

## Missions at 70 years old. Why not?

I was 50 years old when I went on my first mission trip to Bihar, India.

I remember being in the office on a Saturday when my friend called and asked if I wanted to go with her on a mission trip organised by Church of Our Saviour's Tanglin Fellowship.

As I was contemplating this, a song by Don Moen (I Want to Know You More) started to play. The words were vivid and they spoke to me.

I hear You calling me
To a place where I have
never been before
Where Your love is flowing
Deeper than the sea



Angelic was part of a small group of women from AMC WSCS that travelled to Timor-Leste in April 2023. There, they helped to teach the students of St Paul Methodist School to sew pencil cases.



Angelic praying for salvation and healing on one of her mission trips to San Isidro, Philippines.

I felt that God was telling me that He was bringing me to a place that I had never been before, and that His love for the people there was as deep as the ocean.

I was so touched that I broke down and cried for 10 minutes. Then I wrote a letter to my husband to ask if I could go.



Having visited San Isidro 3 times, Angelic has had the chance to do street evangelism, be involved in a mini crusade for villagers, as well as visit prisoners to share the Word of God and encourage them to believe in Jesus.

On that first mission trip, I was greatly impacted by what I saw during the five days of open-air crusades as we prayed for salvation and healing for those in the village.

Many of them were too poor to see the doctor, so they were desperate for prayer because it seemed that their only hope was to receive healing from Jesus.

Soon after that, I again felt the prompting from the Holy Spirit when I heard that our church was planning a trip to Prek Omperl Methodist Church in Cambodia to teach English to the children.

That was my first trip to Prek Omperl, and I went back on three other occasions.

Over the last 15 years or so, I have also been on several trips with different churches and ministries to countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, Timor-Leste, Australia, Tonga and Uganda.

Many of them involved salvation and healing services, while sometimes our focus was on street evangelism and medical missions.

The one that left the deepest impact on me was my trip to Uganda in 2010 because of two bombs that went off as crowds were watching the World Cup games in the capital city of Kampala.

## TESTIMONY BY ANGELIC SEAH



Angelic has also joined trips organised by TRAC WSCS to Manila, where they partner with Oikos Helping Hand to minister to the poor. Her most recent trip was in March 2023.



Preparing to cook a meal at a children's home in San Isidro.

The venue of our crusades was an hour's drive from Kampala, and we carried on with our plans in faith. After the crusades ended, we even had the chance to visit the home of the wife of the foreign minister to pray for her!

From all of these mission experiences, I have learnt about the transformative power of empathy and compassion (1 Peter 3:8).

Engaging directly with communities in need and witnessing their struggles can profoundly impact a person's perspective.

This experience often leads to a deeper understanding of the shared human experience and a stronger sense of interconnectedness. It can also reveal the significance of addressing not just the physical needs of others, but also their emotional and spiritual well-being.

The impact of missions also often extends far beyond the duration of the trip.

The relationships you build, the lessons you learn, the seeds of positive change you plant and the word of God that you share can have lasting effects on individuals and communities.

## TESTIMONY BY ANGELIC SEAH

Approach missions with an open heart, a commitment to service and a willingness to learn, and you'll find that the journey is as transformative for you as it is for those you serve.

The Holy Spirit once brought this verse to mind, and it is one that still speaks to me.

"As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work." - John 9:4

This reminds me that when it is "day" – when a country is still open, when there are people who are alive and able to hear the gospel, when I am well and can go – I should not wait until it is "night" when there are no more opportunities.

My advice is that you're never too old to go for mission trips as long as you have the health and the passion to go.

As part of AMC Missions Month 2023, we bring to you inspiring stories of church members who have answered the call to share God's love with the nations.

Stay tuned for more!