

## Newsletter Through Email

If you prefer to receive our newsletter through email, please send us an email with the subject “Email Newsletter” along with your full name and address as shown on the newsletter address label to [admin@hidingplace.sg](mailto:admin@hidingplace.sg)

## Pray With Us

- 1) For God’s presence to be with us on our 49th anniversary celebration that all things will turn out well to the glory of God.
- 2) For spiritual growth of the staff and residents as we are all in different stages of maturing in the Lord.
- 3) For HP staff Cary as he enters his second term in TCA College that he is able to manage work and studies, and that his head and heart will be enriched as he attends classes and completes his assignments.
- 4) For Jason to be able to integrate into the HP programme and doors to be opened for Sebastian to further his studies.

## 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 52 of 300 mths paid (A/C 2)	\$4220.01	
3	Group insurance Mar 2022 to Feb 2023(A/C 1)	\$9062.90	
4	Repair of pineapple jam cooker (A/C 1)	\$2650.20	
5	Staff Cary’s TCA College school fees (A/C 1)	\$751.00	

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.

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

## Letter from Pastor Tan Hock Seng

### Carry On

“...however, let us keep living by that same standard to which we have attained.” - *Philippians 3:16*

At The Hiding Place, we see many of our residents’ lives transformed by the power of God. This transformation is amazing to see, but the next challenge for them would be to “keep living by that same standard to which (they) have attained”, as written in *Philippians 3:16*.

Within the safety net of The Hiding Place, walking on the right path is easier with the support of the staff and fellow residents. But no matter how much we, as the staff, do to keep our residents on the right path, we can only do so much. There will come a point where the residents themselves would have to put forth the effort and take the wheel in order to keep living by the same standard they have attained.

In order to do this, they (as well as all of us) have to learn to set goals and be disciplined to reach their goals. Having goals is what makes life interesting and helps keep us on track in our walk with God. Without clear goals, life would be monotonous at best, and wayward at worst.

Additionally, the process of changing oneself needs to be an ongoing process and not a one-time effort. We need to continuously chip away at the bad habits we have learnt and make effort to form new ones - all the while keeping in mind that our heart is always finding ways to deceive ourselves (*Jeremiah 17:9*).

Lastly, it is normal that we would face difficulties in our journey. When that happens, we have to learn to accept it and not succumb to self-pity. Do not try

to walk this journey alone, but instead, draw help from the Lord and from the people He has prepared and placed along our path. Spend time in prayer with the Lord until you know where you fit in the Body of Christ. Once you know your place, you are at peace and ready for the challenges ahead.

By the grace of God, we will carry on.

## ***House News***

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

We have 13 residents currently. Jason just joined us. Sebastian has served his prison sentence and is now back with us. He hopes to continue his change and growth in the Lord. He shares his testimony in this newsletter.

### **B) THP 49TH ANNIVERSARY & THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION**

We will be celebrating our 49th Anniversary on Saturday, 12 November 2022 at 7pm. It will be a sit-down dinner at Qian Xi (Paya Lebar) Restaurant, Tanjong Katong. Our theme for this year's celebration is "GOD IS OUR HIDING PLACE" (Psalm 32:7). The speaker for the occasion is our very own Pastor Edmund Chua. The invitation card is enclosed. Please call Mrs Sally Tan at 64835348 or scan the QR code on the invitation card to RSVP. All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you.

### **C) HIDING PLACE KITCHEN**

We are getting busy in the kitchen. Other than bento orders, we have also started doing family catering. Praise God we are adjusting well to the work in the kitchen and we can see the positive attitudes and unity of all involved. We thank God for the support from churches, organisations and individuals. Praise God for the one-year extension of the lease at Trinity@PayaLebar.

### **C) HIDING PLACE CNY COOKIES PRODUCTION & ORDER**

The sale of our CNY goodies has been a means to support the ministry financially over the past 20 over years. We are all geared up and ready for production to start in early Dec. Unlike in the past where the highlight was having volunteers to help out, the current challenge of space constraints and central kitchen regulations prevents us from doing so. You can still support us by ordering the goodies and recommending them to your family and friends. Cookies are available for order year round. The CNY order form is enclosed.

## ***Resident's Testimony - Sebastian***

My name is Sebastian and I am 23. I come from a low-income family and our family of eight - my grandparents, my parents and three younger siblings - live together. I was born in Indonesia and I came to Singapore when I was four years old.

I completed my ITE course in electrical engineering in 2019 and enlisted for NS after that. I didn't do well enough to go into Poly. In 2020, ICA informed me to do my oath-taking to complete my citizenship process but I did not take it seriously and did not follow up on it. I was made to surrender my birth cert and IC in 2021. My NS was cut short because I was no longer considered a Singapore citizen.

When I was still in NS, I tried borrowing \$6000 from an illegal moneylender to learn driving and to help with family expenses. I was scammed and did not get the money but I was forced to pay it back. I had no choice but to work for the loanshark - splashing paint and vandalising cars. I was arrested by the police after being on the job for three days.

I was brought to the Hiding Place while awaiting my sentencing. I wanted to leave because of the many rules and regulations in the home. My family convinced me to stay so that I could keep away from bad company. Over time, I was touched by the care and encouragement from the staff and residents and I decided to come back after my release.

In Feb this year, I was charged for loanshark activities. I spent 6 months in prison and was given 3 strokes of the cane. As I was no longer a citizen, I was informed by ICA that I would be deported to Indonesia after my incarceration. I was very worried because I was stateless, where would I end up?

A church friend helped me engage a lawyer. My family and friends, including people at the Hiding Place, prayed for me. Praise God I did not get deported after my release and I came back to Hiding Place. I was informed in early Sep that I would be able to get back my Singapore citizenship. Hallelujah!

I really thank God for His love for me. He is a God of second chances and He answers prayers. I am grateful to everyone who helped and prayed for me.