



The 1st women's vocational camp took place from 13-14 August 2022 at Harvest Haven, Gopeng. The camp was organized by Diocesan Women's committee. The primary objective of the vocational camp was to identify and motivate women who are interested and has the calling to serve in the ministry. With the Diocese's 10-year development plan in mind, our theme for the camp is "Behold, I will make all things new". We are thrilled to have 20 ladies from 9 churches attended the camp as follows:

Archdeaconry	Church	Number
Upper North	Bukit Mertajam Anglican Centre, Butterworth	1
Lower North	Church of the Holy Spirit, Ipoh	6
	Emmanuel Church, Tapah	1
	St. John the Baptist, Jelapang	1
Upper Central	St. James, Sentul	1
	St. Mary Cathedral, KL	1
Middle	St. Matthew's Church, Selayang	6
Central	St. Paul, Petaling Jaya	1
	Hope Anglican Centre, Klang	2
Total participants		20

The event began with opening prayer and briefing. This was followed by Ice breaker. The ladies had a fun time in getting to know one another, while playing some games. The welcome address given by Ms. Rethi Grace, a chairperson of Diocesan Women's Committee. The theme speaker was Dss. Ruth Ong from All Souls International Community Church, Desa Sri Hartamas. She delivered two sessions on the theme talk and the topics were as follows:

Talk 1. God's invincible call and purpose: what it is for me and how it involves me.

- What is vocation.
- What is the meaning of "the call"
- Who is called.
- How do I know that I am called to serve God full-time.
- Examples of ways one can be called.
- Why God calls us.
- How do I respond to God's calling.

Talk 2. "Behold, I make all things new."

- How would I know that God will make all things new for the mission ahead of me?
- How do I know God is leading and guiding me?
- The God who promises, keep his promise.
- Knowing God's mission
- How can I be confident that what I am doing is God's will?

Her message was very inspiring and encouraging. She later opened the floor for discussion and there was a lot of excitement as the participants share in their group about what they have learned through the camp, their discovery, areas of gifting and the obstacles that they face in responding God's call.

Besides the theme talk, we also had a wonderful time of hearing testimonies and receiving encouragements from Dss.Elizabeth Long, Dss. Datin Ding Siew Lan, Dss. June Marshall and Dss. Ming Ming. Exposure about theological education and other ministerial skill which is lacking are what is much needed today. With that in mind, Ms.Davina David who is currently study in STM took us through the theological programmes offered by STM and other opportunities available in Diocese such as Anglican Institute of Ministry (AIM) and Theological Education by Extension (TEE). The event was then followed by group activity lead by Dss.Jackeline James that gave us an opportunity to bond with our group members.

On Sunday we started the day with a reserve sacrament communion service conducted by Dss. Logeswary and Ev.Priscilla Chuah. The event was then followed by a talk about career opportunity by Ev. Priscilla. She shared about the structure of Diocese, the scope of deaconess and other ministerial opportunity serving in diocese as women. At the final session, we were given tasks to discuss answers to relevant situations and issues that the women face in the church and the Diocese.

In conjunction with the camp, we also presented a special video to look back with thanksgiving for God's work in past two days of the camp. Feedback from the participants was that they had benefited from this vocational camp. We praise God that 7 of the participants has come forward and response to the call of God to join full-time or part time ministry.

Before we left, we had the privilege of having another round of fellowship over lunch. We are all anticipating next year's vocational camp with eager hope in our hearts. Our

appreciation to the Diocesan's Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Steven Abbarow, Diocesan's women committee, Dss. Ruth Ong as a speaker of the camp, the churches and thanks to our hard-working organising team, Mrs.Rethi Grace, Dss.Logeswary. Dss. Jackeline James, Ev. Priscilla Chuah and Ms. Davina David for organising the camp.

All Glory to God!

Reported by:
Dss. Logeswary.
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