

P1 / SECOND DECADE

Changing spiritual, social, political and economic situations globally and locally present unique challenges to Raphah Ministries as it enters its Second Decade.

P2 / OVER TO YOU!

After 10 years at the forefront of the ministry, founding leader and Chairperson Linda hands over the torch of leadership.

P3 / PJ CENTRE @ NZX

Commensurate with the growth of the ministry, PJ Centre relocates to larger premises in NZX Commercial Centre.

P5 / THE VIETNAM CALL

Raphah Ministries answers missionary's 2 year call to equip and train local Christian leaders in healing and prayer counselling.

news
private circulation only

Raphah

Healing Hearts, Rebuilding Lives

no. 20

december 2013

Council-Leaders' Retreat 2013



Into the Second Decade

The year 2013 marks a turning point in the annals of Raphah Ministries: the end of one decade and the beginning of another. But even as the ministry advances into its second decade, developing events and trends indicate that the "thick...and deep darkness" over the earth and people (Isaiah 60:2 NKJV), is getting thicker and deeper by the day, and the task of evangelism, healing and restoration to wholeness becoming all the more difficult.

Case in point: In 2000, the Netherlands became the first sover-

eign nation in the world to legalize same sex marriage. Since then, 13 other nations have followed suit, including several majority Catholic countries.

This year, on June 26, the Supreme Court of the United States struck down a key provision of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), paving the way

for individual States to legalize same sex marriage. By November end, 16 States had done so; 6 of them in 2013 alone! In the words of Fred Sainz, vice-president for the Human Rights Campaign, *"LGBT equality advanced more in 2013 than in any other year and at a pace never before seen."*

To add to the growing contro

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Into the Second Decade

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versy over human sexuality, Germany, the birthplace of Martin Luther and Protestantism, declared and legalized the use of a “third gender” with effect from November 1, 2013!

On a different note, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported in 2009 that *Depression* is expected to become the second most disabling disease by 2020. It is currently the fourth.

The Organization also estimates that about 1 million people commit suicide every year; a “global” mortality rate of 16 per 100,000, or one death every 40 seconds. Worldwide, suicide rates are expected to double to 1 suicide every 20 seconds by 2020!

Like a slowly gathering and threatening tsunami, *human sexuality* and *mental health* issues in the Church, are two of the key challenges Raphah Ministries faces as it seeks to bring healing and wholeness to the body of Christ.

Sadly, without the guidance of a clear biblical response and direction by the



“ About 1 million people commit suicide every year: a “global” mortality rate of 16 per 100,000, or one death every 40 seconds. ”

Church, and without an effective grasp of biblical truth, many believers will find themselves with neither the tools nor the skills to tackle these key challenges.

On account of this, Raphah Ministries is committed to the urgent task of accelerating the opportunities for believers to learn and to be equipped with the truth of God’s healing word; with the needful tools and skills to enable them to tackle and overcome rising key challenges, as well as to deal with the unresolved spiritual and personal conflicts

from their past.

In this ongoing engagement, Raphah Ministries is grateful to the many individuals and churches for the encouragement, support and partnership which had carried them through their first 10 years.

Our prayer going forward is that the second decade will not only further stretch our faith in God, but also deepen our dependence on Him and on the Holy Spirit’s leading, teaching and empowering! God be praised!

Over to You!

After helming Raphah Ministries for the first 10 years—from 2003 to 2013—as joint founder, then PJ Centre Team Leader, and lastly as Chairperson of both the Raphah Council and Board of Directors, LINDA TANG is passing on the torch of leadership, and has stepped down from her various roles in August 2013, to devote time to her family, in particular husband Michael.

Prior to Michael’s retirement, the couple had led active lives in Christian ministry, and Linda felt that now was a good time for the couple to step back and spend some quality time catching up.

Grateful and thankful for her many years of service and devotion to the ministry,



the Council and Board acceded to her decision to retire. Pastor IRENE LEE, fellow joint founder and Director, took over the torch from Linda as Chairperson, and MAE LEE took over as Director of Raphah Berhad.

Linda leaves behind a huge void which will take time to fill, but we are confident that God will continue to supply and build on the good work begun by Linda and the other joint founders.

Thank you, Linda, and God’s shalom, shalom, on your future endeavours!

"Enlarge the place of your tent. And let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; do not spare; lengthen your cords, and strengthen your stakes. For you shall expand to the right and to the left, and your descendants will inherit the nations and make the desolate cities inhabited." (Isaiah 54:2-3 NKJV)

PJ Centre @ NZX Dedication



Outside View



Training Area



Pastor Lai anointing PJ Centre's name placque



Refreshments Area



Admin Office



Conference & Prayer Room



Refresh Room



Prayer Counselling Room

“ Do not spare; ...For you shall expand to your right, and to your left. ”



Workers' Day, 1 May 2013, marked a new beginning for Raphah Ministries as PJ Team members and guests gathered to witness the dedication of PJ Centre's new premises in NZX Commercial Centre, Ara Jaya.

After 10 years of ministry working from a single-storey bungalow house in Jalan SS2/2, Petaling Jaya, the Council felt the time had come to source for larger premises to accommodate the growing needs of the ministry.

In November 2012, two floors of an unoccupied office lot in Ara Jaya were secured on a 3-year lease. Renovations and fitting out began in earnest in December and were completed in January 2013. The shift from SS2/2 to Ara Jaya began and was completed on Monday, 20 January with the help of the staff, team members and movers.

At the service of Dedication on 1 May, guests heard testimonies of the goodness of God in providing the place and all the funds needed for the relocation, furnishing and equipping of the new Centre.

Dato STANLEY ISAACS, a dear friend and long standing supporter of the ministry, in addressing the Team and guests, acknowledged and gave praise to God for the advances made by the ministry since its founding in 2003. He nonetheless challenged the PJ Team to not rest on their laurels, but to be more "aggressive" in their efforts to bring the ministry of healing and wholeness to the local churches.

Pastor LAI MOO HIM, another steadfast supporter, then commended the Leadership Team to God in prayer, before anointing the name placques and offering the prayer of Dedication for the Centre.

2013 Team Retreat

Held from 23–25 June 2013, Raphah Ministries' Annual Team Retreat saw some 40 plus people and their cars converging on the Legend Inn, Taiping, for a time of spiritual refreshment, fellowship and ministry with guest minister, Rev. Dr. BERNARD TEH of FGA Taiping.

Organized by Ipoh Centre on behalf of the Ministry, the Retreat was built on the theme: "Living in the Spirit."

Pastor Bernard brought a stirring and inspiring anecdotal message of what it meant to live a daily, down-to-earth experience of the Holy Spirit, sealing his word spoken with much prayer for individual participants and couples.

As a bonus unique to this Retreat, participants went on an outing to the Spritzer bottled water manufacturing plant in Taiping, as well as one of the few remaining wood-fired brick kilns used in the manufacturing of charcoal. Topping this unique outing was a sumptuous dinner treat at a nearby seafood restaurant!

Well-fed, tired but thoroughly satisfied, it was a physically weary but spiritually rejuvenated band of people that presented themselves to pastor Bernard for the final session and night of the Retreat.

Our deepest appreciation to the Ipoh Team for their ministry of love!



At Spritzer's with Dr. Chuah



At Charcoal Kiln



Praying for Pastor Bernard Teh

“ It is impossible to be spiritually mature while remaining emotionally immature. ”

Praying through the Night

Following on the initial event in 2012, Leaders and Associates of the PJ Centre spent two evenings in July 6-7 and October 14-15, respectively, to pray through the night for the Ministry, the Centre's activities, Associates, and related items.

The events were so refreshing and uplifting that they prompted Ipoh Centre to organize a similar "Worship through the Night" event in October as well.

In 2014, God-willing, at least 3 similar events—from 10.00 pm through 6.00 am the

following morning—will be held on 13-14 January, 12-13 May, and 15-16 September 2014.



Praying in the Night

Bintulu Beckons

In February 2013, ONG HONG KHENG, an elder with Life Church, Bintulu, Sarawak, despatched an invitation to PJ Centre: "Can you come over and teach 'Healing, Deliverance and Counselling' to our Church?"

In response, a team of 4 comprising team leader TIMOTHY CHUI, Dr. FLORENCE WANG, Pastor IRENE LEE, and MAE LEE travelled to Life Church, Bintulu, to introduce Healing, Deliverance and Prayer Counselling under the following headings:

- *The Biblical Basis of Christian Healing (Dr. Florence Wang)*
- *An Integrative Approach to Healing Ministry (Timothy Chui)*
- *Identifying Problem Areas (Timothy Chui)*
- *The Sin-Sickness Disease Connection (Pastor Irene Lee)*

In-between teaching sessions, the team were also called on to pray for and minister to members of the congregation who had specifically requested for prayer counselling.

The Bintulu teaching mission was a spiritual eye-opener for many who sat through the sessions, and in an appreciative response, has invited the team to return in 2014 to conduct a further series of training sessions with Life Church, Bintulu. All glory and praise be to God!



Dr. Florence teaching

“And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’” (Acts 16:9 NKJV)

Answering the Call of Vietnam



Top Floor Church



Worshipping at start of Day



Beaming Finishers



Praying for Participant

“ Thank you for loving the people of Vietnam! ”



It took 2 years of praying and waiting on the Lord before Raphah Ministries answered a missionary’s call to go over to Hanoi, Vietnam, to teach on healing and prayer counselling.

A team comprising Pastors VINCENT and JAYZEE, CHIM WAH (from Ipoh Centre) and THI LOAN (a Vietnamese associate of PJ Centre) undertook this teaching assignment, and over a period of 5 full days, from 22–26 July 2013, gave teaching on:

- *The Biblical Basis for Healing Ministry,*
- *Inner Healing and Wholeness,*
- *Healing through Deliverance*
- *Godly Sex and Sexuality*
- *Reclaiming Families and Generations*

At the end of the week, a participant from among the 40 plus who attended the seminars, testified that she had been to many seminars before, but none had so moved or so stirred her heart and spirit, as much as this series of healing seminars, and she was eager to see a similar healing ministry established in Hanoi. Another lady, in tears,

gave testimony to the tremendous healing and release she had found through the teaching and prayers.

As a result of this, the leaders of the Hanoi Christian Fellowship (HCF) extended an invitation to Raphah Ministries to return in October to conduct a round of training especially for pastors and church leaders.

With the encouragement and support of Raphah’s Leadership, Pastors VINCENT, JAYZEE and TIMOTHY returned in October to answer this call. And like the event before, many pastors and leaders heard for the first time the life-changing message of God’s healing, hope and restoration to wholeness.

In a rare expression of emotion at the end of a farewell dinner with the team, the Coordinator of the HCF whispered to Pastor Vincent as they embraced: *“Thank you for loving the people of Vietnam.”*

Raphah Ministries will return to Hanoi again in April 2014, to complete the programme of training begun in July and October.



Meeting HCF Pastors

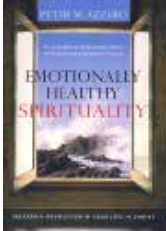


Hungry for God



Road leading to the Church

Emotionally Healthy Spirituality



"It is impossible to be spiritually mature while remaining emotionally immature. ... Unleash a revolution in your life in Christ."

Team members, Associates of both PJ and Ipoh Centres, and friends from Shalem Ministry of Petaling Jaya Evangelical Free Church (PJEFC), undertook a year long study of this book by Peter Scazzero, senior pastor of New Life Fellowship in Queens, New York, USA, with a view, at the end, of drafting a "Rule of Life" that could be adopted collectively for the development and promotion of an Emotionally Healthy Spirituality.

Through first identifying the characteristics of an "emotionally unhealthy spirituality" and then working through a 7-step "Pathway" to an emotionally healthy spirituality, participants better understood the dynamic and critical connection between emotional health and spiritual maturity, and how the two are inseparable.

Grateful thanks to facilitators and participants.



Equipping the Cell Leaders



Smiles at the Finish



Adventurers from the Coffee Corner, Ipoh Centre

Visitors from Ipoh Centre

Raphah Cente PJ recently had the honour and joy of welcoming some distinguished guests from the silver state of Perak.

Comprising a motley crew of a dozen senior saints led by MARY GOH, Centre Manager for Raphah Centre Ipoh, these adventurous souls from the Coffee Corner ministry, made a courtesy call on the Centre on Thursday, 31 October.

Met at the Centre by Pastor IRENE, MAE LEE and LIN NA, they were given a tour and commentary on the Centre and its various facilities. Then, since it was near to

lunch when the guests arrived, they were treated to a healthy, sumptuous, light lunch whipped up by in-house chef Mae. A time of warm fellowship and exchange followed.

Before they knew it, the hours had flown and it was time for the adventurers to take leave for their return train ride to Ipoh.

From what was heard later, the return journey was indeed a side-adventure in itself, as one of the intrepid explorers almost got left behind at the LRT station! But, praise be to God, he who was lost was later found and none the worse for his misadventure!

KCMC Modular Course

In a pilot project spanning the better half of the year 2013, the PJ Centre collaborated with the English Congregation at Klang Chinese Methodist Church (KCMC) to conduct Raphah Ministries' 2-part flagship Prayer Counselling Course for their Leaders and Assistant Leaders in the church's Cell Group Ministry.

Prior to this event, KCMC had hosted a one-day seminar, "Reclaiming Families and Generations" for their English speaking members. The positive feedback from participants—in terms of the teaching and the personal ministry following—encouraged the congregation leaders to initiate the training for their Cell Leaders and Assistant Leaders.

Training sessions—structured according to a modular format—were held on-site at KCMC over several weekends, Saturday and Sunday, from 3.00 pm to 9.00 pm. Although the extended, modular format of training meant it took a longer time for participants to complete their equipping, the intervals between weekends also meant that participants had time to better reflect and assimilate the teaching given. At the same time, conducting the training course in a modular format over weekends also meant that more people could participate, who otherwise might have had difficulty obtaining leave from work to attend the regular full-week Course.

It is with much joy and thankfulness for this partnership, that Raphah Ministries congratulates all 13 participants who successfully completed the full training course in October!

“Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you heard from me in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. ... And the things that you heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” (2 Timothy 1:13; 2:2 NKJV)

Residential School of Prayer Counselling

12-25 October 2014



Accommodation Block,
Methodist Centre



Methodist Centre, Port Dickson

“ As the Father has sent Me, I also send you. ”



When God put it into the hearts of the joint-founders to start Raphah Ministries 10 years ago, He also gave them a vision and a commission: that of a Fire Station, and the instruction to go and train up firemen who would help put out the “fires of personal and spiritual conflict” in believers’ lives. Better yet, they would “teach believers not to play with fire” in the first place!

Over the years, this has remained Raphah Ministries’ core emphasis and ministry: training and equipping believers with the needful biblical truths and tools to tackle and resolve personal and spiritual issues hindering their fruitfulness in Christ.

But despite the very best of their efforts, the constant stream of requests for help with training and help with personal issues, have far outstripped the ability of the Centres to match or respond to the requests. And so the idea of conducting a Residential School to “train the trainers” to meet the growing

needs for equipping was mooted some two years ago. A residential school would also facilitate the attendance of those from outside the Klang and Kinta Valleys and possibly even beyond.

God-willing, Raphah Ministries’ pioneer Residential School of Prayer Counselling and Healing would be held from October 12-25, 2014 at the new and completely rebuilt Methodist Centre, Port Dickson.

Deliberately kept small in size to not more than 40 attendees—singles and couples—the School will run an integrated curriculum covering both biblical teaching and prayer counselling principles and practice, with opportunities for attendees to receive personal ministry from experienced prayer counsellors during the School term.

Those interested to know more about attending, supporting, or sponsoring participants to this Residential School, are encouraged to write to the Rev. VINCENT LAU, care of the respective Raphah Centres.

INFORMATION

RAPHAH MINISTRIES is registered in Malaysia as Raphah Berhad (949004-X) Company limited by Guarantee.

Churches, Associates, Friends and Others who wish to support the work of Raphah Ministries through donations or partnership gifts can make out their gifts to:

PJ Centre:

Raphah Berhad
Public Bank Berhad: 317-111-2727

Ipoh Centre

Raphah Berhad
Public Bank Berhad: 317-148-2428

TRAINING AND MINISTRY CENTRES

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LEADERSHIP

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- Pastor JayZee CHEAH
- Rev. Vincent LAU
- Pastor Irene LEE
- Ms. Mae LEE
- Ms. Katryn TAN
- Dr. Florence WANG

PJ CENTRE

- Mr. Timothy CHUI
- Mrs. Lydia ENG
- Mr. Benny GAN
- Ms. TAN Bee Eng

IPOH CENTRE

- Mdm. CHEAH Chim Wah
- Ms. Jennifer CHEAH
- Mdm. KHOO Siow Chooi
- Ms. Michelle NEOH
- Mrs. Mary RAJENDRAN nee Goh
- Mdm. THOO Oi Lan

Calendar 2014

PJ CENTRE

January

04	Sat	Ministry Team Day / PSG
05	Sun	Leadership Team Meeting
18	Sat	Control, Domination & Manipulation Seminar
19	Sun	Raphah Council Meeting
25	Sat	PreMinistry Course #1

February

08	Sat	Ministry Team Day / PSG
09	Sun	Leadership Team Meeting
22	Sat	PreMinistry Course #2
22	Sat	Embracing Your Identity & Destiny Seminar
22-25	Sun-Tue	Annual Team Retreat

March

01	Sat	Ministry Team Day / PSG
02	Sun	Leadership Team Meeting
08	Sat	Modular School 1-A-1a
09	Sun	Modular School 1-A-1b
15	Sat	Modular School 1-A-2a
16	Sun	Modular School 1-A-2b
22	Sat	Modular School 1-A-3a
23	Sun	Modular School 1-A-3b
29	Sat	PreMinistry Course #3
29	Sat	Modular School 1-A-4a
30	Sun	Modular School 1-A-4b

April

05	Sat	Ministry Team Day / PSG
06	Sun	Leadership Team Meeting
19	Sat	Reclaiming Families & Generations Seminar
26	Sat	PreMinistry Course #4
27	Sun	Raphah Council Meeting

May

03	Sat	Ministry Team Day / PSG
04	Sun	Leadership Team Meeting
17	Sat	Modular School 2-A-1a
18	Sun	Modular School 2-A-1b
24	Sat	Modular School 2-A-2a
25	Sun	Modular School 2-A-2b
31	Sat	PreMinistry Course #5
31	Sat	Modular School 2-A-3a

June

01	Sun	Modular School 2-A-3b
08	Sun	Leadership Team Meeting
14	Sat	Ministry Team Day /PSG
21	Sat	The Power of Forgiveness Seminar
28	Sat	PreMinistry Course #6

July

05	Sat	Ministry Team Day / PSG
06	Sun	Leadership Team Meeting
19	Sat	Healing the Troubled Mind Seminar
20	Sun	Raphah Council Meeting
26	Sat	PreMinistry Course #7

August

02	Sat	Ministry Team Day / PSG
03	Sun	Leadership Team Meeting
30	Sat	PreMinistry Course #8



Smiles at the Finish

September

06	Sat	Ministry Team Day / PSG
07	Sun	Leadership Team Meeting
14	Sun	Raphah Council Meeting
20	Sat	Understanding & Overcoming Rejection Seminar
21-23	Sun-Tue	Council-Leadership Retreat & Planning
27	Sat	PreMinistry Course #9

October

04	Sat	Ministry Team Day / PSG
11	Sat	PreMinistry Course #10
12	Sun	Leadership Team Meeting
12-25	Sun-Sat	Residential School of Healing Ministry

November

01	Sat	Ministry Team Day / PSG
02	Sun	Leadership Team Meeting
29	Sat	PreMinistry Course #11

December

06	Sat	12th Evening of Celebration & Thanksgiving
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IPOH CENTRE

January

02	Thu	Coffee Corner #36
08	Wed	Leadership Team Meeting
09	Thu	Ministry Team Night
11	Sat	Reclaiming Families & Generations Seminar
27	Mon	Prayer Support Group #56

February

05	Wed	Coffee Corner #37
12	Wed	Leadership Team Meeting
13	Thu	Ministry Team Night
15	Sat	Restoring Your Wholeness In Christ Seminar
17	Mon	Prayer Support Group #57
23-25	Sun-Tue	Annual Team Retreat

March

05	Wed	Coffee Corner #38
06	Thu	Ministry Team Night
08	Sat	Control, Domination & Manipulation Seminar
12	Wed	Leadership Team Meeting
31	Mon	Prayer Support Group #58

April

02	Wed	Coffee Corner #39
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08	Tue	Leadership Team Meeting
09-12	Wed-Sat	4-Day Prayer Counselling Ministry Skills Training Course
28	Mon	Prayer Support Group #59

May

07	Wed	Coffee Corner #40
08	Thu	Ministry Team Night
10	Sat	Freedom From Generational Iniquity Seminar
14	Wed	Leadership Team Meeting
26	Mon	Prayer Support Group #60

June

04	Wed	Coffee Corner #41
11	Wed	Leadership Team Meeting
12	Thu	Ministry Team Night
14	Sat	Defeating Anxieties, Fears & Phobias Seminar
30	Mon	Prayer Support Group #61

July

02	Wed	Coffee Corner #42
09	Wed	Leadership Team Meeting
10	Thu	Ministry Team Night
12	Sat	Breaking the Occult Bondage Seminar
21	Mon	Prayer Support Group #62

August

06	Wed	Coffee Corner #43
07	Thu	Ministry Team Night
09	Sat	Healing the Troubled Mind Seminar
13	Wed	Leadership Team Meeting
25	Mon	Prayer Support Group #63

September

03	Wed	Coffee Corner #44
10	Wed	Leadership Team Meeting
11	Thu	Ministry Team Night
13	Sat	Understanding the Dilemma of Homosexuality Seminar
21-23	Sun-Tue	Council-Leadership Retreat & Planning
29	Mon	Prayer Support Group #64

October

01	Wed	Coffee Corner #45
08	Wed	Leadership Team Meeting
09	Thu	Ministry Team Night
11	Sat	Healing from Accidents & Traumas Seminar
27	Mon	Prayer Support Group #65

November

05	Wed	Coffee Corner #46
05	Wed	Leadership Team Meeting
06	Thu	Ministry Team Night
08	Sat	Understanding & Overcoming Depression Seminar
24	Mon	Prayer Support Group #66

December

13	Sat	6th Celebration & Thanksgiving
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