Saviour. However, I fell into temptation and went back to my old ways. By His grace God led me to Hiding Place on September 7, 2017.

I am thankful to God for his mercy and the leaders in Hiding Place for accepting me. There is only one word to describe Hiding Place - family. From the first day till now, what I have received is undeserved love and acceptance. There is not a hint of condemnation or judgement from any of the brothers here. The staff encouraged me to trust God again and pray to him to deliver me from my gambling addiction. I cried out to God, begging him to release me from this bondage. I vividly remember November 26, 2017, while I was taking an afternoon nap, I was awakened by a clear voice telling me, "Abide in me, and I will give you hope." Immediately I knew it was from God because peace filled my heart. I am no longer afraid of the flashbacks of gambling. God began to renew my mind and change my thought patterns. I began to view the flashbacks as a reminder to stop gambling. I really thank God for this encounter.

By God's grace, I have managed to stay clean for more than 3 years since I came to Hiding Place. I am grateful to be allowed to serve in the Hiding Place as a helper and work in the Hiding Place Kitchen. I am also doing a part-time degree in Social Work at SUSS. God has also restored my relationship with