

FBC Today

f i y o u t h

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MAIN SERVICE
| Physical & Youtube |
Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE
| Physical |
Sundays 9:00am

SUNDAY SCHOOL
For Ages 3 to 12
(Preschool to std 6)
Physical Classes
8:45am / 11:15am

U N L E A S H I N G T H E G O S P E L **ENGAGE | ENCOURAGE | EDIFY**

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WHEN GOD CALLS, HE ALSO EQUIPS

Having taken over the role of the head of Usher Ministry at First Baptist Church beginning this year, I am suddenly filled with a deep sense of responsibility. When I was first approached to take up the leadership role, it wasn't an easy decision to make.

I am an introverted person who has the desire to serve God only in areas I deem as 'behind the scenes' and as long as it's not in the capacity of being a leader. Moreover, I was also reluctant to take up the role for fear of not receiving support from the team, being relatively new to the Ministry in comparison to many.

**NEXT
WEEK'S
SERMON**

August 11, 2024

**Gender,
Identity and
the Gospel:
Part 2**

Genesis 1
Preacher:
Arnold Lim

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PROGRAM**

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others in the ministry. I also experience feelings of inadequacy and doubt my qualifications to assume a leadership role that carries a huge responsibility and task.

However, in response to the calling, I am totally grateful for the support I receive from fellow ushers, especially my Team Leaders. What I initially thought I could not handle, God has graciously enabled me. My Team Leaders are dedicated and supportive.

Even though one of our Teams has been disbanded, we have also seen quite a number of new additions to the Ministry this year. Even the team leader who has retired from the ministry has graciously offered continuous support as long as it's needed.

As I look back on the path that led me here, I'm thankful for having taken a leap of faith in response to His call. Through this journey, I've been blessed to witness God's immense love manifested in the dedicated service of His people in this community. Just as what is said in 1 Peter

4:10-11, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."

I believe heading any Ministry comes with its own set of challenges, and the Usher Ministry is no exception. One such moment was seen during the recent Tokyo Swing Jazz Fighters Concert held in March. The number of usher volunteers was few while the attendance, comprising mostly guests, far exceeded our expected number of turnouts.



I wasn't sure if we could handle the crowd due to the limited seating capacity at the very last minute.

However, when we put our trust in God, He always provides aid. Recognizing our need, the Alpha volunteers who are serving that night, quickly stepped in to assist with the event.

While the Ushers directed people to seats, the Alpha helpers brought in additional chairs for those standing at the back. Very quickly, the chaos was brought under control. On top of that, there was a feeling of peace and order, reflecting what comes from serving with a Christ-centered mindset.

Looking back, I'm sincerely grateful to God for everyone who helped out during the event. Though the numbers may be small, I can clearly see the servant's heart in each and every one of them. It is also encouraging to see church volunteers living out Colossians 3:23-24: "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are

serving the Lord Christ." I encourage everyone to consider taking up leadership roles in the church. Do not let fear or feelings of inadequacy hold you back. With God's guidance, you can overcome any obstacles and fulfill your calling. Step forward in faith, trusting that God equips those He calls. As it says in Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength."

Moving forward, I hope to re-establish a special event Team, more commonly known as the Fifth Sunday Team. Presently, we have four teams responsible for leading each Sunday throughout the month. The fifth team will be responsible for serving on the fifth Sundays of the months that have five weeks in them as well as special events like Good Friday, Christmas, and Unforgettable Concerts. I hope that all whom God impresses in their hearts to serve in this area, step forward and offer their service to the ministry. You may contact me or the church office if you feel led to do so.

In conclusion, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each member of our usher team at First Baptist Church. Your service is not just about performing tasks; it is about creating a sacred space where the love of Christ is felt and shared. Let us continue to serve with humility, grace, and an ever-present awareness of the One we ultimately serve. Together, we can make our church a true embodiment of Christ's love and hospitality, welcoming all who come with open hearts and joyful spirits.



By Michelle Lee

Michelle is the Head of the Usher Ministry and attends the Ohana Life group



Prayer for Sunday School

- PRAY for the upcoming SS Bible Camp to be held on 31 Oct to 1 Nov 2024 in FBC. Wisdom and discernment for the Camp committee headed by Sis Genevieve as they plan and organize all the necessary for the smooth running of the 2 days Camp.
- PRAY for the enthusiasm of the volunteers comprising SS teachers/ helpers, Youths and other church members who have committed to assist wherever help is needed.
- PRAY for the lives of the children who will be attending the Camp that the Gospel will be effectively shared and to plant the seeds into their souls so that it will grow into saving faith in the years to come.

