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Gospel Light

digital edition

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上網版

TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO & WHEN HE IS OLD HE WILL NOT DEPART FROM IT

PROVERBS 22:6

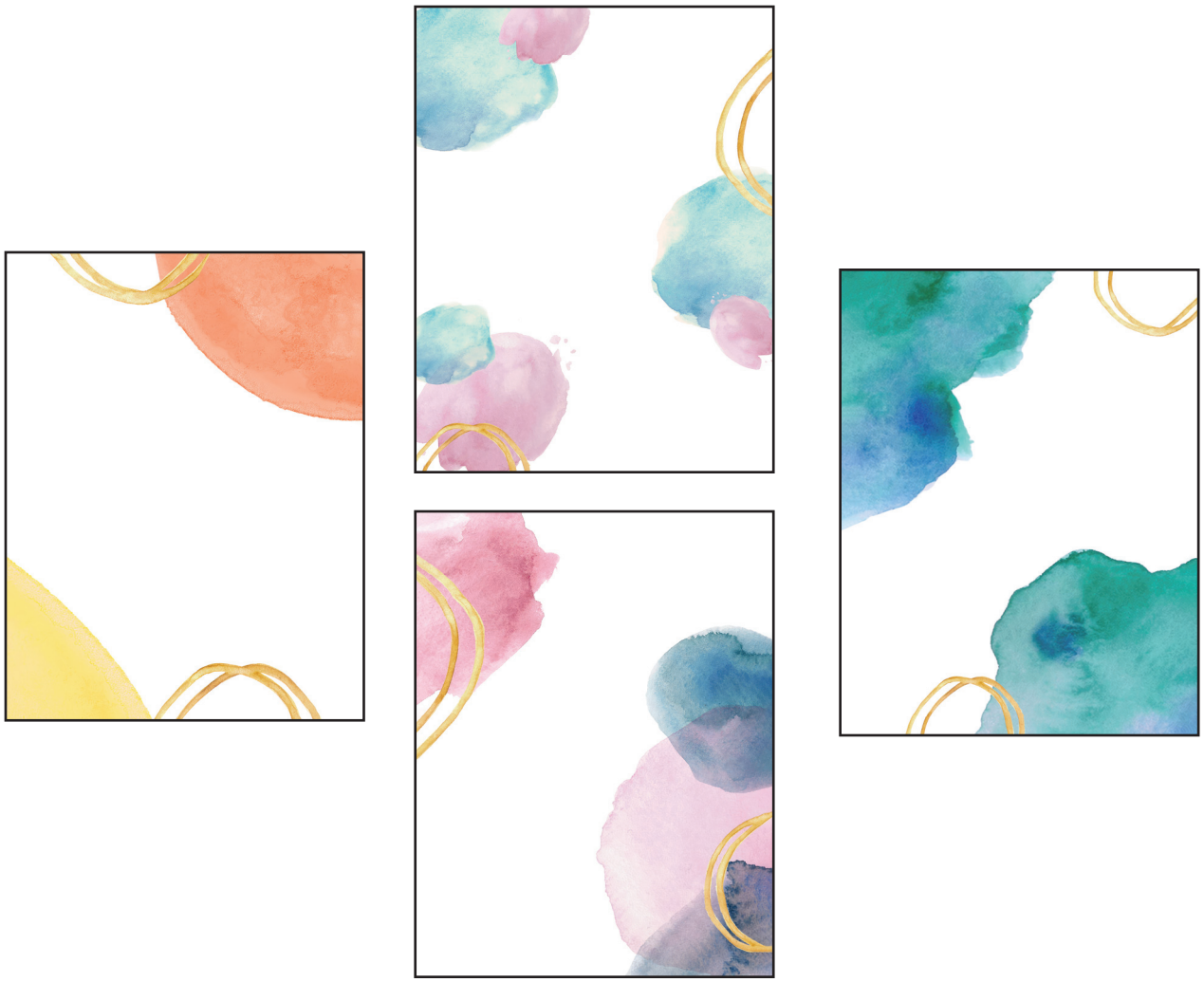
Sunday School Department

A Centenary of Service

1921-2021

GOSPEL LIGHT (Special Edition) DESIGN CONCEPT

Sunday School Department—A Centenary of Service
1921-2021



The Sunday School Department of our church is likened to a dot. As everything starts with a dot, the beginning of a person's life-long journey in becoming a Christian is represented as circles surrounding each layout.

The first stage of a Christian's life is colourful as we vividly present Biblical stories of people from the old and new testaments who had encountered and believed in the Almighty God. Bursts of pastel watercolours on the border symbolizes the various influences in the growth of a Christian's life.

Bringing children to Sunday School on Sundays has become a wholesome foundation in their lives. The golden continuous circles represent the never-ending passion of Sunday School teachers in sharing the Gospel to the children.

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教育下一代

謝國智牧師

今年是宿務基督教會設立主日學一百週年。本會負責基督教育的先賢們在上帝的幫助下，為教育下一代奠定了很好的根基。每位主日學教師都有一顆忠心服事主的心志，他們將自己畢生的精力奉獻給培育少年兒童靈命的聖工。

此慶祝本會主日學設立一百週年之際，筆者謹以神的話語與主內兄弟姐妹互勉之。

一　教育下一代是完成主耶穌基督的大使命

馬太福音廿八章十九至廿節有三方面培訓造就主的門徒：

①『去』—「傳福音給萬民」。首先的目的是要每一位主日學學生清楚接受主耶穌為他個人的主與救主。接受主耶穌的時候他也受聖靈的洗重生了。（請看林前12:13）『萬民』原文是『人群』的意思，我們要帶領菲華華裔成為主的門徒。

②『受洗』—「奉聖父、聖子、聖靈受洗」。洗禮是順服基督的命令，它不是使我們得救。聖經說，「因為你們得救是本乎恩，也因着信，這並不是出於自己，乃是神所賜的，也不是出於行為，免得有人自誇」（以弗所書2:8-9）、羅馬書6:3-4說明這個真理—「豈不知我們這受洗歸入基督耶穌的是受洗歸入他的死麼？所以，我們藉著洗禮歸入死，和他一同埋葬，原是叫我們一舉一動有新生的樣式，像基督藉著父的榮耀從死裡復活一樣。」

③『教導』—「凡我所吩咐你們的，都教訓他們遵守，我就常與你們同在，直到世界的末了。」（太28:20）

我們培訓主日學學生必有的兩個原則：箴言22:6告訴我們，「教養孩童，使他走當行的道，就是到老他也不偏離。」

第一個原則—聽道而行道—「他知道當行的道」—這是我們行道的心態。我們知道當行的道，當行的道的範圍也就是主耶穌所吩咐的 。（太28:20）

第二個原則—一生行道—「到老他也不偏離」—這是我們行道的長久性。我們會經歷到主的同在，直到世界的末了。（太28:20）

二　教育下一代使之心意更新而變化

羅馬書12:1-2—「所以弟兄們，我以神的慈悲勸你們，將身體獻上，當作活祭，是聖潔的，是神所喜悅的；你們如此事奉乃是理所當然的。不要效法這個世界，只要心意更新而變化，叫你們察驗何為神的善良、純全、可喜悅的旨意。」

我們心意更新而變化需要兩個心態，也必有一個後果。

其心態是—①身體獻上，當作活祭—聖潔的，神所喜悅的，我們要如此事奉。

②不效法世界，心靈有變化。其後果是—「我們懂得察驗何為神的善良、純全、可喜悅的旨意。」

感謝主，讓我們繼續恆心忍耐培訓教育下一代，使他們一生跟隨基督做祂的門徒，榮神益人。哈利路耶！



100 YEARS AND MOVING ONWARDS

Pastor Helen Sia

Cebu Gospel Church (CGC) rejoices in God for 100 years of Sunday School Ministry.

We raise our voices and hearts in praise to our Lord God who sends workers to labor in the Sunday School Ministry, planting the seeds of life—God's Word—from generation to generation of young minds, hearts and spirits.

Sharing God's Word for His Glory is never in vain. These 100 years have shown us that the faithful in CGC have harvested enduring fruits. Thus, the faithful workers will keep this fighter verse of **I Corinthians 15:58** as a spur to keep on being steadfast, always abounding in the Work of the Lord in whatever season, because our labor is not in vain. Our labors will bear fruits in God's time and in His Way.

Let us continue to abide in Christ Jesus, the Vine (**John 15:5**). Being still in surrender before Him—to know His Will—to be filled with the Holy Spirit for the Work He lays before each one of us.

Faithful workers, let us be reminded of **I Corinthians 3:7-10**.

1. The Ministry is God's field. The workers in God's field build, plant, water and harvest.
2. God makes things grow.
3. God promises reward according to our work.
4. The Foundation is Christ Himself.
5. The quality of the work will be tested. We will be tested. We pray we will not lose our rewards.

May the fruits of our labors endure for the glory of God.



SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY OF CEBU GOSPEL CHURCH: DOCUMENTATION BY EARLY MISSIONARIES, 1919-1933

Dr. Jean Uayan

Cebu Gospel Church was established in 1916 with the help of missionaries sent by the Presbyterian Church in the USA. The mission work in Cebu began in 1902 with the arrival of Paul Frederick and Elizabeth Jansen, but the Chinese congregation began to emerge only in 1916.

In the process of doing research for my dissertation, I collected information from the Presbyterian mission reports and specially took note of their ministry to the Chinese in Cebu City.

Below are excerpts of these reports that particularly mention the Sunday School ministry done by many of the missionaries pictured in the 1925 photo taken during their annual mission meeting.

Based on these records, especially noteworthy are the missionaries George William and Devee Taylor Dunlap, nurse Alice J. Fullerton, Charles Edward and Theresa Margaret Kalb Rath, Judson Leolin and Minnie Kemp Underwood, and Olive Rohrbaugh.

Through these reports, it can be discerned that for the first two decades, there was at first steady growth or stable attendees in the Sunday School ministry, but in the 1930s, a crisis occurred as a result of many Chinese families going back to China because of the great economic depression.

Despite the bleakness of the situation, God was really at work behind the scene. In the middle of this decade, He sent Chinese pastor Tiuⁿ Toan Tsong 張端莊傳道 and his wife O long So Jin 歐陽素仁 to CGC. The latter and Pilar Siao 蕭必冷 revived the Sunday School and classes were held at the residence of Mrs. Uy Cang Chui Siok 黃江水淑.

It is truly by God's grace and provision that this ministry was sustained and has become what it is today.

Twenty Years of Presbyterian Work in the Philippines: Supplement to the Philippine Presbyterian, Being a Summary of preceding years

by Rev. James B. Rodgers, D.D., 1919

In the city of Cebu, where there are representatives from almost every nation under Heaven, though we feel a responsibility for them all, the missionary work is limited to the 130 to 150 English speaking people, the Visayans and about 1,000 Chinese.

There are several Chinese Clubs in the city, and besides the Chinese classes in the Sunday Schools and visiting, the missionaries have spoken before these Clubs.

All the missionaries teach in the Sunday School, and at times preach at the morning service.

Mission Meeting REPORTS for 1923-1924 of the Philippine Mission, Manila, Philippine Islands, October 6-14, 1924.

Reported by Alice J. Fullerton

Nurse Alice was transferred to Cebu and soon went back to Iloilo around April 1924. She gave this report:

Then began my work amongst the Chinese. They are certainly fine in the way they respond to anything that is done for them. I started a Sunday School in the house of one of the church members. We very soon had twenty-five members. I hear from Mrs. Lim that these numbers are keeping up.

Reported by Judson Leolin Underwood

Underwood served with his wife, Minnie Kemp, in Cebu from 1922 to 1929. Underwood reported that *Mrs. Rath is conducting a Bible class for women and the Chinese women themselves hold a Sunday School in one of their homes.*

Annual Reports 1929-1930, Philippine Mission, The Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., Manila

October 2nd to October 9th, 1930

WORK AMONG THE CHINESE

Reported by Charles Edward Rath *(Rath served with his wife Theresa Margaret Kalb in Leyte and Cebu from 1912-1934)*

It is always a pleasure to work with the Chinese Christians in the city of Cebu. They are ever appreciative of your effort, which makes you glad to serve them. The work of the Chinese Evangelical Church is growing.

... The past year there were two delightful young people united in marriage. One was the daughter of a leading Chinese merchant, the other was a young Christian chinaman from Amoy. The bride was Genoveva Yap, who used to assist Mrs. George W. Dunlap in her Chinese Sunday School class.

Reported by Olive Rohrbaugh *(served in Leyte and Cebu from 1918-1938)*

At eight o'clock sharp you may hear, if within hearing distance, the organ which announces to those who naturally lag behind that our service in the dialect has begun.

Directly after the Church service follows the Sunday School with its classes in English and the dialect, to accommodate which both dormitories are pressed into service.

The Primary Department does not dare run overtime, for Mrs. [Devee Taylor] Dunlap, who has already had one class of girls will be there to conduct a Sunday School for the American children, to which our Visayan Department must give place. At this same time several classes are being held by Filipino workers in the down town districts.

There is time for dinner, and a siesta, but you will not sleep too long for at 3:00 P. M. the church bell calls the Chinese Congregation for its regular church service, and Sunday School.

Station Reports of Philippine Presbyterian Mission 1920-1925 Marking Completion of Quarter Century of Service Force List for Entire Period Statistics for year 1924-1925

The work among the Chinese has continued with good interest. The attendance at the Sunday afternoon service on the compound has averaged thirty-eight during the last six months.

Bible classes are held in connection with the afternoon service. A Sunday School for children is held in the morning in one of the Chinese homes and a Bible class for women is held on a week-day.

Vol. XVI No. 1 January, 1925, CEBU SPECIAL
(written by Judson Leolin Underwood)

The Chinaman has long been here. He has been a moulding influence as far back as history goes. Always the business man of the Orient, he is, so far as the Philippines is concerned, becoming more and more the political leader.

Rizal, the "national" hero, was more Chinese than Malay. Osmeña, acknowledged dictator of Philippine politics, has a strong strain of Chinese blood. As is true in Mexico, Brazil and other Latin-American countries, so here: the best element comes from certain racial infusions with the native.

The best element in the Philippines has long been Chinese and every Filipino who has a drop of "Insik" blood in his veins is proud of the fact. Here, as everywhere, these people stand for industry and thrift. Long, hard work is a habit with them. Through the long hours of the day, and often far into the night, they ply their task. Never shriking [sic], never complaining, they always have a smile and a word of good cheer.

Cases of poverty are rare among them. Filipinos see this and often resent it. "The Chinese always have money," they say. And they are nor parsimonious in giving to a good cause, as witness the liberality in the distribution of the beneficences of our little Chinese church. Two native churches struggling to build chapels, the Presbyterian Home Mission Fund, relief work to China were all remembered, besides gifts to help repair the roof of our church and a portable organ for outside work.

They have their own new school building costing about $150,000 with a well organized school of over 500 students gathered from the surrounding provinces. They have their own Young Men's Association with its reading room.

Is it not a privilege to help these people in a religious way and enable them to maintain their own Christian church and Sunday Schools? It is not only a privilege. It is good mission policy. They are an example worthy of emulation by all.

Annual Reports for 1932-1933, Philippine Mission of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Cebu, October 16-21, 1933

CEBU STATION

THE CHINESE WORK. We regret that this work has been most discouraging. It became necessary to ask the Chinese pastor to return to China. For some reason or other he was not able to make the adjustment that was necessary to work with his people in another country. Then the fact that the [economic] depression was most noticeable among the Chinese it was necessary that many of them return to China.

The attendance at the beginning of the year was about forty and now about 10-15. The preaching is done by the elders and one of the missionaries. The Sunday School has an enrollment of 27. The plan is to do our very best for the Chinese trusting that in due time this work may be revived.

PERSONAL REPORT OF MRS. GEORGE W. DUNLAP *(Devee Taylor Dunlap, wife of George Williamson Dunlap. Both served in and around Cebu from 1907 to 1935)*

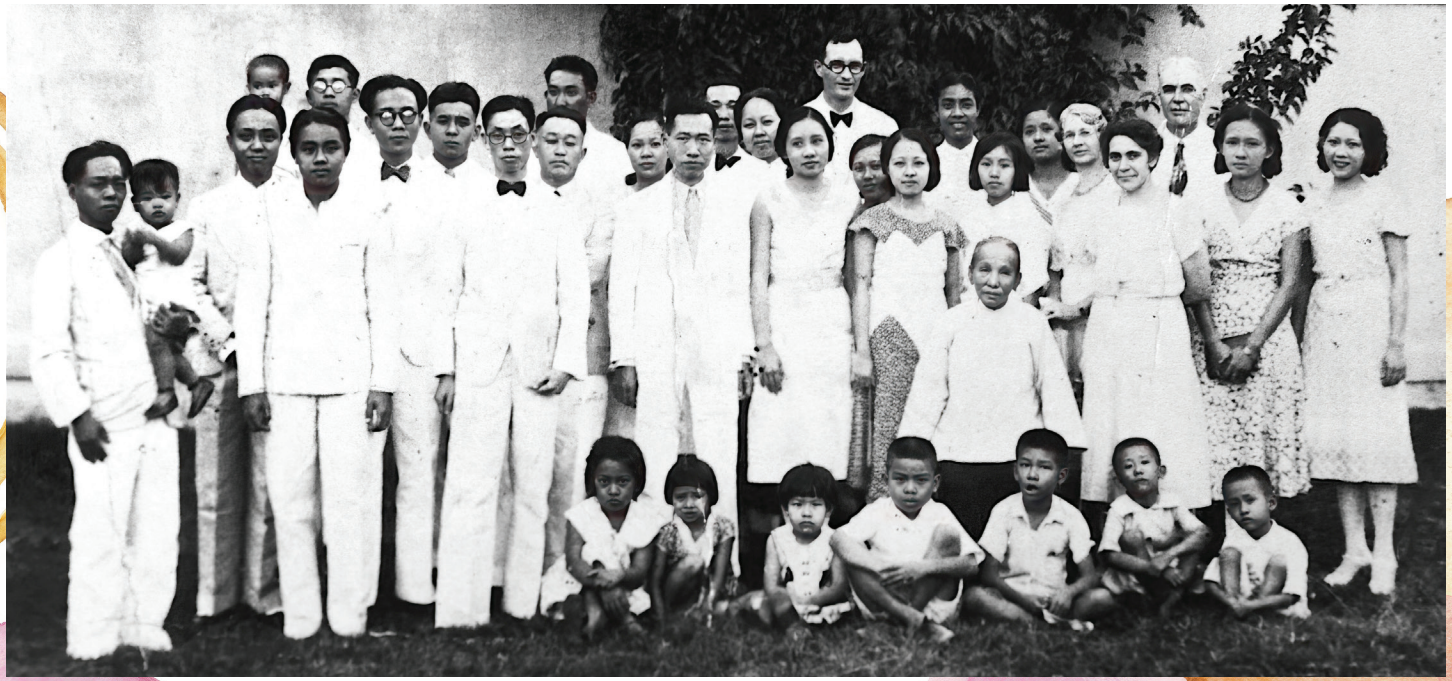
The attendance of our Chinese Sunday School had dropped because several families have returned to China, we also lost two teachers. I still play for the Chinese service, but miss the choir, all the young people we had last year have left Cebu except one girl, and our Dear Old Mrs. Chang went back for she thought a short visit; after two months she took sick and was called to her Heavenly Home. We still miss her in our Sunday School.

The photo below was taken in 1925 during the annual meeting of Presbyterian missionaries held in Dumaguete City. The other photographs were taken, most likely in 1921, in front of the Matilda Bradford Memorial Church where the Chinese congregation met for worship. Notice the Chinese children in the photos—they are the first generation of Sunday School children of Cebu Gospel Church.

PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONARIES IN THE PHILIPPINES, CIRCA 1925



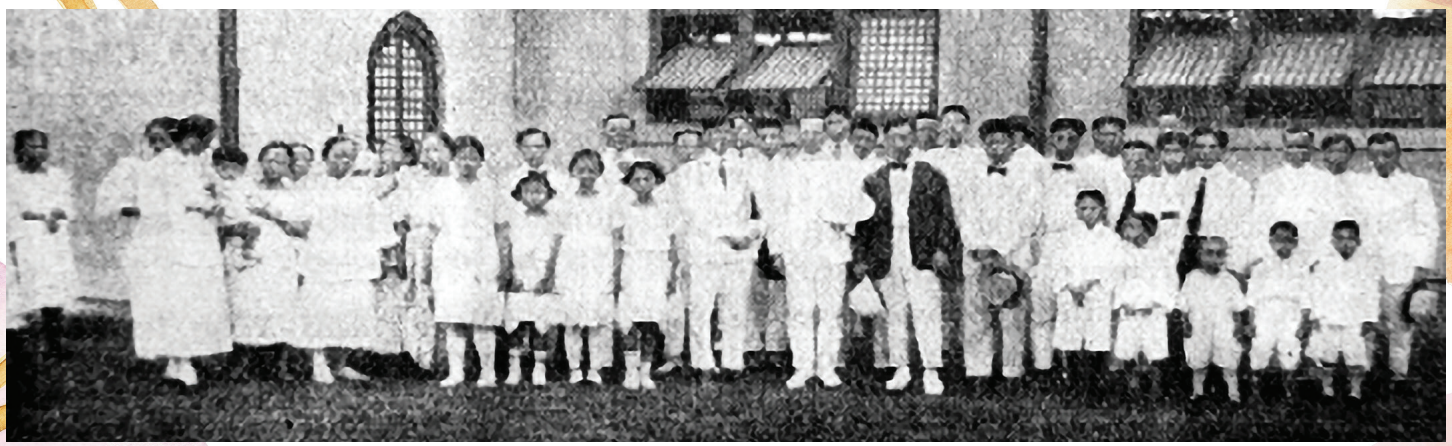
1st row: **Devee Taylor Dunlap**, **Alice Fullerton**. 2nd row: **Olive Rohrbaugh**. 3rd row: **Rev. Dr. George Dunlap**, **Minnie Kemp Underwood**. 4th row: **Rev. Dr. James Burton Rodgers**, **Rev. John Wallace Dunlop**, **Rev. Charles Edward Rath**. 5th row: **Rev. Judson Leolin Underwood**. Reproduced with permission from the Union Theological Seminary Archive.



Chinese congregation with Rev. Judson Leolin Underwood (back row with eyeglasses wearing bow tie) and two unidentified missionary couples (back row, 1st and 2nd from right).



Chinese congregation with missionaries **Rev. George Williamson Dunlap** (2nd row, seated 6th from the right) and **Mrs. Devee Taylor Dunlap** (2nd row, seated 4th from the left holding a baby boy).





Matilda Bradford Memorial Church known today as the Bradford United Church of Christ in the Philippines. Although the window panes on the left have changed, this is the same location where early photographs of the Chinese congregation were taken.



HIS WORK PREVAILS...

Dea. Gabriel Yap

To be part of the great heritage—the oldest Chinese Sunday School in the Philippines—is an honor. An even greater honor is to serve our Living God who created all things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.

As a principal, I have encountered many challenges during the pandemic period and post-COVID. Both periods have different challenges, needs and problems to address. In my personal view, the pandemic has opened a wider door for the gospel. This is a rare opportunity and must be taken advantage as it comes only once in one hundred years. This is the time we should fan into flames the spiritual gifts God has given, as Timothy reminds us.

We now can cater to different children who come from different backgrounds and beliefs. These include children who had no opportunities to go nor join our Sunday School in the past years. This rare opportunity doubles and even triples our Sunday School attendance with very equipped and able teachers who wholeheartedly devote their rest days to teach bible stories to and share the gospel with the children with their parents beside them.

There are three aspects that I need to examine as a principal. First, we need to look at the spiritual side of all the Sunday schoolers. We wish all seeds will fall on good soil. However, we can only plant and water it. Paul says that it is the Lord who causes them to grow. Our teachers' desire is for our children to be good soil for planting, have strong faith and remain dedicated with their Christian lifestyle, even when things are difficult.`

Secondly, all Sunday School teachers will remain united and share the same mission and vision with the church. I can testify that by God's grace this department always comes together in unity and love. They are always ready to come in and help one another in their own quiet ways.

Lastly, we want to reach out to the needs of the less fortunate children and family inside the Sunday School department. The department has come up to help them in different ways. We can see from their responses that they are grateful and blessed. We can only give the praise and glory to our Father who makes all things possible. To God be the Glory!

In closing, the Psalmist reminded us, "As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more".

As we are here toiling, it is our prayer that these children will follow our footsteps. One day they too will bear fruit, their spiritual leaves will not wither and whatever they do prospers. Like many fruitbearers, we too were once Sunday School students.



GOD'S WORK AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Dr. Wanda Po Liam Giok

My vivid memory of CGC Sunday School was the old classrooms of the school, known then as Cebu Christian School. Sunday after Sunday for many years, I attended Sunday School classes held in these classrooms.

At the time, the lessons were done in Chinese. We each had a notebook that we would bring to Sunday School. Every week, we were given a picture card of the lesson. We would paste this onto our notebooks and copy the verse which was the 'memory verse' for the lesson. I loved doing this.

Later in life, I discover that writing or copying verses is in fact a very good practice. It helps one to meditate and memorize the verses. I learned to memorize Bible verses in Chinese (Hokkien). These Chinese verses were etched in my heart and came in handy many years later.

When I stepped out to answer God's call to full time ministry and enrolled in BSOP (Biblical Seminary of the Philippines), the verses that I memorized in Sunday School were very helpful. The medium of instruction in BSOP was Mandarin. A course in Personal Evangelism required us to memorize Bible verses – and what do you know – I had memorized many of these verses while attending Sunday School!

God's words are never outdated; you are never out of place because you have memorized Bible verses. "More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb." (Psalm 19:10)



MY SUNDAY SCHOOL MEMORIES AND REMINDERS

Pastor Rosaline O. Lim

Thanks to my mom who always woke us up early so that we could ride the church service car, the old Hi-Lux! When I heard Dodong or Boy honking, I would run out fast and climb at the back so that I could sit near the back door. But the *achis* and the *ahias* would say, "No lang, kay you will fall!" Sometimes they would hold me so I could sit near the door!

Growing up as a Sunday school kid, I feel a bit nostalgic every time I hear these songs: "*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine*" and "*Give me oil in my lamp to keep me burning, give me oil in my lamp I pray.*" After all, these were the first two action songs that I learned and sang cheerfully when I was a Sunday school kid.

I can remember our Sunday school teachers like Beng Ha Sian and Yao Ling Sian acting, singing and dancing in front of us so we could follow them, just like some of our Sunday school teachers are doing at present. Later, we would go to our respective rooms to listen to Bible stories and memorize Bible passages in English and Chinese.

The Bible verse I first memorized was John 3:16 taught in Chinese by Juaning Sian, sometimes Piling Sian. After memorizing a verse, I would go directly to Siansi and ask for candy as a prize (*hehehe*).

Sunday School played a big role in shaping what I am today. This is due to the Bible stories and values my teachers taught me. They instilled a lot of good teachings and always reminded us of how and why Jesus came to this world. I can remember Siansi Yao Ling saying, "Always be humble and be good."

The basic foundation of the gospel has always been there from grade 1 to high school. It is important for the students to learn and remember who Jesus really is and what salvation is all about. Our Sunday School teachers were not just teaching us; more importantly, they set a good example for us to see and follow.

I'm grateful to and blessed by my Sunday School teachers who were always nice and kind to us, for being patient with us, and for being faithful to their calling as Sunday school teachers. Without them, I'm sure things would have been different and I would not be writing this.

Thank you very, very much from the bottom of my heart to all my Sunday School teachers. Being a Sunday School teacher is not easy because you put your heart to it, you do live by its teachings and you are accountable to your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To all the Sunday School teachers, your work for the Lord will never be in vain. God has always His own timing and His glory will always be shown in at the right time.

Keep up the good work. God bless your hearts always!

Congratulations to all in the Sunday School: Advisers, Teachers and Staff, Learners, and Friends. Let me share some thoughts as gleaned from Matthew 28:19-20 in the occasion of celebrating Cebu Gospel Church Sunday School 100th year Thanksgiving Anniversary.

First, our Lord Jesus is the Master Disciple Maker. Let's be like Him. Second, Jesus Christ came to save the lost sinners. He saved us. Now we are tasked to proclaim His great salvation to all. Third and most rewarding is that Christ promised to be with us till the end of the world. Therefore, obey His commands, teach and share—this is what Sunday School is all about.

Together, let's keep up doing Sunday School. May God bless us!



KEEP DOING IT

Pastor Alice Huang



MORE THAN A CLASS

Pastor Dereik Po

I recall a time when a person of immense self-righteousness told me that Sunday School was not a Bible-based practice. I often recall that conversation, and now as a Pastor, I find those comments short-sighted, arrogant and ignorant.

I can honestly say that I am where I am partly because Sunday School teachers were used by God as great inspirations and instruments of equipping. To say that the relationship I now have with God is solely of my merit and strength would be a blatant oversight of the love and hard work our Sunday School teachers have given me.

Though many of these teachers would never claim to be experts of God's word, they have lived their lives so well that they become great examples of faith and beacons of hope. The teachers never look for recognition, never take payments from the church, and never ask for more than the simple opportunity to shape and care for the young.

As a student who is now a part-time Sunday School teacher, I have found the job to be at times suffocating. I look at my elderly teachers who tried their best to relate to teenagers and young children whose characters, hobbies, and speech would be considered as 'foreign.'

Sunday school teachers are as the youth would say 'built differently.' I find it sad that there are so few who would accept the responsibility of Sunday School teaching. At the same time, I find it encouraging that there are some who look forward to be old enough to become teachers.

Jokingly, I inquire why they want to become Sunday School teachers when it is such a demanding role with little to no material and social-status rewards. They often reply, "I want to love others in the same way as my teachers loved me!" Others point out, "Because it looks like the *Siansis* are having so much fun singing and dancing with the kids!"

As in all things in life, the Sunday School ministry has seen its fair share of success and failure stories. If it is worth it, look at me who was once thought of as a little demon running around the classrooms causing much havoc, and who became a youth pastor of our church!

A Sunday School teacher's work is never wasted. There is also a reward waiting for the teachers, although it might take a while for them to see the harvest.

As Paul encourages, "Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because we know that your labor is not in vain." (1 Corinthians 15:58)



... AND THEN!

Sis. Merly Lee-Yu

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6 ESV)

While many regard this proverb as a precious promise, others consider it as a severe warning. But all would be wise to recognize the godly principle on which this wisdom is founded. Children are a gift from God. To dedicate time and patience in the child-training is the right, responsibility and joy of all parents.

All children are born with a propensity towards both good and evil. Training infants and young people in godly conduct, wise choices and appropriate accountability for their actions and attitude is therefore crucial. Helping to set a child in the right direction for their future life is a God-given tool.

Source: https://dailyverse.knowing-jesus.com/proverbs-22-6

King Solomon also reminds us in Proverbs 1:8-9, "Hear, my son, your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Indeed, they are a graceful wreath to your head and ornament about your neck."

He wants us not only to listen but also not to forsake the teaching of our mothers, including the ways they discipline and impart words of wisdom to us. If we imbibe them, they will always be in our hearts even when we get old.

I would like to share my short testimony: I am proud to say that Cebu Gospel Church has become my second Home. I started going to Sunday School as early as my kindergarten days. This was because my kindergarten school teacher was working at CGC Sunday School. She encouraged all of us to go to church, read Bible and Bible stories to us, and exhorted each one of us to memorize the Word of God. Finally, she encouraged us to live a Christ-centered life.

So from a very early age, I learned my Bible at home, in school and in church. Now I understand how important it is to have disciplined life. I'm proud to say that most of our leaders in church councils are the product of our CGC Sunday School. May God continue to work in our hearts as we continue to serve Him and encourage one another. Let us remind each other to continue to have fellowship, pray together, and do Bible studies (virtually, at the moment). Let us not forget that our God is faithful to those who worship Him.

Lastly, let me remind the parents to start teaching their kids to have their daily devotional, pray, and join our virtual Sunday services or CYF. If they like to have in-depth Bible studies, they can join us every Wednesday or Friday on our Precept upon Precept Bible study. These are good tools to learn God's word verse by verse.

To God alone be the glory



GROWING IN CHRIST

Sis. Ann Marie Su

Every Sunday morning, my Papa would drive me and my eight siblings to church to join Sunday School. As a toddler, I remember we should all wake up early and get dressed in our Sunday best. We would then each receive a crisp new bill for our offering. Excitedly, we would march into the auditorium for the Singspiration, after which we would be dismissed to go to our classrooms (by levels).

I enjoyed listening to the Bible stories with all the colorful pictures on the flannel board. Soon, someone would come to collect our offering. Before we finished, we were given a memory verse card that really helped me memorize Bible scriptures. Of course, I wouldn't miss the sweet treat my teacher gave us as we left the room. I remember always looking forward to go to Sunday School every week.

Even now, I have good memories of some of my teachers who are now my colleagues, still teaching at Sunday School. I will be forever grateful to them for the great example they set for me. I believe this is why I am now in this ministry which I started at age 16.

I realize how important it is to teach the children while they are young. My knowledge and love for the Lord Jesus Christ grew as I regularly attended Sunday School. Because of it, I learned a lot of songs that I could naturally sing to bless our God. I have hidden God's Word in my heart as I could still recite the verses I was taught to memorize. Finally, the Bible stories that I enjoyed so much have now become real life experiences as I continue my journey with my Lord and Savior.



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Deaconess Mona C. Li

To witness two centennial milestones of Cebu Gospel Church is truly an amazing grace of God. In 2021, our Sunday School Department celebrates its Centennial Anniversary!!! The Due to COVID-19 pandemic, celebrations were simple and subdued, but were nonetheless personally significant.

Looking back at the past six decades, it was God's divine providence that Mama Rose sent us to Cebu Christian School for our academic studies. Since Cebu Christian School and Cebu Gospel Church were under the same roof, it didn't take much persuasion for Mama Rose to allow us to attend fellowships and Sunday Schools on weekends as well.

Initially, the main attractions in attending these extra-curricular activities were the multi-colored wrapped Señorita candies and the yummy snacks. Later, I became more focused on collecting Bible-picture cards and the prizes that came with memorizing Bible verses printed on the cards.

Eventually I came to know more and more about this Man called Jesus Christ, His loving kindness and gift of salvation through songs and Bible stories wonderfully taught by our Siansi and Sunday School teachers. I could not help wanting to love Him back for He first loved me. (1 John 4:19)

In 1966, during our Church's golden jubilee celebration, CGC found a new home in Osmeña Blvd. Despite the distance from our rented apartment in Junquera Street, we continued attending these activities. In 1969, at age 13, I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour. It was the Sunday School of CGC that paved the way of my walk in faith with God. There, the seed to know Christ was sowed, cultivated, and nurtured.

The Sunday School department's Centennial theme is found in Proverbs 22:6, and I quote: "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." How absolutely true!!! I am but one of the many Sunday Schoolers who can attest on this truth.

The pandemic has drastically affected our lives. To stay safe, we now live in invisible bubbles and have turned our homes into a center of learning and activities. Connectivity through technology is "virtual" in nature.

I thank God for our church's Pastoral staff, church leaders and workers who continually strive to improve and innovate ways to spread the good news of Christ's love and gift of eternal life to the very young and old alike during these challenging times. Although Worship Services, Sunday School classes and Christian Youth Fellowships are still currently held virtually, I believe this too shall come to pass.

In the meantime, as great challenges offer great opportunities, let us seize these moments and join hands in giving to God all that we are and all that we have to fulfill His great commission. Happy 100th Anniversary to our Sunday School Department, and to God be all the glory!!!





WHAT SUNDAY SCHOOL DID FOR ME

Dr. Jean Uayan

What a milestone! Cebu Gospel Church Sunday School Department is celebrating its 100th anniversary. I am truly honored and privileged to contribute this anecdote to the SSD 100th Yearbook. It is my testimony of how God blessed me through the ministry of Sunday School at Cebu Gospel Church. In reality I don't remember this incident, but it was my mother who wrote it down as part of her own testimony.

My mother, Sun Ti Uy Uayan, was a Sunday School teacher of Cebu Gospel Church for many years. When her father Uy Yao Khun died in 1962, she wrote this testimony in memory of my grandfather for publication in the Gospel Quarterly.

Because of his illness, he was confined in Cebu Community Hospital (beside Bradford Church). On Sundays, my mother brought me and my two cousins to visit him after we attended Sunday School.

We sang "Isn't Jesus My Lord Wonderful?"「主耶穌真奇妙」and "There is Amazing Peace in My Heart" 「在我心裏有奇妙的平安」and his face broke out in smiles as he listened. These were songs taught to us in Sunday School.

Sadly, my grandfather died of leukemia, and the last time I saw him when I was only eight years old, my mother wrote that I said to her, "Mother! Grandfather is just sleeping. One day, when Jesus Christ comes back, he will rise from the dead."

She smiled and asked me, "How do you know that?" I said, "Our teachers in Religion and Sunday School tell us, 'This is clearly written in the Bible.'"

In my innocent but confident way, my words brought her comfort and hope that she would see her father face to face again one day. Such words were clearly a result of what I heard and learned in Sunday School and in Religion class.

What the teachers taught me as a little child penetrated deep into my heart and became a tenet of belief that not only conveyed hope to my mother, but also became my own foundation of faith. It is no small feat that the teachers helped build this foundation using these two building blocks of the resurrection and the reliability of the Bible.

Proverbs 22:6 states, "Train up a child in a way he should go, and even when he is old he will not depart from it." (ESV) For the past 100 years, countless faithful Sunday School teachers have been used by God to do just that – teach the word of God and train children to walk on the path of righteousness.

I sincerely encourage the present generation of teachers not to grow weary of teaching their students Sunday after Sunday, year after year. Tell the Bible stories, creatively connect those stories to the lives of the children, befriend the children and lend your listening ears, model Christ in your life, and patiently endure those who are naughty, even nasty. The seed will be planted and will take root, the bud will sprout, the plant will grow, and the tree will bear fruits.



CGC SSD 100TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Deaconess Lili Gothong

Indeed my life is so blessed, I am able to witness and celebrate the two Centennial events of the foundations of Cebu Gospel Church and CGC Sunday School! Praise our awesome God!

SUNDAY SCHOOL—is it sad to have school on a Sunday? For some parents and children, Sunday School is a pain because it means giving up a time when we can sleep late and wake up late!

But some children love Sunday School. Sunday school means listening to teachers telling Bible stories, receiving of prizes (the most fun part) if one is attentive, plus getting snacks or candies.

As for Sunday School teachers, preparations will have to start right after the current Sunday session in preparation for the next Sunday School session. These include praying for the students (especially those who were absent), preparing the lessons, making them interesting, finding ways of inculcating knowledge and understanding of the Word of the Lord, and showing how we can apply lessons to our daily lives.

I remember when I was being trained as an assistant teacher or as an Achi. All I did was simply teaching the children how to read and memorize one verse in the Bible at a time and singing songs with the toddlers. I was so nervous and sweating till the end of the service. Phew! Not easy!

Looking back, I realized that I learned so many things about the children. For example, toddlers and preschoolers learn very fast! We often got feedback from parents that their children sang the songs and displayed the actions at home. Isn't that an encouragement for the teachers?

As for the elementary students, we might think they were silent or too active and not listening; they would tell their parents the Bible stories they had heard and even memorized certain Bible verses.

Two years ago before the pandemic of COVID-19, I remember one of my grand-children thanking me for bringing them to Sunday school. She said, "Ama, do you know I got 98% in my religion class? My classmates don't seem to know the stories and verses from the Bible. Some of them do not have a Bible!"

Sunday School teachers! It is indeed our privilege to be able to guide and teach the children the Word of the Lord . Keep up the good work, be a faithful servant of our mighty Lord.

Psalm 119:11: "Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You."



SUNDAY SCHOOL AND MY WEDDING

Judge Jocelyn U. Po

I can remember when I left our church to join another Christian Church. I was then the choir conductress of Bethany Church and a pioneer teacher of Bethany School when my relationship with my then-boyfriend, now my husband, became serious. We decided to get married.

As a young bride-to-be, I had envisioned how and where my wedding would be held, how it would go about, and how I would stand outside Bethany Church with my beautiful bridal gown flowing down the grassy pathway with Cebu at its background. I even imagined the particular tree in the garden under which I would be standing! Heavenly beauty!

One day, my fiancé had a serious discussion with me. He told me that our wedding would be and should be held in Cebu Gospel Church. I was devastated! I argued with him, stating that a wedding is a 'Bride thing.' Tradition and culture dictate that weddings should be held in the bride's church, hometown or chosen place. It's the bride's big day.

My boyfriend explained that our Sunday School teacher, Pastor Pilar Siao, told him to bring me back to our home church; that it was Rebecca who went to Isaac and not the other way round. It is a simple insignificant Bible story that we often tell in passing in Sunday School!

My fiancé further said that if I could not obey him at this onset, how could he be the head of our household? This was such a struggle for my strong and overbearing personality. My picturesque, mountaintop bridal photo shoot went just like that.

I had to leave my choir and my school that I had helped plan and start. I had to let go so much that it felt like half of my identity would disappear. I argued that I would be embarrassed to return. Like a prodigal daughter, I would hate to be asked why I came back to CGC.

Then he told me that one of our wedding godfathers would be Elder Peter Yap, the one person I remembered who carried me in his arms the first time I attended Sunday School Choir at our old church held at Cebu Christian School chapel. I was then about 5 years old and Pastor Pilar Siao was the woman who held my tiny hand to attend my first Sunday School.

I finally had my wedding at Cebu Gospel Church with many of my old Sunday School teachers (Sian Si) attending and giving their well wishes!

Years later, I became a deacon of our church, a trustee of our school, a Sunday School principal for many years, brought my own children to Sunday School and saw the love and sacrifices of the many Sunday School teachers who helped mold the lives of many children including my sons. From one faithful Sunday School teacher, I am finally happily at home striving to leave a legacy for God's glory.



SUNDAY SCHOOL: A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

Reverend Anna C. Wright

When my sister Mona asked me to write about my Sunday School days, I was challenged! It would be interesting to go down memory lane and recall the formative years of my Christian faith.

Our family lived in a rented house on Junquera Street; it was coincidental to have Cebu Christian School (CCS) within walking distance! At the time, CCS and Cebu Gospel Church occupied the same big grounds with many schoolrooms, two expansive green lawns and a library above the 'chapel.'

Mama's approach to religion was accommodative. She went to Catholic mass every Wednesday but encouraged us children to attend Protestant Sunday School. I learned to do the sign of the cross and enjoyed collecting 'stampitas' (little pictures of saints or Mary); I did not learn the rosary.

Over time, my CGC Sunday School lessons became more attractive and inviting, not least because of the little treats provided by our teachers! I loved the 'picture cards' illustrating biblical scenes or stories; I remember treasuring a picture card of 'Jesus the Good Shepherd'. We also had snacks (children are ever so hungry!), drinks and candies.

Most of all, I enjoyed the singing! The songs focused on Jesus Christ; His person and redemptive work became more and more compelling in my mind and heart. At 14, I was baptized, and one night, at age 16, I committed myself to God's work in a Billy Graham-style rally.

The Sunday School sessions complemented the things I learned at normal Religion classes. What made the Sunday School (latterly the Youth group and choir) unforgettable was the rich multi-layered socialization we enjoyed!

We felt attended to and cared for by our watchful leaders and teachers, and our personalities slowly evolved through our dynamic interactions with peers. I remember hitching rides on the church 'Hilux' and we even visited Negros Island to sing!

At the same time, there was some hidden anxiety inside me that made me feel like an 'outsider'. Perhaps it was because our family was Cantonese, a minority in the Chinese community. Perhaps it was because we five siblings walked to school whilst our classmates arrived in plush cars.

I also felt embarrassed not having much money to give in offerings! I do not think that people knew how vulnerable I felt. Still, the profound effects of learning about Jesus Christ and God far outweighed my childhood social awkwardness. Next year, I shall have been ordained priest for 20 years in the Church of England.

Recalling my childhood experiences in Sunday School makes me aware of how much I owed my Sunday School for shaping my faith and person. Equally, I feel the importance of overcoming children's natural feelings of inadequacy and vulnerability, and teaching them about the pure, inclusive and astonishing love of God. This can only be done by sensitive leaders or teachers because as Jesus says, "On earth, I have no hands but yours, no feet but yours, no mouths but yours…"

"Give me a child until he is seven, and I shall show you the man" complements Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in a way he should go, and even when he is old he will not depart from it." Both point to the utmost importance of shaping a child when young.

For me, the greatest blessing in my life was the accidental propinquity or 'nearness' of my home and school. Through that small gap came God's distinct voice that persistently called unto me. I could only hear Him because of the care and attention of his workers who, both knowingly and unknowingly, enfolded and nourished me with His amazing love. To Him be the glory!



大衛被膏為王



他們都得一樣的工錢



摩西按手約書亞為求智慧



LEARNING THE BIBLE: MY SUNDAY SCHOOL DAYS AT CEBU GOSPEL CHURCH

Dr. Chiu Eng Tan

Sunday School was always part of my childhood days while studying at Cebu Christian School during my elementary and high school days in the 60s and early 70s. As a church-based Christian school, the students of Cebu Christian School were always invited to join Sunday School at Cebu Gospel Church.

Yes, it is a "school" opened on Sunday, and the curriculum has only one Book, the Bible, the Word of God. The Sunday School teachers have faithfully taught and instilled in us that the Bible is the Word of God, the final authority in all matters of faith and life, yesterday, today and forever.

Teaching the Bible

In Sunday School, we always started with singing. I remember that Miss Bonifacia Lim, our late beloved teacher, would sing at the top of her voice, leading the group in singing that is followed by storytelling.

I remember that every Sunday for many years, the Sunday School teachers shared with us all the stories of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. These stories were repeated many, many times during my elementary and high school days. Those were the precious formative years ,when all the stories of the Bible, our Big Story, gave us an overview of the whole Bible.

Many of us would testify that we learned the Bible stories during the good old Sunday School days. Even to this day, in our senior years, we still remember the Bible stories because we heard them taught and re-taught over and over again during the good old Sunday School days..

Moreover, the Sunday School teachers all taught the Bible with a deep conviction of the Bible's authority, similar to the Old Testament prophets who often repeat "Thus says the Lord." The Sunday school teachers would often repeat at the start and at the end of Bible Story telling "the Bible says." Since kindergarten, it was deeply impressed upon my heart that when one hears "the Bible says, " then everyone must submit to the Bible and simply follow what the Bible says, because it is the final authority of the Christian faith.

Returning to the Bible

Human life is never free from questions, problems, issues, and controversies. Many logical minds find it natural to view an issue from different perspectives to gain a more complete understanding.

As I grow older, when confronted with the complexities of human life, then "the Bible says" in Sunday School is rekindled, leading one to ask: What does the Bible say about this issue?"

The often repeated "the Bible says" deeply instilled in a child becomes alive once again when one asks: What does the Bible say directly about this challenging issue? Is there a direct teaching on it?

Yes, the Bible's authority and relevance was deeply instilled in us during the good old Sunday School days. And so, we continue to defer to the Bible as our final unequivocal powerful Authority in all Christian faith, life, and practice.

Internalizing the Bible

We know by heart many Bible stories every Sunday, after listening to them week after week, year after year, for many years. Aside from "knowing" what the Bible says, the Sunday School teachers have always taught the importance of obedience or the "doing" aspect of learning the Bible.

It is not enough to simply know the stories contained inside it – we should obey the Bible. Constant obedience to the Bible makes the Bible a part of one's being, where Christian values, attitudes and beliefs are formed, and they readily inform decisions and actions in one's Christian life.

The strong emphasis on the centrality of the Bible since kindergarten now makes the Bible authoritative in all matters of faith, life decisions, and daily practice. Constant reading of the Bible, and obedience to the Bible leads to "internalizing" the teachings of the Bible that lasts a lifetime.

As I look back to my Sunday School days, I cannot help but thank our Lord for the Bible, His Word, and the faithful Sunday School teachers who teach, to this day, that the Bible – the Word of God – is the final authority of one's faith, life and practice.

Indeed, I am thankful of my good old Sunday School days. The future of Sunday School is fraught with global and local challenges as our next generation enters a new world of technology, information overload, and AI. But the good old unchanging message remains the same: the Bible is the final authority in all matters of faith, life and practice of Christians."

Let us encourage our children, and children's children to attend Sunday School. Let us continue to learn from the Bible how to live and glorify Jesus in a new world faced with new challenges.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Deaconess Josephine Q. Yu

S ons and daughters of our church members,
U nder the guidance of volunteer teachers.
N othing can deter their commitment to nurture,
D oing their duty in mentoring for the future.
A lways teaching them to love God and obey
His commands,
Y ears passed to more than a hundred while teaching
still stands.

S chool that instructs our youth every Lord's day,
C hurch that directs them to follow Christ in every way.
H igh on the agenda to strengthen faith on young
to uphold,
O utstanding pupils the teachers so patiently mold.
O ver a century the Sunday School group toiled
to nourish,
L eaders to be developed for the church to flourish.

Photographic Journey of CGC's Sunday School Department through a Hundred Years 1921-2021

I.	1921-1965	How and Where it all began - The Beginning
II.	1966-1997	Formative Years at Cebu Gospel Church, Osmeña Boulevard - Our New Home
III.	1998-2008	A Decade of Sunday School
IV.	2009-2011	Our Newly Renovated Sunday School Building and new parsonage.
V.	2012-2018	In 2013, shaken by a 7.2 earthquake and followed by the fury of Typhoon Yolanda, it was time to rebuild in preparation for our church's centennial celebration. PCGS became our temporary home. In 2016, Cebu Gospel Church celebrated its 100th year of God's amazing grace at our newly renovated church sanctuary.
VI.	2019-2021	The Covid-19 Pandemic - The New Normal of Sunday School

1921



This photo dated August 21, 1921 was the basis of reckoning the start of our Church Sunday School. Our church was then called Chinese Christian Church of Cebu. It was on May 1, 1921 that our first chinese congregation was organized.

Rev. Judson Leolin Underwood reported in October1924 that ... "the chinese women themselves held Sunday School classes in one of their homes..."

1948



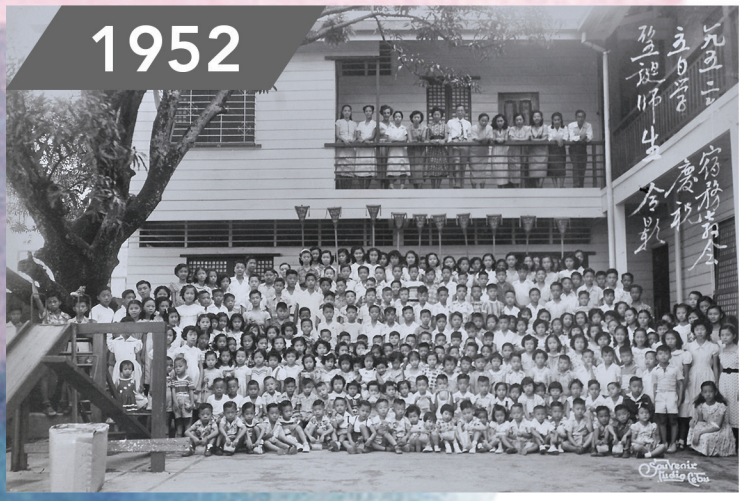
The Cebu Gospel Church (CGC) was previously held at Kian Kee School now Philippine Christian Gospel School. Kian Kee was established as a school in February 1948.

Picture taken inside the school chapel in 1948.



CGC Sunday School Christmas Celebration 1951

The Sunday School teachers were mostly chinese speakers. Songs and memory verses were also in chinese.







CGC Sunday School Christmas Celebration photo taken at the Kian Kee basketball court.





CGC Sunday School Christmas group picture in 1954 inside the church sanctuary / school chapel of Kian Kee.



CGC Sunday School Christmas Celebration in 1955. Picture was taken at Kian Kee High School Department grounds.



CGC's First Children Summer Conference for Sunday School held in April 1955



CGC Sunday School Christmas group photo in 1957



CGC Sunday School 5th Summer Children Bible Conference entitled, "House of Life" held on April 18-22, 1960 at Kian Kee.



Since cameras were not readily available, group photos were usually taken annually during the Christmas season. A photo studio photographer was hired to do the picture taking. December 23, 1962.



CGC Sunday School group photo in 1963.



In 1966, the New Sanctuary in Fuente Osmeña, Capitol was dedicated. Church Worship service as well as Sunday School classes were eventually moved to our new home in Capitol.

1967



Yearly collection of the Sunday School was handed over to the church's general fund. Sunday School student Jocelyn "Lele" Uy represented Sunday School on December 24, 1967. The offering was duly accepted by Elder Ngo Hong Chio. Since then, this tradition is being carried out to the present during Spring Offering.



Sunday School Children's Choir

1969



Sunday School Program



Elder Frank Sy as a Sunday School student

1969



CGC Sunday School group picture taken at the new Cebu Gospel Church ground in Fuente Osmeña. January 12, 1969

1971



The CGC Sunday School choir had mission trips to Surigao, Bacolod and Dumaguete under the baton of guest conductress, Ms. Bonnie Barrows from USA.



Cebu Gospel Church Sunday School Choir Spring Music Praise Festival with Ms. Bonnie Barrows, church elders and deacons on May 20, 1971.



CGC Sunday School Choir Christmas Cantata with church Elders and Deacons on December 19. 1971.



Our faithful Church bus driver Redondo "Dodong" Libron (on the right) started in 1961 and retired in 2010. He used to drive our green Bedford bus.









In August 21,1983, the groundbreaking for the construction of the new Sunday School building. Engineer Sidney Po was tasked to oversee its construction.

On June 17, 1984 the new Sunday School building was completed and dedicated to the Lord.

Now we can have separate classrooms for different grade levels of Sunday School.

The CGC Sunday School is a separate department under the Christian Education Committee.



Siblings Jovelyn and Stevenson Yu doing the traditional Spring offering in 1989.



Sunday School student Erwinson Chan with Elder Peter Yap in Jan. 28, 1996 giving the Spring Offering of Sunday School.



Sunday School student Derwin Chan presenting the traditional Spring Offering in 1997.



Sunday School students presenting a special number on December of 1998.



Awarding of Sunday School teachers who have served more than 10 years on June 28, 1998.

2000



Sunday School teachers with Rev. Chang Cheng Chen and his wife, Pastor Li Mei Chiu as our principal.

2000



Asuncion Ng Collantes fondly called Siansi Pheng Biao doning a "Hershey's Kisses" costume during the Sunday School Christmas Program.

Sunday School teachers receiving their Christmas gifts on December of 2001.

2001



2003









Cute Sunday Schoolers joining the Church Christmas presentation " One Heart, One Home, One Hope"



How cute they are! Future leaders, rooted in His word at a very young age.



Our cute little angels.

2005



DVBS held at PCGS. The class of Siansi Josephine Yu.



Judge Jocelyn Po with her Sunday School students. She is fondly called "Siansi Judge".

2006



Principal Judge Jocelyn Po with the oldest Sunday School member, Elder Valentin Uy.



Elder Celestino Siao receiving his award for service.



A gathering of CGC Sunday School teachers during one of their outings in 2006.



Sunday school teachers with Rev. Un Hock Wee and his family.



Siansi Barbette with her class.



The Yaya Sunday School. While their wards are attending Sunday School, the Yaya also have their Sunday School with Pastor Rose Dagoc.



Sunday School students performing their Psalm Recitation.



Siansi Magdalena with assistant teacher Erwinson and their students.



Siansi Virgie with her students.



Pastor Pilar Siao is one of the earliest Sunday School teachers and she was faithful till the end.



Siansi Elena with her students



Siansi Ann and Siansi Melodee w/ their students.



A despedida party for Siansi Fatima Ting as she migrated to the U.S.



Sunday School teachers in their Chong Sam celebrating the church's 90th Anniversary at Grand Convention Center Cebu.

2007



The Sunday School Teachers in their uniforms with Rev. Albert Ong and his wife, Sis. Jenny.



At Ching Palace, Sunday School teachers were given a small teddy bear as a token of their years of faithful service. The longest serving teachers were: Pastor Alice Huang, Siansi Josephine Yu, Siansi Joyce Uy and Siansi Magdalena Po.



Couples serving together in Sunday School are: Siansi Celestino and Siansi Virgie Siao, Siansi Francis and Siansi Lily Young.



Siansi Jenny Ting, Siansi Francis Young and Siansi Magdalena Po were given big stuff toys.



Sunday School teachers wearing their respective Chinese outfit getting ready to perform.

2007



Fun in the Sun. Sunday School teachers, assistant teachers and their families at the Maribago Bluewater Resort.









Siansi Gabriel who later became our Sunday School principal.



Siansi San-San



Siansi Philip



Siansi Elena, Siansi San-San and Siansi Michele



Siansi Judge with Siansi Josephine, Siansi Dolores and Siansi Lily

2007



Encouragement! Awarding of loyal teachers who taught in Sunday School for more than 10 years.



These are the longest serving teachers. They got big stuff toys. Pastor Alice Huang, Siansi Josephine Yu, Siansi Lily Young. Dec. 2007



Siansi Elena Go, Siansi Dolores, Siansi Irene receiving their awards.

2007









Sunday School teacher's and assistant teacher's one-day trip to Bohol. Photos taken on top of the World-famous Chocolate Hills.



A feast to thank Sunday School teachers for their hard work at Grand Convention Center Cebu.



Sunday School teachers work not only on Sundays but also during weekdays by preparing lessons to be taught and imparted on Sundays. Oftentimes, they are the first ones to arrive at church on Sundays. They expect nothing in return for their services and do it joyfully for the Lord. As such, a pat at their backs is a great encourager. For Sunday School department principals, they have to think of ways to let the teachers know that they are appreciated. With the support of our church council, Sunday School Sunday is always marked by treating teachers and their families to a party and tokens of appreciation are also presented as shown above in photos.

2008



2008 Sunday School Sunday. "Jesus loves the little children. All the children of the world. Red and yellow, black and white. They are precious in His sight Jesus loves the little children of the world".



Every Sunday School Sunday the principal must give a report on the accomplishments as well as the various activities of our Sunday School. This is to encourage parents to send their children to Sunday School and to highlight its importance on guiding these children to grow in the Lord.

2008









The CGC Sunday School Department presentation.









The Mandaue Gospel Church Sunday School Choir.

2008















Renovating and building of our New Sunday School classrooms because the old classrooms were infested with termites.

2008



A certificate was given to students who have graduated from the Sunday School and are now free to choose any adult Bible Study. Those who had faithfully stayed from Kindergarten to High School were given bigger certificates while those who attended for a few years were given smaller certificates. This was the beginning of the Loyalty Awards for those who faithfully attended Sunday School from Kindergarten to High School. Done during the term of Siansi Judge as principal.

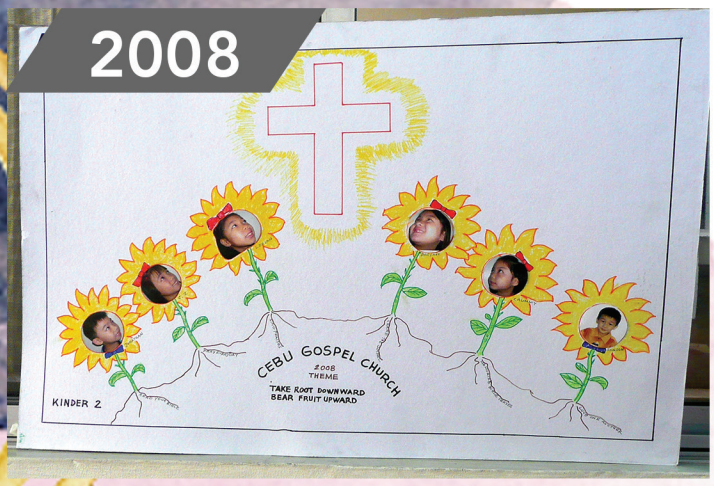


Poster Making Contest in relation to our Church Theme. "Take Root Downward, Bear Fruit Upward".



The Sunday School teachers with their student's posters.

2008


CEBU GOSPEL CHURCH
2008
THEME
TAKE ROOT DOWNWARD
BEAR FRUIT UPWARD
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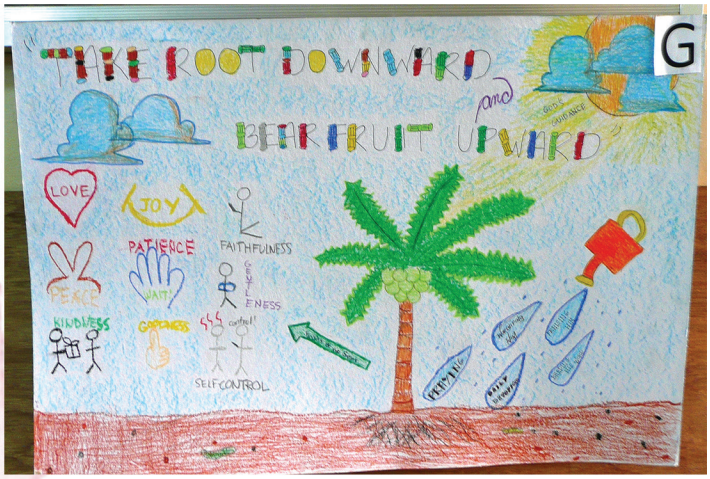
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TAKE ROOT DOWNWARD
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ISAIAH 37:31
Take root
Bear fruit
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P
God's Word


M
TAKE ROOT DOWNWARD
BEAR FRUIT UPWARD
GALATIANS 5 : 22


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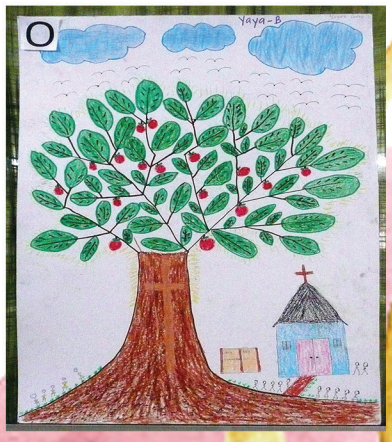
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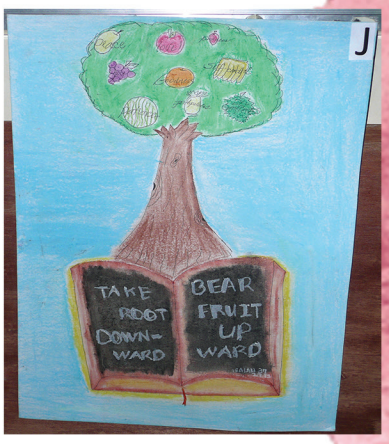
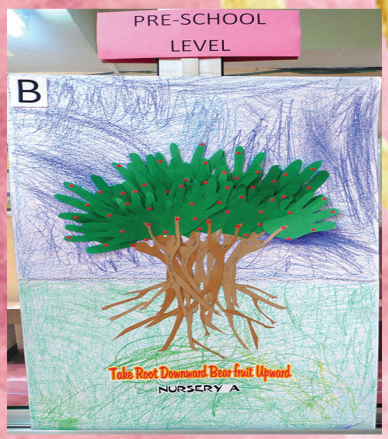

J
TAKE ROOT DOWN-WARD
BEAR FRUIT UP WARD


PRE-SCHOOL
LEVEL
B
Take Root Downward Bear fruit Upward
NURSERY A

2009



Siansi Magdalena Po and Siansi Peter Suarez, both Sunday School teachers.



Siansi Mark winning a raffle.



Sunday School teachers outing with speaker Rev. Danny Reyes at Wetlands.



Siansi Peter Suarez with wife Mitch receiving awards.



Sunday School teachers with family at the Wetlands Pardo Cebu.

2009



CGC Sunday School 2009 group picture



CGC Sunday School teachers with Ptr. Eric Chan & Rev. Un Hock Wee with his wife, Pastor Jennifer Wee Nov. 3, 2009.



Chinese Adult Sunday School memorizing Psalms 15 with their Siansi Francis Young.



Siansi Irene Ong with daughter Tashi rendering a special number.

2009



Group picture taking during the rededication of the newly renovated Sunday School Building & Parsonage Sept. 27, 2009.



Rededication of Sunday School Building and Parsonage September 27,2009.



Sunday School teachers were given their Pheng Su or commissions to teach for the year. Rev. Wee, Siansi Judge and Principal Lili Gothong Sept 27, 2009



The Praise Band of Sunday School receiving their "ang pao".

2009



The New Sunday School Building
Sept. 27, 2009



Sunday School teachers with Pastor Eric Chan



Sunday School student Kurt Yu on stage

2009





Every year, the Sunday School students will always render a special number on special occasions like Sunday School Sunday.

2009



Sunday School students rendering a special number during mission week of 2009



Pre-School special presentation during the mission week

2009







Sunday School students rendering a special number during the Sunday School Sunday on Sept. 20, 2009





Sunday School teachers were recognized on stage for their valuable service and sacrifice in nurturing the Sunday School students.

2010



Siansi Francis Young giving an exhortation to the teachers despite his age & physical condition. He faithfully taught Sunday School until the end.



Sunday School teachers and families











Sunday School teachers, assistant teachers and their families enjoying lunch at A Taste of Mandarin at Gaisano Country Mall on December 19,2010

2010



Special number during Sunday School Sunday September 2010





Loyalty Awardees for Sunday School students Dominic Daniel Ong, Peterson Corominas, Dereik Micah Po, Catherine Chua and Lorelee Ong together with Speaker Rev. Philip Co of BSOP, Siansi Celestino Siao, and Siansi Lili Gothong.

2010



Fun in the Sun! Sunday School teachers, assistant teachers and their families at Coco Palm Danao Cebu of Siasi Lili Gothong.







2010



Sunday School teachers, and assistant teachers with Rev. Philip Co and his wife, Pastor Joyce Co.



Special number during the Sunday School Sunday September 2010.



The Armor of God DVBS.

2011



2011 DVBS Theme: Exploring God's Wonder in Space.
A group photo of the participants.







CGC's 95th Anniversary special presentation by the Sunday School department.

2011



DVBS teachers, assistant teachers together with the Sisters Fellowship helping in snacks distribution during DVBS.



Pastor Karen and Siansi Lili



After teaching Sunday School, the Sunday School teachers are always treated with Leona's bread or cake for their snacks courtesy of Elder Adon Ong.



Siansi Irene To Ong's class



Siansi Merry Lourdes Lee Yu's Class



Nursery A class of Siansi Dolores Chan



Another Nursery Class

2011



Siansi Celestino's Adult Discipleship class is also a part of Sunday School.



Siansi Judge's College Sunday School

2012



Sunday School students performing during the Christmas program with the Church Choir













Sunday School Sunday September 2012

2012



Siansi Michele Po giving a speech on behalf of the Sunday School on Sept. 23, 2012





Rev. Jay Banzuelo our Special Speaker



Loyalty Awardees 2012: Jan Alyson Go, Sharleen Ong, Denzel Po, Louie Ong, Josh Ong with Rev. Jay Banzuelo, Elder Peter Yap, Siansi Gabriel and Siansi Mira.

2012



Pastor Rosaline Lim's class



Siansi Josephine Yu's class



Siansi Peter Suarez's class



The Music makers of Sunday School

2013







The Loyalty Awardees for 2013: Melody Lee Yu represented by her mother, Sunday School teacher, Siansi Merry Lourdes Lee Yu; Joelia Marie Lee Yu and Victoria Belle Ong.

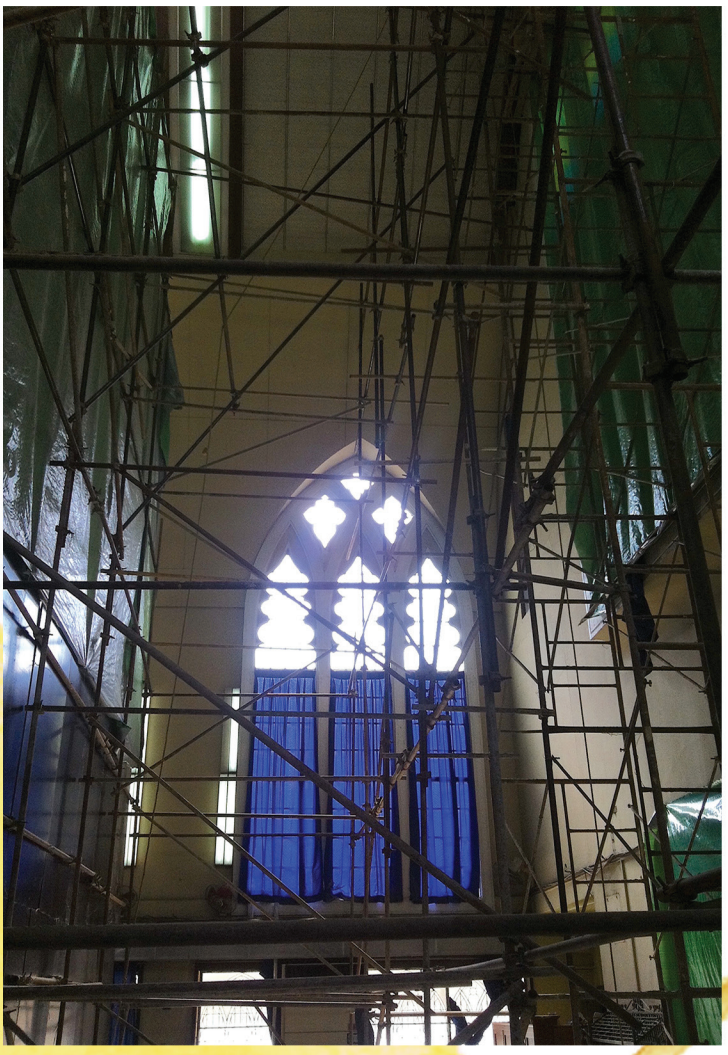




Sunday School students rendering a special number.

2013





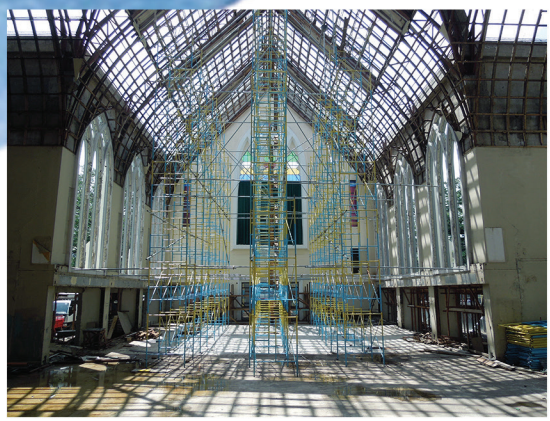
On Monday, October 15, 2013 at 8:12 in the morning, a magnitude 7.2 earthquake struck Central Visayas with the epicenter located in Bohol. Aftershocks were felt for many days.

Then on November 8, 2013 at 10:00 am Super Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) struck Central Philippines with maximum winds of almost 300kph. Nearly 750,000 people were forced to flee their homes and thousands of people were feared dead.

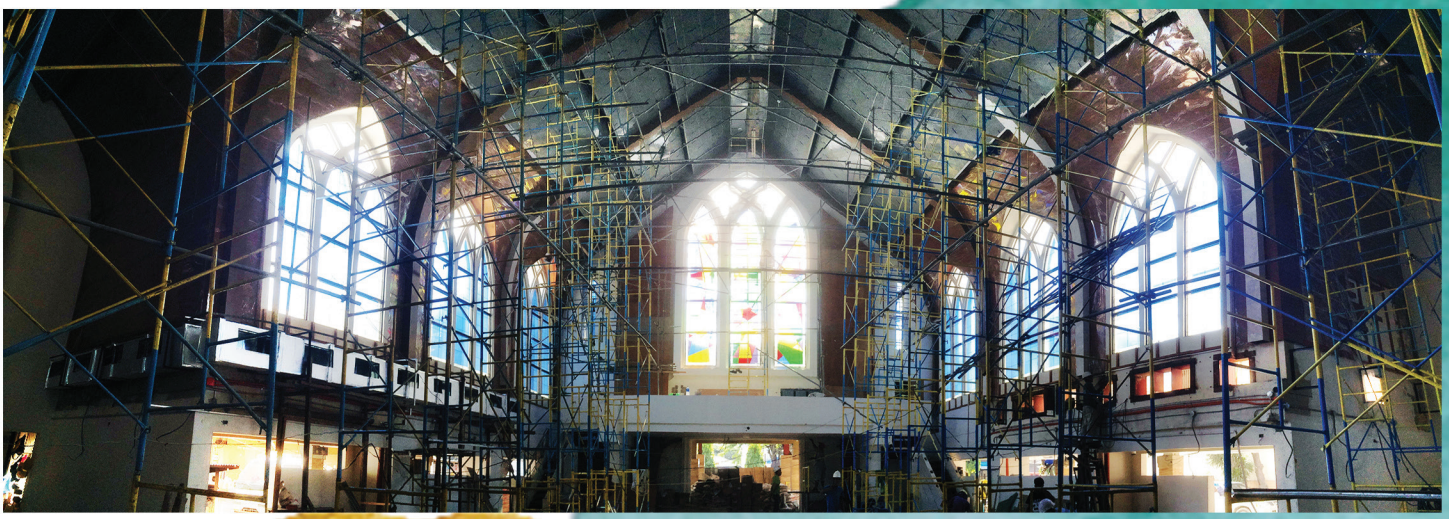
Both pictures show the damages in our sanctuary caused by the earthquake.

2014









In Mid 2014 the church sanctuary was undergoing a major renovation. Sunday School and Sunday worship service were temporarily held at the Philippine Christian Gospel School until November 8, 2015.

2014



While the church in Osmeña Blvd. was having its renovation, the Sunday School teachers continued to teach at the Philippine Christian Gospel School class rooms and chapel



2014



Speaker Ptr. Ricky Recodo with Ptr. Alice Huang giving the translation.



The guitar class of Sunday School at PCGS Chapel











The guitars of the Sunday School guitar class

2016



The Sunday School exhibit during the church centennial celebration on March 2016







Sunday School Presentation: "Jesus Is My Superhero, My Savior and King."

2016





The 2016 Sunday School teachers presented before the congregation.



Sunday School teachers recognized for their years of faithful service to the Lord



Receiving the posthumous service award for Siansi Philip Uy is his wife Sis. Lourdes Uy and daughters.



Posthumous service award for Siansi Francis Young received by his wife Siansi Lily Young and his son, Siansi James Young and family.

2016



On June 8, 2016 Sunday School teachers with some family members visited TAIWAN.
Taipei 101 at the background. The tower rises from its base in the form of 8 storey modules that flare outward, evoking the form of a Chinese pagoda. It is the 5th tallest in the world. The 2nd tallest in Asia next to Shanghai Tower. Its Taipei's tallest building.





2016



Photo ops at the Yehlin Geopark Taiwan famous for its sea eroded rock formation



Xiao You Keng is a post volcanic geological park known for its fumaroles (mountain side sulfur gas exhaust), hot spring & sulfur crystals. If you walk from Xiao You Keng for around 1 hour along the narrow Bamboo Trail you would reach Taipei's highest peak at 1120 meters above sea level which is Mt. Qixing.

2016







CGC Sunday School teachers and their families at the Grand Hotel Taipei

2016



Posing inside the Grand Hotel Taipei.



Group photo at Ximending Taiwan with our bus behind us.



Beitou Thermal Valley famous of its sulfur hot spring.

2017



Christmas Program 2017 with Siansi Irene Ong as program coordinator



Siansi Irene and Siansi Catherine Chua during Sunday School Christmas Party



The Christmas Party Committee taking charge of the food and other Christmas treats.



Siansi Judge sharing about God's Wisdom. "He knows the number of hairs on our head." Isn't that amazing?



Siansi Josephine's Birthday. Sunday School teachers inside our Sunday School office.



Pastor Dereik Po sharing at the Church auditorium.



The Sunday School teachers with principal Gabriel



Siansi Peter's class



We celebrate each teacher's Birthday



Siansi Gabriel's class



Siansi Jenny's class

2017



Siansi Michele's class



Siansi Michelle's class



Siansi Maria Dolores' class



Siansi Josephine's class



Siansi Catherine's class



Siansi Susan's class

2017



Pastor Rose's class (The Yaya Class)



Siansi Lili's class



Siansi Merry Lourdes' class



Siansi Kimberly's class



Siansi Irene and Siansi Krystle's class



Siansi Elena's class



Siansi Ann's class



Pastor Rick Garingo's class - Adult English Sunday School



Inaugurating our New Toddlers Room with Sunday School Principal Siansi Gabriel Yap, Jr. and Judge Jocelyn Po and Siansi Dolores Chan.



Praying and dedicating the room to the Lord. Colorful walls and padded floors for toddlers.



2017





On June 12, 2017 the Sunday School teachers had their holiday field trip to Busay.



The Temple of Leah also dubbed as the Taj Mahal of Cebu. It is not a mausoleum but a museum of the art collection and memorablia of the late Leah A. Adarna. Businessman Teodorico Adarna's tribute to his wife who died in 2012.



West 35, Busay Cebu



Island in the Sky hanging bridge



Siansi Magdalena w/o umbrella w/o hat
Siansi Susan with her umbrella w/o hat
Siansi Lily with umbrella and with hat

2017





2018









Siansi Judge with her two former Sunday Schoolers Pastor Michael Ting and Dr. Brian Ting.



Siansi Judge presenting the Loyalty Awardees during Sunday School Sunday.



Principal Gabriel Yap Jr. representing the Sunday School.



Principal Gabriel Yap Jr. presenting the Loyalty award (L- R) Darynne Ong, Samantha Joy Su, Marc Suarez, Caroline Joan Tan, Leeian Yap together with Siansi Judge Jocelyn Po and Siansi Lili Gothong.



DVBS, a program included in Sunday School Dept.





Sunday School teacher group picture at Café Laguna Ayala on Dec. 16, 2018



Sunday School teachers and their families Christmas Party at Café Laguna Ayala

2018





DVBS teachers, assistant teachers and volunteers with the theme: "FEARLESS".



Field trip and lunch at Sandra's Garden, Busay Cebu

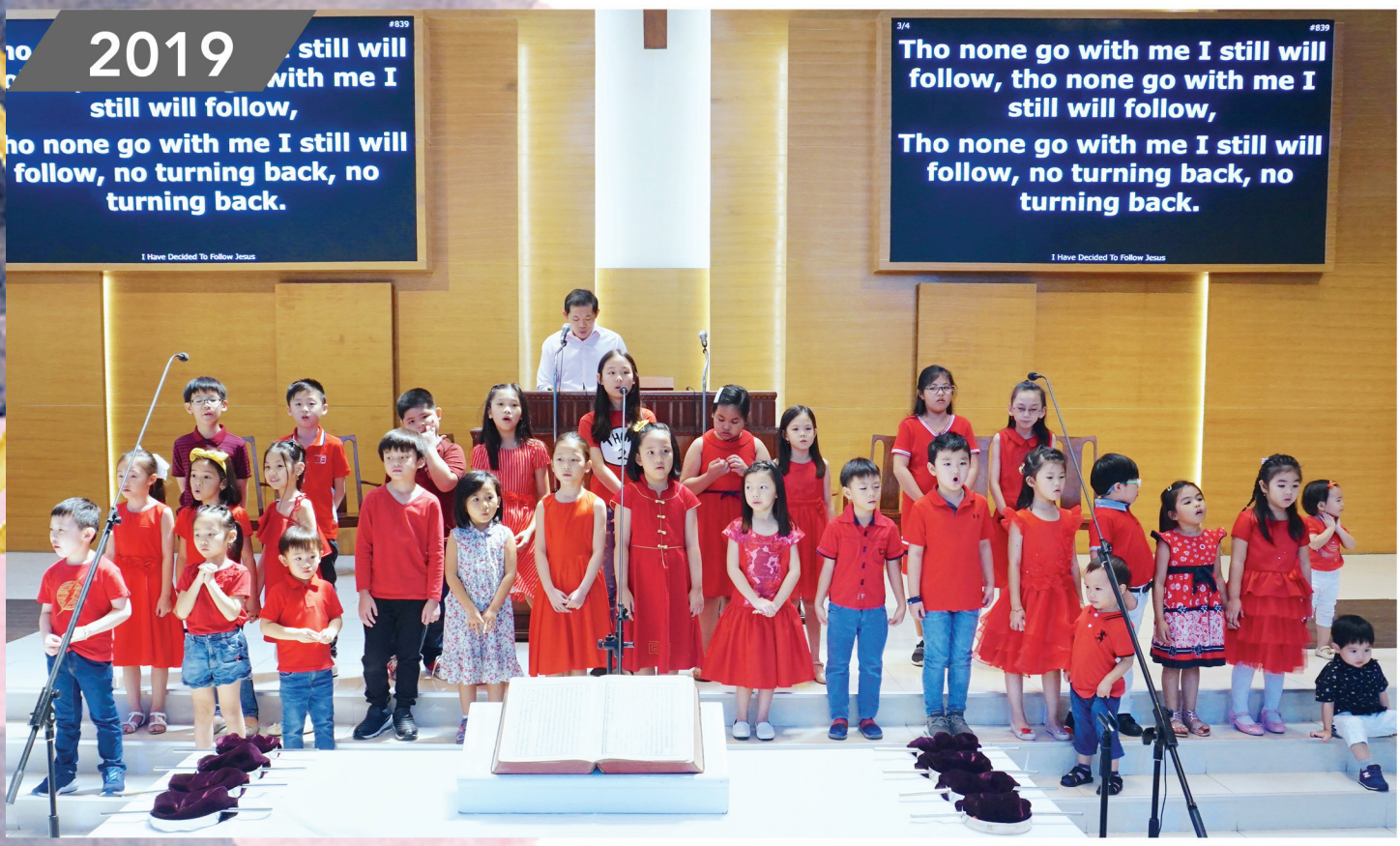


The Strawberry farm at Busay.





Sunday School teachers and assistant teachers having their retreat at Sandra's Garden, Busay. Months after, the covid-19 pandemic started. This was the last time they got together.



Sundy School children presenting a special number.



The Loyalty Award is given to Sunday School students who started kindergarten up to High 4. Our Loyalty Awardee's are: (L-R) Jennica Mae Tan, Rennae Eliana Ong, and Ema Justee Cañada.

2019



Nov.23, 2019 Lamac Elementary School. The last face to face distribution and gospel presentation of "We Love, We Care, We Share" of Sunday School Ministry. Lamac Consolacion Cebu, with Siansi Dolores Chan in action.



With the Lamac Pre-school students & parents. Siansi Judge Jocelyn Po sharing God's love, good manners and right conduct.



Preparing before the trip.



Who would think this would be the last face to face Evangelical mission before the pandemic? November 23, 2019. Enjoying lunch after the program.

2020









Preparing for distribution at the onset of the pandemic.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, many areas were under lockdown (March 15, 2020) under quarantine (ECQ, MECQ, GCQ) Some Sunday School families were displaced. Parents lost jobs, stores were closed, children below 18 as well as Senior citizen 65 years old and above were ordered to Stay at Home. The Sunday School Department on August 21, 2021 celebrated its Centennial celebration by distributing dry goods and food for 100 days but the donations exceeded the hundred days that they extended the giving even after many more months. This is done through the "We love, We care, We share" program.

The following are some projects of Sunday School:

1. Assist Camotes group build 2 tree houses for Bible study & learning.
2. Delivering dry goods every 12th of the month to members in need and pastors.
3. Tuition subsidy for non-church members but are regular Sunday Schoolers.
4. School supplies and sanitary kit to students in mountain barangays and depressed areas.
5. Prison outreach program through Siansi Jocelyn Po.
6. Home visitation of online students.
7. Sunday School Children's Choir and Guitar-Ukelele class temporarily suspended.









The Pandemic could not stop the Sunday School Ministry. They continue to Love, Care and Share. However, they had to utilize the help of Barangay health workers, public school teachers, barangay councilors to help distribute the food and other supplies.

Lanipga Elem Consolacion
4d •

Thank you so much Cebu Gospel Church Sunday School thru Judge Jocelyn Uy Po for giving school supplies for kinder children of Lanipga ES
This will help our children in their learning during this tough times..
Thank you so much 💕💕💕
#LanipgaES family









Panas Elementary School
Yesterday at 5:17 AM ·

Happiness doesn't result from what we Get, but what we Give - Ben Carson

Our Kindergarten Parents are so grateful and happy with what they received today. Surely the kids will love the items!

In behalf of PANAS ES Kindergarten Parents, we would like to thank CEBU GOSPEL CHURCH thru the effort of Hon. JOSELYN G. UY-PO for your kindness and support to the learners through donating school supplies and hygienic items. Thank you so much, God bless you more always in all ways ❤️❤️









For Riverside Consolacion thru Brgy. Councilor Adelita Natt.



For the mountain Barangay of Liloan thru the MSWD (Municipal Social Welfare & Dev.) Liloan. Big thanks to these faithful government workers.



2020



This was the last time the Sunday School dept. turned over the Spring offering to our church. Caily Solenn Tee and Caitlin Rei Mayo did the honors on Jan.26, 2020.



Siansi Gina and Siansi Krystle delivering the gifts and prizes of Sunday School students to their respective residences.













2020



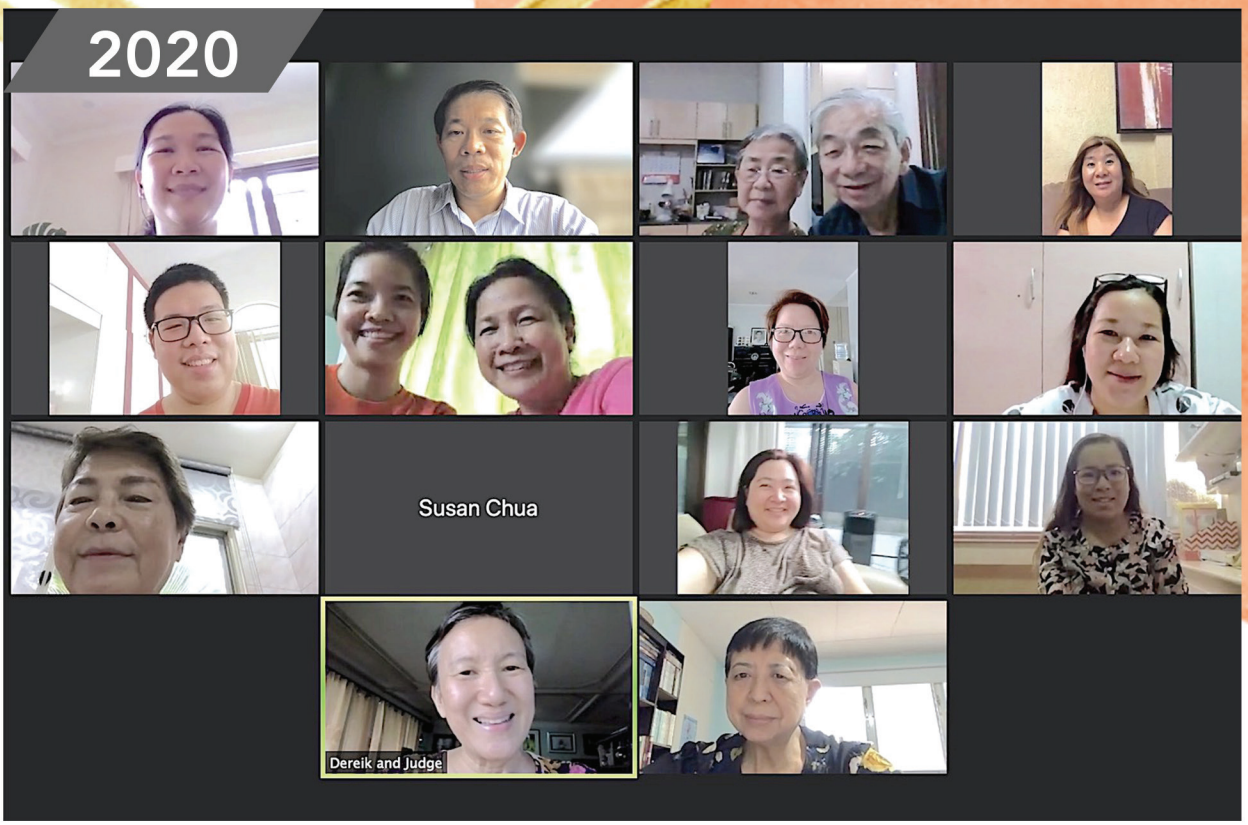
Siansi Krystle and Pastor Gina Pecson doing their gift distribution to Sunday School students



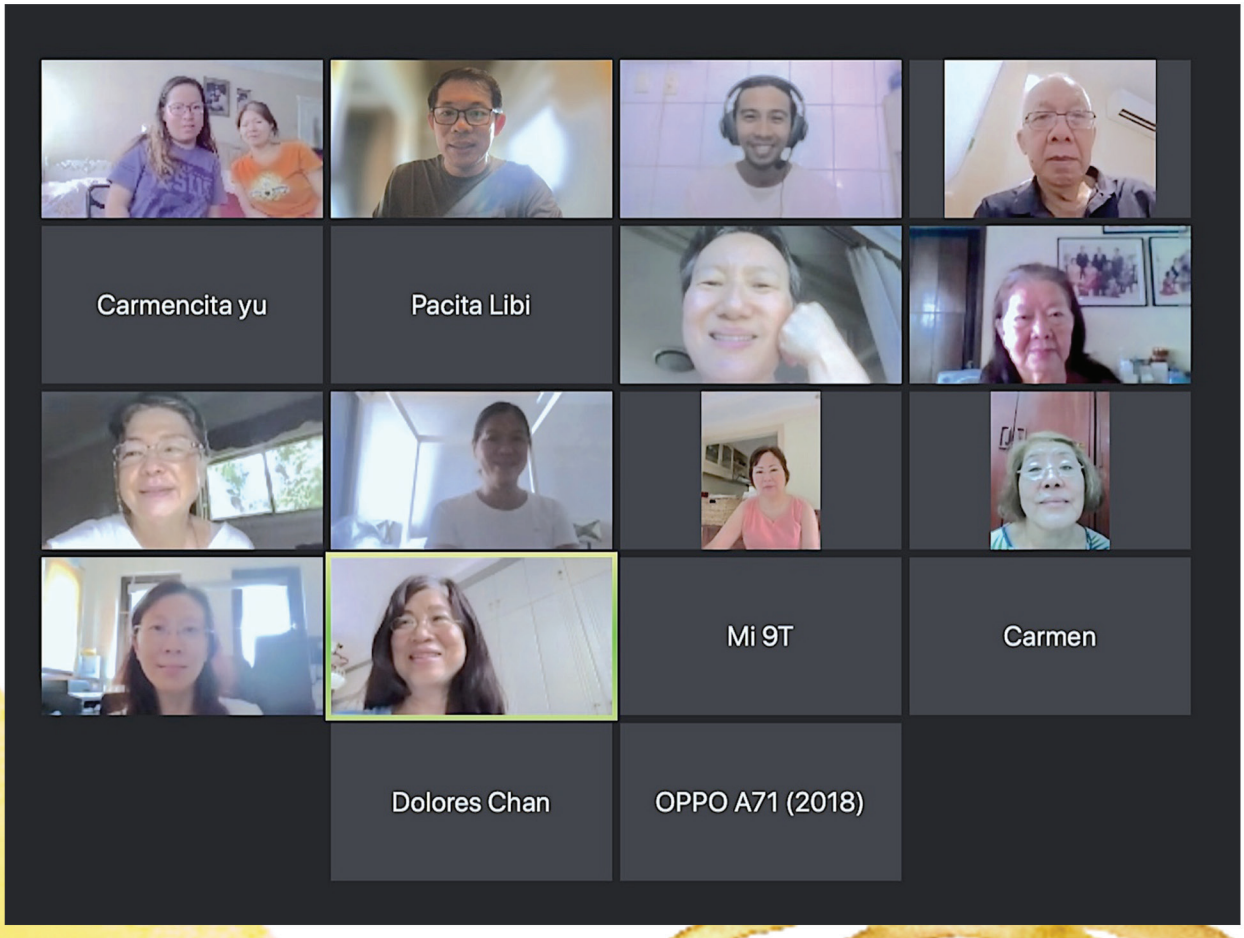
Pastor Andy Pecson visiting Sunday School students



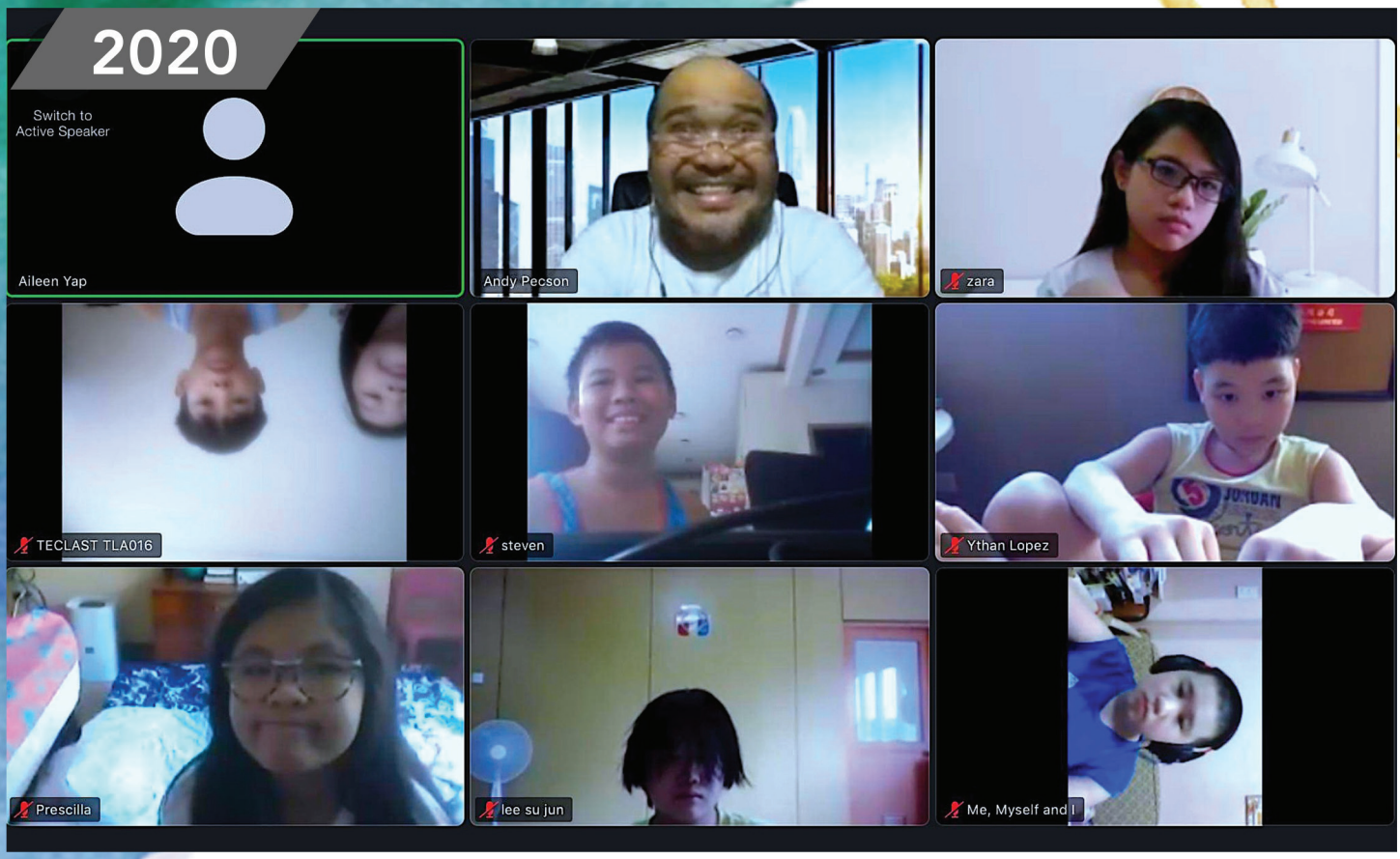
Adjusting to the New Normal due to the Covid-19 Corona virus pandemic. Schools were closed as well as churches. Last week of February 2020 Philippine Christian Gospel School ended its face to face classes. March 15, 2020 a city wide lockdown was declared. That was the last face to face Sunday School and Worship Service we had. The New Normal began thereafter. On March 22, 2021 on-line worship and Sunday School started through Zoom.



Sunday School Teacher's Meeting through Zoom



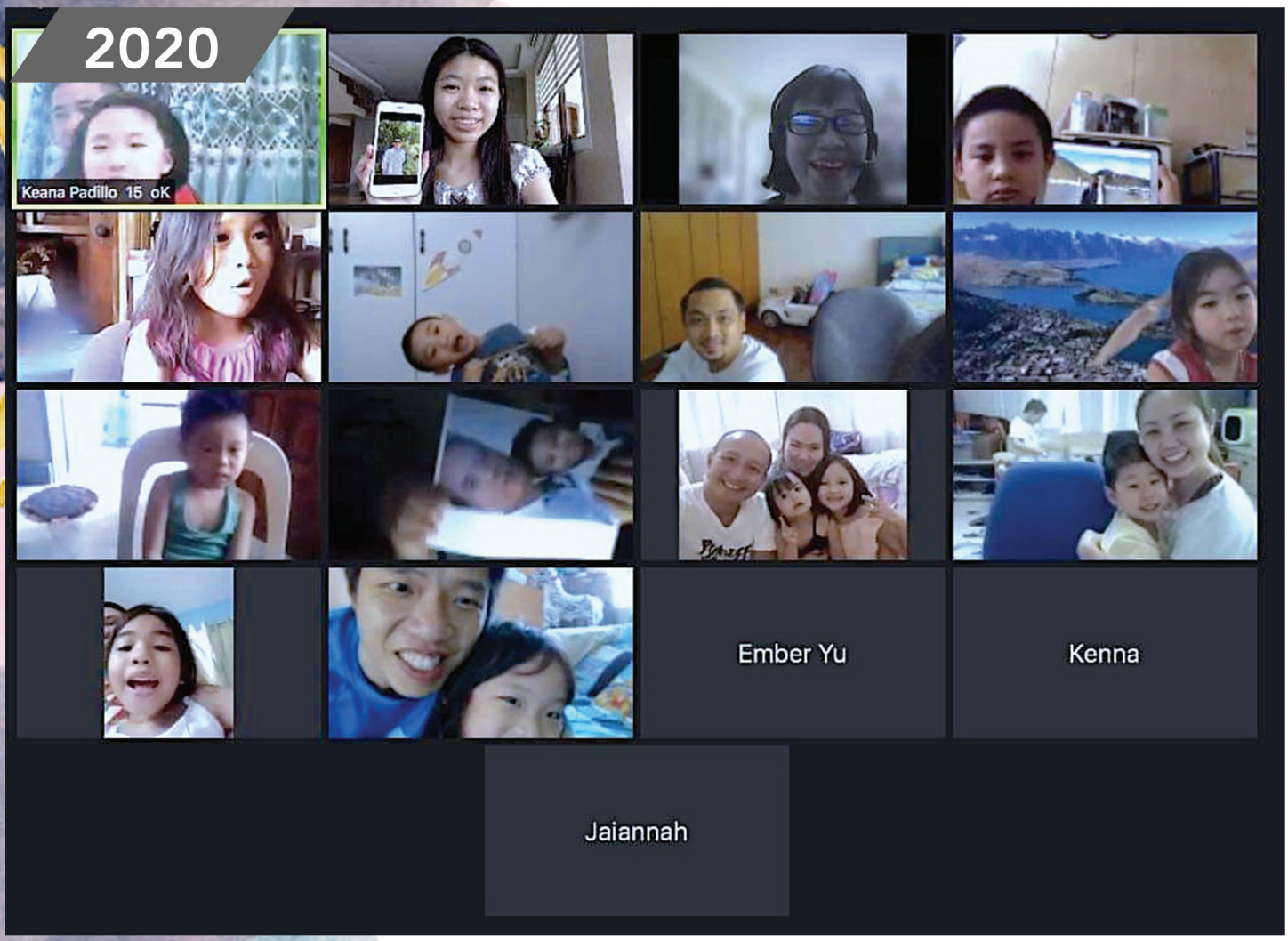
Zoom Saturday Bible Study of the Sunday School Department formerly the Adult English class of Sunday School.



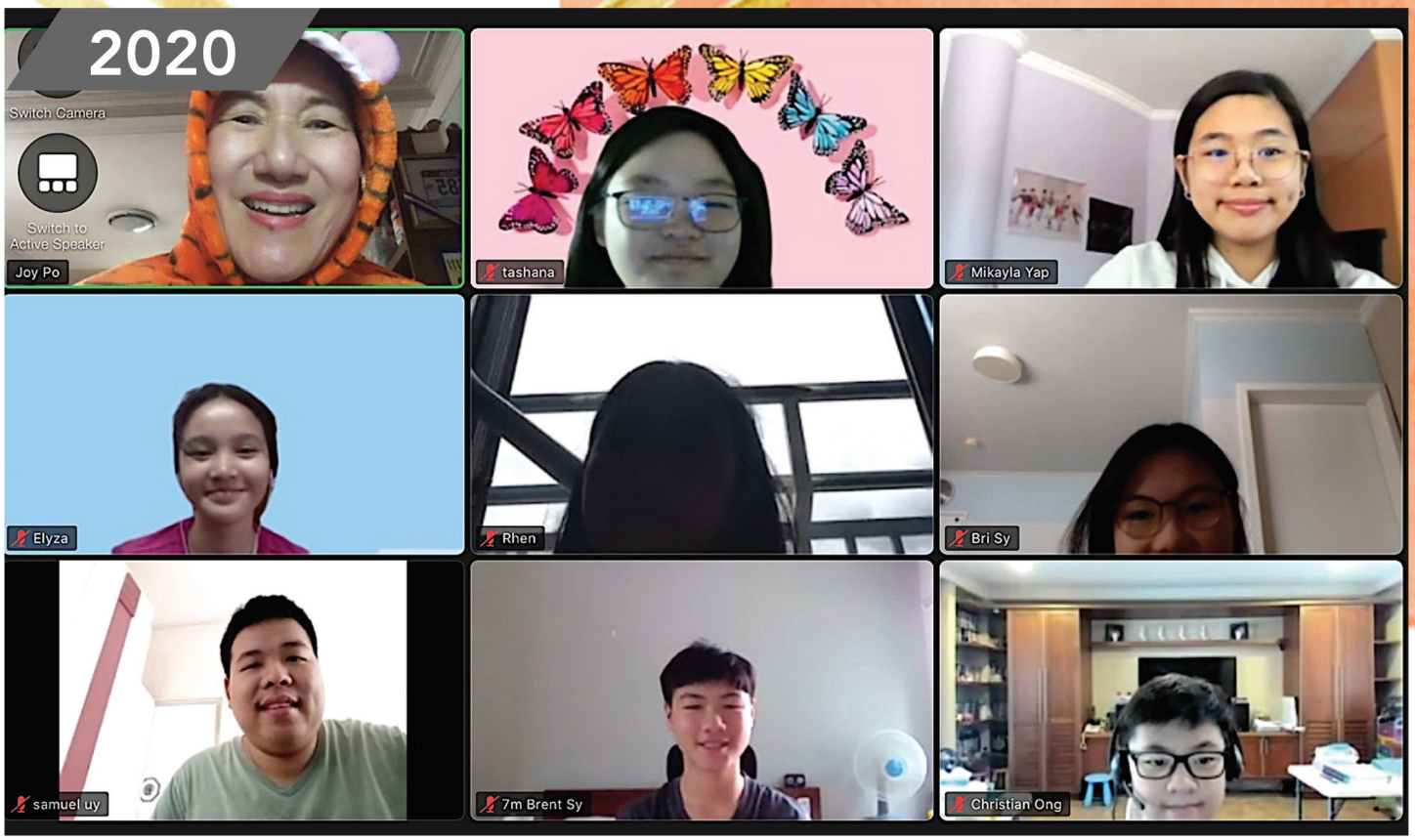
Zoom Sunday School classes under the new normal.



Zoom Sunday School with Siansi Krystle and Pastor Gina.


2020
Keana Padillo 15 oK
Ember Yu
Kenna
Jaiannah


Ritz
Krystle
Caily
Hyerim Capreece...
Marcus John Uy
zhang
Ervin
Janus tiu
Pharaoh Yu
sophie mikayla
Althea Dione
Hadassah
Hezekiah Uri G. ...
ailish
Trizhia
Alexa
Kassidy
Sean
Liam Alex Bautista
caitlin
Calix Kaiden Ongluico
Shyleeh
Stacey



Siansi Judge Jocelyn Po and Siansi Samuel Uy with her Zoom high school Sunday School class.



Zoom Sunday School with Siansi Dereik Po and Siansi Samuel Uy.

2021

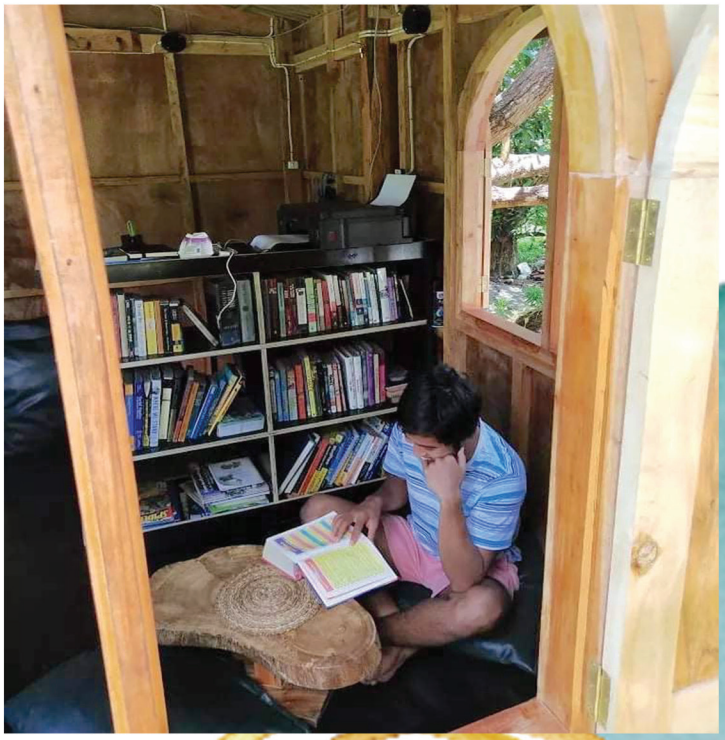


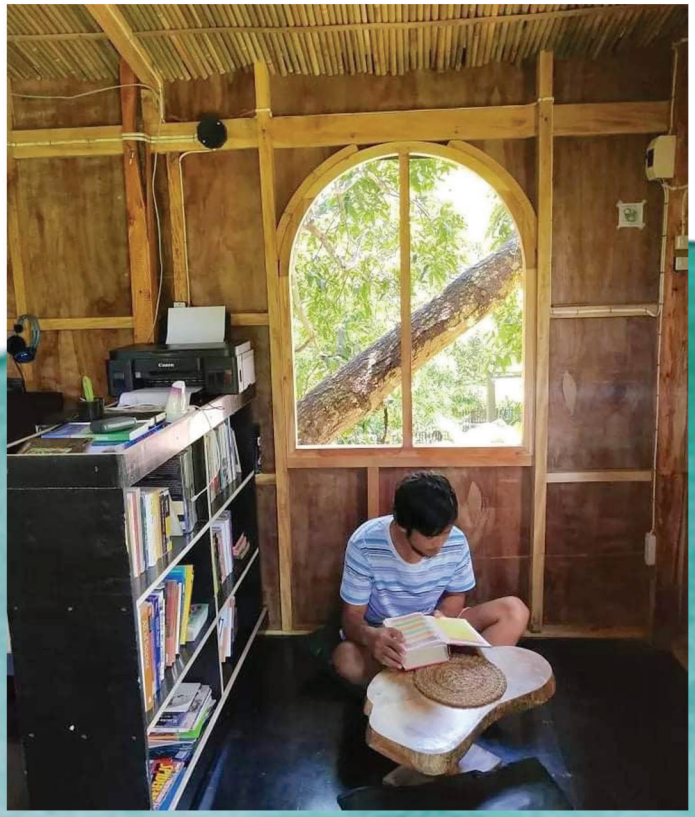
Pastor Arfaith Miranda



Pastor Gerardo Lisbe Jr. and his wife.

Every 12th of the month the Sunday School distributes essentials to their beloved pastors. Their way of thanking them for their faithful service to our church & our Lord Jesus Christ.





One of the projects of Sunday School was building 2 tree houses at Camotes Island. They are being used for studying and conducting Bible Studies.

2021





Our Sunday School Teachers Then and Now







Disclaimer: Kudos to all fellow teachers, assistant teachers and staffs whom we have inadvertently missed posting your photos. Thank you so much for your untiring spirit, love and devotion in faithfully serving the Sunday School Department's ministry. To God be all the glory!!! Amen and amen.

宿務基督教會

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