



SPEECH

By Deacon Matthew Kang, Chairman of New Creation Church, at the Christmas Gift Of Love event on Saturday, 6 December 2014.

Mr Teo Chee Hean, Deputy Prime Minister, Coordinating Minister for National Security, Minister for Home Affairs and Member of Parliament for Pasir Ris-Punggol GRC (Pasir Ris West);

Madam Diane Goh, Principal of Park View Primary School

Our guests of honours, the residents of Pasir Ris West;

Ladies and gentlemen;

a very good afternoon to all.

1. Welcome to Christmas Gift Of Love! Thank you for taking the time to grace us with your presence today.
2. New Creation Church is privileged and honoured by this opportunity to partner Pasir Ris West Constituency to organise Christmas Gift Of Love specially for the residents of Pasir Ris West.
3. Over the three decades since we were founded in 1984, our church has organised hundreds of outreach and humanitarian projects because we believe that it is always better to give than to receive. So we are very happy to be here with you for Christmas Gift Of Love today.



4. Christmas Gift Of Love is the first of many Gift Of Love projects to bless those in our community – up to 4,300 families in 2014 alone. In the Christmas month of December, over a thousand of our church members will be buying, packing and delivering daily essentials to families around the island.
5. As a church, we also want to celebrate our uniquely harmonious multi-racial and multi-religious society in Singapore, built on the efforts of generations of Singaporean who have shown mutual respect and understanding.
6. I feel that one of the most important milestones we have achieved as a nation is that of racial and religious harmony. It is especially significant in the light of Singapore's Golden Jubilee next year – 50 good years of peace, progress and prosperity!
7. This is our home. We may not have the four seasons in Singapore, we may not see the autumn leaves, we may not have snow during Christmas, but we do have more than four types of ethnic cuisines. It is the taste of home that we grew up with and enjoy.
8. So today, we celebrate our diversity with a sumptuous lunch consisting of food from different ethnic groups. We will be serving Indian *nasi biryani* as well as local treats like Malay *kueh kueh* and Chinese tea.
9. There will be multi-cultural performances in Singapore's four official languages – English, Malay, Mandarin and Tamil – presented by our church's creative team.
10. Every family here will also receive a foldable shopping trolley overflowing with gifts of daily essentials.



11. All this represents our church's heart of love towards you and everyone in Singapore, regardless of your race, language or religion.
12. Residents of Pasir Ris West, you are our honoured guests today. I hope you will enjoy this Christmas Gift Of Love programme we have prepared specially for you. It is a reflection of what we strongly believe, that God's love has no boundaries and, truly, we are united as one people, one nation in our diversity.
13. This unity and commitment to the community is also seen through the kind generosity of Park View Primary School's management, who opened up the school for Christmas Gift Of Love today. Thank you Madam Goh.
14. Last but not least, thank you DPM Teo for taking time off from your busy schedule to grace and host this event today.
15. With that, I would like to thank you for your attention and I hope you will enjoy the rest of the afternoon here with us.

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