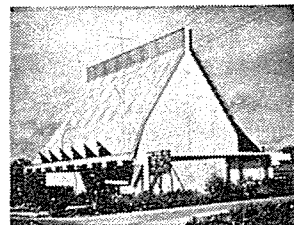


# Newsletter

from

## Trinity Methodist Church

34 SERANGOON GARDEN WAY  
SINGAPORE-19



Pastor—Rev. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

PARSONAGE:

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AUGUST 1972

### THE CHURCH LOOKS FORWARD

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\* THE SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY \*  
\* of \*  
\* TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH \*

\* Saturday 16 September at 7 p.m. \*  
\* ANNIVERSARY DINNER \*

\* Tickets: Adults \$5 Schoolchildren \$2.50 \*  
\* Sunday 17 September at 10 a.m. \*

\* ANNIVERSARY THANKSGIVING SERVICE \*  
\* Preacher: Bishop Yap Kim Hao \*  
\* with adult baptisms and reception into the \*  
\* Church Membership \*

\* ANNIVERSARY OFFERING IN AID OF THE TOA PAYOH \*  
\* METHODIST PROJECT \*

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As we celebrate our 16th Anniversary this month, and give thanks for the guidance of God during the years past, we look forward to discover where God wishes to lead us forward into the future. Is there a better way of remembering our calling than by linking a Baptismal and Confirmation Service with our thanksgiving. For almost nine

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NEWS OF THE TRINITY FAMILY  
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ADULT BAPTISM Miss Lu Hensen, daughter of Prof. & Mrs H.T.Lu, on 27 August 1972. Hensen returned from Australia on 7 August and left on the evening of her baptism to continue her studies at Waterloo University, Toronto, Canada.

CALLED HOME Mr Liu Pai Hu of 6 Upper Willkie Road (9) on Monday 8 August 1972, at the Outram Road General Hospital after a long illness. Mr Liu, a former senior officer at the Ministry of Education, received Christian baptism while he was in hospital. We express our loving sympathy to his bereaved wife and family.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr Pang Kia Seng, Chairman of the Property Committee, who was awarded the Bronze Medal for Public Administration in the National Day Honours List.

BON VOYAGE to Mrs Chen Meng Sheng, who has returned to Holland to rejoin her husband who is studying in Den Haag. And to Ioane Afoa, our former student-assistant, who flew to New Zealand on his way home to Samoa on 24 August. The crowd of Trinity MYFers who gathered at the airport to see him off was eloquent testimony to the deep regard and affection in which he came to be held by all our young people. He will be greatly missed.

THE BOYS BRIGADE is planning a film show at the Paramount Theatre early in December to raise funds for their activities and equipment. Recently the Company has been passing through a rather difficult time, with numbers dropping and morale at a low ebb. We are delighted that it has taken on a new lease of life, and appeal to all members and friends to encourage their sons in the 12-16 age-group to join in the programme of the B.B. which exists "to advance Christ's Kingdom among boys and to promote .... all that tends to true Christian manliness."

RECITAL On holiday from the Yehudi Menuhin School of Music in England, Melvyn Tan presented a highly successful joint recital with Lee Pan Hon at the Singapore Conference Hall on 28 Aug.

Said the Straits Times:

"Quite correctly, his programme stood more on its sensuous than intellectual appeal. But the flair and the sureness of technique are there, and it should only be a matter of time before we see a fully-developed pianistic style. We wish Melvyn the best as he moves toward what so many, quite rightly, expect him to fulfil."

May we add our congratulations and best wishes to Melvyn.

THANK YOU! Mr Lam Yet Seng ("70 years young") writes:

"My wife and I cannot find words to thank you for all you did to make our Golden Wedding Celebrations such a rousing success. Kindly convey to Mrs Chew Chin Jin and some of the members of the choir our appreciation for rendering the anthem to enliven the proceedings. Enclosed herewith is a cheque for \$100 as a thank-of fering from us."

To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of their marriage at Wesley Church, Malacca on June 17, 1922 by Rev.M.Dodsworth, the church was packed with Lam family and friends for a short Thanksgiving Service and the dinner that followed in the church grounds. Present were their six sons and one daughter, with their partners and their eighteen grandchildren. Our sympathy to their adopted son and family who, having driven from Province Wellesley to attend the great occasion, discovered at the Causeway that their passports had expired two days previously!

WE ARE GRATEFUL to our friends who occupied the Trinity pulpit during the pastor's holiday - Dr.Bobby Sng (F.E.S.), Rev.J.K. Watson (M.M.S.) Dr.George Wan (P.L.M.C.) & our own Andrew Lee.

PROPOSED SINGAPORE PROVISIONAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE An important meeting has been called by the District Lay Leader at Wesley Church at 8 p.m. on 4 September to discuss a proposal to petition General Conference in November for the establishment of a Singapore Provisional Annual Conference composed of the S.M.A.C. churches in the Singapore District. Supporters of the scheme stress the need for the Methodist Church to project a national identityt and believe that the dissolution of the present pa-Malayan structure would be administratively more effective and financially more economical. As neither the Chinese nor Tamil churches are at present interested in a multi-lingual Conference, the plan is proposed as a first step towards that ultim ate end.

CHURCH CALENDAR

- 1 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 2 Sat. 3.00 P.M. BOYS' BRIGADE PARADE  
2.00 P.M. DISTRICT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COLLOQUIUM  
3.30 P.M. ALAN WALKER MISSION Follow-up Get-Together
- 3 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
- 4 Mon. 8.00 P.M. DISTRICT COMMISSION OF LAITY - Wesley Church  
(Proposed Singapore Provisional A.C.)
- 7 Thu. 5.30 P.M. Pastor visits in BUKIT TIMAH Parish
- 8 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 9 Sat. SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC
- 10 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS  
10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Rev. J.K.Watson  
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
- 14 Thu. 5.30 P.M. Pastor visits in THOMSON Parish
- 15 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 16 Sat. 3.00 P.M. BOYS' BRIGADE PARADE & Bible Class  
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\* 16TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY \*  
\* 7 p.m. ANNIVERSARY DINNER Church Grounds \*  
\* M.C. Miss Violet Khor \*  
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FOR SEPTEMBER 1972

- 17 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS  
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\* 16TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE \*  
\* 10 a.m. \*  
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\* Preacher: Bishop Yap Kim Hao \*  
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\* Adult Baptisms & Reception into Church \*  
\* Membership \*  
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\* Offering in aid of TOA PAYOH METHODIST CHURCH PROJECT \*  
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3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING  
5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
- 21 Thu. 5.30 P.M. Pastor visits KATONG/SIGLAP Parish
- 22 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 23 Sat. 3.00 P.M. BOYS' BRIGADE PARADE
- 24 SUN. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL  
10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor  
11.05 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE  
11.15 A.M. OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING  
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
- 28 Thu. 5.30 P.M. Pastor visits in LICHFIELD Parish
- 29 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 30 Sat. 3.00 P.M. BOYS BRIGADE PARADE & BIBLE CLASS

PLEASE NOTE: Because of the Sunday School Picnic, there will be  
NO Parish Meeting this month.  
THE OFFICIAL BOARD meets on 24th September



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ALAN WALKER PREACHING MISSION  
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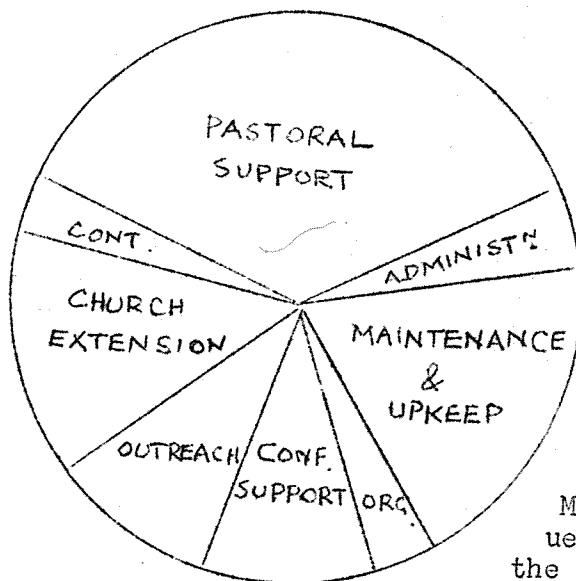
More than 160 people made first commitments of their lives to Jesus Christ during the three-day preaching mission conducted by Dr. Alan Walker at the Singapore Conference Hall in early August.

In spite of inadequate publicity, after the first night the Hall was filled with attentive hearers as Dr. Walker presented the claims of the Lordship of Christ over both personal and social life. Speaking with forceful directness, and illustrating his theme with vivid and often humorous illustrations, Dr. Walker "offered Christ" as the great Liberator in whom alone we can become fully human and as the one who alone can make a world "fit for God's people to live in". Without using any special "religious" language, and with a keen sense of the world we live in, he proclaimed God's saving grace in terms that made sense to ordinary people, as the response to his plain unemotional appeal, particularly at the Youth Rally on the Saturday afternoon, made evident.

There is no doubt that the months of preparation in the District before Dr. Walker arrived gave all our congregations a new awareness of the need to evangelise. Of course, one could criticise. Was the sort of counsellor-training really adequate for its purpose? Was it wise, or right, to emphasise the Methodist-ness of the mission (indeed, its English-speaking Methodist-ness!) when the preacher himself clearly saw his task as directed towards the city rather than towards the Methodist Church? Why were the English-speaking congregations in our Chinese and Tamil churches not involved in the preparations? Nevertheless, some of us dared to engage, with fear and trembling, in the primary task of the Church, and discovered as we tried to commend our Lord to others that our own faith was deepened and enriched.

Dr. Walker also spoke at a number of school chapel services and to a lunch meeting of Christian businessmen; but for some of us, the highlight of the week was the crowded Dedication Service at Wesley, with its fine, energetic singing - no dragging tunes for Dr. Walker! - and deep feeling of commitment. Follow-up fellowship groups for those who made commitments have just ended. Now it is for each congregation (and our own) to make these new Christians at home within a warm fellowship within which their faith can grow.

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 DRAFT BUDGET FOR 1972-3  
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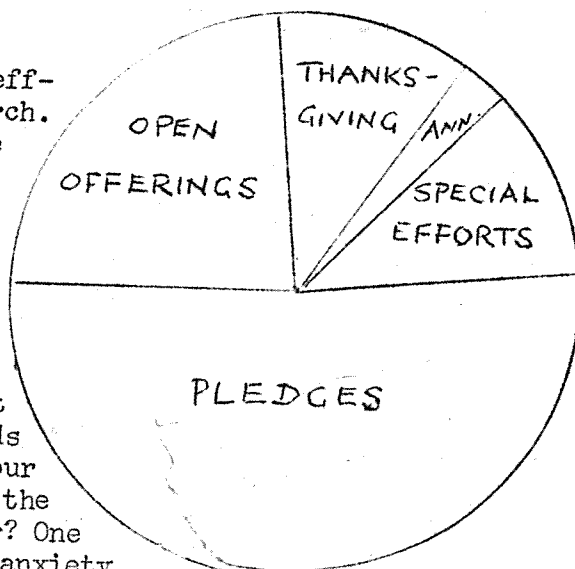


WE SHALL NEED ALMOST \$ 36,000

to carry forward the work of the church during the coming year. The largest item for Pastoral support includes provision for the support of a local minister if needed, and we plan to set aside \$5,000 for church extension. More than \$3,000 is required for the redecoration of the church, now long overdue. We have promised to raise a further sum of \$3334 towards the Toa Payoh Methodist Project, and to continue supporting Michael Wong while the Toa Payoh congregation gets on its own feet.

MORE THAN HALF THROUGH PLEDGES

is our aim. There is no other effective way of financing the church. This means a 20% increase on the current year - more members who are ready to give thoughtfully and regularly; current pledgers planning how to give a little more (say, \$2.50 a week instead of \$2; \$12 a month in place of \$10, or \$25 instead of \$20). We ought not to be content with less than 150 members/friends as pledged givers. Could we set our sights even higher, and eliminate the "Special Efforts" item altogether? One special effort NOW will mean no anxiety later.





months, a group of young people have been thinking and talking together about what it means to commit one's life to Jesus Christ as a member of His Church. This was the central theme of Dr. Alan Walker's message in the recent Preaching Mission, also. Why has God made us a Church? What is our share in Christ's mission to Serangoon Gardens? Unless we begin to find worthwhile answers to this great question, our Anniversary celebrations will be mere nostalgia and warm matey-ness.

The future of the Church lies very much in the hands of the young people. We have just celebrated M.Y.F. Week, and have been impressed by the energy, vitality and imagination of our MYFers, as they led our worship in unconventional ways, and engaged in a very full programme of other activities, inside the church and out. I think all of us have a deep responsibility to support and encourage our young people as they battle with the bewildering questions of Christian discipleship in a changing world. It was disappointing that so few parents and older members could find the time - or the interest? - to respond to the invitation to attend the T.K.D. display and Youth Rally last Saturday night or the Re-union Dinner on Sunday. We can encourage or discourage these young people by our own attitude. As we look forward to the year ahead, let part of our response be to commit ourselves more wholeheartedly to the needs programmes for youth in our church - Sunday School (which still needs dedicated teachers), M.Y.F. and the often-forgotten B.B.

We make our Anniversary Thanksgiving Appeal to remind ourselves that a church with no outreach programme is no Church. The needs of the people of Toa Payoh are our concern; the new problems of community life in a new city environment. The Methodist Church building project is under way, and will help to equip the Church to offer Christ and His new life in this challenging missionfield. Please give as generously as you can to ensure that our church does not selfishly give thanks, with no thought for others.

Finally, as this month brings the current Church year to a close, try to make sure (if you are able) that all pledges you have made are paid in full, even though this has been an 11-month year; and begin to think about the needs of the church in the coming year. Pledge cards will be sent out during September. Let each one give as he is able, and as Christ shall direct.