



5th Dec 2018
Opening of MPH1 as as a Badminton Court

The MPH1 is not called a Multi-Purpose Hall for no reason. God blessed us with a very functional hall, not for it to be a white elephant. ~~🐘~~ So, on **5th December**, our outreach team held a grand ceremony at MPH1 to add one more purpose to its multi-purposes, opening it as a badminton court to enable the church to facilitate her community engagement effort through badminton.

Talking about badminton, the outreach team has an inspiring story to tell.



The promotion of our badminton interest-group started humbly during our JCC open house on 4 March 2017. Without high expectation, our

community engagement through badminton thus began with the registration of a few non-JCCians for our 1st game at Taman Jurong Community Club on 1 Jun 2017, which was followed by weekly sessions at different community clubs. Starting with about 6 persons, our team rapidly grew to 20 players.

It takes less than 2 years for the encouraging growth, which can only be attributed to God’s leading. With the growth comes the need for a fresh look at how we can better accommodate the progress of this badminton club in JCC. Hence, with Council’s budget approval, we had the grand badminton-court opening ceremony at MPH1.

After an opening speech of welcome by Council Chairman Se Ping, the cutting of ribbon commenced – with the Chairman using big scissors while the rest of the players simultaneously using small scissors. More than just a typical symbolic act, the cutting of the ribbon at the same moment joined with the popping of balloons and the racket of gleeful shouts all contributed a moment for reflection about the camaraderie between friends and the church’s effort to promote amity with her neighbours.

The players in this warm badminton club are mostly those whom we have come to know while playing together at the community clubs.



We all know that Singaporeans love foods, and foods are a very practical means for ice-breaking and “getting to know you”. However, in the

picture, what had the ping-pong table got to do with the opening of the badminton court?

Ha ha ... the outreach team is an enthusiastic bunch. Since there is space outside the MPH, why not also entertain some of our friends who like playing table-tennis?



The outreach didn't stop at the space immediately outside the doors of the MPH1. Led by Rev. Anthony, some of our badminton friends were also brought around the premises of the church – all the way up to the 5th storey.

Actively engaging with the community is part and parcel of the church's onus in showing care and love.

We will continue to have our badminton game every Wednesday in JCC.

Pray for God's continuing guidance for us to welcome, and be welcome by, our friends – our neighbours.

Who are our neighbours? If you are a JCCian, have you also heard of the Project Kampong Spirit? We encourage more JCCians to join the outreach team to get to know our neighbours and be a blessing.

Peggy Tan