

66

Theological Sunday

**SPECIAL
FEATURE**

Danced with All His Might.

So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; and when those who bore the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. David danced before the LORD with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

2 Samuel 6:12b-15
ESV



Today's Question

**How has
the reflection
challenged you today?**

REFLECTION

Today's Scripture Reading : 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 ; Psalm 24; Ephesians 1:3-14; Gospel: Mark 6:14-29

MEDITATION BRINGS US TO THE SOURCE OF LOVE

By Henri Nouwen
henrinouwen.org

PRAYER of the week

Lord, guide me by
Your Spirit to find
the anchor places
for my own life that
I may be set free by
You to live a life of
love. In Your Name,
Christ Jesus, we ask.
Amen.



Human withdrawal [for meditation] is a very painful and lonely process, because it forces us to directly face our own condition in all its misery as well as its beauty. But when we are not afraid to enter into our own center and to concentrate on the stirrings of our own souls, we come to know that being alive means being loved. This experience tells us that we can only love because we are born out of love, that we can only give because our life is a gift, and that we can only make others free because we are set free by the One whose heart is greater than ours.

And when we have found the anchor places for our lives in our own center we can be free to let others enter into the space created for them, and allow them to dance their own dance, sing their own song, and speak their own language without fear. Then our presence is no longer threatening and demanding, but inviting and liberating.

Alliah is a 3rd year Theological student at STM, and hails from Kudat, Sabah. She is currently interning at BLC. She loves hiking and photographing nature, and enjoys making crafts and designing items such as ribbon keroncong.



ALLIAH

Apa yang mengilhamkan kamu untuk melanjutkan pengajian Theologi & pelayanan Tuhan sepenuh masa?

PERJALANAN KU 'My Journey'

By Alliah Baizura Enggol

We approached 2 of our BLC STM Interns, as well as a Theological graduate on, "What inspired them to pursue Theological studies & full-time ministry?" Here are the beautiful, inspiring stories of their journeys with the Lord.

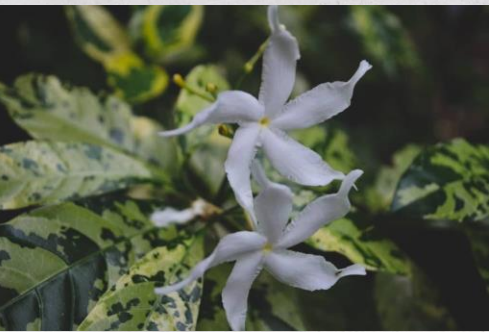
Theological Sunday
**SPECIAL
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"Matius 6:33-34 TB

Tetapi carilah dahulu Kerajaan Allah dan kebenarannya, maka semuanya itu akan ditambahkan kepadamu. Sebab itu janganlah kamu kuatir akan hari besok, karena hari besok mempunyai kesusahannya sendiri. Kesusahan sehari cukuplah untuk sehari."

Ayat firman ini menjadi pegangan saya ketika mula melangkah ke pelayanan secara fulltime. Kerana saya menyakini bahawa Tuhan adalah penyedia segala-galanya terutamanya pengetahuan dalam melayani Dia.

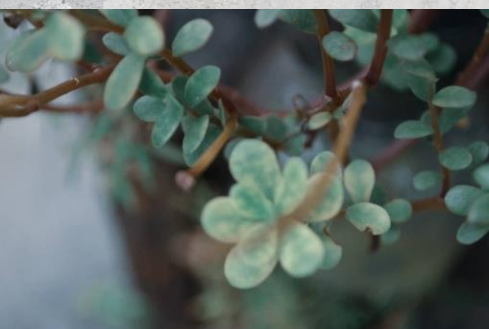
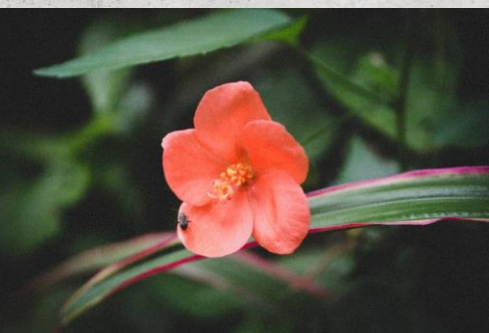




ALLIAH

PERJALANAN KU 'My Journey'

By Alliah Baizura Enggol



Saya telah dilahirkan dalam sebuah keluarga Kristian, telah dibaptis ketika berumur 1 bulan. Saya anak ketiga dari empat adik-beradik. Ibu bapa telah mendidik serta telah mengajar saya untuk mengenal Tuhan, mereka memberikan pengajaran kekeristinan kepada saya seawal sekolah minggu. Oleh itu, saya sangat seronok dan gembira ketika dapat datang ke gereja dan mendengar cerita Alkitab yang disampaikan oleh guru-guru sekolah minggu pada masa itu. Salah satu aktiviti gereja yang saya gemari adalah "Sunday School Kem" saya masih ingat peristiwa yang telah terjadi masa itu.

Ketika saya berumur 13 tahun, pertama kalinya saya mengikuti Pelayanan Belia (Youth Ministry). Mereka sentiasa memberikan peluang untuk saya melayani Tuhan. Ada banyak pelayanan yang mereka sediakan dan pada masa itulah saya dedahkan tentang hal pelayanan. Saya juga telah diberikan peluang untuk memimpin ibadah minggu, aktiviti belia dan juga pelayanan sekolah minggu.

Pada umur 15 tahun saya sendiri telah menerima Tuhan Yesus Kristus sebagai Tuhan dan juruselamat peribadi. Kerana pada saat itulah timbul keinginan dalam diri saya untuk mahu membantu gereja saya untuk didalam pelayanan.

Keinginan untuk belajar Firman Tuhan secara lebih terperinci, ketika timbul persoalan tentang "Christmas", ketika orang lain bertanya tentang Christmas, saya tidak dapat menjawab mereka serta ada banyak lagi persoalan-persoalan yang lain. Timbul dalam fikiran saya, Bagaimana saya hendak mengkhabarkan berita kelahiran Tuhan Yesus, jika maksud Christmas atau Natal pun saya tidak tahu? Nah, disinilah permulaan saya untuk ingin belajar Firman Tuhan, agar saya dapat membantu mereka yang belum memahami tentang perkara ini.

ALLIAH

PERJALANAN KU

'My Journey'

By Alliah Baizura Enggol

Tuhan membuka peluang tepat pada waktunya, setelah selesai menduduki peperiksaan SPM, saya katakana kepada mama (mother) saya bahawa saya mempunyai keinginan untuk belajar Alkitab, sementara pada masa itu saya sedang menunggu keputusan SPM keluar. Lalu mama saya memberikan keizinan dengan hanya memberikan masa 3 bulan (Program 3 bulan). Kerana ibu bapa saya ada ketentuan yang lain untuk saya. Saya telah memasuki sekolah Alkitab iaitu Pusat Pendidikan Theology (PPT) atau sekarang lebih dikenali sebagai *Luther Seminary* (LS).

Saya masih berfikir bahawa memasuki Seminari pada masa itu adalah atas keinginan atau kehendak diri sendiri. Namun, ketika saya sudah memulakan kehidupan saya sebagai seorang mahasiswa saya merasakan bahawa Tuhan sendiri yang telah memilih dan memanggil saya, kerana ada satu perasaan yang lain, iaitu beban berat yang harus dilaksanakan. ketika melihat pelayanan dalam pandangan yang lebih luas, saya adalah antara yang terpanggil secara peribadi untuk menyerahkan kehidupan saya yang masih mud aini kepada Tuhan.

Saya berfikir 3 bulan tidak cukup untuk saya, kerana ada banyak perkara yang ingin saya belajar lagi, dengan penuh keberanian saya berbincang dengan keluarga saya, bahawa saya ingin memilih untuk menjadi seorang pelayan Tuhan. Saya bersyukur kerana mereka memahami keinginan saya, tidak ada orang yang mamaksa saya memilih jalan ini. saya menginsprasikan seorang Pendeta Wanita yang pada masa itu juga merupakan Guru saya.

Setelah 2 tahun belajar di Seminari, ada banyak perkara mengubah kehidupan saya dimana saya menjadi seorang saya lebih berfikiran matang, mempunyai Visi dan mimpi dalam hidup serta lebih matang dalam hal kerohanian. Perkara-perkara ini telah perubahan yang sangat ketara dalam kehidupan saya.



ALLIAH

PERJALANAN KU 'My Journey'

By Alliah Baizura Enggol



Setelah itu, Pusat PCS (The Protestant church in Sabah) telah memilih dan memanggil saya untuk menjadi seorang "Gembala atau Pastor" disebuah gereja pendalaman untuk melayani digereja itu. Setelah memulakan pelayanan disana, saya menyadiri bahawa menjadi seorang Pastor sungguh banyak sekali cabaran dari segi mental, emosi, spiritual, dan fizikal. Pada lagi pada umur yang sangat muda. Namun, saya sangat bersyukur mempunyai Tuhan yang sentiasa bertindak dan melihat setiap keadaan saya, kerana itu saya dapat melayani digereja itu dengan penuh sukacita, mereka juga dapat menerima saya.

Saya melayani digereja itu selamat 4 tahun, 1 tahun pelajar praktikal dan 3 tahun sebagai gembala Fulltime banyak mengajar saya erti sabar, tegas dan proaktif. Puji Tuhan! ada ramai orang yang merasa diberkati dengan pelayanan saya disana. Kerana saya sendiri telah melihat bagaimana mereka bertumbuh dan mandiri dari segi iman mereka. Saya sangat bersyukur sekali. Pusat PCS Exco, telah memilih saya sebagai salah seorang pelajar untuk upgrade untuk melanjutkan pelajaran di Seminari Theologi Malaysia (STM) pada tahun 2019.

Saya sendiri mempunyai keinginan untuk melanjutkan pelajar untuk meningkatkan pengetahuan saya yang hanya sedikit. Pengatahuan saya yang ada masih belum cukup mungkin dimasa hadapan saya akan berhadapan dengan pelbagai individu dan kolompok yang mempunyai keinginan untuk belajar akan Firman Tuhan, maka saya boleh membantu mereka. Sebab itu alasan utama saya untuk belajar di STM, Puji Tuhan, mereka telah melangkapi saya.

ALLIAH

PERJALANAN KU 'My Journey'

By Alliah Baizura Enggol



Kehidupan sebagai seorang pelajar STM (2019-2021). STM telah mematangkan lagi fikiran dan pengetahuan saya tentang "Theology". Subjek-subjek yang diajarkan adalah bertepatan dengan keperluan pelayanan masa kini. Mereka mengajarkan saya untuk lebih confident dalam bercakap terutamanya dalam bahasa English. Memintingkan kerohanian diri dan percaya bahawa Tuhan adalah Allah yang mengetahui setiap keperluan kita. Cabaran sebagai seorang pelajar adalah pengaturan masa. Kerana ketika gagal mengatur masa dengan baik, banyak moment yang akan terlebih begitu juga dalam menyiapkan tugas. Pengaturan masa sangat penting atau "Balance life", kerana saya juga tidak mahu terlepas moment-moment indah ketika berada di STM contohnya Community life, sebab itu akan menjadi memori terindah.

Sebelum memasuki STM, seorang pernah berkata kepada saya. Jangan kamu belajar tentang Alkitab dengan lebih mendalam, suatu hari nanti akan jadi gila! Saya kurang setuju dengan pernyataan ini, kerana buktinya persoalan-persoalan yang bermain dalam fikiran saya terjawab telah belajar. Belajar memerlukan proses dan saya percaya Tuhan bekerja dalam setiap persoalan yang kita alami.

Saya mengambil peluang ini untuk mengajak saudara dan saudari, sekiranya mempunyai panggilan atau beban untuk mahu belajar Firman Tuhan dengan lebih mendalam akan Firman Tuhan dan terjun masuk dalam pelayanan sepenuh masa, terimalah panggilan itu sesuai dengan masanya serta berdoalah kepada Tuhan untuk lebih yakin akan panggilan itu. Segala sesuatu memerlukan proses. Marilah kita bersukacita menjalani proses tersebut dalam keadaan susah atau senang. Pasti Tuhan terus memakai kita dalam apapun keperluan dalam pelayanan digereja kita. Tuhan memberkati.

Ngallinah is from Kudat, Sabah and a 3rd year Theological student at STM who is currently interning at BLC. She loves singing, gardening, and enjoys travelling to interior places that still practices traditional life to experience different cultures.

NGALLINAH

What inspired you to take up Theological Studies & pursue full-time ministries?



JOYFULLY CALLED BY GOD

By Ngallinah Osinjiu

At first, I will introduce a bit about myself, my name is Ngallinah Bt Osinjiu. I was born in Christian family and my father is one of the evangelists in my home town church. Oh, ya I'm my background church is *The Protestant Church* in Sabah which is under Lutheran denomination. I have mention that I came from Christian family and it is one of my starting point to involve in ministry and serving God.

In my youth, my father encouraged me to involve in Sunday School ministry because we are lack of servants in that ministry. Then slowly I'm start to involve in another ministry. But, growing in Christian family didn't mean that in me I'm Christian. What I mean by that? Sincerely that time I can say that I'm doing ministry and serving without desire, passions and humbleness. I'm serving because the needed feeling and I'm used to it.



The Protestant Church, Sabah



Harvesting together with our women group to earn wages for the women fellowship's funds



Serving at Youth Camp as a practical pastor



Serving in Sunday School

Few years after, when I finished my STPM studies, I was offered to further my studies in law field. I'm so happy because that was my ambition but a week before the registration date, there's a heavy burden in my heart and it made me wrestle. I decided to pray and pray, asking to God. Three days before registration, at dawn I felt there was someone wake me up from sleep. Being awake, there's a decision in my thought to decline the offer of study and to join Luther Seminary (PCS church seminary). At the moment, there are feelings that I never experienced it before, a calmness and comfort that so reconcile my soul. I believe that is the blessing and calling from God. I decided to join LS by desire to help my Church and our congregation.

After two years in LS, I'm serve as practical Pastor and the Lord paved the way for me to continue to know Him closer by blessing me with the opportunity to join the STM. Even before I joined the STM many things I went by, my father died (he is my main supporter and I believe even physically he is not here but he will smile 'there' for this blessing) and the Lord Jesus strengthened me with this verse,

“God is within her, she will not fall” Psalm 46:5 and He guide me with saying this to me “LOVE, FAITH, HOPE”.

JOYFULLY
CALLED
BY GOD

By Ngallinah Osinjiu

NGALLINAH



Melanie is a lifelong cat stalker. Hailing from Klang, she also spent 5 years studying and working in Penang. She's currently working for Malaysian CARE in Church Relations and Advocacy.

MELANIE

What inspired you to take up Theological Studies & pursue full-time ministries?"

Growing up in church I often sang this song, "Here I am Lord, send me" and heard multiple sermons preached on loving the poor. But when I started working at a human rights NGO, I saw how few Christians was involved in advocating for justice. I began to realise a disconnect between instruction and action. Even though the need was so great, I barely met any Christian colleagues or volunteers. Many were content to donate or pray by the side lines. This was what led me to study theology in Boston in 2016 and thankfully God provided with a scholarship. Being in the midst of several great universities, I had the opportunity to study in a Jesuit run school amongst different Catholic orders some of whom I was exposed to for the first time. I also studied about women in the Quran and Jewish scriptures at HDS (*Harvard Divinity School*) under visiting scholars. It was an intellectually stimulating place to be!

HERE I AM LORD,
SEND ME

By Melanie Yong



But more importantly it was a conducive place to learn about justice, and where terms like *postcolonial*, *feminist* and *liberation theology* gave me a language to describe the dissonance I felt.

A compulsory reading, "*Letter from a Birmingham Jail*", by Martin Luther King Jr became one of my favourite sermons. Exposure to writings from every corner of the world written from the perspective of non Westerners, women, the disabled and those who have been marginalized have caused me to be more critical of the books and scholarship that many Malaysians (myself included) have consumed in the past and I hope to highlight these voices in the work that I do.

Best regards,

Melanie Yong



Melanie with youth she met in Cuba during her study trip.

MELANIE

HERE I AM LORD,
SEND ME

By Melanie Yong



Driven by the desire to go deeper into the word, the Tuesday night Bible study continues under the tutelage of Pastor Thomas Low. We used to do book by book studies, but by the request of some of the members to do an overview study of the bible, we are going through major events from *Genesis* to *Revelation*. A modification of the Bethel Series.

The lock down has brought the bible study online and have enabled people who are not BLC members to join in the study as well. Do join us to study the word together. You do not have to be a regular attender. As and when you are able to, you are most welcome.

Tuesday Bible Study



Photo by yaroslav-shuraev PEXELS

BLC GROUPS



Here are quotes from our regular attenders.

"If you want to know what you need to know and things you didn't know you need to know about the Bible come join Ps Thomas Low's Bible class."

"In depth and systematic study of OT with real life applications"

"No prep work, no homework, no thick reference book to read, no on spot question, come with my open ears to listen n enjoy biblical stories. Reflecting and engaging with one another based on events that "really happened" or engaging in casual chitchatting.

*😊😄😁 I'm not a robot...oops bookworm.
🙏🙏🙏"*

"I like joining the Bible Study to learn how God's people have journeyed through time with Him, know Him better and apply the lessons in my walk and journey with Him".

Tuesday Bible Study meets weekly at 8.30 pm. Contact Janelle for more information.

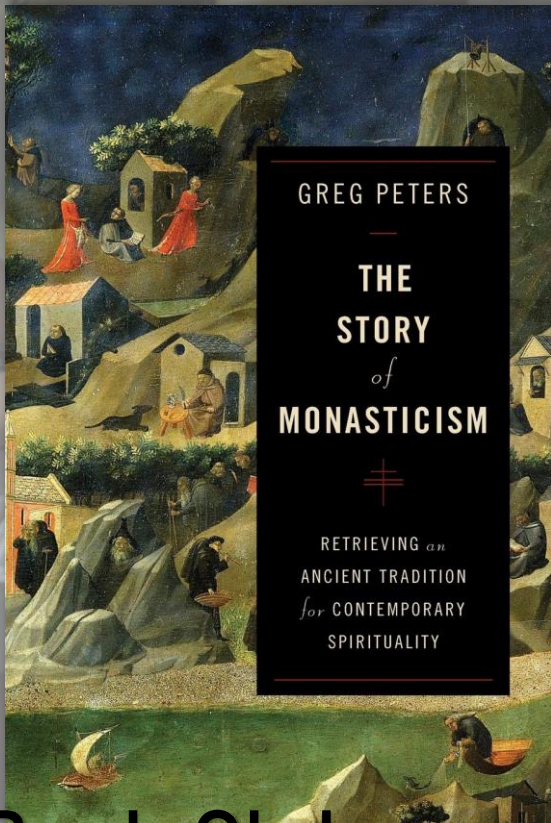
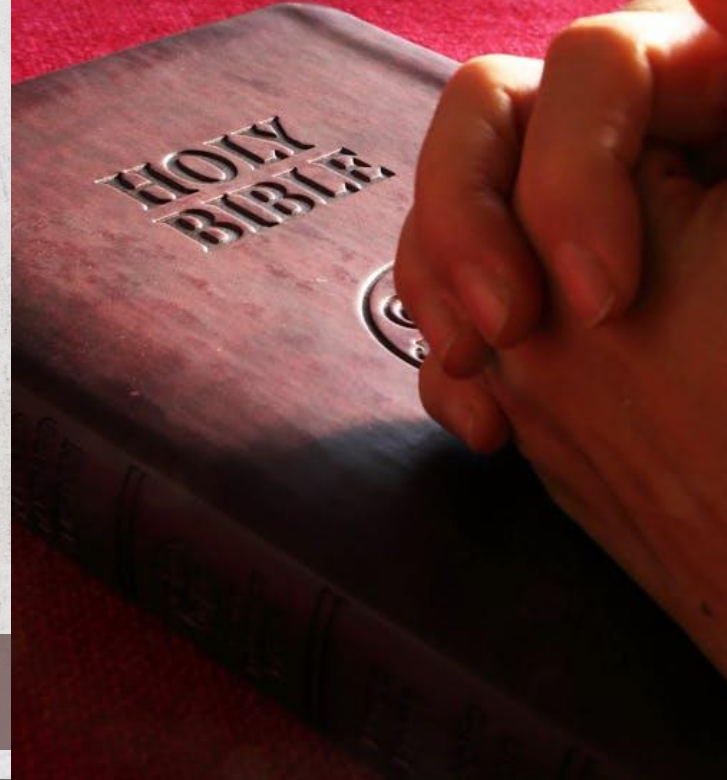
Photo by Jonathan Borba PEXELS

Ours is a small group facilitated by Davin in our studies. A little background about our group... we started off as a Bible Reading group where we would come together (way before the MCO) to just take turns and read the bible aloud. Eventually the group dynamics changed and we felt that perhaps that it is good for us to start to dig deeper into His word, and hence the name change to what it is today.

What I enjoy most in this Bible Study group is the simplicity of the set up and many valuable lessons learnt from the facilitator's as well as from the participants' sharing. Since the MCO, we have been doing our Bible study online via Zoom. We meet every alternate Fridays or to be more precise, twice a month on Fridays at 8:30pm. We are currently studying the book of Genesis.

If you'd like to check it out, reach out to Ling Ling.

Friday Bible Study



Book Club

The BLC Book Club consists of explorers and questioners, gathered together in a loose net from which members are free to slip in and out.

Any book that touches on interrogating the different meanings to the Christian faith can be nominated, and everyone is free to vote and no one can veto. We are currently reading Greg Peters' *The Story of Monasticism: Retrieving an Ancient Tradition for Contemporary Spirituality*, but we are also deeply passionate about food-centred fellowship.

For now, we meet up every fortnight on Zoom and it's not quite the same, but we try our best. We consider ourselves a safe space to express doubts about our God, and recognize in each other a need to draw closer to Him in different ways and via different paths.

Love to explore more, do speak with Vanessa!

“Offer
unto God
thanksgiving;
and pay thy
vows unto the
most High: And
call upon me in
the day of trouble:
I will deliver thee,
and thou shalt glorify
me.

Psalm 50: 14-15

Church

For God's protection upon the Church
and leaders so we can continue to make
a difference where He has placed us.

Kaizen Home

Some staff and children @ Kaizen Home
have been tested positive for COVID-19.
Here are the points that they have asked
prayer for:

- 1) Auntie Molly (the cook) and the 14
years older girl (Li Ting) will recovered
well and be discharged soon.
- 2) Pray for the other 2 boys. Expedience
for medical treatment and recovery for
the 12 year old boy (Wen Toa) to the
quarantine Centre and the 8-year older
boy (Chee Heng) through home
- 3) Pray for the other children, Peggy and
Herman who are quarantined at home,
that God will sustain them as some are
beginning to display symptoms, e.g.
sore throat, fever and flu.
- 4) Pray for Auntie Lee (staff) who was
today admitted to the hospital and the
swab test taken by Uncle Lee (the
driver) and their two children that they
are not infected. They are all under
home quarantine at their home.

Nation

Pray for the authorities for wisdom to manage
more effectively through this lockdown that
has gone into a indefinite extension. Pray for
strength for frontliners, provision to support
the healthcare system, and healing of those
infected.

#benderaputih

For continued good support of the
#benderaputih movement undertaken by
society to help the poor and needy during
this pandemic.

Families

Pray for home-based schooling, for
teachers and families with young children
at home. For those with health challenges
and their caregivers.

Prayer Support

Supporting you in prayer.

Send in your requests via
WhatsApp to Rev. Thomas,
Adeline or our Council.



Lectio 365



Malaysia United
FIREWALL

External Prayer Link

Announcement

Tithes and Offerings

Upcoming BLC Zoom Meetings

Book Club (Speak to Vanessa)

Sundays
July 14th, 2021
2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Tuesday Bible Study

Tuesdays
8:30 pm (weekly)

MEM (Men Empowering Men)

Wednesdays
July 14th & 28th, 2021
8:30 pm

Giving Tree

Fridays
July 23rd, 2021
8:30 pm

Friday Bible Study Group

Fridays
July 9th & 23rd, 2021
8:30 pm

**WEW
(Women Encouraging Women)**

Saturday
Parenting Talk by Bernice Lee
Praying for Our Children
July 31st, 2021 3:00 pm
Register by July 24th,

Account Details

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- United Voice – Moh Foong
- Bible Translation Researchers
- Alongsiders (<http://alongsiders.org>)

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THE
FATHER'S
HOUSE
WELCOMES YOU



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Weekly
Manna
July 11th, 2021 Issue