



Trinity Methodist Church

34 SERANGOON GARDEN WAY
SINGAPORE-19

REV. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
28 CHUAN HOE AVENUE
SINGAPORE 19

TELEPHONES
CHURCH 83443
PARSONAGE 806339

NEWSLETTER FOR JULY 1972

M.C.(P) 191/66

CALL TO EVANGELISM

Earlier this week some of us were present at a meeting in Wesley Church which the Conference President, Rev. Denis Dutton, described as "one of the truly memorable occasions" of his ministry. Nearly one hundred and fifty people, representing all but two of the congregations in the Singapore District, met for the initial Get-together inaugurating a four-week training programme for Evangelistic Counsellors preparing for the ALAN WALKER PREACHING MISSION to be held at the Singapore Conference Hall from August 3rd to 5th.

It was memorable as a sign that the different churches in the District were beginning to recognise their inter-relatedness and perhaps still more because we were discovering our unity as we tried to prepare ourselves for the great task which remains the primary reason for the existence of the Church - proclaiming Jesus Christ as the Lord of all life and the Saviour of the world.

For many (and this is a sad reflection on our distorted priorities) it was a strange experience. It is a long time since our Church acknowledged its God-given responsibility to proclaim the good news of God's life-giving, saving love to all who will hear. One could not help being struck by the predominance of young people in the group and wondering whether our older members have lost something of vital significance with a fading of faith and a withering of commitment. For is it not true that what we do not wish to talk about cannot be very significant to us? But we rejoiced at the evidence that in our churches the light still burns and that we still have a faith to proclaim.

Of course, evangelism is more than big public meetings and a big name; indeed it is more than 'preaching', even though "it pleased God through the foolishness of the preaching to save them

OUR TRINITY FAMILY ***

CONGRATULATIONS ON THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING to Mr & Mrs Lam Yet Seng, who were married on 17 June 1922. Their whole family will be together for an "official" celebration of this great occasion at a Thanksgiving Service and Dinner at Trinity Church on Saturday 5th August; but our church family, deeply indebted for the long years of service which 'Uncle and Auntie' Lam have given to the Methodist Church and our own congregation, salutes them with love and affection on this auspicious occasion and wishes them many more years of happy married life together.

WHOM GOD HATH JOINED. We express our congratulations to Mr Ronnie Kwok and Miss Lena Seow who were married at Trinity on Saturday 3rd June.

A CHRISTIAN HOME. The monthly Parish Meeting was held at the home of Mr & Mrs Vincent Chia, 168-L Block 116 Lorong 1 Toa Payoh on 10th June and took the form of a home dedication.

AFTER SURGERY. It is good to have Rev. & Mrs Chew Hock Hin back in the church congregation after Rev. Chew's recent eye operation.

MISS PAULINA BARUCH is one of our members who has visited Europe during the school holidays. She wrote from Rome, which she found very impressive, but said how glad she was that our services at Trinity were in a language she could understand! We are very grateful to Miss Baruch for the loving and artistic care with which she arranges the church flowers week after week

OUR STUDENT ASSISTANT, Mr Ioane Afoa will be visiting Sarawak during the Trinity College vacation, where he will help to look after the Wesley Church congregation in Sibü

YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE HAPPY at the Playgroup which will be set up on 3rd July by a trained and experienced kindergarten teacher. Children of the age-group 3-6 years are accepted. For details, phone Mrs. Chooi at 807421. Mrs Linda Chooi is a former Trinity College graduate and a worshipping member of our congregation.

 METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

This has been a 'fantastic' month for the M.Y.F. Firstly, there was the Retreat from 9 - 11 June which turned out so much better than expected.

It is quite true to say that the M.Y.F. was beginning to lose its sense of direction and purpose and was said to be becoming too much of a social group. The M.Y.F. hoped that the Retreat would bring about the realisation of its true purpose. The main theme was 'Growing Up Together'. The M.Y.F. felt the need for young people to live happily together and to help each other to grow.

Two speakers were invited to help the group with this and there was plenty of opportunity for the group to clarify their doubts. Dr. Yeoh spoke on the relationship between God and Man and Dr. Gunnar Teilmann on the relationship between Man and Man. Many of the M.Y.Fers who had been reluctant to open up during past discussions were very willing to talk freely at the Retreat. Could this be a sign that they were beginning to understand the true meaning of trust and friendship?

There was also plenty of time for fun, with games and an ample supply of food. Finances came in from the Singapore District Council.

In this month, too, the President Lee Park Meng gave in his resignation. The M.Y.F. was rather sorry to let him go, but actually he is not really gone. He is around a lot still, to give the MYF advice - and transport. The Acting President is now Tonni Wei.

Finally, we had a TALENTIME on 24th June. Although the Talentime Committee was inexperienced and entries came in pretty late, the evening was a great success. There was active participation and the standard of entries rather high.

ANNUAL MISSIONS DINNER IN AD OF THE SENGOL MISSION WORK! *****
 * Friday 24 July at 7.30 p.m. *
 * Adults: 4 *
 * Children under 12 \$2 *
 * *****

- 1 Sat. 3.30 P.M. BOYS' BRIGADE PARADE
- 2 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
10.00 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE - The Pastor
11.05 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING
5.30 P.M. HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE - The Pastor
- 3 Mon. 8.00 P.M. EVANGELISTIC COUNSELLORS TRAINING COURSE
at Paya Lebar Methodist Church
- 5 Wed. 8.00 P.M. STUDY FELLOWSHIP 'What is the Church?' at
28, Chunn Hoe Avenue
- 6 Thu. 5.30 P.M. Pastor visits in DRIVES II Parish
- 7 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 8 Sat. 3.30 P.M. BOYS' BRIGADE PARADE
5.00 P.M. MONTHLY PARISH MEETING at the home of Mr &
Mrs Khoo Con Hoe, 27, Cotswold Close (13)
TRINITY COLLEGE GRADUATION SERVICE
- 9 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Rev. Frank Earle
11.05 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
12.00 NOON Worship Service at Woodbridge Hospital
3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING
5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
- 10 Mon. 8.00 P.M. COUNSELLORS TRAINING CLASS at Paya Lebar M.C.
- 12 Wed. 8.00 P.M. STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 13 Thu. 5.30 P.M. Pastor visits in LICHFIELD Parish
- 14 Fri. 7.30 P.M. ANNUAL MISSIONS BUFFET DINNER
- 15 Sat. 3.30 P.M. BOYS' BRIGADE PARADE

DAR FOR JULY

- 16 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
 11.05 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING
 5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
 11.15 A.M. OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING
- 17 Mon. 8.00 P.M. COUNSELLORS TRAINING at Paya Lebar M.C.
- 19 Wed. 8.00 P.M. STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 20 Thu. 5.30 P.M. Pastor visits in LICHFIELD Parish
- 21 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 22 Sat. 3.30 P.M. BOYS' BRIGADE PARADE
- 23 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
 11.05 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 12.00 NOON Worship Service at Woodbridge Hospital
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING
 5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
- 24 Mon. 8.00 P.M. COUNSELLORS TRAINING at Paya Lebar M.C.
- 26 Wed. 8.00 P.M. STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 27 Thu. 5.30 P.M. Pastor visits in AVENUES I Parish
- 28 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 29 Sat. 3.30 P.M. BOYS' BRIGADE PARADE
- 30 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
 11.05 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING
 5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Mr Lam Yet Seng

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE

thanksgiving gifts received during June from the following:

Anon (\$10) Miss Jane Choo (\$10) Mr & Mrs Daniel Gwee (\$10) Madam Chan Yoke Cheng (\$25) Mr & Mrs Chiang Hai Chew (\$10) Mrs Tan Kim Tee (\$20) Mrs Mercy Rajah (\$10) Dr & Mrs Alan Tay (\$10) Mr Ong Teng Cheng - in memory of the late Mr Loh Peng Seah (\$100) Mr Teo Beng Chuan (\$100)

gifts for Missions from:

Tong Sik Lun (\$5) Mr Andrew Lee (\$50) Mrs Tan Beng Guan (\$10) Mrs M.S.Lai (\$5) Mrs Catherine Pang (\$10) Yeo Kim Kiat (\$1) Anon. (\$4) Dr & Mrs J. Supramaniam (\$10)

and gifts for C.C.M.S. Care & Concern from Mrs E. Samuel and Miss S. Samuel

The Sunday School (and the congregation) express their gratitude to Mr E.K. Liew for the gift of an electric clock for the church sanctuary

M.Y.F. TALENTED PRIZEWINNERS

Inter- Programme Area Section:

1. Fellowship (Misses Violet & Adeline Tan, Miss Carol-Ann Tan)
2. Citizenship

Open Section:

1. Carol-Ann Tan
2. Tonni Wei
3. Adeline Tan

SINGAPORE KESWICK CONVENTION

***** at the Singapore Conference Hall

August 12 - 18 at 7.30 p.m.

Speakers: Mr Zachariah Poonen & Dr. Edwin G. Spahr

 FROM THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Rev. Richard Ong writes:

"The Singapore Malaya Annual Conference in 1971, conscious of the need for renewal and a more dynamic way of reaching our communities, has invited Dr. Alan Walker, a very successful evangelist in Australia, to come and conduct missions here in Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh and Penang. The purpose of the mission is to confront the whole community with Jesus Christ. This is not primarily a mission to the Church, but the renewed and inspired Church going out on mission to the whole community. Dr. Walker was invited by our Annual Conference to come and conduct this preaching mission and we hope that every Methodist within Singapore District will participate and support this mission to the fullest."

 TOA PAYOH PROJECT

Members and friends will be interested to know that the plans for the Toa Payoh Project have been approved and a tender for the construction has been accepted.

Building operations will commence shortly and are expected to be completed by the end of February next year. It is understood that the contract is for approximately \$550,000. Our annual Church Anniversary Appeal has been designated by the Official Board to be in aid of our Trinity Church pledge of \$10,000 towards the purchase of the site in Lorong 2 for the new Toa Payoh Church.

 AMONG THE SENGOL

Bah Wah, now training at the Lawas Bible School, writes:

During my last school vacation, I have been to Limbang preaching among the Bisayan tribes. Out of 3,000 only about a hundred are Christians....I was brought to EVERY SINGLE HOUSE IN THE AREA to preach the Word of God. In March I attended a conference to which over 2,500 people came from all over Sarawak.....

that believed". Let nobody think that in welcoming Dr. Alan Walker to Singapore we are handing over to one man the responsibility which belongs to the whole Church the whole of the time. This is our proper task as a Church not three but three-hundred and sixty five days a year (and 366 days in 1972!)

We see this Preaching Mission as a recall to a specific verbal task. God "gave some to be evangelists ... to equip God's people for work in his service", and we gladly acknowledge the special gifts he has given to Dr. Walker and others like him. But the special people are a perpetual reminder that we are all called to be witnesses and that a Church which stops talking to the world has ceased caring for those for whom Christ died.

But let us not forget, either, that words alone are never enough to make Love real. It has to be lived and acted out. The call to evangelism is not simply a call to proclaim but also to embody (to 'incarnate') the good news. Proclamation, fellowship & service must go hand-in-hand. If we tell people that in Christ they can find full, satisfying human life and the secret of how we may live together, when our own fellowship is shallow and twisted by self-interest and lack of concern for one another, what we are belies the message we utter. "What you are speaks so loudly that I cannot hear what you say" is an all-too-common reaction to the preaching of Christ. And if we withdraw from the real, felt problems of people, safe in the certainty of our own private salvation, we make the preaching of the gospel "of none effect".

Let us, then, in word and deed, dedicate ourselves afresh to making known the many-sided grace of God in Christ. We are to do far more than invite people to come and join us or come to church. We are, in John Wesley's favourite phrase, to "offer them Christ" as the deepest answer to each man's need. To some, He will mean "the forgiveness of sins"; to others, a discovery of who they are and what life means; to others, freedom and to others, reconciliation with those from whom they are estranged; to yet others, the power and courage to be themselves. There is no one standard way of speaking about, or experiencing, Jesus. He deals with us, just as God made us, one at a time. He is "just what I need".

So come to the meetings; bring your friends - and let us pray:

'Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
To work and speak and think for Thee'.