

2023

FCBC

FAITH REPORT

2023

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ABOUT US

Established in 1986, Faith Community Baptist Church (FCBC) is committed to worshipping and serving God, and spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ in Singapore and beyond. Over the years, FCBC has reached out to the multitudes with services for English, Chinese, Hokkien, Youth, and Children congregants. The church has also pioneered ministries to care for specific groups of people, which includes the deaf, persons with physical disabilities, and Filipino domestic helpers.

In the same year of the church's founding, FCBC volunteers started pioneering programmes for children. This work led to the founding of TOUCH Community Services (TCS), which is now an independent charity organisation. While independent, TCS remains affiliated with FCBC, reflecting our shared mission to bless society.

On the global front, TOUCH International (TI) provides disaster relief and humanitarian support to international communities in Asia. TI started as the global extension of TCS' work to transform communities, but has since become a distinct organisation of FCBC.

In the arts and entertainment sector, FCBC champions the promotion of positive values and messages of hope through two direct subsidiaries - Gateway Entertainment (GE), a theatrical production company, and arts venue Gateway Theatre (GT). Separately, Gateway Arts (GA) is an independent Singapore-registered charity. Focusing on addressing issues relevant to today's youth, GA is committed to staging performances based on contemporary and meaningful themes featuring young artists.

OUR VISION

**“CREATING REALITIES
THAT DO NOT YET EXIST”**

*Faith shows the reality of what we
hope for; it is the evidence of
things we cannot see.*

HEBREWS 11:1 (NLT)

OUR MISSION

**To Preach the Gospel
To Build the Church
To Serve the Nations
To Bless Society**

OUR CORE VALUES

**God's Centrality
God's Commission
God's Creation**



Worship session at the G12 Asia Conference

MESSAGE BY CHAIRMAN

APOSTLE LAWRENCE KHONG



Apostle Lawrence Khong at the launch of the Beyond The Label Festival with former president Halimah Yacob and the welcome party



Apostle Lawrence Khong and Priscilla Khong performing at "Celebration of Life"



Apostle Lawrence Khong speaking at one of the Day of His Power's sessions hosted by FCBC at Touch Centre



Our partner in Nepal, brought Pastor Poh Wee Long and the TOUCH International team, to the home of their church member in a Nepalese village

It has been a remarkable year for FCBC, Gateway, and TI. Many of our activities and programmes have resumed. We have also identified many areas where we can strengthen further, and where we can begin again. These efforts are well documented in this report.

As I reflect on what we have accomplished so far, it is also remarkable that the responsibility of being a light to the community and the nations is not just borne by FCBC, but is shared with Gateway, TI, and even TCS. They are distinct organisations through which we realise God's vision and mission for us. While led by different teams, each of these four organisations has identified ways to support and serve each other, for the purpose of furthering His kingdom.

This year, GE's flagship production, "Celebration of Life", finally returned to the stage. This theatrical run was personally meaningful for a number of reasons. It was the first time in four years that the team was able to bring this reimaged show to a live audience. Staging this show on home ground also reminded me of the journey that GT took to be a light in the arts community. And more importantly, it brought me great joy to share this magical story with our church family, many of whom were seeing it for the first time. It was particularly heart-warming to see so many friends and family members respond to the invitation and receive the gifts of **faith, hope, and love.**

Looking back, I can think of no better way to sum up our efforts in the arts, than in these three words.



Audience members at "Celebration of Life"

First, our journey has been one of **faith**. It is unheard of for a church to invest time, resources, and people to build influence in the arts and entertainment arena. Yet, we did so. We answered God's call, beginning with magic. For some, this was ludicrous. But our magic shows served as a unique platform for GE to take the gospel around the world. In faith, we built GT to what it is today - a leading arts venue that champions art performances and programmes based on godly values. In faith, we started GA, believing that it will make a difference among young audiences through its productions that offer wholesome perspectives on issues such as mental wellness, healthy self-image, empathy, and compassion for others.

While the journey has been a long one, I am thankful for the faith that we had as a church to believe that God can use us to make a positive difference and shine His light in the arts and entertainment community.

That brings me to the second gift: **hope**. The Bible tells us in Hebrews 11:1 that "faith is the confidence in what we hope for". To hope, is to actively wait upon the Lord to fulfil what He has promised. We are confident that God does not make empty promises. He has promised that through us, we will create realities in our society that do not yet exist. Over the past year, we have seen how God has used GT to be a space for emerging artists to connect with new audiences, and for arts groups to engage meaningfully with the wider community. We are thankful that, through GT, we are able to bring God's influence into the arena of Arts and Entertainment in Singapore.

In 2023, GA was officially recognised as a charity. This is the first of many milestones for GA to widen its reach and strengthen its position as a strong voice on issues currently facing young artists and audiences. There is more work to be done. Our team is expectant for the journey ahead.

Finally, I am reminded that in all we do in the arts, or as a church, we do it in **love**. Hebrews 12 tells us about the example of Jesus, who was willing to endure great hardship, even until death, so that mankind would have a way back to the Father. He did so out of His immense love for us. As such, His final act in His earthly body would be the greatest plot twist ever - changing our lives' direction from eternal separation, towards reconciliation.

This story of redemption still needs to be told, because there are people who have yet to hear and experience the love of Jesus. And I believe that the only way we will see lives changed and a society transformed, is if we follow the example of Jesus, who used His words and actions to show how much He loved us. That is our *raison d'être*.

When Pastor Daniel shared with me about what the Lord has placed on his heart for FCBC and for the nations, I was filled with excitement about the season ahead. You see, this new season is not just for FCBC. It is also for Gateway, and for all our other affiliated organisations. I see God moving us together into this new season. Each organisation's work is varied and diverse. We do not know what lies ahead. But we know that God has called us to do His work. And when we do it together in faith, hope, and love, I believe that the realities God will create through us will be exceedingly and abundantly over and above all that we can ask or think.



Apostle Lawrence Khong's lightbulb illusion at "Celebration of Life"

MESSAGE BY SENIOR PASTOR **REVEREND DANIEL KHONG**



Delegates worshipping at the G12 Asia Conference

2023 truly was an incredible year.

As we entered the second year of our **Season of Renewal**, God continued to amaze us through the renewed experiences and encounters that He brought us through. Many powerful experiences and encounters were only possible because we responded to God's nudge for us to turn our focus beyond ourselves. And that's precisely what we did.

Firstly, we reconnected with our international family. We resumed the G12 Asia Conference once again and saw a record turnout of delegates coming from 24 nations. It was an amazing time of the G12 Asia family coming together to worship, pray, and be fired up for the Vision.

Secondly, we set foot into the nations. With borders opening up, we were able to resume much of our missions work. Besides rallying the church to volunteer with TI in Cambodia and Nepal, we also sent teams to support our church-planting efforts in Timor Leste and Japan. And this isn't even counting all the other missional efforts that many other FCBC members are a part of.



Pastor Poh Wee Long conducting a G12 consultation at a church in Nepal



The FCBC team with church members from FCBC Dili and staff from Cocoon, a Dili pre-school started by LoveSingapore missionaries



Gathered at the FCBC Japan property in Sendai



A selfie taken en route in Cambodia

And while we are talking about missions, our highlight was definitely the purchasing of land in Japan. This will be something that opens up many doors for us to do even more in Japan. But more than just something operational, this was a spiritual act of faith that represents our commitment to missions. It really is our desire that FCBC will be a church that is always committed to missions.

Finally, we set our hearts on reaching out. In line with LoveSingapore's Good Neighbour Day, cell groups went out into Marine Parade and several other neighbourhoods to connect with and bless households. This was a first step for us in being a blessing to the community around us. The year came to a beautiful close with "Celebration of Life" – a collaboration between Gateway and FCBC to preach the Gospel through a magical show. We had over 3,500 guests show up with close to 400 responding to follow Jesus.



A youth cell mobilised for Good Neighbour Day



Youths gathered for a discussion before heading out for Good Neighbour Day



FCBC staff and members visiting acquired land in Sendai

So, I will say it again - 2023 truly was an incredible year. A single writeup like this simply cannot contain the many powerful experiences and encounters with God that we have had. But as you read through the rest of this annual report, you will get a much better overview of the extent of what God has done among us.

I am confident that we are on the right track. There is much work still to be done, and with that, more challenges to overcome. But as a family, as one team, and by the grace of God, we will run this race marked out for us. And we will finish it, together.

To infinity and beyond,

DANIEL + SERENE



Group photo with the children in Timor Leste



Delegates at the G12 Asia Conference



Main cast of "Celebration of Life"



Group photo taken during Good Neighbour Day

PREACHING *THE GOSPEL*

This year, God led FCBC to return to its roots of being outward looking and doing the work of evangelism. The church embarked on a collaboration with GE for the staging of “Celebration of Life” (COL) at GT in November. This theatrical run was an opportunity for FCBC members to invite pre-believing family members and friends. Audiences were treated to new spectacular illusions set in fantastical worlds, replete with new sets and costumes. The show’s message of faith, hope, and love provided a unique platform for the gospel to be shared.

COL, which originally premiered in 2013 as “Christmas Magic”, has travelled to over 30 countries with the singular mission of sharing God’s love to new audiences. Bringing the production to a local audience was significant for both FCBC and GE as many church members were watching the show for the first time, and were amazed at how the gospel could be presented in such a captivating way.

One of the key things the church needs to get back to doing, is the work of evangelism.

- SENIOR PASTOR DANIEL KHONG / 2 SEPTEMBER 2023 -

”
This is a very good way to introduce the gospel to friends... it really opens them up to be comfortable.

- JEREMY, FCBC MEMBER



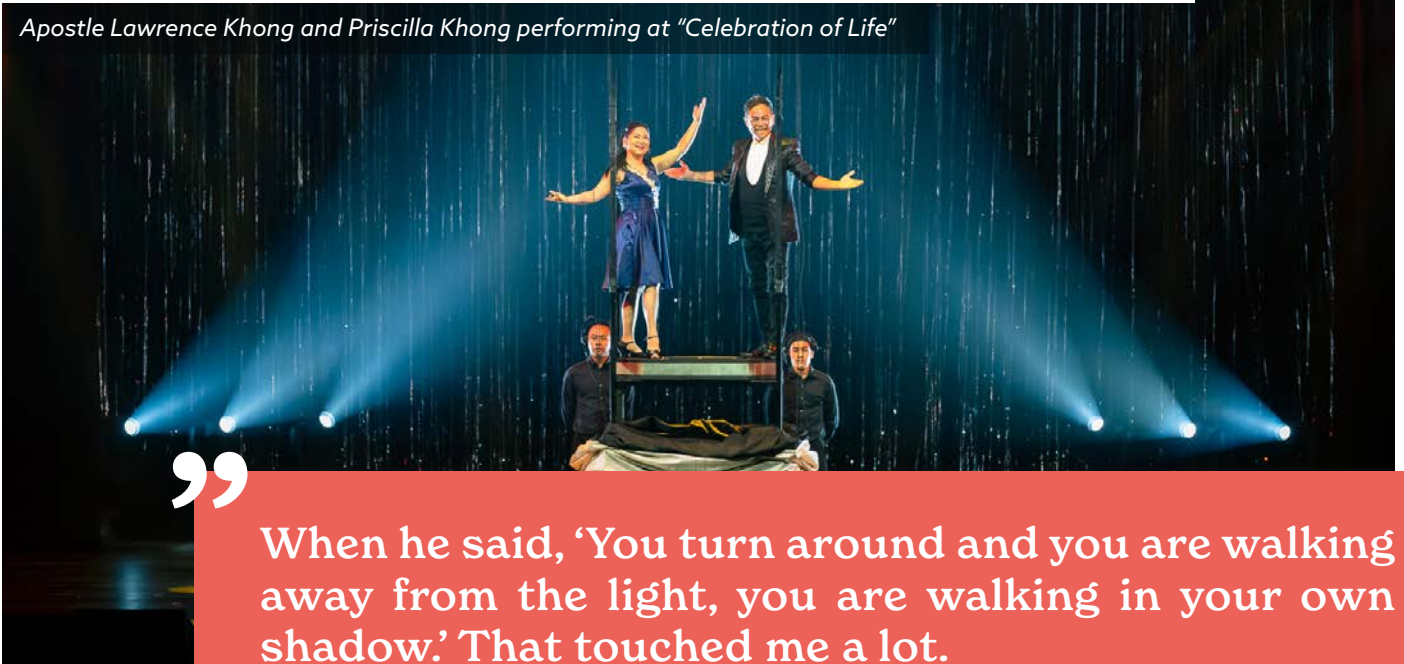
Some cast of “Celebration of Life”

”

I found that there are a lot of values in the show that I learnt... I felt like I really could understand what he was talking about, even though I'm a non-believer.

- CAYDEN, FRIEND OF AN FCBC MEMBER

Apostle Lawrence Khong and Priscilla Khong performing at "Celebration of Life"



”

When he said, 'You turn around and you are walking away from the light, you are walking in your own shadow.' That touched me a lot.

- BRIAN, FRIEND OF AN FCBC MEMBER

”

The integration of magic tricks with the sharing of the gospel wasn't forced, it wasn't direct. My friends around me also felt comfortable and at ease.

- GABRIEL, FRIEND OF FCBC MEMBER

no. of shows:	<u>15</u>
total tickets taken:	<u>11,529</u>
no. of recorded decisions:	<u>410</u>
response forms filled:	<u>133</u>

Group photo taken at the Mid-Autumn celebration



The event was fun. The mooncake-making activity was engaging. I enjoyed the games and mooncake activities very much. Many thanks to the organisers.

- ANGEL, FRIEND OF FCBC MEMBER



FCBC staff and members also continued to leverage a variety of avenues to bring the gospel in tangible ways to the community and new groups of people.

The Chinese & Hokkien Ministry, with the support of the Young Adults Ministry, organised the first Mid-Autumn celebration for Chinese-speaking young adults. The event, which included game sessions and a special mooncake-making session, was especially memorable for members and their pre-believing friends.



Some of the attendees at the Mid-Autumn celebration

A XFXZ group from the National University of Singapore



Our young adult members studying in the universities also continued to actively reach out on the campuses. Using 幸福小组 (XFXZ) or the “Happiness Group” programme with groups formed in all three major universities. With the support of our Young Adults Ministry, they fostered a safe and supportive environment to share conversations and grow together.



A team of members and staff led by Pastor Patsy Gan also ran XFXZ at St Luke’s ElderCare Centre in Marine Parade for the second year.

The team augmented the Centre’s existing programmes by organising enrichment activities to engage the elderly, which allowed relationships to form. These include arts and crafts and game sessions to foster creativity, improve their fine motor skills and cognitive function, enable socialisation, and bring about much joy and laughter.

Music activities were also included in the outreach, enhancing community spirit and emotional well-being, while sharing Bible stories provided spiritual nourishment, comfort, hope, and valuable lessons.



The elderly at St Luke’s ElderCare Marine Parade Centre participating in arts and crafts activities



Volunteers of our Mid-Autumn distribution



Thank you for buying food and groceries, and visiting us during COVID time.

We felt warmth and love.

- MR LIM BOON HAO & MDM YEO, ANG MO KIO RESIDENTS



Volunteers accompanying the elderly as they head out for Mid-Autumn festivities

A separate team of FCBC members continued to volunteer in the Ang Mo Kio community, under the auspices of TCS' Befriender programme.

Over the past five years, FCBC members took part in visiting and serving the elderly, offering companionship and assistance. Beyond regular visitations, the team also organised monthly breakfast parties and special outreach events that included distribution of Chinese New Year goodies, mooncakes, and local biscuits during the Mid-Autumn Festival, bringing cultural celebrations and goodies to the residents. These efforts enabled our members to cultivate meaningful relationships with residents that went beyond the programme. This resulted in open doors to share the gospel which led to seven decisions made for Jesus.



FCBC's children also rose up to reach out and invite their pre-believing friends to church. GKidz organised a slew of exciting themed events for Easter, Children's Day, and Christmas. With fun games, interactive skits, and experiential activities, the harvest events were designed for the young ones to learn about the gospel in engaging ways, with easy-to-apply life application lessons.



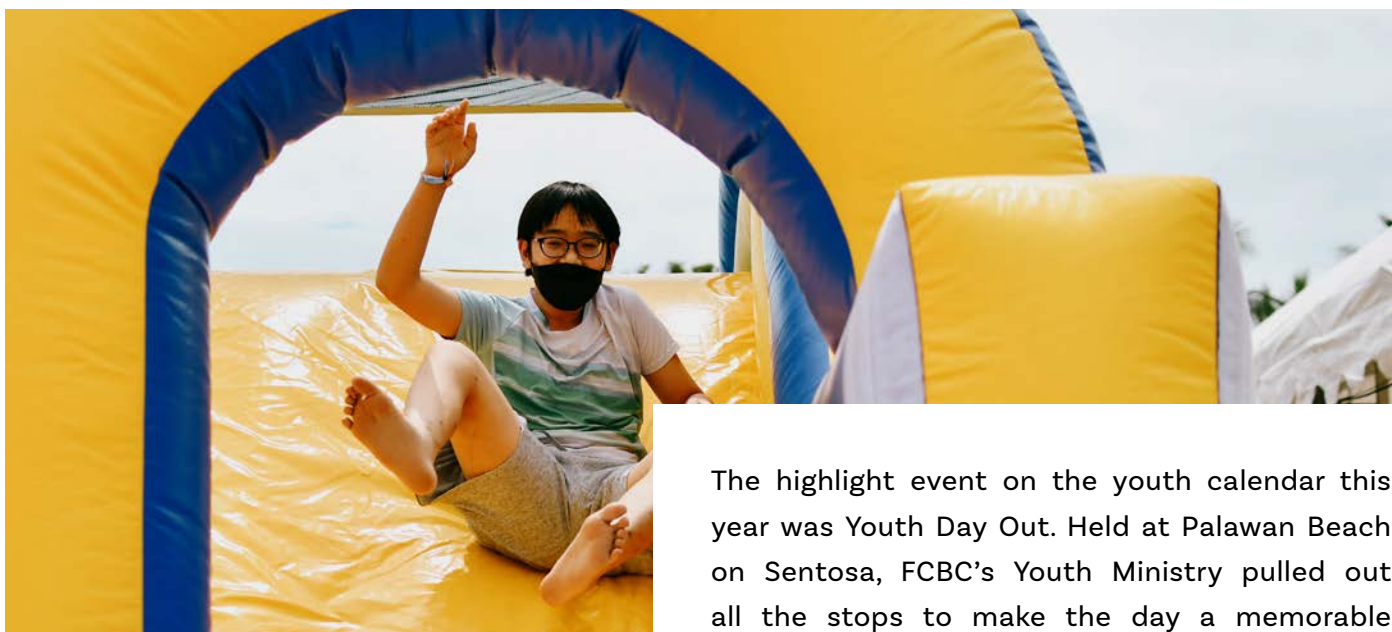
Photos from GKidz's Children's Day event: Arcade Adventureland

Special GKidz harvest events in 2023 saw:

>1,590
attendances

>400
visitors

>180
responses to the altar call



The highlight event on the youth calendar this year was Youth Day Out. Held at Palawan Beach on Sentosa, FCBC's Youth Ministry pulled out all the stops to make the day a memorable one for our youths and their pre-believing friends. Attendees were treated to a plethora of inflatables, games, art activities, food, and performances.



With the strong turnout and active participation of our youths, visitors got a glimpse of our vibrant community, enabling outreach beyond church walls.



Activities and attendees at Youth Day Out

BUILDING THE CHURCH

In this season of renewal, the Special People Ministry pioneered the conduct of a Baptism Service dedicated specially to members who are deaf or with intellectual challenges (Mint). Organised in September 2023, we aimed to provide an inclusive and barrier-free experience that would enable them to fully participate in baptism and be welcomed formally into the FCBC family. Held at the scenic GT Sky Garden, the event was meticulously planned to accommodate the unique needs of these members, ensuring a welcoming and accessible environment for them and their families.

Pastor Chua Yong Wee, pastor-in-charge of the Special People Ministry, facilitated the preparation of the 23 candidates for baptism and membership transfer. Special

considerations were made for Mint members including additional briefings to guide candidates through the baptism process and practical preparations. On the day of the service, participants received on-site walkthroughs and were supported by additional volunteers to facilitate their participation.

This landmark service marked the first occasion FCBC hosted a separate Baptism Service for Deaf and Mint members, reflecting the church's commitment to inclusivity and accessibility. The initiative was met with enthusiasm by the participants and gratitude from their families, who appreciated the thoughtful arrangements that acknowledged and catered to their specific needs.

Group photo taken at the Deaf and Mint Baptism Service



After trusting Christ, my relationship with my father improved.

I became more mature in my communication and attitude towards others, and I have also grown to become more understanding towards others. - CHENG MENG, DEAF MEMBER

”



Photos taken at the Deaf and Mint Baptism Service



Baptism Declaration

Dear Lord Jesus, as I enter the waters of baptism today, I commit myself wholly to You. I believe that You died on the cross for my sin, and that You defeated death when You rose again.

Baptisms serve as a public declaration of our faith in Jesus Christ, and an act of obedience to God's word. Baptism weekends at FCBC are a celebratory affair, with Touch Centre packed with friends and family cheering.

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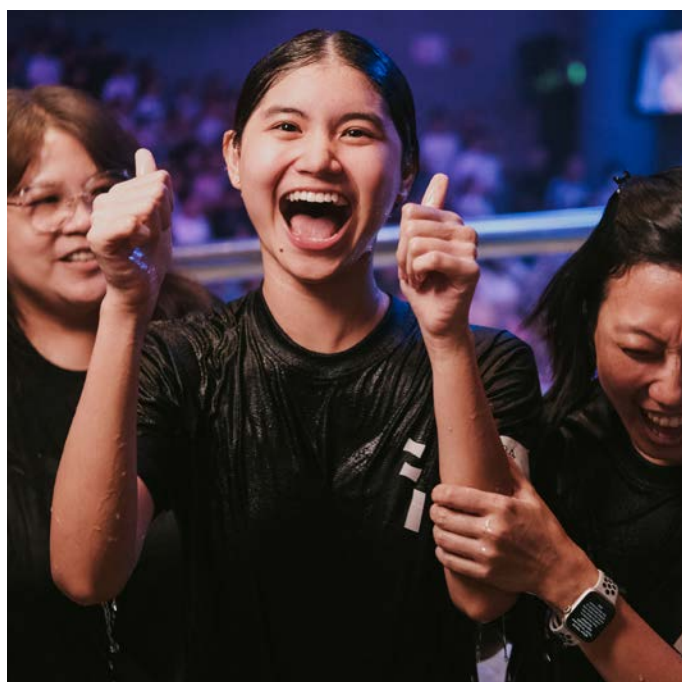
baptism weekends
conducted

250

people
baptised

40

new members
via transfer



Photos taken at Baptism Service



”

It wasn't easy to quit all of my bad habits but I know that I am not alone in this journey. God is there for me and despite my past, He is faithful and always remembers me. His love never fails and in Him, I'm complete.

This is why my baptism name is 'Zechariah', which means God remembers.

- ZECHARIAH LIM CHUN MING



Photos taken at Baptism Service



”

My faith in God was truly tested when my youngest son was diagnosed with leukaemia at just 10 months old. In the midst of this turmoil, I felt a persistent prompting to surrender his life to God. I yielded, acknowledging my own limitations and placing my trust in His hands. After that prayer, a sense of peace washed over me, and within a few hours, my son's condition improved.

My son's journey to recovery serves as a constant reminder of God's love and provision, instilling in me a profound gratitude for His unwavering presence in our lives.

- LIM ZONG HAN

re's nobo
nobody



Pastor Wendy Eng solemnising a wedding



The role of the church in weddings is not just to conduct a ceremony, but to help members set up strong Christian homes. To that end, FCBC's Marriage Preparation Course comprehensively guides couples to explore Bible-based viewpoints on a variety of subjects, including financial management, communication principles, and family dynamics, among others. Aided by expert trainers from TCS, FCBC pastors personally mentor couples who register in the Course, and are privileged to officiate and solemnise the couple at their wedding. A total of 28 weddings were conducted by FCBC pastors in 2023.



Pastor Poh Wee Long solemnising a wedding

Participants of a Hokkien Encounter



In 2023, the church continued to organise a variety of training courses to equip members. These include the Spiritual Warfare Weekend, and training on how to host “Happiness Groups” or XFXZ. In the second half of the year, a comprehensive review of LifeClass and the overall training framework was initiated to ensure the curriculum is aligned with the G12 Vision and with our church’s doctrinal philosophy. LifeClass was re-launched in March 2024 while the entire review is expected to be completed in the same year.

14 rounds
of lifeclass conducted

193 people
completed

09 courses
ran in 2023

447
participants



A participant sharing during the Women's Encounter



Youths under the YLTG programme serving at a camp

Training was also conducted for our youth and children. The Youth Leaders Training on the Go (YLTG) programme was set up to cultivate essential leadership skills and Christ-like servanthood among young individuals who are willing to answer the call to be cell leaders. Through hands-on training, a new generation of future young leaders were equipped to guide their peers and embody the values of service and leadership.



Participants of GKidz Super Camp learnt biblical and kingdom values through experiential learning

Equipping camps for different age groups were also organised for our GKidz children to learn about who God is, how to better love our family members, as well as instil positive kingdom values through experiential learning. Our three GKidz equipping camps conducted in 2023 saw a total of 257 participants.

Some participants at the Disaster Preparedness Training



Recognising the increasing frequency of natural disasters globally, TI has been instrumental in training FCBC members for missions and disaster response. The Disaster Preparedness Training and the more advanced Disaster Assistance & Response Training (DART) equipped 75 and 18 participants respectively with essential skills and knowledge to respond effectively in crisis situations. These training sessions align with FCBC's mission to show Christ's love through practical help and to be prepared for unforeseen challenges.



Some participants at the Disaster Preparedness Training

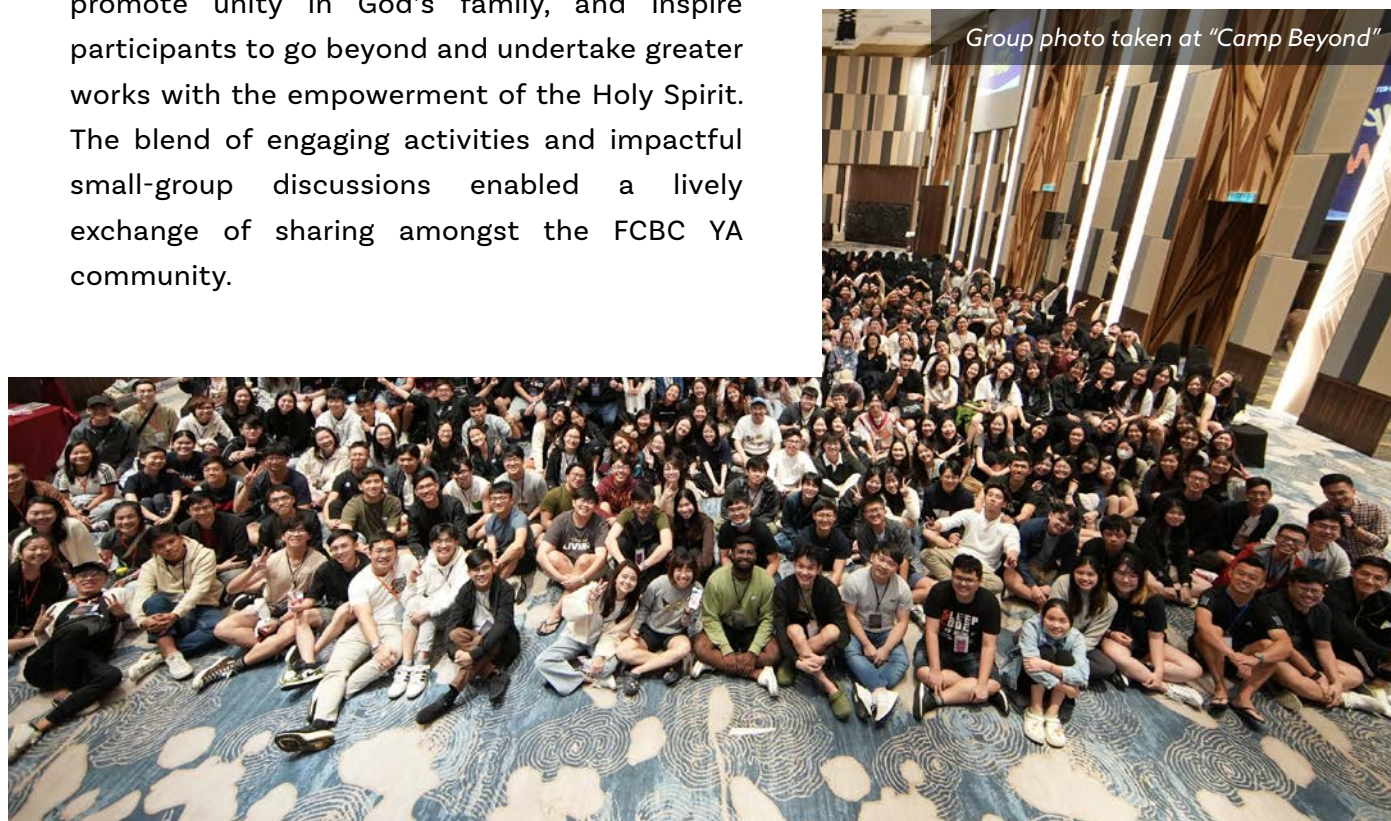
Participants of "Camp Beyond" competing in a game



Overseas camps made a welcome return to the calendar for FCBC's youths and young adults.

The inaugural Young Adults (YA) combined overseas camp for 328 campus students and young working adults was held in Johor Bahru, Malaysia, themed "Camp Beyond". Camp sessions were organised to deepen their faith in Christ, promote unity in God's family, and inspire participants to go beyond and undertake greater works with the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. The blend of engaging activities and impactful small-group discussions enabled a lively exchange of sharing amongst the FCBC YA community.

Group photo taken at "Camp Beyond"



Pastors Roland Lee and Lai Fun ministering at "Camp Beyond"



"The YA Camp's theme, 'Going Beyond,' initiated a profound transformation within me. It helped me recognise that my existence is intertwined with God's purpose and that I'm destined to contribute positively through His works. This realisation urged me to transcend the routine of studies and work."

- "CAMP BEYOND" PARTICIPANT



Participants of "Camp Beyond" were challenged to embrace their wealth in Christ and walk in unity with God's family

"This is Living" camp participants in Kluang



Our youths were also engaged in meaningful activities of service, teamwork, fun, and games in their "This is Living" camp held in Kluang, Malaysia. 464 youths came together for sessions of equipping, worship, and learning of biblical values through play. They also worked together to organise a carnival, set up game and food stalls, delivered musical performances, and connected with students from Kluang SMK Canossian Convent to raise funds for the school. The stay-in camp fostered stronger bonds amongst our youths, encouraged a lifestyle of service, and created wonderful shared memories in their journey of faith.

The Youth Ministry also organised a year-end camp for 55 youths who completed their 'N' and 'O' levels, named "What Would Jesus Do" (WWJD). Designed to develop our youths to love and lead like Jesus, the camp equipped them with key principles on servant leadership and exposed the participants to different service platforms within the church.

The Youth Ministry also organised a series of Youth Service Specials coinciding with notable events among Singapore's youth. These events sought to provide biblical perspectives on recognisable topics and challenge the youths to live according to God's will.



Heading out for community engagement during the "This is Living" camp

To strengthen family bonds and support church members transiting through different life stages, special services and talks were organised for families, our National Servicemen (NSFs), young adults, and parents to prepare them for life's challenges and opportunities.

The Family Life Ministry continued its momentum to build strong families in FCBC. In collaboration with TCS, the "Parenting in Transitioning Years" series was organised to equip parents with effective strategies and values for navigating the challenging parenting years. More than 50 sets of parents participated in the parenting equipping series.



Photo taken at F.A.M.I.L.Y Day

To promote mental wellness in families, initiatives like the Family Life Group were established to support individuals in their mental wellness journey, blending biblical insights, scientific research, and practical tools to aid recovery and strengthen relationships with their family. These efforts underscore FCBC's commitment to fostering a nurturing and informed community that values strong family connections and mental well-being.

A special F.A.M.I.L.Y Day event was also held in May 2023 during Youth Service to celebrate and promote family unity. With the theme "Father and Mother, I Love You", the event featured engaging activities, including stage games for parents and youths, a family dedication segment, and a compelling message from Pastor Roland Lee on fostering stronger family relationships. Family packs were distributed, containing items designed to encourage daily expressions of gratitude, fun family interactions, and a 40-day journey to live out love, reinforcing the importance of family ties. More than 1,200 attendees celebrated family unity at the event.



Attendees of the Pre-NS Talk

The Pre-National Service (NS) Talk for pre-enlistees has been instrumental in preparing young men for military service. Through collaboration with other groups such as the Military Christian Fellowship, this initiative has garnered praise for its practical approach, significantly easing the transition for enlistees into military life. Supplementary efforts, including the NSF Telegram Devo Bot and the support from NS Befrienders, further contribute to a holistic support system for NSFs, underscoring FCBC's dedication to assisting young adults through this pivotal life stage.

Another group that the church hopes to support more intentionally are members who are just entering the workforce. A series of career-oriented events, such as YA Careers Ready, Work Ready, and Market-Able Connect, connect experienced mentors and professionals with those who are just starting out. These events offer invaluable workforce advice and insights into purpose-driven careers.

Panelists sharing at Work Ready



GA's production: "The Monster in the Mirror"



The arts continue to be a powerful platform for initiating faith-based conversations on themes relevant to today's audiences. FCBC booked exclusive shows for GA's productions, "The Monster in the Mirror" and "12 Going On 13", which were targeted at youths. These productions addressed mental health issues through captivating performances and relatable stories that resonated with young audiences.

Post-show discussions, led by trained counsellors from TOUCH Mental Wellness, were a crucial part of these events, enabling youths to unpack emotions and issues, learn coping strategies, and access resources. These talks also featured mental health professionals and youth mentors, providing valuable insights and real-world applications of the show's themes, making them engaging and educational.

The themes and discussion points raised in their shows served as an entry point for further conversation. Our youth leaders were able to leverage these themes to engage in deeper, more meaningful discussions with their members. Although designed for a wider, secular audience, GA's programmes served as an excellent platform for deepening faith and mentorship among children and youth.

**GA's Shows
booked by FCBC:**

"The Monster in the Mirror"

**01 Show
500 Attendees**

"12 Going On 13"

**03 Shows
40 Attendees Each
120 Attendees in Total**

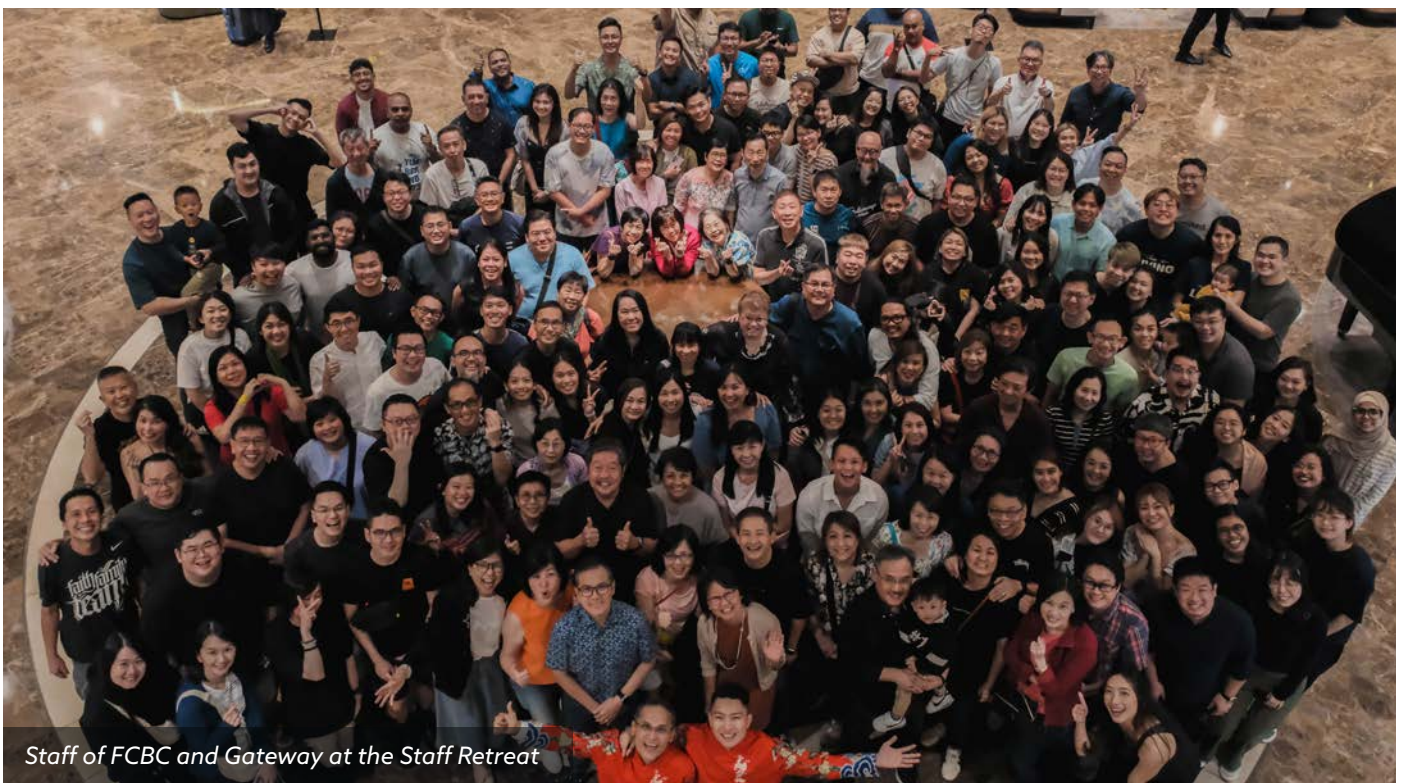


Emcees of the Staff Retreat's Gala Dinner

This year was also the first time after the pandemic that FCBC and Gateway staff were treated to an overseas retreat in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. This event was a significant milestone for us, with 117 staff members and 21 family members joining in the retreat.

The retreat catered for inter- and intra-departmental bonding activities as well as free time for everyone to relax and rejuvenate. As a fitting conclusion to our retreat,

we hosted a gala dinner. This special evening celebrated our time together, acknowledged the dedication and hard work of our staff, and appreciated the family members for their support. Long service awards were presented to 23 deserving individuals - 21 from FCBC and two from Gateway. This gesture was a heartfelt recognition of their commitment and significant contributions to our organisation.



Staff of FCBC and Gateway at the Staff Retreat

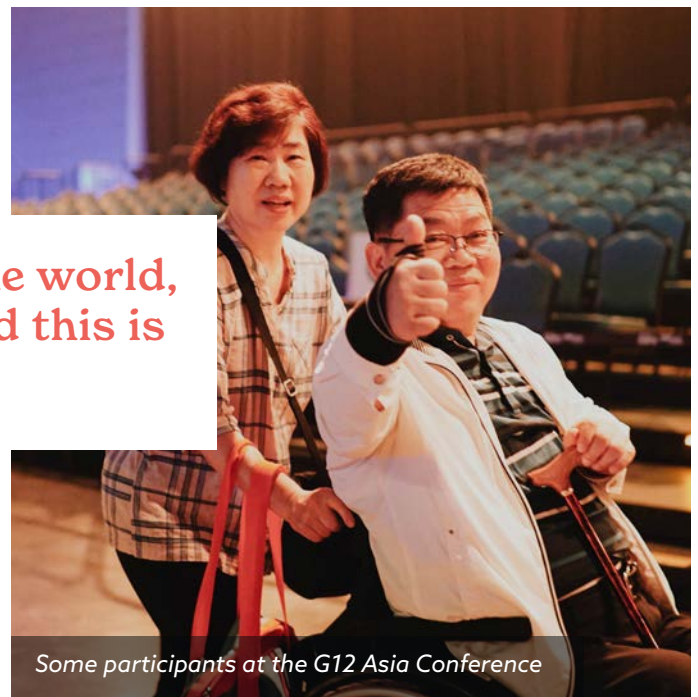
SERVING THE NATIONS

The G12 Asia Conference 2023 was a much anticipated reunion for the G12 family in Asia, held over four days in August for the very first time since the pandemic. Esteemed speakers including Pastors César and Claudia Castellanos, Pastors Bert and Charné Pretorius, and Pastor Lawrence Khong, among others, delivered inspiring messages, lighting a path forward for G12 churches in Asia. Senior Pastor Daniel Khong summed up the entire Conference theme with his opening message, “The Light of the World”, where he said:

"Because Christ is the light of the world, we are the light of the world, and this is the light the world needs."

This Conference was more than a gathering; it was a beacon of hope, empowering participants to shine Christ’s light in their communities. Delegates were inspired to persevere and uplift those burdened by darkness. Pastor Claudia

Castellanos highlighted the transformative nature of the G12 Vision, stating, “this is the Vision that transforms lives, families, and nations”. Meanwhile, Pastor César Castellanos urged delegates to never stop dreaming and to seek the Lord’s guidance as they make disciples of all nations.



Some participants at the G12 Asia Conference



Delegates worshipping at the G12 Asia Conference



Pastor César Castellanos (right) sharing at the G12 Asia Conference

8,217 Delegates

3,569 Overseas Delegates

24 Countries Represented

26,982 Online Viewers

Largest Overseas Delegation:
The Philippines (1,596)



Group photo taken at the G12 Asia Conference



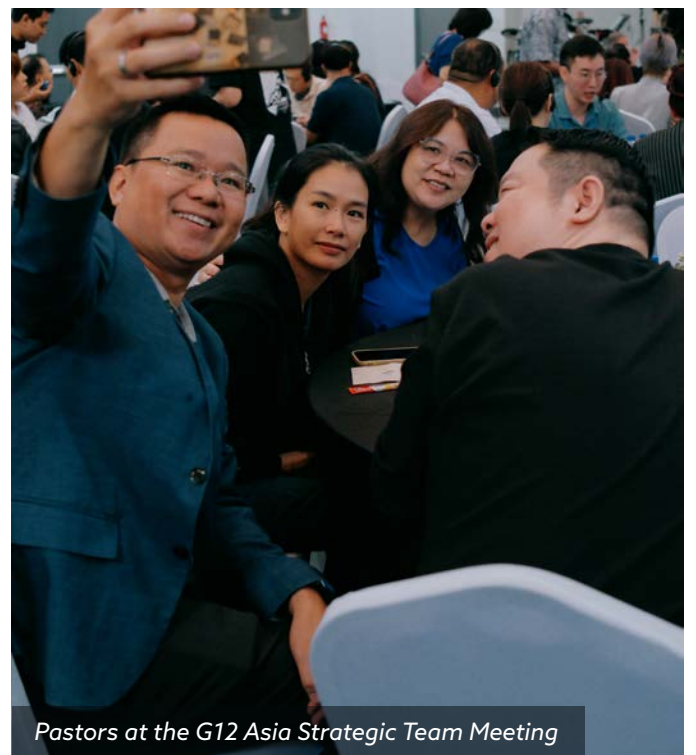
Pastor Daniel Khong addressing the pastors at the G12 Asia Strategic Team Meeting

The Strategic Team Meeting that followed the Conference further cemented this vision. This exclusive two-day event brought together 70 pastors, including key strategic pastors from across Asia, to discuss how they can collaborate and strengthen the G12 Vision in the region. They shared stories of God's work in their nations, discussed challenges, and planned future initiatives, including a G12 Asia Leadership Summit in 2024.

2023's G12 Asia Conference and Strategic Team Meeting not only reunited the G12 family but also reignited a collective passion to bring positive change across Asia, demonstrating the power of faith and collaboration in overcoming challenges and spreading hope.



Pastors at the G12 Asia Strategic Team Meeting



Pastors at the G12 Asia Strategic Team Meeting



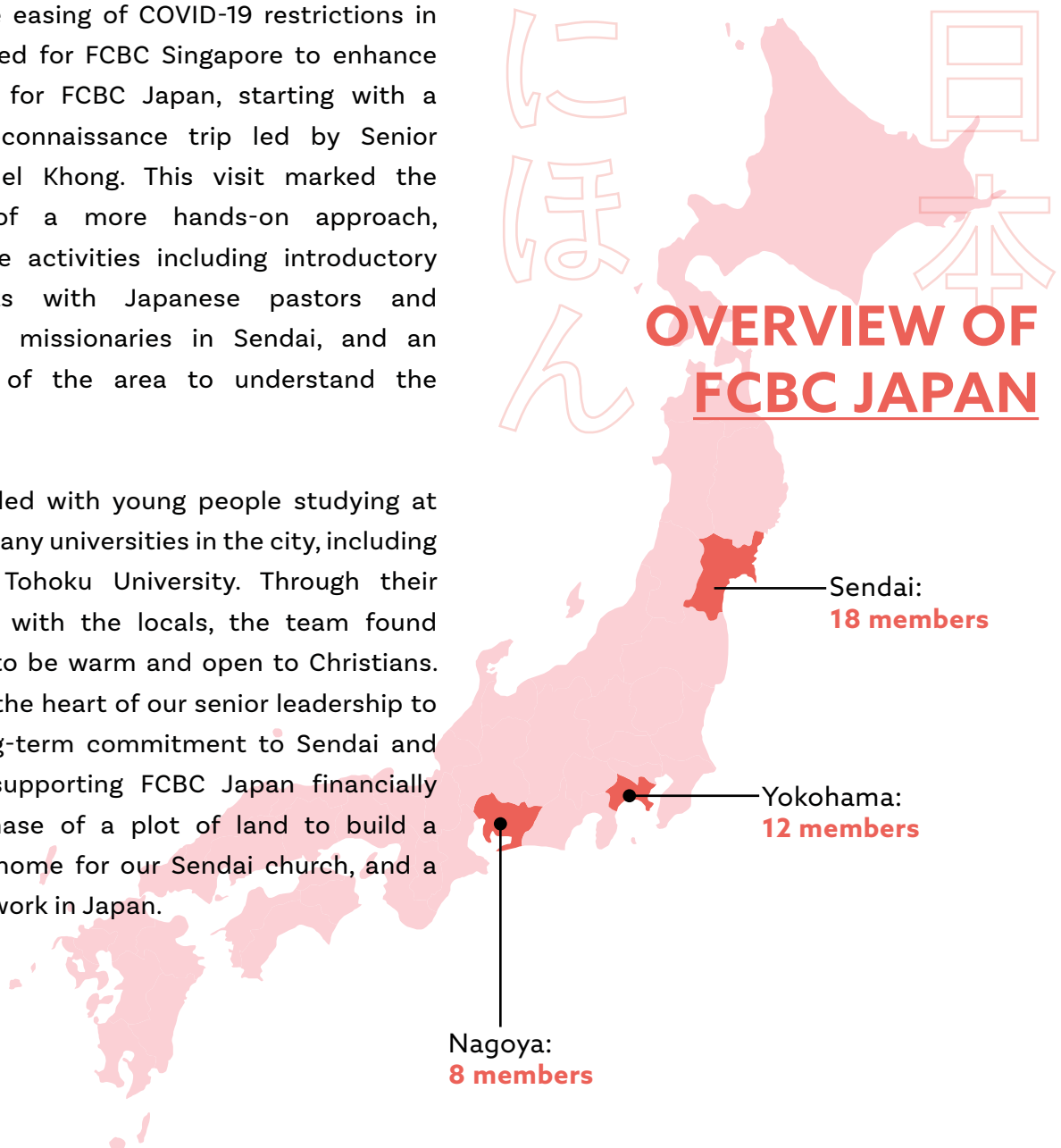
We are not going anywhere. We are going to plant ourselves there... The Lord placed on our hearts to buy land this year, to say that we are here and we are not going to leave.

- SENIOR PASTOR DANIEL KHONG

In 2023, the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in Japan allowed for FCBC Singapore to enhance its support for FCBC Japan, starting with a strategic reconnaissance trip led by Senior Pastor Daniel Khong. This visit marked the beginning of a more hands-on approach, with notable activities including introductory engagements with Japanese pastors and Singaporean missionaries in Sendai, and an exploration of the area to understand the city better.

Sendai is filled with young people studying at one of the many universities in the city, including top-ranked Tohoku University. Through their interactions with the locals, the team found the people to be warm and open to Christians. God stirred the heart of our senior leadership to make a long-term commitment to Sendai and Japan, by supporting FCBC Japan financially in its purchase of a plot of land to build a permanent home for our Sendai church, and a hub for our work in Japan.

日本にほん OVERVIEW OF FCBC JAPAN





FCBC pastors and staff together with members from FCBC Sendai

A second trip was organised, bringing together members from the three FCBC Japan locations in Sendai, Yokohama, and Nagoya for a Family Camp. This gathering was further enriched by the participation of pastors and staff from Singapore, including Pastors Lawrence and Daniel, who conducted sessions that inspired members. They were encouraged to form “3x3” prayer groups, fostering a deeper sense of community and spiritual engagement. A select group extended their stay to visit members across the various locations, reinforcing the church’s mission and outreach efforts.

FCBC Japan also resumed its vibrant outreach and community engagement. Noteworthy initiatives included weekly online English sessions, live English conversation groups, and targeted outreach in Sendai.



Pastor Lawrence's sharing about evangelism really spoke to me. I'm reminded that revival happens within me!

I don't want tradition or culture to hinder me from reaching out. I want to preach the gospel with boldness and a sense of urgency!

- CHIEKO KUSUMI

Pastor Asher Tan conducting a workshop for FCBC Dili leaders on how to plan and lead ice-breakers



Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, FCBC Dili showcased exceptional resilience and adaptability in maintaining community connections and spiritual engagement. Embracing a hybrid approach from October 2021 to 2023, FCBC Dili combined on-site services with Zoom and WhatsApp Video, reaching members across different districts and even those in Singapore, highlighting their commitment to inclusivity and connection.

This time period showcased FCBC Dili's strength and independence, underpinned by the unwavering support from FCBC Singapore through strategic visits. The local leadership in Dili led the congregation, ensuring the church's vitality and growth

FCBC Dili's outreach extends beyond its primary location, with a cell group and children's club planted in the town of Luro, Lautem District, which is a seven-hour drive from Dili.

Senior Pastor Daniel Khong made his introductory visit to Timor Leste in 2023, accompanied by a team of FCBC pastors. While in Dili, the team met with our congregation in Dili, had meaningful interactions with local church leaders, explored potential collaborations, and included meetings with other Singaporean missionaries in Timor Leste. Key activities during the trip involved ministering at Christian Vision Church and planning support for Faith House, which serves as a hostel for female university students in Dili and the base for our missionaries stationed in the city.

Looking ahead, FCBC Singapore is committed to deepening its support for FCBC Timor Leste. Future plans include deploying teams to enhance leadership training, expand children's club activities in Dili and Luro, support outreach programmes, and assist with Faith House and church premises maintenance.

Children entertained during a Christmas performance in Dili





Attendees of a Christmas celebration in Dili

OVERVIEW OF FCBC TIMOR LESTE

FCBC Dili:
20 members
25 children

Faith Children's Club, Luro:
5 members
25 children

132

participants in Easter,
Christmas*, and other
outreach events

**FCBC Dili's Faith Children Club also ran a Christmas programme for 40 children and saw 33 salvations*

Out of
43 visitors

the events saw:

36
salvations

&

11
rededications



Visiting the villagers in Nepal

FCBC also worked closely with TI in 2023 to strengthen its mission partnerships after the pandemic. This collaboration was focused on reconnecting with pastors and organisations from various nations, with a special emphasis on Japan, Timor Leste, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and expanding to Cambodia and Myanmar. FCBC staff and members actively supported two reconnaissance trips:



Enjoying a meal in Nepal



Group photo taken in Cambodia

Nepal

A small team of four, comprising staff from TI and FCBC and two FCBC volunteers, visited Kathmandu, Lahan, Nuwakot in Nepal over 11 days in November 2023. The purpose of the trip was to assess how infrastructure such as toilets, wells, and a hall were serving the community five years after it was first built by TI volunteers in 2018. The trip also provided insights into further improvements that the community needed to aid TI in planning for future trips.

Cambodia

50 teachers from the Methodist School of Cambodia were equipped with teaching pedagogies and classroom engagement skills in a workshop conducted by 14 FCBC volunteers (including three children) and two TI staff as part of TI's TeachUP initiative. The visit by the team helped identify areas for improvements to the programme and teaching curriculum needed by the school, which is led by Timothy and Cindy Tan, who are FCBC members.

The collaborative efforts of FCBC and TI in 2023 enabled a deeper understanding of the needs on the ground, to better design training and mission programmes to serve those needs and bring about meaningful change and support to communities worldwide.

SUPPORTING THE NATIONS



11 NATIONS REACHED IN ASIA:

We embarked on church planting work in Japan and Timor Leste, and supported church-building projects, conferences, and humanitarian work in countries like Myanmar and Vietnam. We also provided resources to NGOs in their work among the refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless people. The church also supported outreach programmes by Christian Organisations including the **Thirst Collective Limited**, **YWAM University of the Nations in Bali**, **Trans World Radio Asia**, **Methodist Missions Society in Cambodia**, and **YWAM Singapore Training Office**.

WE BLESSED:

04 Non-Governmental Organisations

07 Christian Organisations

50 Churches





Photo taken at Vietnam United Gospel Outreach Church's Election Conference

In Vietnam, the Vietnam United Gospel Outreach Church led by Pastor Daniel Pham has over 300 house churches around the country. The church has faithfully served under the guidance of the Lord for the past 26 years. In 2018, the church submitted a request to the government to register under the name, United Gospel Outreach Church. The government promised to grant them official status as a religious organisation after a five-year period.

When approval was granted this year, the church organised an Election Conference immediately, where they would introduce the new board to the government – a crucial step in obtaining official status. As they had difficulties raising funds for the conference cost within a short period, FCBC supported them with funds to defray part of the costs.



Photo taken at Vietnam United Gospel Outreach Church's Election Conference

BLESSING SOCIETY



From May to August, a team from FCBC led by Pastor Jasper Chia, volunteered with TCS and participated in the National Day Parade (NDP). They played a pivotal role in supervising hundreds of TOUCH Motivators who were mostly pre-tertiary student volunteers, demonstrating our commitment to community involvement and leadership.

During the four months, the team dedicated themselves to befriending the volunteers as they fulfilled their roles for NDP.

Through their efforts, relationships were formed, thereby creating a community and giving our members an opportunity to mentor these youths and help them grow in their character.

Following NDP's successful conclusion, many of our members remained in contact with these volunteers, which opened outreach opportunities that led to 22 of these students choosing to commit their lives to Jesus.

In the arts, GT saw improvement in the rental and services income as it transitioned from operating primarily as a venue-for-hire to commissioning shows:



Happy Place

Explores the role of media and responsibilities of media personalities.



When Sadness Comes to Call

A play for young audiences to understand sadness.



The Race Around The Moon

A Mid-Autumn play about friendship and selflessness.



Jeff Satur during his concert at GT

Notable Events / Clients

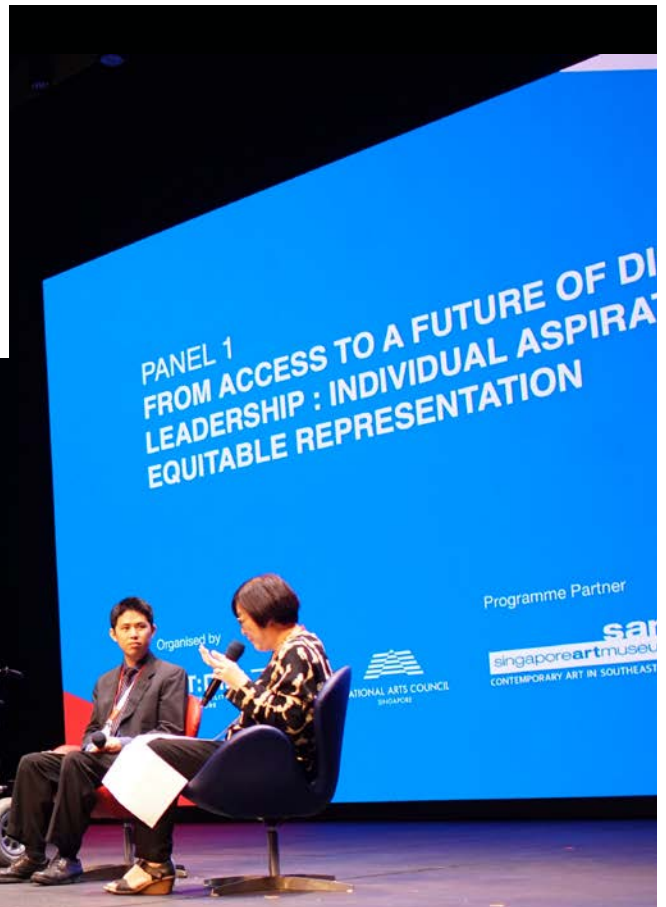
For the third year running, the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation (SYF AP) returned to GT. The festival, organised by the Ministry of Education, provides schools with a platform to allow its students to showcase their creative efforts and receive feedback from industry professionals. The SYF's return to GT cements the Theatre's profile as the venue for young dramatists to have their first taste of the professional stage.

The Theatre also played host to a variety of concerts and dance events, working with reputable promoters to feature the likes of K-pop star eaJ, Japan pop band Burnout Syndromes, and Thai singer-songwriter Jeff Satur. GT is now recognised as a reliable venue for regional and indie acts.

GT continues to support events and initiatives that are beneficial to the community. In 2023, the venue hosted the Arts and Disability Forum which was organised by ART:DIS and the National Arts Council. The Forum explored accessibility and inclusivity in the arts, and brought together arts practitioners, social service organisations, and public agencies. GT also resumed ownership of long-running programme Gateway Kids Club, a free community arts programme for children that features story-telling and play activities. Over 5,300 parents and children participated in Gateway Kids Club in 2023.



Looking ahead, the Theatre is excited to continue its role as a multi-hyphenate venue. In 2024, it will host a re-staging of the interactive and inclusive play “SmartyPants and the Swordfish”, and will also be the venue for pop icon Debbie Gibson’s one-night only concert.



Panel session at the Arts and Disability Forum

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