

Touch of His Grace

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*“How beautiful on the mountains
are the feet of those who bring good news,
who proclaim peace,
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion,
“Your God reigns!”*

(Isaiah 52:7 NIV)



Auntie Agatha

Several St Luke's ElderCare (SLEC) centres, including our Bishan centre, have been designated as Active Ageing Centres (Care) by the Agency for Integrated Care (AIC). This initiative, now known as Active Ageing Centre (AAC) (Care) @ Bishan, enables SLEC to extend its services beyond facility walls, providing befriending and care for elders within the community.

When Senior Chaplain Jimmy Foong first visited Auntie Agatha (not her real name) at her home, she was already frail and home bound. Emotionally, Auntie Agatha seemed discouraged due to her limited mobility, often expressing a lack of purpose, and wishing to depart this life.

Gradually, Auntie Agatha warmed up to Jimmy and the befrienders from Trinity Christian Centre (TCC) who visited her periodically. They read the Bible, sang worship songs, including her favourite Hokkien tune, "Hold my Hand."

As her health declined, Auntie Agatha shared her final wish to visit Bishan Park and enjoy God's creation in nature. With her permission, Jimmy and the TCC befrienders organised a joyful outing to Bishan Park, singing praise songs accompanied by the ukulele.

Jimmy and TCC befrienders visiting Auntie Agatha at home.



This outing became one of Auntie Agatha's last trip outside her home. She peacefully passed on two months later. Jimmy reflected on the privilege they had to accompany Auntie Agatha in her final journey on Earth, cherishing the smiles they witnessed as priceless gifts.

Testimonial of Ms Heng



Principal Counsellor Dan Ng (centre), pictured here with two of our dedicated staff at SLEC Senior Care Centre @ Tampines.

We recently received a touching message from Ms Heng, whose mother, Mdm Lee, has been attending the SLEC Senior Care Centre @ Tampines since 2023. Ms Heng expressed heartfelt appreciation for the comprehensive care her family receives from SLEC.

In her letter dated March 18, 2024, Ms Heng wrote:

"My mother, Mdm Lee, particularly values the pastoral care at SLEC, which includes spiritual sharing and worship. She also appreciates being able to read the Chinese newspaper, Lianhe Zaobao, at the centre, staying informed about current events and policies which she enjoys discussing with us at home."

Ms Heng also shared a poignant incident where the staff of SLEC went above and beyond:

"I want to highlight an incident in December 2023 when my mother had a fall at home and fainted while waiting for my brother. She managed to call the centre for help, which is conveniently located downstairs from our residence. The staff promptly called for an ambulance and also contacted my brother. They brought my mother to the centre for immediate assistance, including a head bandage to stop the bleeding. Thankfully, she only needed stitches for the head injury. We are immensely grateful for their swift and caring response."

Ms Heng further expressed gratitude for the opportunities provided to her mother:

"I would also like to thank the centre for allowing my mother, who is an avid painter, to teach a weekly Chinese Brush Painting class at the centre. This has not only kept her skills sharp but also brought her immense joy and pride in sharing her talents."

Acknowledging the challenges of caregiving, Ms Heng appreciated the counselling services offered by SLEC:

"I am thankful for the counselling services provided by Dan Ng, Principal Counsellor, and his referral to Eden Law. This assistance helped me manage my late aunt's estate and handled my mother's Will and Lasting Power of Attorney."

Ms Heng concluded her letter with warm words of appreciation:

"To the staff of SLEC, your love and dedication truly bring joy to our lives. Please continue to believe that you are a blessing to all of us—both beneficiaries and families alike!"

We are deeply honoured to receive such a glowing testimonial from a family member of one of our elders. We remain committed to delivering exceptional, compassionate care to our elders and their families.

Church Partner Spotlight

Bethesda Hall (Ang Mo Kio)

Serving With Joy in Kebun Bahru



Elder Wong (fourth from left) and the rest of his team giving out Chinese New Year goodies at SLEC Senior Care Centre @ Kebun Baru Centre in February 2024.



Since 2019, Elder Wong Tuck Keong and members of Bethesda Hall Ang Mo Kio have been faithfully reaching out to the elders at SLEC Senior Care Centre @ Kebun Baru.

Each month, a team of 6 to 10 members visits the senior care centre to engage the elders with songs, games, messages of God's love, and gift items during festive celebrations.

In May 2023, the team organised an eye and dental screening for 40 elders who otherwise would have difficulty accessing these services.

Elder Wong also involved children from Bethesda AMK Kindergarten, who performed songs and dances for the elders and collected donations of over 100 different food items for those in need.

When asked about their motivation to serve at SLEC, Elder Wong replied, "We wanted to extend our community services to the elderly in and around Ang Mo Kio, with the primary purpose of cheering and encouraging them in their golden years, especially those who are lonely and weak."

Elim Community Services

Demonstrating Unconditional Love in Ang Mo Kio



We asked Elisha Lim, Planner and Coordinator for Elim Community Services (ECS), to share his thoughts about serving with his team at SLEC Senior Care Centre @ Ang Mo Kio Polyclinic.

ECS is the social services arm of Elim Church Assembly of God (ECAOG). Elisha and his team engage with the elders primarily through games and songs.

Elisha enthusiastically shared his heart for serving the elders at the centre:

"We are committed to extending love with no strings attached in our community outreach, believing it can inspire greater hope and purpose in the lives of those we connect with. Our partnership with SLEC reflects our dedication to

Rev Monica Choo, Director of Elim Community Services, Missions Pastor of Elim Church Assembly of God (standing in second row, second from right), Elisha (standing in second row, rightmost), and the ECS team after another rousing session with the elders at SLEC Senior Care Centre @ Ang Mo Kio Polyclinic.



enhancing the well-being of elders, bringing them hope and joy. Through collaborative efforts, we aim to create a positive impact on the lives of those we serve."

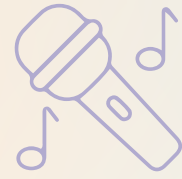
Elisha fondly recalled a memorable moment when two elders stood up to dance in the middle of a song during one of their sessions. Their spontaneity encouraged others to sing louder and sway to the music, creating a powerful and contagious "kampung atmosphere" that spread joy throughout the centre.

Join us as a volunteer!
www.slec.org.sg/ways-to-give/volunteer



Church of Our Saviour

Teochew Opera Shining God's Light In Punggol



The Church of Our Saviour (COOS) Connect Teochew Gospel Song Group has been tirelessly reviving Teochew Opera at the SLEC AAC (Care) @ Golden Years for the past 14 years.

Twice a month, a varied repertoire of Teochew gospel and opera songs fills the centre, delighting elders and staff alike, who clap and bob enthusiastically to the pulsating beats.

When the new SLEC Senior Care Centre @ One Punggol opened in January 2024, COOS Connect seized the opportunity to use their talents to bless the elders there. Like a light meant to shine, the good news of the Gospel that first radiated in Hougang now shines brightly in Punggol as well.



Mr Puah (far right) dressed in green with the COOS Connect Teochew Gospel Song Group at SLEC AAC (Care) @ Golden Years.

The COOS Connect Teochew Gospel Song Group dressed in their festive outfits preparing for a performance.



COOS Connect's leader, Mr Puah Puay Hiong, described serving with SLEC as a "win-win situation" for his team. He added, "Our group members not only bring joy to the residents of SLEC but also gain exposure to community activities."

Mr Puah reflected that he and his team always cherish the priceless expressions of gratitude on the faces of the elders and staff after each performance. He shared his gratitude for the chance to impact souls, emphasising that all glory belongs to God.



The COOS Connect Teochew Gospel Song Group at SLEC Senior Care Centre @ One Punggol.

Support our work through a donation.
www.slec.org.sg/giving/



Partner with us! To find out more about partnering with us in caring for our elders in the community, kindly email pccp@slec.org.sg