

darkness. All glory to God. Hallelujah!

Newsletter Through Email

If you prefer to receive our newsletters through emails, 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

Sis Christina's Update

Praise God! Sis Christina reacted well to her first two Covid vaccinations. Her booster shot will be in April. Continue to pray for her well-being and protection against Covid. Her bedsore is improving and the wound-care nurse has recommended a minor surgery on the sore so that it will close up. This will be done on Mar 16. Her monthly expenditure is about \$1000 for medical consultations and supplies.

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 operational fund (A/C 1)		
2	Hong Leong Loan 46 of 300 mths paid (A/C 2)	\$4220.01	
3	Pineapple jam cooking machine (A/C 1)	\$33,000.00	
4	Covid ART kits (A/C 1)	\$5150.00	
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 198301684WAC1 (General Fund) PayNow to UEN 198301684WAC2 (Building Fund).



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

MCI (P) 010/02/2022 (RCB NO:198301684-W)

March / April 2022

Letter from Pastor Tan Hock Seng

Give Thanks

Psalm 103:1-5

- 1 Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.*
- 2 Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits —*
- 3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,*
- 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,*
- 5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

On 2 January 2022, we had our first COVID case at the Hiding Place. Following that initial case, the numbers quickly went up to 15 staff and residents in total. All this occurred while we were in the midst of our annual tarts and cookies production, and our workforce was reduced by half. This COVID wave at the Hiding Place lasted from 2 to 15 January. It was only after 15 January that we began to see an increase in our production. During this trying period, all of us at the Hiding Place had this motto in mind – “When everything goes wrong, get your heart right with God.” As I was reflecting on the Hiding Place’s brush with COVID, I saw God’s hand upon us and gained the following insights.

Firstly, despite our workforce being halved and consisting mostly of seniors, we were still able to meet our quota of cookies. What made this achievement even more amazing was that we had shorter work hours this year and were unable to enlist the help of our regular volunteers due to COVID restrictions. Despite all this, we were still able to meet the demand for our cookies.

Secondly, we could see the unity in the house during this season. COVID did not dampen our spirits and everyone was still joyful. There was also concern

and acts of love extended to the brothers who were down with COVID.

Lastly, we were also thankful that those who contracted COVID only had mild symptoms and recovered well. In fact, it was a good time of added rest for them. We thank God for the government's foresight in rolling out the COVID-19 vaccination drive.

Of course, COVID still remains in Singapore and unexpectedly on 13 February, we had yet another wave of COVID infections in Hiding Place. This time, those who were "spared" the first time round were infected. As usual, we went through our protocol of doing ART tests, seeing the doctor and isolating the unwell brothers. Thankfully, at the time of writing, all of us have recovered and emerged well.

Our two encounters with COVID taught us to be still and wait the season out. Psalm 46:10 came to mind, "Be still, and know that I am God, I will be exalted among the nation, I will be exalted in the earth." Even without COVID, may we all continue to remain still, wait on the Lord and look towards Him in all circumstances.

House News

A) RESIDENTS' UPDATE

We have 14 residents currently. Jack has completed his extra six-month commitment and he is leaving us in March. We wish him the Lord's richest blessings. Pray that he will continue to walk faithfully with the Lord. Rama has been promoted to kitchen helper. Rony is doing a two-month culinary course at HCSA Academy.

B) STAFF UPDATE

Kelvin is taking a baking course to be better equipped to serve in the HP Kitchen. Cary is doing a Certificate in Ministry part-time at Trinity Christian Centre.

C) CNY COOKIE PRODUCTION

Praise and thank God that in our years of making CNY cookies, we made the second best sale ever this year, despite the Covid situation. Indeed, it was the Lord's hand at work. Thank you, dear supporters, for buying our cookies. All glory to God!

Resident's Testimony

My name is Roy and I am 43. I come from a middle class family with good loving parents, especially a mum who always put me above herself. At 14, the fear of extortion led me to join a gang for security. Within a year, I lost interest in my studies, quit school and got involved in illicit activities. Through a friend, I got my first taste of drugs in the form of Ecstasy. Soon I began to experiment with different kinds of drugs and everyday was a roller coaster ride. I would be up in the mountain when the drugs kicked in and down in the valley when the effects wore off. I started to disregard my loved ones and friends as drugs became the priority of my life.

I preyed on tourists using underhanded sales tactics to support my addiction. After the authorities clamped down on this in 2014, I turned to my family. My mum's life insurance policy and jewellery were all wiped out by me. I began to taste prison life and I was left homeless after my release. My family decided they had enough of me. From then on, gambling dens and hostels were places I called home. At the age of 40, looking at the possibility of being sentenced to 15 years in prison for causing the death of my friend, I began crying out to God and bowing down to Him for the first time in my life in my prison cell. After a year of trial and having the charges against me dropped twice, I was miraculously sentenced for only 18 months. I was determined to turnover a new leaf upon release. Sadly the temptation of drugs were too powerful for me to fight alone and I fell back to it. I was filled with guilt, shame and regret.

Out of desperation, I came to the Hiding Place and God was merciful in literally leaving the gates of Hiding Place wide open for me to walk right in. The team from Hiding Place showed God's love to me by showing me brotherly love and making me feel accepted. It is this unconditional love that has turned my heart of stone into a heart of flesh. Four months into my programme here, God miraculously brought my mum, whom I have hurt a thousand times, to my birthday celebration. I am truly grateful to the Hiding Place team for taking the extra mile to make this possible. Through the smile and comfort reflected on my mum's face, I know I am heading in the direction God has for me. It is this sense of contentment, humility and faithfulness that has helped me stay away from drugs thus far. God has also given me direction in life by giving me the opportunity to be involved in the house removal services and preparation of bento orders. Praise and thank God with every breath for saving me from the