

First Nations Gospel Ministry

2022 December Bimonthly Newsletter
Dr Daniel Sze
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Dear Supporters of the First Nations Gospel Ministry,

Happy New Year to you, my dear Partners and Supporters of the First Nations Gospel Ministry!



This is God's work, and may we walk closely together to discern God's will and plan and take the courage and humbly walk together with God in this First Nations Gospel Ministry in 2023!

In this December 2022 Bimonthly Newsletter, there are 3 main things to share with you. **Firstly**, there will be a Training Day to prepare for future Short-term Mission on 25 Feb 2023 Saturday (in Cantonese); **Secondly**, please pray earnestly for the first Short-term Mission trip to Pilliga NSW 14-15 Jan 2023. And **thirdly**, for many of you who have missed the 11 Dec 2022 Commissioning Service of the First Nations Gospel Ministry, I wholeheartedly recommend you meditate and reflect on the message given by my Mentor Rev Jim Kime.

First, Training Session (in Cantonese) to prepare for future Short-term Mission

Date/Time: 25 Feb 2023 (Sat) 2:00-4:30pm

Venue: Chinese & Australian Baptist Church West Ryde Hall

Address: 1 Reserve Street, West Ryde, NSW (Next to West Ryde Station and Koorong)

For all brothers and sisters who have the heart and are considering participating in Short-term First Nations Missions to regional towns of NSW, this 2.5-hour training is essential. We will learn together the following:

- First Nations history of the last 250 years showing the impact of colonisation.
- How to prepare and serve in the coming Short-term Missions in Western NSW

Second, Prayers for Short-term Mission trip to Pilliga NSW 14-15 Jan 2023

Praise God for leading 12 brothers and sisters (3 from the Chinese & Australian Baptist Church West Ryde (CABC-WR) and 9 from Hornsby Anglican Chinese Church) together with the Baptist Mission Australia gospel workers of Rev Nathan, Dr Daniel, and volunteer Alan — all have the heart to reach out to serve the First Nations peoples, and to have fellowship and support the First Nations Gospel Ministry with the Australian Indigenous Ministries (AIM) led by Pastor Uncle Henry.

All Team members have done 2 days of Short-Term Mission training, and completed all requirements of Children check, police check and medical certificate required by the Baptist Mission Australia.

Please pray for their set off and safe travel. The first car by Daniel will set off on 12/1 from Sydney to Gilgandra to meet with Uncle Henry first and then travel early on 13/1 to Pilliga to prepare the accommodation venue. The other 5 cars of 14 members will travel directly from Sydney to Pilliga. Please pray for their long 10-hour drive with safety and good fellowship.



Let's pray for the four evangelistic outreach events to be held on 14-15 Jan 2023. Each day the team will support Uncle Henry cooking meals for all participants from Pilliga, as family units of different ages, and chat with them during these mealtimes. At the evangelistic meetings, Uncle Henry will invite Team to lead praise songs, to share how we became followers and disciples of Jesus. And during his preaching time, the team will prepare kids' activities so that their parents can focus on the gospel messages.

Please pray for the readiness of all team members to work together in unity with a humble heart, under the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, and serve in this Short-Term Mission Trip with the love of God, like channels of love. Finally, let's pray earnestly for the team members' "being" and "learning" there from the time of preparation through training, traveling, and serving becomes a deep spiritual experience and receives abundant blessings from God.

Third, Rev Jim Kime's Message at the Commissioning of Daniel Sze for Missionary Service

This is a very solemn occasion.

In the days before the coming of Jesus, the giving of the Holy Spirit was limited to a very select group of people. Kings, Judges like Gideon and Samuel, and Prophets like those in our Bibles.

But when the risen Lord Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit it was given to everyone who confessed that he was Lord and believed that he rose from the dead. It was a wonderful fulfilment of the promise that whoever believes in Jesus would be saved, and receiving the Holy Spirit is a big part of what it means to be saved.

But in the community of those who belong to Jesus and have the Spirit indwelling in their lives there were still those called by the Lord to special ministries. The first of these were the apostles, and then the deacons. And then missionaries.



And so we have the account in Acts of how this happened to Paul and Barnabas. In Acts we read that one day as the Elders in Antioch were praying and fasting:

Acts 13:2 ...the Holy Spirit said, "**Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them.**"

And then we read: **3 So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and sent them on their way.**

They were appointed and set apart by the church recognising the call of the Lord Jesus for the special task of missionary work. A very solemn thing. It is a very solemn thing for a disciple to obey the call, and it is a very solemn thing for the church to say, "In the Name of the Lord Jesus the head of the Church we declare this is your holy task and appoint you to it."

That is what we are doing today.



I said that being indwelt by the Holy Spirit is a big part of what it means to be saved. But it is not just that all of us are now anointed for service just like the kings and prophets of old. Something much greater has happened.

It is called by various names. John uses the term, "Born again from above." Paul loves to call it, "being in Christ" and comments,

2 Corinthians 5:17

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

So, we need to be very clear about this. A lot of people think that a Christian is a reformed person who tries to live a better life. But the truth is that a Christian is a different person. They are new people with a new life. They are no longer people whose lives are attached to this world. As Christians, by the power of the Holy Spirit they have already begun to live the life of the New Heavens and New earth that will come to full reality when Jesus returns, and we join him in Resurrection.



This is the truth until that day. We have been set free from slavery to sin with its sentence of death and made a new person for the new creation to come in Christ.

This is one of the ways Paul put it:

Galatians 2:20

20 My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

So this brings me to what I want to say to Daniel as we set him apart. What I have just described is the salvation that you must express by the way you live if you are to do this holy work.

Philippians 2 NLT

12Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. 13 For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

What will showing the results of your salvation look like as you go about your work among Australia's First Nations People?

What a question! I can only give you a few pointers, but this is something that you must seek out day by day as you work and pray. How will you apply these pointers to the Aboriginal people.



One pointer is the Sermon on the Mount recorded in Matthew 5-7. A way of life for the new creation. May I say that not many church people I know take the Sermon on the Mount seriously. Daniel, you are the Lord's servant. I call on you to demonstrate this new way of living for First Nations disciples of Jesus.

My second pointer is from Paul's letter to the Colossians.

Colossians 3:12-17

12 Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. **13** Make allowance for each other's faults and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. **14** Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. **15** And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body, you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. **16** Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. **17** And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

Daniel, I earn these words. Meditate on them. And ask the Holy Spirit to make them so much a part of you that they describe who and what you are. Imagine someone asking, "What would it be like to live like that?" And the answer would be, "Go and meet Daniel Sze and you will see it."

But as you do, note carefully that Paul gave these words to a church, not to an individual. May these words become the description of the First Nations Churches in which you work.

Finally, as you work hard to show the results of your salvation, I would like to give you a prayer for all of us, but especially for missionaries.

Will you all stand and pray with me now. We will read one paragraph at a time as each is translated.





Commissioning Service 差遣禮

Daniel Sze

施文遠宣教士 - 澳洲土著福音事工
Intercultural Worker - Baptist Mission Australia
First Nations Gospel Ministry
Serving Urban and Regional Australia First Nations People

11 December 2022 (Sunday) 2:30 pm
1 Reserve Street, West Ryde NSW 2114

Baptist Churches 聖潔浸信會聯盟
Baptist Mission Australia

Dear Heavenly Father, we come praying for us, your people in Christ, with thanksgiving for your unfailing love, faithfulness, holiness and for all your gifts.

We ask that you will fill us with your Holy Spirit, that though our prayers and our lives you will bring your Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

So renew us Lord that we will display the norms, the values, the culture, the freedom and the joy of the new Creation already given to us in Jesus Christ, the Risen One.

And may all of us together proclaim and display Him, to the end that every knee will bow and everyone confess that He is Lord, to the glory of your Name. Amen.



Baptist Churches 聖潔浸信會聯盟
Baptist Mission Australia

差遣禮
Commissioning Service of Daniel Sze

施文遠宣教士 - 澳洲土著福音事工
Intercultural Worker - Baptist Mission Australia
First Nations Gospel Ministry
Serving Urban and Regional Australia first Nations People

Commissioning Team: (In ascending alphabetical order)

Rev. Ken Clendinning
(Former Chair of Baptist Ministry Australia Board)

Rev. Andrew Duncan
(State Leader of Baptist Mission Australia)

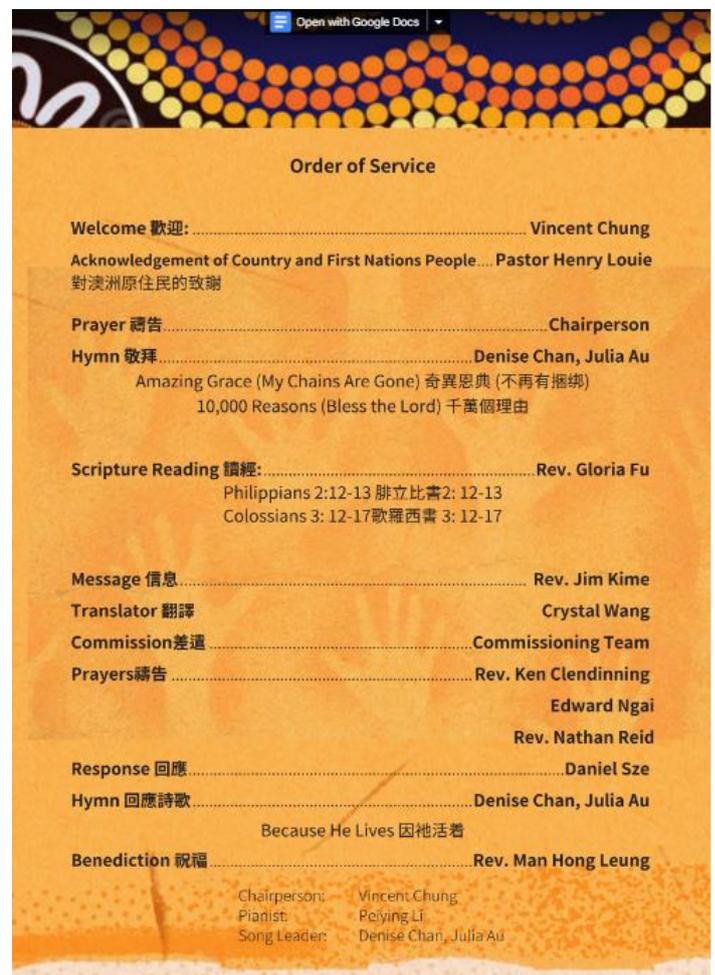
Rev. Jim Kime
(Retired Baptist Minister)

Rev. Man Hong Leung
(Acting Senior Pastor of CABC-WR)

Pastor Henry Louie
(Australian Indigenous Ministries Pastor and Council Member)

Edward Ngai
(CABC-WR Mission Committee Acting Chairman)

Rev. Nathan Reid
(National Mobilisation Manager of Baptist Mission Australia)



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Order of Service

Welcome 歡迎: Vincent Chung

Acknowledgement of Country and First Nations People... Pastor Henry Louie
對澳洲原住民的致謝

Prayer 禱告 Chairperson

Hymn 敬拜 Denise Chan, Julia Au
Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) 奇異恩典 (不再有捆綁)
10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) 千萬個理由

Scripture Reading 讀經: Rev. Gloria Fu
Philippians 2:12-13 腓立比書 2: 12-13
Colossians 3: 12-17 歌羅西書 3: 12-17

Message 信息 Rev. Jim Kime

Translator 翻譯 Crystal Wang

Commission 差遣 Commissioning Team

Prayers 禱告 Rev. Ken Clendinning
Edward Ngai
Rev. Nathan Reid

Response 回應 Daniel Sze

Hymn 回應詩歌 Denise Chan, Julia Au
Because He Lives 因祂活著

Benediction 祝福 Rev. Man Hong Leung

Chairperson: Vincent Chung
Pianist: Peiyiing Li
Song Leader: Denise Chan, Julia Au

Thank you for partnering with me in this First Nations Gospel Ministry