

# TMC NEWSLETTER

January — February 1986

MC(P) 53/1/86 ISSN 0217-5673

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH 34 SERANGOON GARDEN WAY (1955)

Pastor: Rev. Daniel K. S. Koh

Asst. Pastor: Rev. Melvin Huang

## AN INTERVIEW WITH REV. MELVIN HUANG

*Note: Rev. Melvin Huang joined our church as the Assistant Pastor on 1.1.86. He was previously Assistant Pastor in Wesley Methodist Church.*



**Q.** Could you please tell us a little about yourself?

**A.** I was born in 1955. That makes me 31 this year. I was born into a Christian family and have been in Wesley Methodist Church all my life. I attended ACS for 12 years . . . you could say I'm a thoroughbred, unrepentant, irreconcilable. I spent 2½ years in the Navy as a seaman officer and after N.S., went to the Singapore University to do a degree in Business Administration. After that, I went to Trinity Theological College to do my Masters in Divinity. After a year there, I transferred my credits and much of my possessions to Kentucky to complete my Masters degree. I was appointed Assistant Pastor in Wesley in August 1982 and was there till December 1985.

**Q.** Why did you switch college after one year in TTC?

**A.** Let me give a little run-down on the spiritual side of my life. Coming from a Christian family, I had no problem believing in the Lord Jesus although there were many conflicts and uncertainties in my Secondary school-days. In Pre-U One, there was a spiritual revival in school. Having taken part in the renewal, my whole future became at stake. My previous ambitions were deleted and God's ambition for me was inserted. I felt, by the end of Pre-U Two, that the Lord had called me to some form of full-time ministry.

I applied to two universities in the U.S. and decided to go the Asbury Theological Seminary. However, Asbury could not take me in the year I wanted to begin, so I decided to go to TTC first. After a year, I managed to get a scholarship and I transferred my credits to Asbury. I gained much from my stay there. The place gave me a sense of the founder of the Methodist Church and he's some guy! I also did a course on cults and, rightly or wrongly, am considered an "expert" on cults in the Methodist Church.

**Q.** Why did you do a degree in Business Administration if you were so sure about going into the ministry?

**A.** I did three years of Biz Ad to please my parents. Also, I did not want to just study Theology. I learnt alot of things in NUS. that I can apply today. I've got a working knowledge of behavioural sciences, accounting, management and computers.

**Q.** Please tell us about your family.

**A.** My wife Gerda is teaching Chemistry in Nanyang Junior College. We were married in 1983. In 1985 Jonathan came and there is one more coming in June. I met Gerda while helping out in Ang Mo Kio Methodist Church.

**Q.** What are your hobbies?

**A.** I haven't got much time for hobbies. I like to read; I try to keep abreast of current affairs. I play badminton twice a week.

I may not look like I do. But I do! I watch T.V. mainly to cool down.

**Q.** What is your vision for TMC? What do you hope to do here?

**A.** Well, I've just got here and I don't think I can answer this question yet. I'll have to think about this a little more. However, I think this is a very significant period in Singapore history; this is a time like no other as far as spreading the gospel is concerned. Churches have to decide whether they want to be a part of it or not. If we are willing to take active part, we will grow. I am deeply convinced that we need to prepare now if we want to see our Church grow.

# EQUIPPING FOR GROWTH

## Pastors' Report to Local Conference

### Introduction

The past four years may be described as a period of consolidation for the church. The time has come for our church to take off, and move on into a new phase of growth in membership, Christian maturity, and expanded ministry. This will be made possible, and will definitely be made easier if the leadership is united in seeking the guidance and empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

The theme which we have chosen for the year reflects our aspiration for the church. It shows our concern for and commitment to growth in this year and in the years to come. This theme taken from Paul's exhortation to the Christians in Ephesus is the rallying call for us to get involved in **EQUIPPING FOR GROWTH (EPHESIANS 4:12)**. To ensure that we do not lose sight on the theme we shall be singing the theme song **WE ARE BUILDING A PEOPLE OF POWER** regularly at our worship services.

For the new year we shall see growth in these areas:

### TRINITY EDUCATIONAL CENTRE

The extension project is nearing completion. Once the project is completed, the dream and vision which we have shared in the past few years will become a reality. We will have space for growth for existing programmes, and we will have space for growth when we add new ministries which will meet the needs of our members besides reaching out to the people staying in our neighbourhood.

Our concern now is that we have not raised all the funds needed for this project. We need to work hard to raise the outstanding sum, and trust God for supplying our needs.

### ADDITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

Once our Sunday School has moved over to the new building, our sanctuary will be available for us to launch an additional worship service on Sunday morning. In fact we have decided to begin a new service sometime in mid-April. This new service will open up new avenue

for our church to attract more worshippers, and also to allow us to gradually change the evening service into a Prayer and Praise Service.

### CHURCH NURSERY PROGRAMME

A committee has been set up to study the feasibility of starting a Nursery Programme in our church which will use the new building during weekdays. This committee headed by Mr. Chew Chin Ghee will look into the Nursery Programme managed by Ang Mo Kio Methodist Church. It is likely that our programme will be run along the same line as the Ang Mo Kio model.

This programme will meet the needs of our members and it will serve as a special educational ministry for people living in the nearby housing estates. The main objective of this programme should be educational and service-oriented. Nevertheless we do recognise that in the long run, this programme will generate income for the church as well.

### LAY-TRAINING PROGRAMME AND SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

At the last church retreat, we identified lay-training and small group ministry as two areas which demand urgent attention. Mr. Chan Chong Hiok was recommended by the members who were at the Retreat to spearhead these projects. Our LCEC has endorsed Chong Hiok's appointment, and since late last year Chong Hiok has been working with a group of helpers finalising strategies and curricula for lay-training and small groups. He and his team of helpers will be working closely with the pastors in these important programmes.

We believe that the lay-training programme will provide opportunities for our members to receive systematic training which will equip them for personal growth and prepare them for meaningful participation in the various aspects of church ministries.

We believe that the small group ministry will help our members to strengthen relationship besides giving them a place where they can minister to one another, en-

courage one another, and build up one another in their Christian faith.

## LUIS PALAU MISSION

Our church is committed to participate in this mission to be held at the National Stadium from June 1-7, 1986. Through this mission, we hope to mobilise our members for training as counsellors, nurture group leaders, choristers, ushers and "Andrews". Beyond the Mission, we are praying that God will use this event to challenge our members to assume greater responsibility in the growing ministries of our church. After the Mission, other training sessions will be provided to prepare members for the small group ministry or to channel them to appropriate committees and organisations.

## ASSISTANT PASTOR

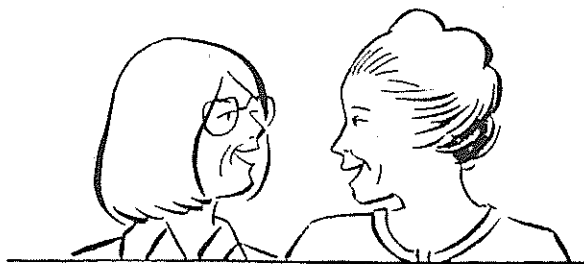
Since the beginning of this year, the Rev. Melvin Huang has joined us as the Assistant Pastor. Melvin brings with him three years of experience in pastoral ministry. He is a talented minister. With the blessings of God

and the support of our leadership, this senior pastor is convinced that God will use Melvin in a great way to prosper our church and lead our church on to new height of achievements.

## Conclusion

Though this is the first time a report has been signed by two pastors in our church, we know that at this point of time, this is not going to be a regular feature. Pastor Daniel Koh will leave us sometime in July, 1986, after spending five years in Trinity. Nevertheless it is our prayer that before long our church will have more than one pastor to minister to the needs of God's people. It is our hope that besides pastoral staff, we will also have specialised staff who will attend to the needs of our young people and Christian Education programme. A growing church needs more than one pastor. A growing church needs other support staff.

Submitted by: The Rev. Daniel Koh Kah Soon,  
The Rev. Melvin Huang.

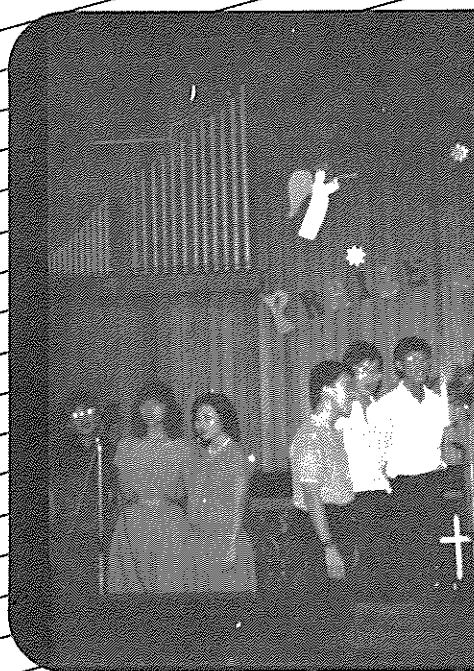


### Tips on How to Get Along with People

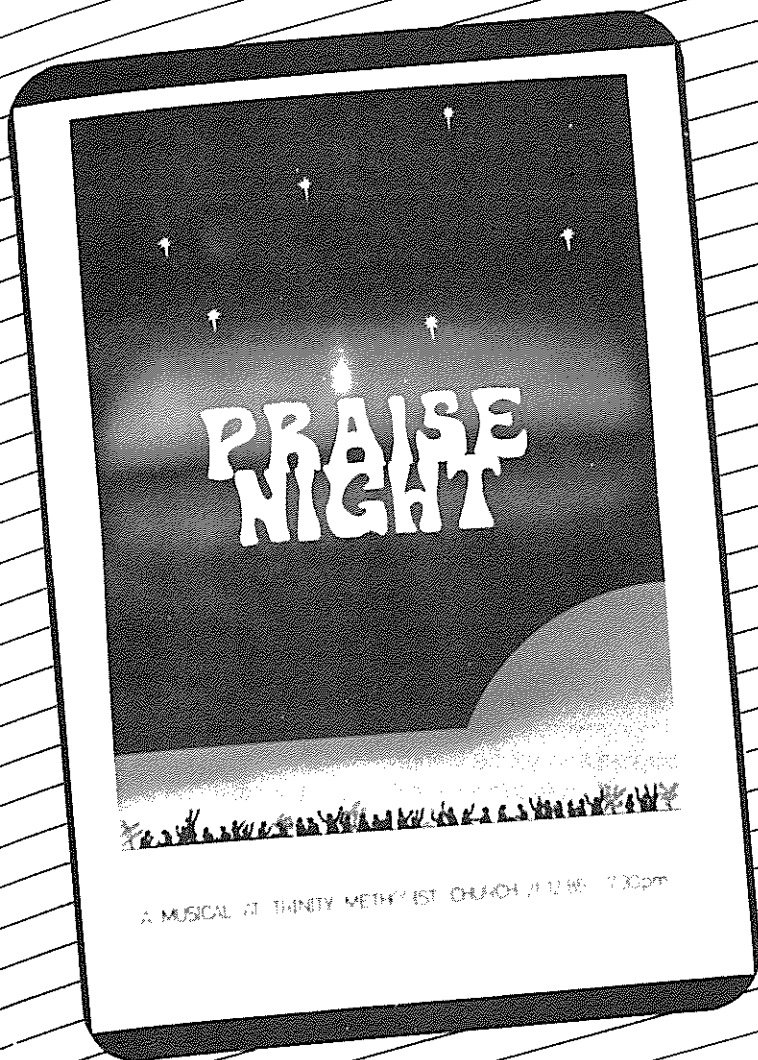
1. Keep chains on your tongue; always say less than you think. Cultivate a pleasant, persuasive voice. How you say it often counts more than what you say.
2. Make promises sparingly and keep them faithfully.
3. Never let an opportunity pass to say a kind word to somebody. Praise good work done, regardless of who did it. If correction is needed, criticize helpfully, never in a destructive manner.
4. Be genuinely interested in others. Let everyone you meet feel that you regard him or her as a person of importance.
5. Be cheerful. Keep the corners of your mouth turned up. Hide your pains, worries, and disappointments under a smile.
6. Keep an open mind on all controversial questions. Discuss without arguing. It is possible to disagree and yet be friendly.
7. Never engage in gossip. Make it a rule to say nothing about another unless it is something good.
8. Be careful of other people's feelings. A laugh at another's expense is rarely worth the effort, and it may hurt where least expected.
9. Pay no attention to cutting remarks that others may make about you. Learn to live above such comments.
10. Don't be too anxious about your rights and having favors repaid. Let the satisfaction of helping others serve as its own reward.



*We three kings plus two.*

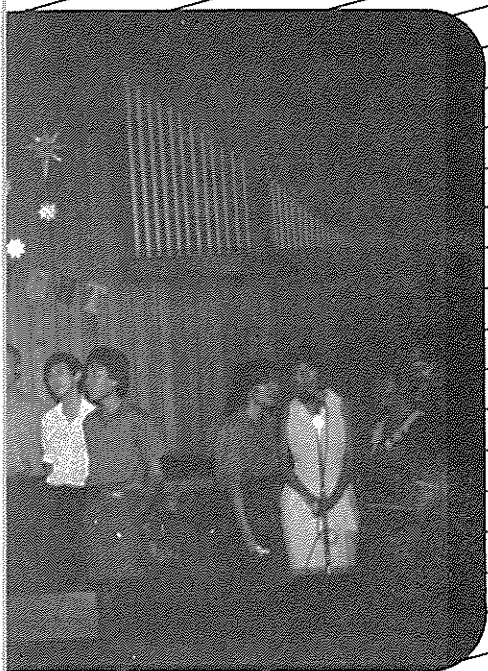


*Joy to*



*Praise Night Team with*





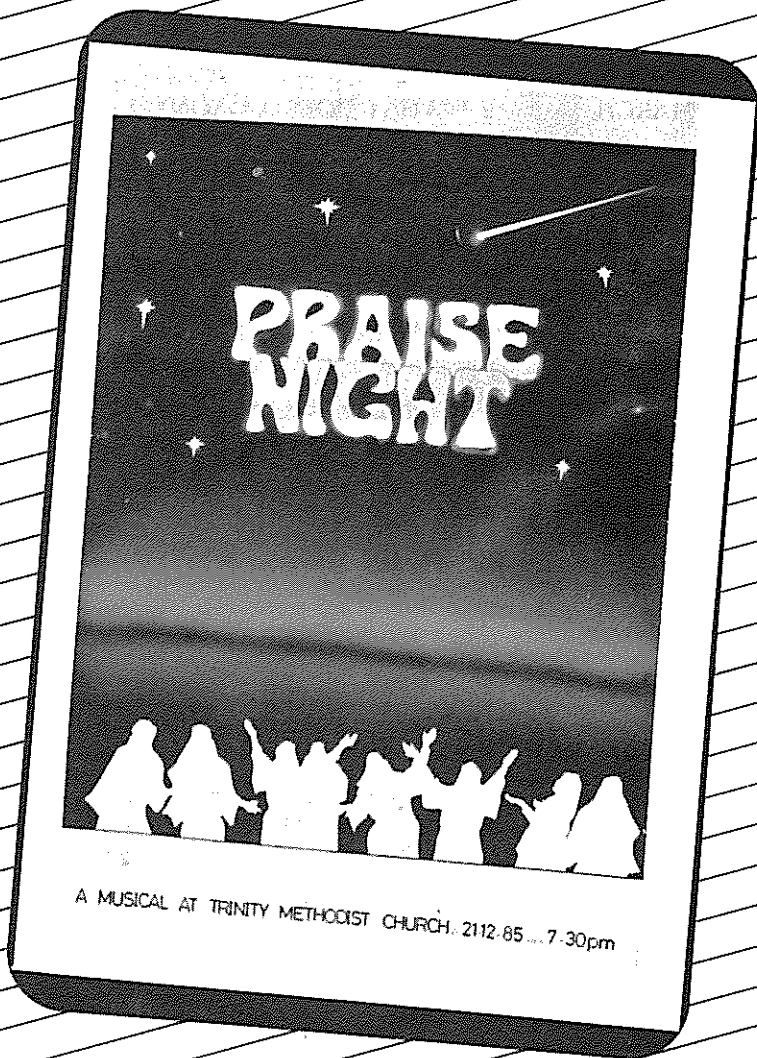
the world.



Away in a manger . . .



astor Daniel Koh's Family.



A MUSICAL AT TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH, 2112-85 . . . 7-30pm

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PULPIT CALENDAR

**CHURCH THEME : "Equipping For Growth" (Ephesians 4 : 12)**

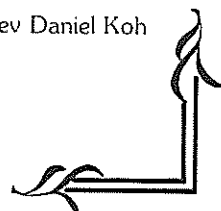
**SUB-THEME : Johannine Jewels**

Date	Topic	Text	Speaker
FEBRUARY	2 SAVING THE BEST	John 2: 1 — 11	Rev Melvin Huang
	9 ROARING TIMES (LUNAR NEW YEAR)	Psalms 148	Rev Daniel Koh
	16 MURPHY'S HOPE	John 3: 1 — 8 16 — 18	Rev Melvin Huang
	23 MORE AND LESS	John 3: 22 — 30	Rev Daniel Koh
MARCH	2 WHAT DOES A DAUNTLESS HERO EAT?	John 4: 34 — 38	Rev Melvin Huang
	9 A WOMAN WHO MARRIED 5 TIMES (SOCIAL CONCERNS SUNDAY)	John 4: 1 — 30, 39 — 42	Rev Daniel Koh
	16 OPERATION ANDREW	John 1: 35 — 42	Rev Melvin Huang
	23 OPERATION CLEAN-UP	John 2: 12 — 25	Rev Daniel Koh

## SUB-THEME: CROSS AND COMMITMENT

**(HOLY WEEK RENEWAL MEETINGS AT TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH at 8.00 P.M.)**

MARCH	24	THROW IN THE TOWEL	John 13: 12 — 17	Rev Melvin Huang
MARCH	25	TREASURER TURNED TRAITOR	John 13: 21 — 29	Rev Daniel Koh
MARCH	26	I LOVE TO TELL THE GLORY	John 13: 31 — 35	Rev Melvin Huang
MARCH	27	COMFORT FOR THE TROUBLED (MAUNDY THURSDAY)	John 14: 1 — 7	Rev Daniel Koh
MARCH	28	WHAT A SAVIOUR (GOOD FRIDAY 10.00 A.M.)	John 19: 17 — 30	Rev Melvin Huang
MARCH	30	AND YET (SUNRISE SERVICE 6.30 A.M.) RESURRECTION FACTOR (EASTER SERVICE 10.00 A.M.)	John 20: 24 — 30 John 20: 1 — 10	Rev Melvin Huang Rev Daniel Koh





# LUIS PALAU SINGAPORE MISSION

**COUNSELLORS' TRAINING** will be held in our Church on Sundays  
9, 16, 23 March and 6 April from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm.

## **NURTURE GROUP LEADERS**

The Training schedule will be held at Bartley Christian Church  
4 How Sun Drive/Bartley Road  
on Saturdays 22 February, 1, 8 March from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm.

## **SYNCHRONIZED PRAYER**

You are encouraged to pray for

- Your local church and
- Luis Palau Singapore Mission

**\* Every night 9.00 pm — 10.00 pm**  
**From March to June 1986**

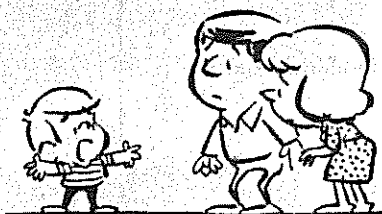
**PLAN TO JOIN US on SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 1986 at 5.00 p.m.**  
**at TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH**  
**FOR A FILM SHOW "GOD HAS NO GRANDCHILDREN"**  
**to be followed immediately by a prayer session for**  
**the Luis Palau Mission**

## **METHODIST ADULT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME**

<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>MEMBERS OF CHRIST'S BODY</b> (SPEAKER: REV MELVIN HUANG)
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>FATHER AND SONS</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS</b>

## **METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME**

<b>THEME:</b>	<b>AGAPE</b>
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>15</b> <b>LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR</b> (SPEAKER: MR GABRIEL LIEW)
	<b>22</b> <b>CELL GROUP</b> <b>LOVE VS ROMANCE</b>
<b>THEME:</b>	<b>PEOPLE HELPER</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>1</b> <b>PEOPLE HELPER PART 1</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>8</b> <b>PEOPLE HELPER PART 2</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>15</b> <b>HIKE</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>22</b> <b>CELL GROUP</b>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>29</b> <b>COMBINED MEETING WITH BARKER ROAD MYF</b>



### **A Child's Advice to His Parents**

1. My hands are small. Please don't expect perfection whenever I make a bed, draw a picture, or throw a ball.
2. My eyes have not seen the world as yours have. Please let me explore it at my own level without unnecessary restrictions.
3. Housework will always be there, but I will be little only for a short time. Please take time to explain about this wonderful world.
4. My feelings are tender. Please be sensitive to my needs. Treat me as you would like to be treated.
5. I am a special gift from God. Treasure me as God intended, holding me accountable for my actions, giving me guidelines to live by, and disciplining me in a loving manner.
6. I need your encouragement to grow, so go easy on the criticism. Try to correct my behavior without criticizing me as a person.
7. Give me the freedom to make decisions. Permit me to fail, so I can learn from my mistakes. Then I'll be prepared to make the kind of decisions life requires of me as an adult.
8. Don't do jobs over that I have done. This makes me feel that my efforts don't quite measure up to your expectations. I know it's hard, but please don't compare me with my brother or sister.
9. Please don't be afraid to leave for a weekend together. Kids need vacations from parents, just as parents need to get away occasionally. This is also a great way to show us kids that your marriage is very special.
10. Please set a good example by taking me to Sunday school and church regularly. I enjoy learning more about God.

## *Family News*

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Ong Eng Hong and Yio Siew Hwee who had their marriage blessed on 21st December 1985

Albert Chan Cheow Khoon and Claudine Soh Swee Lan who had their marriage blessed in church on 1st January 1986.

Mary and John Seet on the birth of their daughter Sharon on 27 November 1985.

Sharon and Koh Tien Lai on the birth of their daughter.

### **CONDOLENCES TO:**

The Family of the Late Mdm. Wong Yin Fong who died on 14th January 1986.

Edmond Pierre and his family on the death of his father on 15th January 1986

