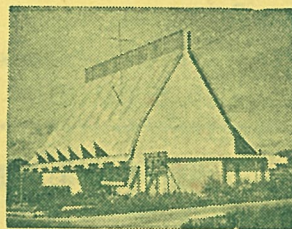


Newsletter

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) 313/75

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

MARCH 1975

"...AND TWO OTHERS WITH HIM ..."

Jesus did not die alone. The authorities saw to that! They nailed him to the cross with condemned criminals on either side of him. If it was their idea to publicise his shame, the plan misfired; they only succeeded in emphasising the depth and breadth of love divine. For in that public place of the world's rejection, a man at his execution found for himself God's acceptance and mercy.

"Don't you fear God?" said one criminal to the other. "We are all under the same sentence. Ours, however, is only right, because we are getting what we deserve for what we did; but he has done no wrong." And he said to Jesus, "Remember me, Jesus, when you come as King!" Jesus said to him, "I tell you this: today you will be in Paradise with me." (Luke 23:40ff)

I think of these things today, because at six o'clock this morning, seven men were hanged for murder. Two of them I knew as friends, and I want to share parts of letters that David and Andrew wrote to me at Christmastime; for we were able to rejoice this afternoon in the knowledge that God has fulfilled his promises to them both:

"In humility and repentance we ask your forgiveness for the shame we have publicly put upon the Holy Name of our Lord Jesus, and the shame we have brought upon the Lord's Body, His Church. This will be our last Christmas, but we go to join the Lord in His glorious kingdom and love. I want to reassure you that every day we spend here has been one of tremendous spiritual joy in that we had the honour and privilege of serving the Lord. We have prayed much, in agony and pain, that we may be given the joy of entering more of the Lord's mission fields; but the Lord has instead required that we testify for him in our homecoming - so in this we praise the Lord. We have no fear. The Lord is sustaining (John 6:33)

THEOLOGICAL TRAINING FOR LAYMEN

Trinity Theological College is eager to share in the lay-training programme of the local churches, and has prepared a course of study which would provide laymen with an opportunity to do some basic theological study.

Courses lasting for six weeks each, meeting once a week for approximately two hours, will introduce:

Old Testament	New Testament	Christian Faith
Christian Life	The Mission of the Church	Church History

and those completing six courses will be awarded a certificate by the College.

Each course will be offered three times a year: January-March, April-June and September-November: they will be conducted in the local churches by invitation, by leaders provided by the College.

If there is a group in our own congregation who would wish to share in this kind of training, we would be glad to negotiate further with the Trinity College organisers.

Are YOU interested? If so, please give your name to the pastor or to Mr Chan Chong Hick, Chairman of the Committee on Christian Education, as soon as possible. The sooner we gather a group, the higher up the waiting list we shall be!

'VETERANS OF THE CROSS'

Even after increases voted by the Annual Conference, the rate of pension paid to retired ministers is still only \$4 per month per year of service. This means that a minister who retired after 30 years of faithful service receives from the Pension Fund, in these inflationary times, a mere \$120 per month. (His surviving widow receives even less - \$84 per month). Out of the Board of Pensions \$33,000 budget for the year, pensions have to be paid for 35 retired pastors or their widows.

Conference has authorised the taking of a special offering to supplement this budget. Our Communion Offerings on Sunday 2 March will go to the Board of Pensions. Please give as generously as you can or send your contributions to our Church Treasurer.

 * CALENDAR FOR MARCH *

Page 3

- 2 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL
 10.00 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE with Installation of MYF Officers (Second Offering for Pension Fund)
 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 JOY STALL in the Church Basement
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. SOCIAL PROGRAMME
 5.30 P.M. HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE - The Pastor
- 4 Tue. 8.00 P.M. COFFEE HOUSE EVALUATION MEETING in Basement
- 5 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 7 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 EXTENSION PLANNING COMMITTEE at 34 Lichfield Rd.
- 8 Sat. 4.30 P.M. MONTHLY PARISH MEETING at
- 9 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS starts
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 12.00 NOON Worship Service at Woodbridge Hospital
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING - Discussion "Christian & School" (Mrs Shirley Lim)
 5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Rev Sam. Goh (Paya Lebar)
- 12 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 14 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE (School Term ends)
- 16 SUN. Passion Sunday
 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
 MEETING OF LOCAL CHURCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING - Devotional
 5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
- 19 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 21 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 22 Sat. 8.00 P.M. 'THE OPEN DOOR' COFFEE HOUSE open until 1030p.m.
 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL & MEMBERSHIP CLASS
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP for Palm Sunday
 11.15 A.M. CHOIR PRACTICE in the sanctuary
 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. HOLY WEEK SERVICE in the sanctuary } details
 25 Tue. 8.00 P.M. HOLY WEEK SERVICE in the sanctuary } to
 26 Wed. 8.00 P.M. HOLY WEEK SERVICE in the sanctuary } follow



NEWS OF THE TRINITY FAMILY

NEW ARRIVAL To Michael and Shirley Ong, 38 Chartwell Drive (19)
a daughter Michelle, born at Mount Alvernia Hospital on 4 February 1975.

BAPTISMS At Trinity Methodist Church on Sunday 23 February:
Infants: Heather Leigh, daughter of Paul & Patricia VEIHMAN
of 31, Jalan Sindor (28) - born 22 October 1974
Geoffrey Wen Tsung, son of Robert & Lorraine LIM
of 22 Dedap Road (28) - born 21 June 1974
Adults: Caroline LIM Ah Mooi, 33 Chuan Hoe Avenue (19)
Tony CHAN Chong Khai, 37 Surin Avenue (19)

NEW MEMBERS Caroline LIM Ah Mooi on Profession of Faith
Tony CHAN Chong Khai - do -
Dr (Miss) YEOH Saw Ean, 1 Jalan Tari Dulang (28)
by Transfer from Wesley Church, Penang

CALLED HOME We express our loving sympathy to Mrs LIEW En Kin
whose father passed away on 12 February; and to
Mrs Chew Swee Kiok, Mrs Chew Hock Hin, Mrs Lee Teck Hock and other
members of the family who mourn the passing of Mrs Lim Ka Huat, a
beloved mother and sister, on 23 February.

Mrs Lim has been a very active and well-loved leader
in the Paya Lebar Methodist Church for many years. Deeply committed
to the Lord she loved, she served him faithfully, and with a constant
cheerful enthusiasm, in both the English and Malay-speaking
congregations. For a long time she was a member of the L.C.E.C.
and the W.S.C.S. (which she also served as president), and at her
death she was still a member of the Board of Governors of the Paya
Lebar M.G.S., whose uniformed organisations provided a guard of
honour for the funeral cortege. Her friendly faith was an encouragement
and inspiration to young and old alike, and she will be
greatly missed. We express our love and care to Mr Lim Ka Huat who
will miss her most of all.

IN HOSPITAL following a fall at home, is Mrs Harriet CHUA Cho
Pong, who is warded in Ward 58 at ORGH with an
impacted fracture of the knee-cap

NEW ADDRESS Mr & Mrs TAN Thuan Seng and family have moved from
Chiltern Drive to

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE

Church Extension Fund (in addition to pledges already noted)

Mr & Mrs Wee Chye Huat	20.00	In loving memory of	
In loving memory of		Mrs Tan Kim Tee	1,000.00
Wilton Soh Geok Hua	140.00	Mr & Mrs Yeo Kim Keat	5.00
Dr Lee Soo Ann	15.00	Mrs Sng	20.00
Mr Liau Nyuk Siong	100.00	Mr Wilfred Richards	200.00
		Mr & Mrs E.K. Khoo	100.00

Thankofferings

Mr & Mrs Robert Lim	50.00	Mr B. Chia	5.00
Dr & Mrs Alan Tay	10.00	Miss Khoo Koh Hee	15.00
Mrs E. Yan & family	50.00	Miss P. Baruch & Jacqueline	50.00
Miss Ho Lek Cheng	100.00	Mrs Alice Goh & Mrs H.J. Tan	
		in loving memory of father	100.00

Pledges

received during the month of February totalled \$ 1,925.00 and the New Year's Day offering amounted to \$ 118.10

ISSUE OF MISSION TINS

The Committee on Outreach has been encouraged by the readiness of members and friends to use the special Missions tins in their homes. Regular, thoughtful giving of small sums produces worthwhile support for outreach. A hundred people putting as little as 5 cts per day into their tins would raise almost \$ 2,000.00!

Has YOUR HOME got its Mission tin? Dr Khor Tong Hong or any of his committee members would be glad to supply the lack.

And REMEMBER! The contents of the Missions tins to 31 July will be used to support our own missionaries Victor and Ivy Goh in their work with Campus Crusade for Christ.

INSTITUTE OF BIBLICAL STUDIES

The Committee on Christian Education of Fairfield Methodist Church invites adults and young people to a topical exposition of The FIRST LETTER OF PETER by Rev. David Chan (Dean of Singapore Bible College) at Fairfield MGS Hall, 7.45 p.m. nightly - 10th to 14th March 1975.



(Church Calendar continued from Page 3)

Maundy Thursday - 27th March

COMMEMORATION OF THE LAST SUPPER

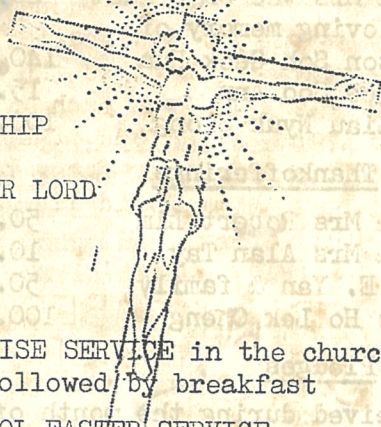
in the Church Sanctuary at 8.00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY

28th March

10.00 A.M.

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP
commemorating
THE PASSION OF OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST



EASTER DAY

30th March



6.15 A.M. EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE in the church
grounds; followed by breakfast

8.30 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER SERVICE

10.00 A.M. A SERVICE OF EASTER PRAISE
with Cantata by the Trinity Choir
' HALLELJAH FOR THE CROSS '

5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP for Easter Evening

'THE OPEN DOOR' COFFEE HOUSE will be open each Saturday
from 8.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

All welcome!

BURGLARS BROKE IN

to the church on Chinese New Year's Eve,
but found only the proverbial "church
mice"! Apart from damaging the office door and a couple of the
newly-installed locks, nothing was taken (except a bottle of Coke)

AT THE NATIONAL THEATRE

on Tuesday, 25 March, the Choir sang for
the final meeting of the 'ABUNDANT LIFE'
series conducted by Dr Sam Kamaleson to celebrate the 90th Anni-
versary of Singapore and Malaysian Methodism.

STRONG TOYS ARE NEEDED

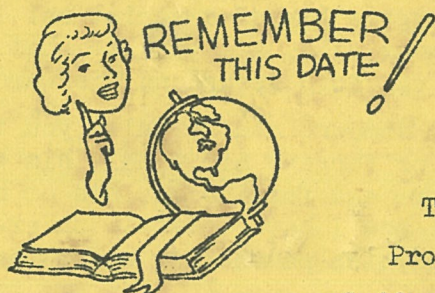
by the Junior Sunday School, for the use
of the smallest children. Please let Mrs
Smith know about any suitable, used, non-mechanical toys you could
offer.

 FOR THE LADIES

Catherine Pang reports

VISIT TO AGED SICK

Pupils of Mrs Patricia Chia and other friends donated a sum of \$ 220.00 with a request that this amount be utilised for the Home for the Aged Sick at Payoh Lai. So a visit was made to the Home on 22 February when we distributed 'ang pows' of \$2.00 each to the hundred inmates. We also brought them bread, sugar and tinned foods. The old people were so happy to see us and their faces beamed with joy when they received the 'ang pows'. We would like to express our thanks to the kind donors.



Ladies, please note:-

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

on 7th March - Friday

at the Presbyterian Church in Orchard Road

Theme: BECOME PERFECTLY ONE

Project: Determined by Singapore N.C.C.

Coffee will be served at 9.30 a.m. Service begins at 10.00 a.m.

For ladies unable to attend this morning meeting, there will be an evening service at the Queenstown Lutheran Church, Commonwealth Drive (3) at 7.45 p.m.

There will be an offering for the Fellowship of the Least Coin. A second offering will also be taken for the slum children in Bangkok.

YOU ARE INVITED to a W.S.C.S. Get-Together on 15th March

Wesley W.S.C.S. has started a 'Rediscovery of Friendship' programme. They had a wonderful fellowship together with Kampong Kapor, Barker Road and Pentecost societies in January. They have invited us for a get-together with Bedok, Christ and Faith WSCS at Wesley Church Hall from 3.30-5.00 p.m., Saturday 15th March. Will our members please try and come, and inform the Secretary, Mrs Yip Syn Wun if you are going.

COOKING CLASS

is being arranged for Saturdays, 22 & 29 March and 5 April. Will those who are interested please get in touch with Mrs Catherine Pang or Mrs Patricia Chia.

LAUNDRY
887580

"....You know when I was a teenager, I used to wonder about you guys in the Lord's service and often asked myself, "How do they manage? Don't they get tired of the work? Isn't being a minister of the Lord pretty dull?" I tell you! Now I know - the THRILL of it all! Now I know what it is to be moved by the Spirit - sustained by Him, encouraged by Him, pushed by Him! Sometimes I wonder how we ever managed! To teach them the hymns, so many of them; how we managed to preach the word - day in and day out, three times a day for two years.... Every time, whatever difficulty there may be, He opens the way. Now we know the meaning of Zechariah 4:6 "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts".

"The word of the Lord, the Bible, is the most amazing book in the world, and the most wonderful book I have ever read. To read it and understand the language in print is one thing, but to read with spiritual vision and understanding is beyond description! The hunger for the Word of the Lord is insatiable, and this is what is going to cure the world's hangover - the Lord Jesus and His word!!

"Rev. Smith, next time you counsel someone and he tells you that the Lord cannot cure him or help him or forgive him - tell him or her that if the Lord could and did cure and forgive me, his or her problem is chickenfeed by comparison! Now I have a little understanding of the word "the love of God which passes our understanding" (Ephes. 3:19) ...

"At our funeral, do these things for us: no black clothes, but gay, colourful ones; no grief, but joy in the victory of our Lord over sin in us, and that we are with Him; comfort my loved ones in the hope and assurance of our Lord's return, and commit our bodies to the Lord's resurrecting power.... So we say farewell and cry, "Maranatha! Maranatha! Maranatha! Maranatha!!" Till we meet again on the holy shores of our glorious Lord's eternal Kingdom."

Andrew and David were hanged this morning. This afternoon we sang for them, "How great Thou art!" and "There is sunshine in my soul today.", for these years of imprisonment have been gloriously used! And today I am certain they have heard the word of Jesus to the one whose condemnation He shared: "Today...with me...in Paradise."

"The dying thief rejoiced to see

That fountain in his day;

And there may I, though vile as he,

Wash all my sins away.

O dying Lamb, Thy precious blood

Shall never lose its power,

Till all the ransomed church of God

Be saved to sin no more.'

(W. Copwer)