

TMC NEWSLETTER

November — December 1984

MC(P) 50/1/84 ISSN 0217-5673

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH 34 SERANGOON GARDEN WAY (1955)

PASTORAL EPISTLE

This Christmas as we celebrate the birth of Jesus in Church, we'll witness the baptism and confirmation of new members. These Christians have decided to undergo baptism in obedience to Scriptural instruction. They will be confirmed as members of the Church because they seek to join the fellowship of a local church for common and corporate worship and ministry. After attending three months of membership class, they have decided that it is time to join the church as committed members.

Every member of the Methodist Church confesses Christ as Lord and Saviour, and pledges to support the Church in four practical ways.

PRESENCE. It is expected that Christians should look forward to worshipping God every Sunday in a Church. Worshipping God with other Christians is the least we can do to glorify God. Living a life without regular corporate worship is like a fish which refuses to return to water. Christians who are excited about their faith are the ones who would say with David, "I was glad when they say to me, 'Let us go the house of the Lord.'"

PRAYER. Prayer is heart-to-heart communication with God. When a child is close to her parents, she would love to approach Mum and Dad just to talk to them and be near them. No subject is trivial nor small. She knows that her parents listen to her in care and love. She finds it a joy to be in the presence of her parents and have heart-to-heart talk with them. In fact to be able to have a heart-to-heart talk with another person is an indication of strong relationship. How strong our relationship is with our Father, will be shown by our prayers or lack of it.

GIFTS. The church is a community of believers who share the joy of being given a new lease of life by God through Jesus Christ. Members have been touched by God's love. They are grateful to God for the gift of everlasting life. It is only natural for Christians who have experienced God's love to respond by bringing gifts and offerings to God's House for the work of His Kingdom. We are not giving God anything when we tithe or present our gifts. We are merely returning to Him a portion of what He has so faithfully blessed us, and entrusted to us.

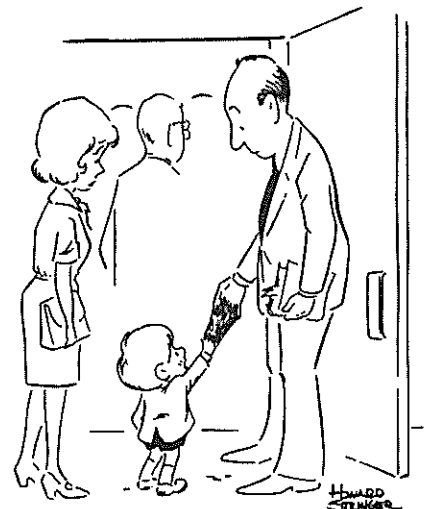
SERVICE. Serving God is a privilege. While not every one is called to be a pastor, evangelist, or healer, there are still many areas of services which we should get involved in Church. We need musicians, choir members, flower-arrangers, Sunday School teachers, ushers, writers, leaders, administrators, tellers, befrienders and prayer-partners. God has given us different talents to build up His Church, and to expand His Kingdom.

As the new members join the Church, I invite you to pray for them, guide them, strengthen them, and receive them into your care and fellowship.

Have a Christ-centred Christmas, and exciting New Year.

With you Celebrating Christ's Birth.

Daniel Koh



"AW, I WAS SAVING THAT PIECE OF GUM TO FINISH CHEWING AFTER CHURCH"

EDITORIAL

Christmas is just around the corner and many people are busy preparing for it — buying presents and gifts for loved ones and friends and sending greetings to one another.

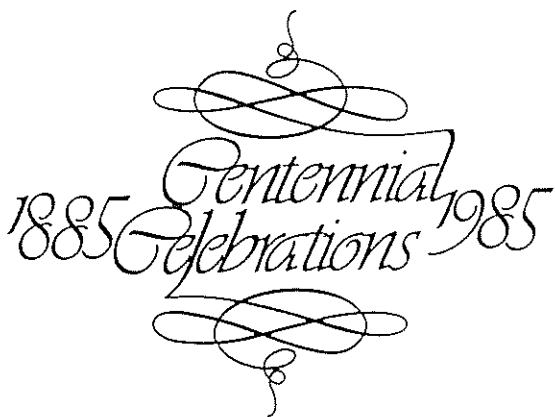
While it is good to exchange presents, gifts and greetings to express one's love, Christmas has come too commercialized with brightly lit Christmas trees, gaily decorated shopping centres and hotels, restaurants and eating houses proclaiming the festivities of Christmas that many Christians may have lost sight and forgotten the true significance and meaning of Christmas.

The uniqueness of Christianity is the conviction that God is Love which is manifested in flesh — our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It has been pointed out succinctly that a **CHRISTIAN** without **CHRIST** I Am Nothing. On the other hand **CHRISTMAS** to a Christian must surely mean **CHRIST** My Almighty Saviour.

Almost 2000 years ago as humble shepherds watched their flocks, the angel of the Lord appeared before them and announced to them the good news "For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11) Yes a Saviour! And as the others celebrate Christmas with bright lights, let us remember that Jesus Christ came to seek the lost, to save them and to reveal Himself as the Light of the world. Jesus is the Great Light and He alone can illumine the darkness of the world, the darkness of our soul and be our Saviour!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Meaningful New Year!

Tham Yew Kee



Preparing for Christian Marriage

If you are planning to have a Church wedding in 1985, you are required to sign up for a **PREPARING FOR CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE** course. This course will be held every Sunday from 1.00pm — 3.00pm at Ang Mo Kio Methodist Church. It will stretch from January 13 to March 17, 1985. Registration form is available from Church Office.

Pager for Emergency Call

If you need to contact pastor in the event of an emergency, you may do so by using the new paging system. To reach pastor, you have to follow these instructions:

1. Press the Pager number (5020791)
2. Wait for beeping tone.
3. Press asterisk (*) once.
4. Press the telephone number in which you want pastor to reach you.
5. Press asterisk (*) twice.
6. Listen for beeping tone.
7. Replace telephone handset.

Note: You have to use press-button telephone for this paging service.

Trinity Annual Conference

At the 9th session of TRAC held at Paya Lebar Methodist Church, the delegates elected Rev. Ho Chee Sin as the new President of TRAC for the next four years. Mr. Liao Nyuk Siong was re-elected Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Tan Boon Chiang was elected the Lay-Leader. From Trinity Methodist Church, Mr. E.K. Khoo was elected as the first lay-reserve to the Executive Board of TRAC. Mr. Daniel Gwee will serve in the Board of social Concerns. Dr. Khor Tong Hong continues with his service in the Board of Missions. Rev. Daniel Koh Kah Soon was elected to serve in the Board of Worship and Music. Pastor Koh was appointed to Trinity Methodist Church for another year.

Latest New Bishop Elected.

The Methodist Church in Singapore has a new Bishop. At the General Conference, the Rev. Ho Chee Sin of Trinity Annual Conference was elected the episcopal head of the Methodist Church. He succeeds the Rev. Kao Jih Chung who retires at the year of the second quadrennial.

Christmas Programme

Sunday School and MYF Party

Date: Saturday, December 22, 1984
Time: 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm for those who are in the intermediate and senior departments.
3.00 pm to 5.00 pm for those who are in the junior section.
Place: Church Ground.

Sunday School Christmas Worship

Date: Sunday, December 23, 1984
Time: 8.30 am
Place: Church

Christmas Musical

Date: Sunday, December 23, 1984
Time: 8.00 pm
Place: Church
The young people of our church will be sharing the Christmas message in songs.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Carol Service

Date: Monday, December 24, 1984
Time: 9.30 pm
Place: Church
Come for a time of singing and sharing.

Christmas Service

Date: Tuesday, December 25, 1984
Time: 10.00 am
Place: Church
Message: Wise men still seek Him
Speaker: Rev. Daniel Koh Kah Soon

New Year's Eve Programme

Fellowship Dinner

Date: Monday, December 31, 1984
Time: 7.30 pm
Place: Church Basement
All are welcome. Please call the church office if you are coming:

Tickets available at \$8.00 & \$5.00

Fellowship and Filmshow

Date: Monday, December 31, 1984
Time: 8.30 pm
Place: Church Sanctuary
Film: Noah's Ark

Watchnight Service

Date: Monday, December 31, 1984
Time: 11.00 pm
Message: The Way of a Good Christian
Place: Church Sanctuary
Holy Communion will be served.



NOTHING EXCITING EVER HAPPENS ON THIS JOB

Baptism

December 15, 1984

Miss Ang Hwee Suan
Mr. Jerry Foo Chee Seng

Confirmation

December 25, 1984

Miss Lim Ai Hua
Miss Ang Hwee Suan
Mr. Kevin Lowe
Mr. Jerry Foo Chee Seng
Mr. Samuel Tan Joo Soon

Baptism and Confirmation

December 25, 1984

Miss Vivien Lim Ah Bee
Miss Sim Sok Hian
Mr. Kelvin Yeo Soon Hwa
Miss Cecilia Wee Teck Neo
Miss So Maely
Miss Lynn Poh Ai Min
Miss Goh Hoon Hwee
Mr. Sim Cher Khee
Mr. Lim Chwee Chua

Transfer In

December 25, 1984

Mrs. Joyce Goh (nee Loke)
Mr. Goh Kok Kheng
Mdm. Tan Kee Moi, Doreen
Mr. Goh Choo Kuan, Andrew
Mdm. Babie Lew

Child Baptism

Ng Win Nie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ng Yean Hee.
Jason, Wee Chung, son of Richard and Melinda Poh.
Michelle, Yuting, daughter of Richard and Melinda Poh.
Sandra, Minsi, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Phung Tuck Chee.
Jaesson, Cheng Leong, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Ja.
Shaun, Ming Jhian, son of Mr. and Mrs. Choo Lee Sai.
Davinnia, Wi-en, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Tan.
Kevin, Guanjie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lim Choo Siang

MARRIAGE

Edmond Pierre and Margarette Thevasakayam on
Saturday, November 10, 1984.

SYMPATHY

To Lim Jit Siew and Merinna, Yin Yee whose baby
was taken home by our Lord on September 29, 1984.



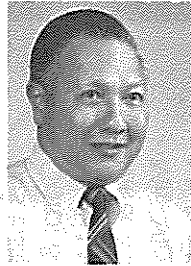
Local Church Executive Committee



Mr. Daniel Gwee,
Chairman, L.C.E.C.



Dr. Khor Tong Hong,
Vice-Chairman, L.C.E.C.



Mr. Chew Chin Jin,
Lay-Leader



Mrs. Margaret Tan,
Assoc. Lay-Leader



Mr. Tham Yew Kee,
Assoc. Lay-Leader



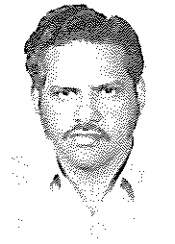
Mr. Victor Seah,
Treasurer



Mrs. Lee Poh Lin,
Pledge Treasurer



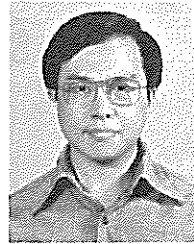
Mrs. Nancy Lee,
Asst. Pledge Treasurer



Mr. P. Sathiasingam,
Chairman, Stewardship and
Finance



Mr. Ivan Tan,
Chairman, Christian Education



Mr. Ng Yean Kiat,
Chairman, Social Concerns



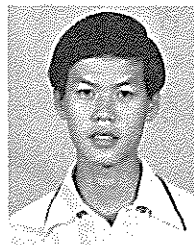
Mr. Teh Hong Kia,
Chairman, Missions



Dr. (Miss) S.M. Dorasingham
Chairman, Worship and Music



Mr. Lawrence Pang
Chairman, Property



Mr. Gabriel Liew,
Chairman, Evangelism



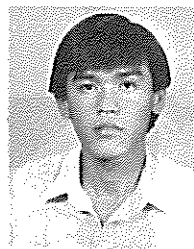
Mr. Khoo Eu Kiong,
Chairman, P.P.R.C.



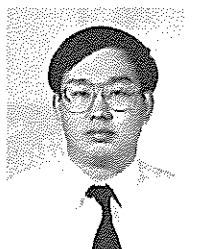
Mrs. Doris Gwee,
S.S. Superintendent



Mrs. Lydia Han,
President, W.S.C.S.



Mr. Sunny Loh,
President, M.Y.F.



Mr. Victor Tan Chye Huat,
President, M.A.F.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Joh, Nancy & Yulin

Mr & Mrs Chia Kim Teng & Family

Dianna & Daniel Koh

Poh Lin & Pak Lin

Mr & Mrs Richard Tay

Mr & Mrs Michael Ong

Mr & Mrs Bruce Zee

Mr & Mrs Victor Tan

Mr & Mrs Yip Kam Choong & Family

Mr & Mrs Koh Chin Peng & Janet

Mr & Mrs Victor Seah

Mr & Mrs Philip Tan

Paul & Jessie Chong & Family

Mrs Lim Cheng Tew & Eugene

Mr & Mrs P. Sathiasingam & Family

Lucy Lau

Mr & Mrs Lawrence Pang & Family

Park Ming & Darlene

Sin Hoon & Eunice

June & Serene Chew

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Yong

Mr. and Mrs. Willie S. Rasiah and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Lowe and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Lim Choo Siang and Kevin

Mr. and Mrs. Teh Hong Kia

Mr. and Mrs. John Chari

Dr. and Mrs. Tan Beng Guan and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Neo Seng Kee

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Gan

Choo Poh Chor, Kum Seng and Catherine

Mr. and Mrs. Phung Khye Sun and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Poh and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Liew En Kin

Mildred

Viva Dorasingam Dorothy Tan

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Kan and Family

Mathy Doraisingham

Susan Lim & Family

Frederick C. K. Wong & Family

Helen Tio

Mr & Mrs Chew Chin Ghee, Eddie & Elsie

Mr & Mrs Wong Yow Chuen

Mr & Mrs Lim Soo Guan

Mr & Mrs Jolly Low

Sharon, Esther & Yew Kee

Mr & Mrs Wee Eng Hock & Family

Mr & Mrs Daniel Gwee

Dr & Mrs Khor Tong Hong

Mr & Mrs Pang Kia Seng

Mr & Mrs Khoo Eu Kiong

Mr & Mrs Tan Keng Hian

Mr & Mrs Yip Fook Yoon & Family

Mr & Mrs Peter B. T. Lee

Mdm Khoo Sock Yan and Khoo Koh Hee

Mr & Mrs Tay Soon Hock & Family

Mrs Elsie Hardy, Eunice, Robert & Jaesson Yeo

Carol & Dave Birkinshaw

Mr & Mrs Yan Fook Sum & Family

Mr & Mrs Tong Kum Toh

Mrs. Violet Kwan Chee Yew and Family

Mr & Mrs Yu Sung Nien & Family

Mrs Alice Lim, Hee Beng & Hee Soon

Mr & Mrs Victor Han

Wong Peng Meng, Karen Ho, Alvin Ho

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Chia and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Tan Ee Beng

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Chan

Doreen and Victor

Dr. and Mrs. Ng Yew Kwok

James and Lily Tay

Major and Mrs. Richard Seeh

Pak Lan and Pong Hin

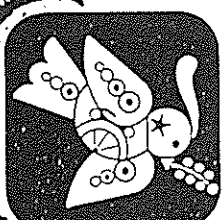
Mr. and Mrs. Lai Men Soe

Mr. and Mrs. Choo Lee Sai

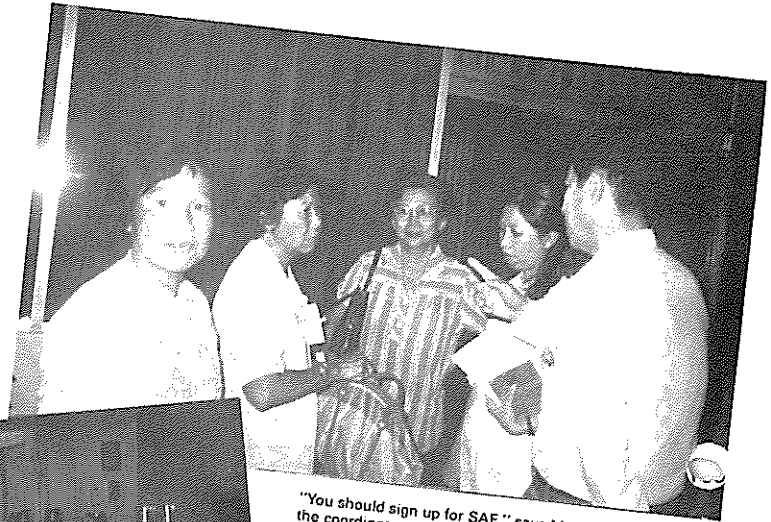
Linda Cheek

Harry & Gloria Lim

Mdm. Ho Chin Hwee, Ng Yean Hee, and Ng Yean Kiat



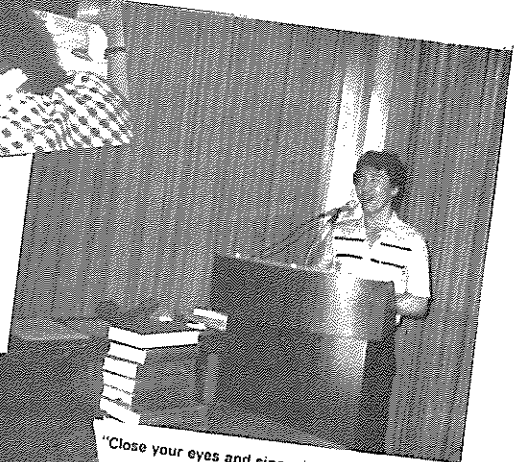
CHURCH RETREAT '84



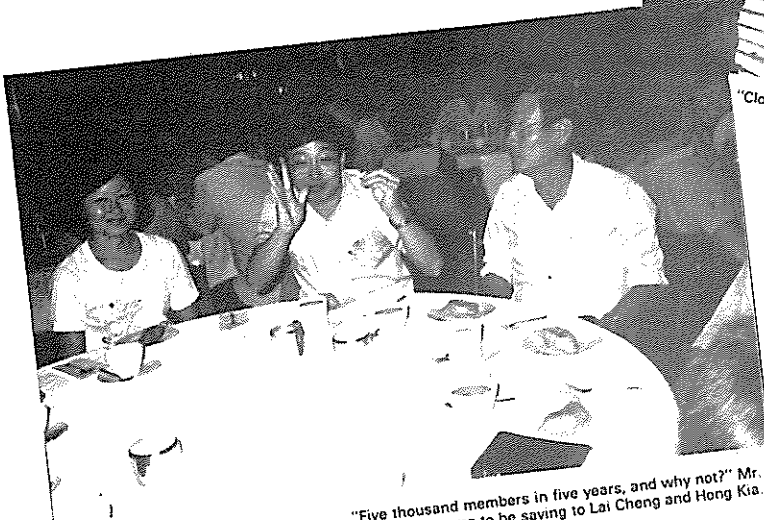
"You should sign up for SAF," says Mr. Wong Yow Chuen, the coordinator of the Senior Adults Fellowship.



"Who put salt in my coffee?"



"Close your eyes and sing with me," Bruce croons.



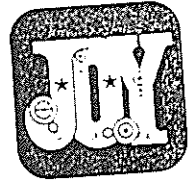
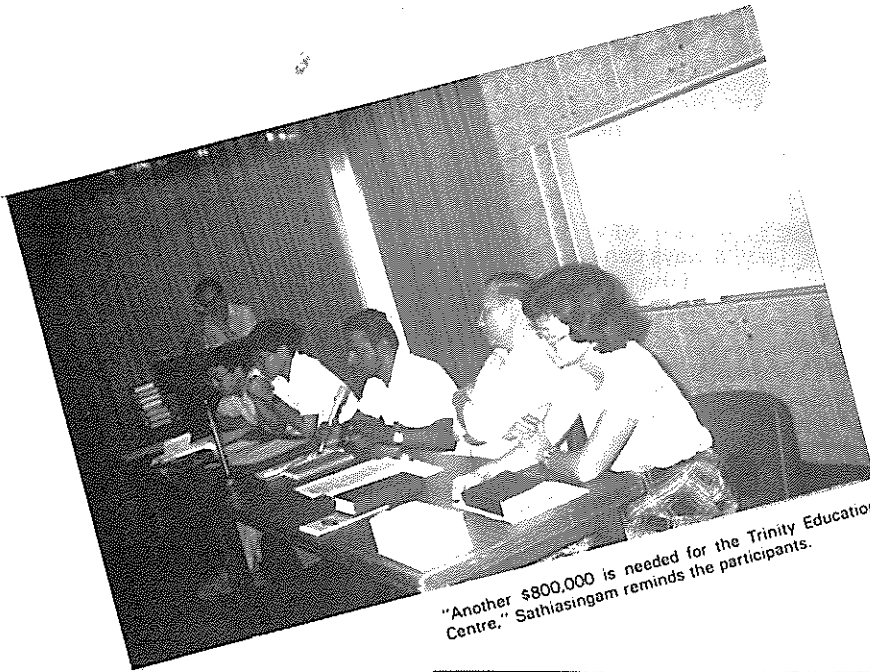
"Five thousand members in five years, and why not?" Mr. Victor Tan seems to be saying to Lai Cheng and Hong Kia.



Church Retreat 1984



"We were there."



Centennial 1985
1885 Celebrations



A time for prayer.

MY CONVERSION AND CALLING

— Malcolm Tan

My conversion to Christ can be dated as on the 30th of May 1971, where at 12.45 pm I bowed my head in prayer and accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour. This was the most important decision and step that I have taken in my life. The place where this conversion took place was the Barker Road Methodist Church and the occasion was a Christian Fellowship meeting cum Bible Study. At that time I was a Secondary One student of the Anglo Chinese School and the person who talked to me about receiving Jesus was a senior student that I looked up to. He was three years my senior, in Secondary Four and was a recent convert of the Bethesda Gospel Hall at Bras Basah Road.

What I heard in that Bible Study session was entirely new to me. Prior to this, I had always considered myself to be a Christian because of the fact that I attended Church and that I belonged to a family that considered itself as being "Christian". I was shocked to discover that being a Christian was a matter of one's own personal choice and decision, and not because of the social environment one may find one's self in. After much thought and inner struggle I acknowledged that I wasn't a Christian yet, and that according to the Bible, I was a guilty condemned sinner under the sentence of a Righteous God. Seeing Jesus Christ as the One whom God has given for me out of this dreadful dilemma, I followed the leading of the Bible Study leader and prayed the prayer to receive Jesus, with all sincerity and repentance.

This conversion experience left a deep impression in my life and I became heavily involved in Christian Fellowship activities in the Anglo-Chinese School for the next three years of Secondary School. Prior to this experience, I was basically a disorientated adolescent entering a very unfamiliar new environment. Secondary School was not only different from the kind of study experience I had so far, but also, the location of my school was on a new unfamiliar site, Barker Road instead of Coleman Street. Moreover, all those friends whom I was familiar with were no longer with me in this new school. Instead I had a new company of friends to get used to. I can still recall right now of my state of confusion, uncertainty and groping around for a sure support for myself during those first few months whilst at school. Accepting Jesus Christ

gave a solid orientation for life right there and then. Now I had a purpose for being in School and whenever I was confused, there was always a source of guidance to fall back on.

Of course, as time went on, Christianity began to assume a much greater significance for my life than just helping me adjust myself to a new environment. By the time I was in Secondary Three my commitment to Christianity and the Person of Jesus had a very important say about what I wanted to do with my life and how I was to live my life. Things like habitual dishonesty and intense hatred for certain people began to slowly disappear to a lesser prominence in my life, because of the greater hold that the Gospel was beginning to exercise over me. The transformation was more gradual rather than dramatic although the feeling of peace and inner assurance was immediate.

It was at this point of my life, whilst in Secondary Three and heavily involved in Christian fellowship Evangelistic work that I felt in my heart that God was calling me to the full time Ministry. I approached the person who led me to Christ and asked him for his opinion. His advice was that I was too young to go into Full time Ministry right away and that if I had received a call from God to go into the Full time ministry, it would be able to stand the test of time. By this, he meant that the call which I felt very strongly within, would not go away through the passage of years but rather it would remain with me even until the time when I would be able to actually take the necessary step of obedience.

This thought of actually going into the Fulltime Ministry was heavily tied in with the strong desire I had to share the Gospel of Christ with people. All through the years following this initial inner conviction, I found myself involved in either evangelistic or follow up Ministry within the school and outside the school, within my home church and outside my home church. This carried on consistently through Pre University and National Service with a break of about a month before my examinations in school, so that I could do some preparation for them at least.

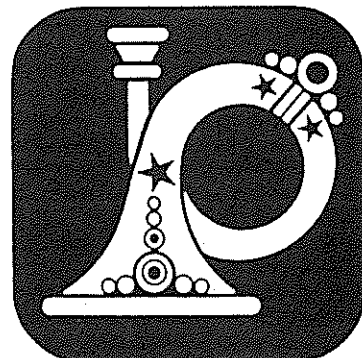
It was during my last two years in the Military service that I was seriously thinking about what I wanted to do with my life. By now I was very sure that God did in fact call me to the Full time Ministry. The original conviction had only grown stronger over the years. My problem of decision was rather, where would be the most appropriate place for me to enter Christian service. Up to this time, I was only aware of the need to be faithful to the Great Commission but exactly how and where I was to fulfil such a calling was something I was not very clear about. In fact, I had evangelistic type para groups in mind rather than the Institutional Church. By this time in N.S. I was not very regular in my attendance in

Church and preferred to stay away and be by myself on Sundays.

The credit for my homecoming to Church belongs to my aged Grandmother, who never ceased praying for me and encouraging me and persuading me not to stay away from Church. I recall one evening when I came out of camp and decided out of the blue to visit my Grandmother for the evening, for a change. By coincidence, she was going to Church that night for one of the Holy Week meetings and strongly insisted that I should come with her. Her persistence was rewarded and I tagged along. The evening service didn't speak very much to me, until it came to the point when the congregation stood up to sing the Hymn "There's a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins". All of a sudden the words of the hymn spoke volumes to me and I heartily joined in with the singing. My attitude to Church began to take a different turn and I began to come regularly every Sunday, much to my grandmother's pleasant surprise.

It was during this time in my Military Barrack that I began to be good friends with one of the fellow soldiers with me at that place. This person was a devout Roman Catholic and later, after Military service, he ended up entering Catholic Seminary to train for the priesthood. We spent much time together praying and sharing about the Lord and sometimes we would cooperate to distribute Chinese translations of the Gospel of St. Matthew to the other people doing military service with us. The main thing that struck me about my friend, was his ardent loyalty to his Church. This was where I was beginning to realise the importance of the Institutional Church as being representative of the Body of Christ. I realised at this point that para groups could not be a substitute for the established Church. Consequently, if I was to serve the Lord in terms of a full time Ministry, I should think in terms of dedicated service within the Institutional Church rather than outside of it.

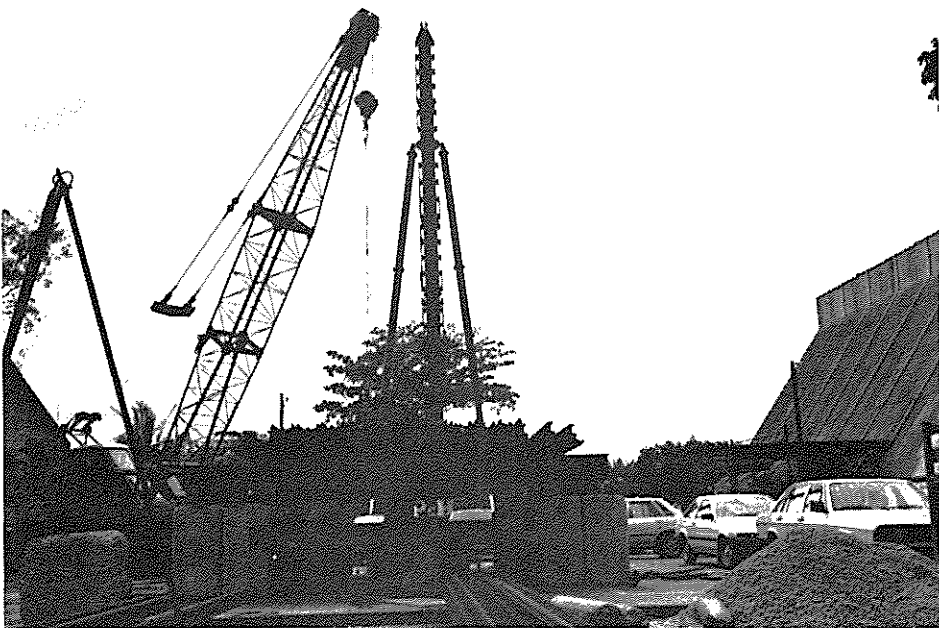
This was where I sought the counsel of the Rev. Dr. George Wan, who was then the Pastor of my home church. Dr. Wan gave me strong encouragement and confirmation and suggested that I make the necessary applications for entry into Trinity Theological College. This was at least one year before my Run Out Date in the army. I made the applications and waited trusting the Lord Jesus for His guidance.



TRINITY EDUCATIONAL CENTRE

Another \$800,000 needed.

If every member
pledge to give an
additional \$2,000,
we would be able to
raise the funds
needed for this
vision project. Get
involved. Give sac-
rificially.



LIST OF DONATIONS RECEIVED IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 1984

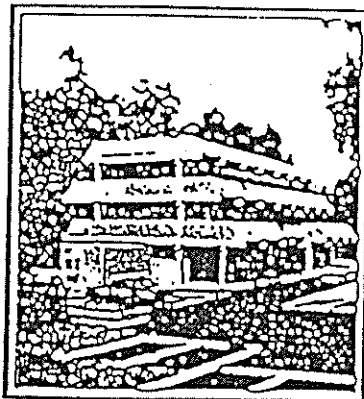
November 4

Mrs Loh Peng Seah	\$400.00
Mr G. P. Pepper	\$100.00
Miss Florence Cheng	\$ 50.00
Mr M. Weaver	\$ 20.00
Mr Tan Cheng Guan	\$ 20.00
Mr Paul Tan	\$ 10.00
Mr G. J. David	\$ 10.00
Mr Chua Chong Hock	\$ 10.00
Miss Florence Teo	\$100.00

November 11

Mrs Alice Lim	\$100.00
Miss Agnes Ong	\$ 20.00
Mr & Mrs Victor Tan	\$1,000.00
Mr & Mrs Goh Peng Hian	\$200.00
Anonymous	\$ 30.00
Anonymous	\$170.00
Mr & Mrs Cheong Wee Tim	\$ 50.00
Mrs Clara Chia	\$1,000.00
Miss Neela Chitty	\$100.00
Mrs Veronica Teo	\$ 20.00
Anonymous	\$1,000.00

TRINITY
EDUCATION CENTRE



TRINITY
METHODIST CHURCH
34 SERANGOON GARDEN WAY
SINGAPORE 1055
TEL: 282-4443

November 18

Anonymous	\$100.00
Lau Family	\$300.00
(IN LOVING MEMORY OF BELOVED MOTHER MDM KHOO KOH HO)	
Mrs Jenny Goh	\$ 10.00
Anonymous	\$100.00
Mdm L. C. Ho	\$1,000.00

November 25

Miss Khoo Koh Hee	\$200.00
Lau Family	
(IN LOVING MEMORY OF BELOVED MOTHER MDM KHOO KOH HO)	
Mr Wong Peng Meng and	
Miss Karen Ho	\$100.00
Mr Tony Chng	\$ 50.00
Mr Eddy Leong	\$ 10.00
Mr Eddy Koh	\$ 10.00
Mr Lawrence Lim	\$ 10.00

TRINITY
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TRINITY