

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



## Remembering God's Faithfulness

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I write this letter, my heart is filled with gratitude. This will be my final letter to you before I retire from full-time pastoral ministry. Rather than focusing on retirement, I simply want to give thanks to God for His faithfulness.

In 1 Samuel 7:12, after the Lord gave Israel victory, Samuel set up a stone and called it Ebenezer, saying, ***"Till now the LORD has helped us."*** Looking back, these words have become my own testimony.

My journey with Westside Anglican Church began long before I became your pastor. As a young adult, I found a spiritual home here. This church nurtured my faith, taught me to serve, and helped me discern God's call upon my life. Never did I imagine that one day I would become your pastor. Looking back, I can only marvel at God's providence. The church that nurtured me became the church I was privileged to shepherd.

Over the past thirteen years in full-time ministry, God has blessed me far beyond what I deserve. He entrusted me with the privilege of preaching His Word, walking alongside many of you through weddings, baptisms, hospital visits, funerals, and countless moments of joy and sorrow. Thank you for allowing me to share in your lives. Being your pastor has been one of the greatest privileges God has given me.

When I first took on the responsibility of pastoring the Chinese congregation, I wondered whether I would be able to minister effectively in Chinese. Yet God not only equipped me but also

gave me a new joy. Preaching, teaching and shepherding in Mandarin has enriched my own faith and reminded me that God's kingdom is wonderfully diverse. Though we worship in different languages, we are one family in Christ.

I also thank God for the privilege of serving as Honorary Chaplain at St Andrew's Mission School. Walking with students, teachers and families has strengthened my conviction that the gospel continues to transform lives, and that investing in the next generation is one of the church's greatest callings.

None of this has been accomplished by one person. I thank Revd Lew Kiat Lern, church council, ministry leaders, volunteers, and every member who has faithfully served. Together, we have seen God's provision through seasons of uncertainty and joy. Time and again, He has reminded us that this is His church, and He will continue to build it. I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to our former and current church staff. Behind every worship service, ministry programme, pastoral visit and church gathering is a team that serves faithfully, often without recognition. Thank you for your commitment, perseverance, flexibility and servant hearts. It has been a joy to labour alongside you in spreading the word of God. Your faithful partnership has been a tremendous encouragement to me and I pray that God will continue to strengthen and bless you.

As I step into a new season, I do so with complete confidence that the Lord who has faithfully led us thus far will continue to lead Westside Anglican Church. Pastors come and go, but Jesus Christ remains the Chief Shepherd. He is faithful yesterday, today and forever. Thank you for allowing me to grow with you, first as a young adult, then as your pastor, and always as your brother in Christ. I will always treasure the memories we have shared and the many ways God has shown His faithfulness

among us.

As the Lord leads the church into its next chapter, I encourage you to give your wholehearted support to the new Priest-in-charge (Revd Moses Ng). Welcome him with the same love, trust and partnership that you have so graciously extended to me. Pray for him and his family, encourage him in the work of the ministry, and serve alongside him in unity and joy.

May we continue to echo Samuel's words: ***"Till now the LORD has helped us."*** And may future generations one day say the same, as they witness God's faithfulness in the years to come.

With deep gratitude and every blessing,

Revd Kelvin Koo