



GOSPEL CITY NETWORK REPORT

July to December 2022

Message from the Executive Director

Dear friends of the Gospel City Network,

I am happy to share our biannual report for July through December 2022 with you.

This report provides an overview of the gospel work we have done in the last six months, along with an update on our financial status.

We envision a citywide ecosystem of churches that collectively advance the gospel and transform the nation. With that vision in mind, we endeavour to contribute to the gospel movement by networking with churches and parachurch organisations, fostering relationships, and providing training to those who serve the church in the Klang Valley.

The past six months have been eventful and encouraging. We established new relationships, started working with content partners, organised joint educational events, and began offering materials in local languages. It is our prayer that these small ripples will continue to have an impact in 2023.

We take this opportunity to thank you for your support and trust that you will continue to stand with us as we serve those who serve the church and make the life of Jesus Christ known.

Sincerely,



Massimo Gei
Executive Director
Gospel City Network



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Our Wins

1. Celebrating with Church Planters

Since June 2022, the **Saradise Church** plant in Kuching started meeting regularly to study the word in a small group.

This came after months of relationship-building and regular gatherings at the park and at home. The Lord has also provided a meeting place in September.



JUNE - STARTED REGULAR MEETING AT HOME
SEPT - A PLACE WAS PROVIDED FOR THE MEETING AT NO COST

Grace Life Community Church at Kota Kemuning began gathering to worship on the first Sunday of the month since September. New friends started to join the pre-launch service which took place in November.

In addition, a Christmas open house event brought in neighbours and friends interested to learn about Christ. Grace Life Community Church plans to start meeting weekly from January 2023 and to launch as a church in February.



SEPT - STARTED MEETING ONCE A MONTH
NOV - PRELAUNCH SERVICE
JAN 2023 - WEEKLY SUNDAY WORSHIP
FEB - TO COVENANT AS A CHURCH



The **New Covenant City Church** in Penang has grown from 23 to 34 members by the end of 2022. Regular Sunday service attendance is about 45, led by three elders.

2. Launched Gospel Bites and Friday Digest

Free monthly Gospel Bites were introduced, with educational videos that focused on the topics of the free Book of the month. Bi-monthly email broadcasts were also used to reach those not on social media platforms.

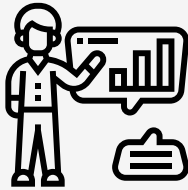
Key Challenges

- Since August, we have not been able to replace the headcount as workload continues to increase. In addition, one of our team recently left for maternity leave, further reducing the team to four.
- There has been a decline in registrations for online-training and conferences. GCN is evaluating online versus in-person events and exploring creative ways to attract and engage the audience.
- GCN is making slow and steady progress towards building a city-wide collaborative effort.



Snapshot

Key Activities from July - December 2022



1 Incubator Cohort
3 Training Series with
Local Churches



3 English Seminars
3 Mandarin Seminars
1 Bilingual Seminar



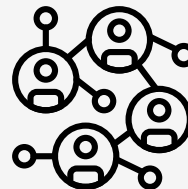
2 English Webinars
2 Mandarin Webinars
1 Mandarin Online
Training Series (over
three Seasons)



6 Parakaleo Small Groups
1 Parakaleo Seminar
1 Group Facilitation Intensive
1 Small Group Gathering



6 Original Video Series
6 Free eBooks
1 Online Course
(Conference Media)



8 Praxis Sessions (Pastors'
Fellowship) [EN & CN]
1 Valley 2040 Workshop
1 Valley 2040 Get-Together

English Ministry Highlights

1. Valley 2040

- A dinner with key pastors was held to help build momentum, and we look forward to having two to three meetings in 2023 to continue discussing collaborative church planting.



2. Training

- **Completion of the Incubator 2022**
 - Six participants completed the course with their Philosophy of Ministries, ready to be implemented.



IN-PERSON ON JULY 16TH, AUG 13TH, SEPT 10TH AND OCT 15TH, 7 PARTICIPANTS

- **Gospel Labs**

GCN worked with two local churches and provided training towards renewal. As a result, leadership from one participating church has requested additional training for 2023.

The other church has signed up for a Re-Visioning workshop with GCN as they seek to re-imagine what they want to be and achieve.



- **Short Courses (Gospel Bites)**

Six Gospel Bites were produced and published. These resources published on the 15th of the month, come with a series of short videos with an accompanying book.

Gospel Bites comes with short quizzes & downloadable interactive transcripts.

Leader Development
Crawford Loritts, author of *Leadership as an Identity*, shares his perspective on Christian leadership for faithful implementation of God's assignments. He draws attention to a God-centred worldview of Christian leadership primarily concerned with leader development.
Watch Crawford as he unpacks four common character traits observed among faithful servants of God. Important gospel principles for Christian leaders are also discussed in this month's free ebook *Lead* by Paul Tripp.

An Introduction to Distinctive Christian Leadership
With substance comes God's presence.

Rediscover Church
This series help us consider assumptions we have of the church. Dr Chris takes us through the church's identity, characteristics, function, and purpose. He also discusses the necessity of membership and physical gathering. "Rediscover Church" by Collin Hansen and Jonathan Leeman is the free ebook of the month for download. Sign up for a free account and check these out.

Competing Spectacles
This series highlights humanity's natural inclination to seek after striking and self-glorifying spectacles which constantly distracts us from the central and life-giving spectacle that matters; the Spectacle of Christ on the Cross (Col 2:15). Download the book "Competing Spectacles" by Reinke before 15th Dec and watch the short video series by Pastor Ian.

LEAD
10 Proven Principles for Leadership in the Church
PAUL DAVID TRIPP

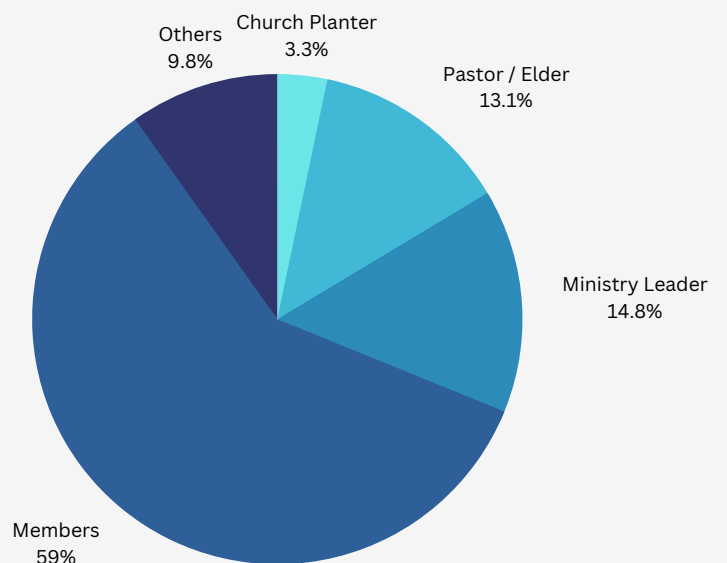
Rediscover Church
Why the Holy Spirit of Christ is Essential
Collin Hansen & Jonathan Leeman

COMPETING SPECTACLES
Introduction & The First Spectacle
YOUR BIBLE

- **Online Webinars (Gospel Bungkus)**

- Two free online webinars, Gospel Bungkus, were offered on Sonship and Renewal.

A smaller group showed up for each of the webinars. However, the interaction was spontaneous and free.



○ Courses in the Pipeline

- GCN did not offer any new paid courses in the last six months as we focused on gaining traction.

Nonetheless, we recorded four new asynchronous courses to be edited and published in 2023. These include training in Gospel Theology, Gospel Renewal, Discipleship, and Faith and Work.



○ Praying Cohort

- The launch of a Praying Cohort has been postponed to February 2023 as there was a change in the trainer's availability and travel plans to KL.

○ Introduction to ReVision

- Rev Dr Andrew Katay shared to a small team in KL about the ReVisioning and Revitalisation work in Australia.

The local team had an enjoyable time discussing different cultural issues and how they might adapt to the audience here.





3. Events

○ Praxis

- In collaboration with KVBC, a pastor's fellowship was held with David Cook and David Jones leading a discussion on Raising the Next Generation of Leaders, a topic of particular interest to churches in Malaysia.



OCT 28TH | 25 ATTENDEES

- GCN joined hands with Resource Global and hosted Crawford Loritts, Jonathan Dodson, and Jeremy Treat, and discussed leadership at the pastor's networking session.

Leading with grace and resilience was a timely reminder to shepherd with servanthood and humility, leaning on the strength of the Lord.

AUG 17TH | 11 ATTENDEES



○ Kingdom Living

- The three speakers lead another in-person seminar on the same evening to an audience of thirty-five professionals focusing on faith and work. This event was jointly organised with Resource Global.

- **Preaching Cohort**

Fifty-six people registered for a two-day preaching seminar in October. Five signed up for a follow-on preaching cohort scheduled to start in 2023.



- **Malaysia Baptist Convention Pastors' Seminar**

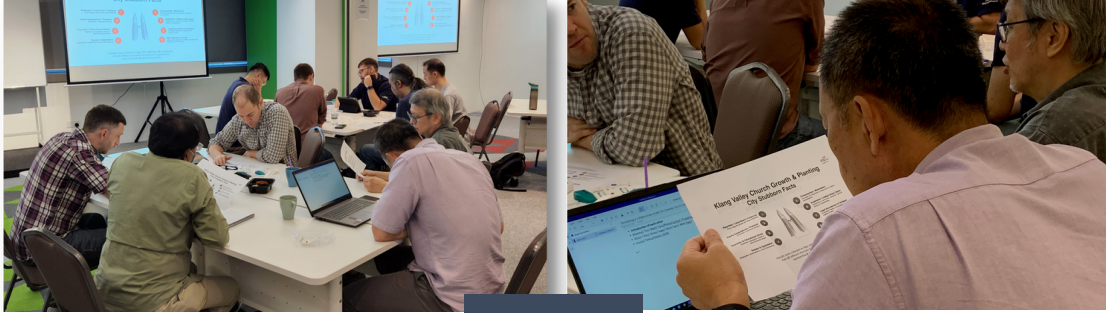
- The MBC hosted a conference for the Baptist churches in Malaysia. This year saw fifty-six registrants from the Peninsular.

Rev Gideon Lim and Dr Kyle Essary each preached a sermon on Gospel Rest in Mandarin and English, respectively.



GCN put up a table introducing the various training offered. A number signed up for our newsletters and online resources on the spot.

- **Developing a Collaborative Model for City-Wide Church Planting**
 - This is a follow-up event to the *Klang Valley Church Planting Dialogue* in June 2022. Participants discussed various training paths to address the stubborn facts identified during the dialogue.



JULY 22ND

For the first time in two years, all our events for the past six months have been in-person.

4. Content

- **Gospel Bites**
 - Six monthly releases of video content with monthly releases of free ebooks in partnership with Crossway Publishing were rolled out.

- **Landing pages for multilingual resources**

- Landing pages for Tim Kellers' sermons with subtitles in local languages were set up (as CTC Redeemer make these available)

We anticipate having language-specific pages as more content is created and translated in local languages.

اُردو ميں انجيل مُقدس كے ذخائر / وسائل

Resources
in
English

福音研討課

Khutbah
dalam
Bahasa
Melayu

தமிழில் நற்செய்தி வளங்கள்

5. GCN Parakaleo

- The leadership team has prepared six women to be trained to facilitate small groups. An in-person seminar was held, giving a taste of Parakaleo with twelve attendees. As a result, one additional small group has been set up to support growing needs.



SEPT 10TH



OCT 29TH



Mandarin Ministry Highlights

We have been actively growing the Mandarin ministry with a part-time staff on board.

- Praxis (Pastors' Fellowship)

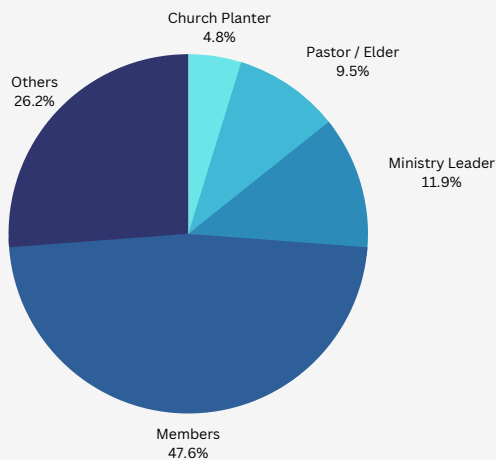


Average Number of Attendees: **9**

Frequency of Meeting: **Monthly**

Mode of Meeting: **Hybrid (Physical and Online)**

- **Free Online Webinars (Gospel Dimsum)**



Data from two webinars:
Repentance (Aug 20th)
Faith (Oct 29th)

42 unique registrants

- **Gospel DNA 3.0**

- China Partnership shared an updated version of Gospel DNA with the local Mandarin audience. GCN followed this up with invitations to the monthly Praxis and training events.

ONLINE: SEPT 20TH & 27TH
10 ATTENDEES EACH

- **Seminars: Spiritual Renewal Post-Pandemic and Gospel Theology**
疫情后的属灵更新

- Our regional catalyst Rev Gideon Lim was in Malacca and Johor and conducted two speaking engagements. A follow-up visit is planned for 2023.



- **Seminar: Key to Change 生命改变的关键**

- A past Intensive participant had invited GCN to do a talk at the Bukit Mertajam Presbyterian Church on the *Key to Changes in Life*.

As a result of fellowshipping with these leaders, a request for a ReVision Workshop has been put forth.



Priorities for the Next Six Months

Training

- GCN is in conversation with a local seminary to have the **Incubator** accredited by the Asia Theological Association.
- GCN will host and run a two-week **Intensive** for church planters in Kuala Lumpur in June, on behalf of CTC AP. GCN will take point on the operation and training for this.
- GCN will equip a local team of **consultants** to facilitate re-visioning workshops for participating churches with follow-on Gospel Labs.
- GCN will be kicking off training for facilitators of praying cohorts with SeeJesus Ministry. A physical meet-and-greet session with Jon Hori will take place in February.

Events

- **Kings and Covenant Conference in collaboration with Third Millennium.** This conference will be in Mandarin and English.
- Free webinars (**Gospel Bungkus**) will continue to be offered for the public so they get to know GCN and the training offered.

Content

- **Two short paid courses** will be offered the first half of the year.
- **Free ebooks** with carefully curated content or **Gospel Bites** will be rolled out every month.
- **Monthly blog posts** will be published, giving more visibility to the Mandarin Ministry and Parakaleo Ministry.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Training

- Intensive and Incubator (for Church Planters and Revitalisers)
 - Recruitment of the right participants
 - Development of contextualised content
 - Preparation of the trainers
 - Logistics
- Revitalisation
 - Training of facilitators
 - To kick off ReVision (a visionary planning workshop) for local churches
 - For local churches to thrive through GCN revitalisation training
- Mandarin Ministry
 - Raise up more trainers
 - Recruitment of church planters
 - Collaboration with local Mandarin churches

2. Networking

- Establish Penang City Network
- Develop catalytic relationships in key cities of Malaysia

- Develop collaborative efforts for a citywide gospel movement
- Support denominations in their effort to strengthen and grow churches

3. Events

- Conferences in partnership with ThirdMill and 9Marks
 - Significant sign-ups
 - Preparation of the speakers
 - Logistics & Operations
 - Fruitful outcomes

4. GCN Staff

- Recruitment of a new admin staff
- Team agility to manage evolving portfolios
- Team dynamics and healthy working relationships

5. Finances for 2023

- To raise an additional RM 250,000 (USD 58,800)

STAY CONNECTED

UPDATES



GIVE

