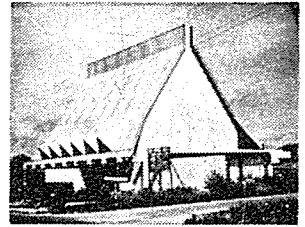


Newsletter

from

Trinity Methodist Church

34 SERANGOON GARDEN WAY
SINGAPORE-19



Pastor—Rev. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
PARSONAGE:
28 CHUAN HOE AVENUE
SINGAPORE 19 . PHONE: 806339

MC (P) 3870

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

NOVEMBER 1974

PURPOSEFULLY AHEAD !

A congregation needs a clear sense of direction if the great investment of time, energy and ability made by its members is not to run to waste. Many people - be they never so dedicated! - pulling in many different directions simply get in each other's way, tread on each other's toes, limit each other's achievement, and make it impossible to feel that all of us are moving forward purposefully together. We need to set common objectives for the church.

First, of course, we need to discover a common commitment. The church is not our own, it is Christ's, and until all our work and worship and service expresses the complete, whole-hearted dedication of each of us to the one Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we shall remain a stunted, limited and rather bewildered human organisation, saying one thing and doing another, and running frantically around in circles is a desperate search for the meaning of its own existence. We do not become a live congregation of Christ's Church by simply doing more things; "the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abide in the Vine". Our first objective must be to go on saying, as clearly and continually as we can, "I beseech you ... be reconciled to God" (II Cor. 5:20). Our congregational life is our glad response to the discovery of God's love in Jesus Christ.

Then we have to begin to work out in detail what that means. If we do not do this, our commitment begins to dry up because it has no outlet or expression, apart from spasmodic bursts of activity. This is why the Inaugural Meeting of the Church Executive Committee spent the Hari Raya Holiday trying to set realistic, achievable goals for

.... / see page eight

TRINITY FAMILY NEWS

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

A revised Church Directory will be completed shortly and will be posted to all members on our church roll. We hope you will keep this by you, and make the necessary alterations as these are announced in the Newsletter from time to time.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS may be sent to members and friends of the church through the next edition of the Newsletter. The cost per insertion is \$5 and those who wish to use this facility are asked to give their names to Mrs Patricia Chia as soon as possible.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

depicting the M.Y.F. Nativity scene may be obtained from MYFers or Dr Khor Tong Hong at 35 cents each. Any profit is for the Extension Fund.

LCEC OFFICERS

were elected at the Inaugural Meeting of the L.C.E.C. on October 17th, as follows:-

CHAIRMAN: Mr Peter Lai VICE-CHAIRMAN: Dr Khor Tong Hong

SECRETARY: Miss Violet Khor ASST. SECRETARY: Mrs Dorothy Tan

The L.C.E.C. also made the following appointments:-

CHAIRMAN, EXTENSION FUND APPEAL: Mr Andrew Lee

HON. AUDITOR: Mr Tan Thuan Seng

DISTRICT APPOINTMENT

Mr Daniel Gwee was elected Associate District Lay Leader at the District Conference held on 26 October at the Toa Payoh Methodist Church.

REV. PHILIP CHAN

will act as an Associate Pastor at Trinity Church, while he is undertaking a special course of training at the Churches' Counselling Centre for which he has been given two years' study leave by the Conference. Mr Chan's first responsibility will be for his studies in the Clinical Pastoral Care programme, but he will be able to share in the pastoral visitation and in working with the young people and the Coffee House project. We are glad to welcome him into our fellowship.

HOLDERS OF CHURCH KEYS are requested to give their names to the pastor or Mr Lawrence Pang, Chairman of the Property Committee, immediately, so that a full list of those who have access to the premises, cupboards etc. can be compiled.

LADIES' CORNER

Mrs Catherine Pang

THE W.S.C.S. OFFICERS were installed in a brief act of dedication during the morning service on 22 October, when the members of the newly elected L.C.E.C. were also installed.

THE W.S.C.S. ANNUAL CONFERENCE will be held in Penang from 22nd to 26th November. Will those who are interested and able to attend this Conference please give their names to our Secretary, Mrs Daisy Lai, as soon as possible.

THE JOY STALL after the morning Communion service on the first Sunday of October was a great success - except that there was not enough food to go round! On the menu in the church basement for Sunday, 3rd November will be 'Hamburger Smith' with 'Lee's Hokkien Mee'. There's value for money!

W.S.C.S. VISIT AGED SICK The W.S.C.S. will be visiting the Home for the Aged Sick at Payoh Lai, 7 m.s. Upper Serangoon Road on Saturday, 16th November. Transport will be leaving the church at 3.30 p.m. The Matron of the Home informs us that there are a hundred old and sick people under her care. She appeals to us for coffee-powder, sugar, milk, butter, biscuits, detergents etc. They also need newspapers and old clothing which can be used as bedding and napkins for those who are bedridden.

We in turn appeal to you for your help in donating some of the above items, or cash donations which will be used to purchase these things. Please keep the afternoon free and join us to bring some cheer to these fellow-brethren who, in their old age, are sick, lonely lost and lacking in love. Come and share some of your love with them. It costs us nothing, but means the world to these old people.

CHURCH FAMILY NIGHT on Saturday, 26th October, was arranged by the W.S.C.S. Almost \$250 was raised for our Projects, through the sale of tickets for the film show "Man in the Wilderness" and by the sale of food

MRS CHEW'S SUCCESSFUL MUSIC STUDENTS included Lim Hee Soon (Grade I violin, Grade III piano), Elsie Chew (II), Edwin Ong, Terry Lai, Ruth Rajasingam, Lim Su Jean (III); Josephine Shen, Steven Ng, Lim Hee Beng, Evangeline Ang, Serene Chew (IV), Selena Lai (III violin, IV piano); Sandra Lemos, Emily Tan, Eddie Chew (V); Daisy Lai (VI); Lynette Pang, Amy Wei, Ivan Tan (VII) Janet Koh (VII piano) Grace Ong (VII violin), Timothy Ong (VII cello); Violet Tan (L.T.C.L. Diploma)

 ** CHURCH CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER **

- 1 Fri. 9.15 A.M. Wedding of Frederick Wong Chiang Kwang & Miss Ruth Thio
- 2 Sat. 8.00 P.M. 'THE OPEN DOOR' COFFEE HOUSE until 10.30 p.m.
- 3 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE - The Pastor
 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE (with Joy Stall in basement)
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING
 5.30 P.M. HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE - The Pastor
- 6 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 7 Thu. 8.00 P.M. COFFEE HOUSE EVALUATION & TRAINING SESSION
- 9 Sat. 4.30 P.M. MONTHLY PARISH MEETING at the home of Mr & Mrs Vincent Teo, 38 Mayflower Way (20)
 8.00 P.M. 'THE OPEN DOOR' COFFEE HOUSE until 10.30 p.m.
- 10 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Dr Bobby Sng
 11.15 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
- 13 Wed. DEEPAVALI HOLIDAY
 8.30 A.M. CHURCH RETREAT at the S.I.A. Bungalow, Windsor Drive
- 14 Thu. 8.00 P.M. COFFEE HOUSE EVALUATION & TRAINING SESSION
- 15 Fri. 4.00 P.M. Wedding of Low Siew Thian & Julie Low
- 16 Sat. SINGAPORE-MALAYA ANNUAL CONFERENCE opens at Methodist Centre, Port Dickson
- 17 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL (NO Membership Class)
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP -
 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING
 5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Mr Lam Yet Seng
- 20 Wed. S.M.A.C. closes at Port Dickson
 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 21 Thu. 8.00 P.M. COFFEE HOUSE EVALUATION & TRAINING SESSION
- 23 Sat. 8.00 P.M. 'THE OPEN DOOR' COFFEE HOUSE until 10.30 pm.

- 24 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Rev. Philip Chan
 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 L.C.E.C. MEETING in the basement
 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
- 27 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 28 Thu. 8.00 P.M. COFFEE HOUSE EVALUATION & TRAINING SESSION
- 30 Sat. 8.00 P.M. 'THE OPEN DOOR' COFFEE HOUSE open until 10.30 pm

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE WHOLE-CHURCH RETREAT at the S.I.A. Bungalow
 on Wednesday, 13th November

'Fulfilling the Mission of the Congregation'

This is an invitation to share in a day of inspiration, thinking, and
 planning for the future.

Come and bring your family for a day by the sea. Special arrangements
 will be made to look after your children so that all members and
 friends can share in the programme. Registration forms are now avail-
 able and should be returned on or before 5 November. Adults \$3 and
 children/students \$1.

THE S.M.A.C. SCHOOL OF EVANGELISM 1974 will be held from 3 to 8th
 December at Rumah Methodist, Penang Hill, Malaysia on the theme:
"Ambassadors for Christ". Specially programmed for laity and clergy
 of the Methodist Church in Malaysia & Singapore, it aims to challenge
 and train both for the cause of Christ through the specialised minis-
 try of evangelism. Registration Fee \$5; Food and Board \$28. Further
 details and registrations forms from the pastor.

WILL YOU BE AN USHER? Mr Harry Lim, our Head Usher says: "It would
 be ideal and gratifying if everyone within the church knew everyone
 else and had fellowship together. This is possible in a small church
 like Trinity, and could be achieved through 'parish' (house) meetings
 at home or through the apparently insignificant task of ushering.
 If we are to know and be known - ushering is the answer. We always
 need more volunteers; and never more than now.
 If you would be prepared to serve (normally for one month in the year)
 please give your name to the pastor, Mrs Chew Swee Kiok, Mrs Patricia
 Chia or Mr Harry Lim. Thank you very much. You help to say, "You're
 welcome!"

Page six
continued from page seven)

The Value of a Smile

sad, and Nature's best medicine for trouble.

Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen; for it is something that is no earthly good to anybody till it is given away freely.

For nobody needs a smile so much as those who have none left to give.

- Source Unknown

PROPOSED RE-STRUCTURE PLANS FOR METHODIST CHURCH

Among the important items to be considered at the Singapore Malaya Annual Conference, when it meets at Port Dickson from 16th to 20th November, will be the Report of the Committee on Restructure set up by the last General Conference of the Methodist Church.

We understand that this proposes the establishment of two General Conferences, one for Singapore and one for Malaysia. The former will comprise three Annual Conferences, composed of the Singapore components of the C.A.C., the S.M.A.C. and the T.P.A.C. The latter will have five Annual Conferences, with the addition of the two (Chinese and Iban) Conferences from Sarawak.

We also understand that, instead of having as now one Bishop with five Presidents, it is proposed that each Annual Conference will elect its own Bishop (or President), one of whom shall be elected by his fellow-bishops to preside over the General Conference. It is hoped that this Council of Bishops would provide a unifying link within the diverse constituent parts of the Church.

In the new General Conferences, the principle will be maintained that, regardless of size, each Annual Conference will have an equal number of representatives, though this is to be reviewed after one quadrennium. District and Local Conferences will become permissive rather than obligatory. Church property will be the subject of negotiation by a sub-committee of the Restructure Committee. If all Annual Conferences accept these proposals this year, Constitutional amendments and legislation will be drafted for ratification by Annual Conferences in 1975, followed by a General Conference in 1976.

There is no space to discuss these proposals here, but it may be doubted whether the primary virtue of this scheme is more streamlined efficiency!

 WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE

gifts to the Church Extension Fund received during October from:-

Mr & Mrs Sydney Lowe	\$ 50.00
Mrs Chia Chye Koon	25.00
Mr & Mrs Daniel Gwee	50.00
Mr & Mrs Jimmy Wong & the Sim Family in loving memory of the late Sim Bock Choon	1,000.00
Mrs Lim Eng Hoe in memory of her late husband	200.00
Miss Lim Ah Mooi	3.00
Miss Lily Tham	10.00
Mr & Mrs Peter Lai	1,000.00
Mr & Mrs Ong Ah Bok	100.00

2,438.00

with instalments on pledges from:

Mr Albert Lim Joo Hock	15.00
Mr & Mrs Khoo Con Hoe	50.00
Mr & Mrs E. Samuel	5.00
Mr & Mrs Chan Chong Hiok	20.00
Miss Violet Tan	30.00
Mrs Tan Mei Lee	200.00

320.00

\$ 2,758.00

THE COMMUNION OFFERING on 6 October raised \$ 114.50 for the relief
 of victims of the Honduras hurricane and flood disaster

 THE VALUE OF A SMILE

It costs nothing, but creates much:

It enriches those who receive, without impoverishing those who give.
 It happens in a flash, and the memory of it sometimes lasts for ever.
 None are so rich they can get along without it and none so poor but
 are richer for its benefits.

It creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in a business and
 is the countersign of friends.

It is rest to the weary, daylight to the discouraged, sunshine to the

... / see top of page six

(from page one)

this Conference year, goals which are wide enough to involve every church member and yet precise enough to allow progress to be monitored throughout the year. Too many church plans flounder because there is no adequate follow-up; decisions are made and then forgotten; splendid ideals never shape themselves into practical action and noble emotions die unexpressed.

The L.C.E.C. sees two main objectives for the year. The first is to realise the Extension plans, through a re-activated and energetic fund-raising campaign. Mr Andrew Lee is the Chairman of the responsible committee. The second (which becomes also the theme of the Church Retreat on the Deepavali holiday, 13 November) is to fulfil the mission of the congregation.

Most of the brain-storming session centred round the second objective, because the L.C.E.C. had no doubts about necessity of the first. Under this broad aim, four subsidiary goals were identified:

- a. to deepen the fellowship among the members of the church (and to integrate into the congregation those friends who are now part of our worshipping body)
- b. to train members for Christian witness, so that we may all feel that we can share the faith that is in us.
- c. to develop a programme of lay-visitation, so that the congregation may discover itself as a community of pastoral care (for we are responsible for each other).
- d. to develop a team of evangelistic lay visitors, to be the spearhead of outreach by the congregation into the new communities growing up around us.

These objectives now become the basic framework within which we shall operate as a congregation. All the sectional committees and organizations have been given the responsibility of breaking these objectives into specific targets, with intermediate target-dates built into their programme for the year, with the L.C.E.C. supervising their progress as the months go by.

Some steps have already been taken to implement this overall programme. A Leadership Training Course, led by Victor Goh, is meeting each Sunday afternoon for the next few weeks, and another kind of Training Course for Coffee House Befrienders is also under way. Different in approach and method, but both concerned to share the life which Christ gives, they indicate what variety is possible within a disciplined, purposeful programme.