



THE VICAR WRITES

REVD CHRISTOPHER CHAN

Thank God for a smooth and successful AGM! I see this as an indication that we're united in pursuing God's purpose for us as a church community.

In my Vicar's address during the meeting, I highlighted the reopening of the Cathedral Welcome Centre as a point of thanksgiving. Here I would like to record our appreciation for members of the committee who oversaw the reopening process, as well as the welcome hosts, docents, music ministers, church staff, and others who will play an important part in our ministry to those who enter this God-given space week after week.

Some have spoken of the Welcome Centre as an oasis, a place of rest. We envision many coming in seeking a sense of peace in the midst of their busyness. The time they spend in the Welcome Centre is an opportunity for spiritual conversations and even prayer ministry. We have moved away from commercial operations and now provide simple drinks and snacks for all to enjoy free-of-charge (though donations are certainly welcome). This has made the Welcome Centre even more accessible than before, and we have received much positive feedback in the past few weeks. We have also set aside the primetime slot of 11.30am to 2.30pm on Sundays for outreach to the Myanmar community, during which various classes will be conducted. The visibility of these sessions will help us to welcome in more Myanmar nationals, and we hope to eventually lead them to faith in Christ and

integrate them into the Myanmar Worship Service. The Welcome Centre will thus be a space in which members of the English, Mandarin, and Myanmar congregations can serve together in unity. Praise God!

It should be clear that all this is very much aligned with the missional call of the Cathedral. How we minister to visitors in the Welcome Centre should be an extension of our commitment to outreach both in our church life and our personal lives. This commitment has been emphasised time and again as we journey through the book of Acts together. I therefore take this opportunity to encourage you to serve the mission of the Cathedral, if you aren't already doing so. How does God want you to be part of what He's doing in and through us? If you're already actively serving, do prayerfully consider whom you can "recruit" to serve alongside you. This is an integral part of the life of discipleship to which we have been called. May the Lord be pleased with what we offer to Him, and use it to draw many others to Himself. To Him be the glory!

