

TMC NEWSLETTER

July — August 1987

MC(P) 138/1/87 ISSN 5152

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH 34 SERANGOON GARDEN WAY (1955)

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LET THE CHURCH BE!

Too little attention has been given to the doctrine of the Church in much modern thinking about evangelism, discipleship and social action." So writes Howard Snyder in his book "The Community of the King."

"JESUS — YES! CHURCH — NO!" read a placard carried by a student.

Both these examples reflect a sad truth of our day. The Church is misunderstood. And largely by people in The Church. We have little or no knowledge of ECCLESIOLOGY, (the doctrine, the teaching about the Church) as Snyder says. About her nature, how she works, her structure, and infrastructure, her character, her expression. Our christianity today is so individualistic; the Church, the community of believers, the Body of Christ, is not only neglected and impaired, the Church is often a distortion of the Biblical Blueprint.

Ecclesiology is one of the most severely neglected areas in Christian teaching today.

And yet, without the Church, no Christian can truly

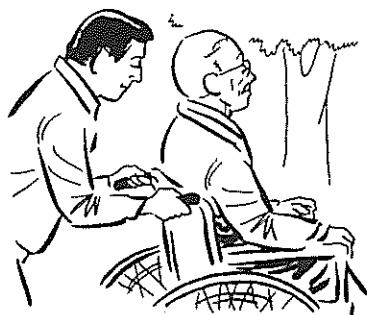
grow into full potential. The Scripture is clear that real growth only occurs within the Body of Christ. This is because our FAITH may be, is, PERSONAL but it is NOT PRIVATE. That is why we need the Church; Christ ordained it such. And the Church needs us.

That is why as Pastor, I have been stressing so much on the Church in our sermons. And have taught a course on the Church, "The Community of the King" as part of the lay training programme. I hope to continue this emphasis into the coming year because it is my conviction that if our Church is to grow quantitatively and qualitatively, all of us not only need to know about the Church but also need to see our place in its effective operation so that we may each play our part AND GROW.

Let us pray that ALL of us may truly be part of the Body of Christ, as God intended, and also let our hearts' cry be LET THE CHURCH BE — THE CHURCH.

God bless all of you.
Rev Melvin Huang
Pastor

Verse to Remember

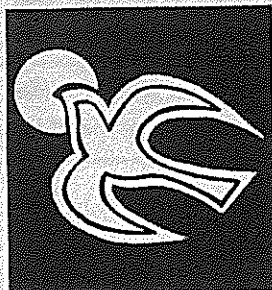


Life in the Spirit

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance (Gal. 5:22, 23).

SEASON OF PENTECOST

1. Begins 50 days after Easter. Pentecost is sometimes called Whitsun.
2. A season where we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to Christians and the birth of the Church
3. Focus: Gift and work of the Spirit. Life and mission of the Christian community
4. Themes: God's community, the Spirit's gifts and fruit, vitality, spontaneity, enthusiasm



God the Holy Spirit, continuing the Work of God and Son

PRAYER AND PRAISE SERVICE

SUNDAY 5.00 p.m.

“THE HOLY SPIRIT”

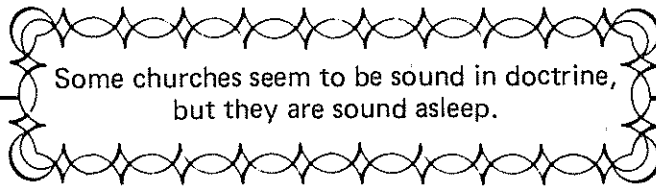
by Elder Khor Tong Keng

Hephzibah Christian Fellowship

SEPTEMBER	13	The Holy Spirit in Jesus' Ministry
	20	Spiritual Warfare
	27	Deliverance From Evil
OCTOBER	11	The Lord That Heals You
	18	The Lord Who Equips the Saints

Besides these sermons, there will be testimonies glorifying God for His abundant love and goodness.





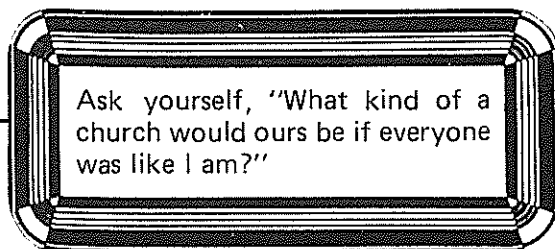
Some churches seem to be sound in doctrine,
but they are sound asleep.

YOU ARE IMPORTANT

Xvxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll xxcxpt for onx of thx kxys. I'vx wishxd many timxs that it workxd pxrfxctly. Trux, thxrx arx forty-two kxys functioning wxll xnough, but just onx kxy not working makxs thx diffxrxncx.

Somxtimxs, it sxxms to mx that our church is somxwhat likx my typxwritxr — not all thx kxy pxoplx arx working proprly. You may say, "Wxll, I'm only onx pxrson. It won't makx much diffxrxncx." But thx church, to bx xffixixnt, nxxds thx activx participation of vxvry pxrson.

Thx nxxt timx you think your xfforts arxn't nxxdxd, rxmxmbxr my typxwritxr, and say to yoursxlf, "I'm a kxy pxrson and I'm nxxdxd vxry much."



Ask yourself, "What kind of a
church would ours be if everyone
was like I am?"

BOOK REVIEW



ANSWERING THE TOUGH ONES

By DAVID DEWITT

This is a unique book written for both the believer and the unbeliever.

Dewitt provides answers to twelve basic but tough questions often asked about Christianity. Questions like:

- * Is Jesus Christ the Only Way to God?
- * Is the Bible Reliable?
- * Why do the Innocent Suffer?
- * Can Good Deeds Get us to Heaven?
- * How do we know that God Exists?
- * Are Miracles Possible?

and many more are addressed. The author answers them realistically, informally but thoroughly. He relates some of his own experiences in answering people who have asked these questions. He gets inside the mind of the unbeliever and tells us what the unbeliever feels.

For Christians this book serves as a tool to better understand the thoughts of the unbeliever. Dewitt believes that a person who doubts must be well prepared before he can receive the Word. The task of the witness is first to soften the soil, that is the heart, before planting the seed. It is only in this way that he can honestly and openly reach out to the unbeliever.

This book is also recommended for anyone who may be coping with any of these twelve questions. The author's style is informal, yet personal. The reader will feel very involved in the discussions that take place between the author and his friends.

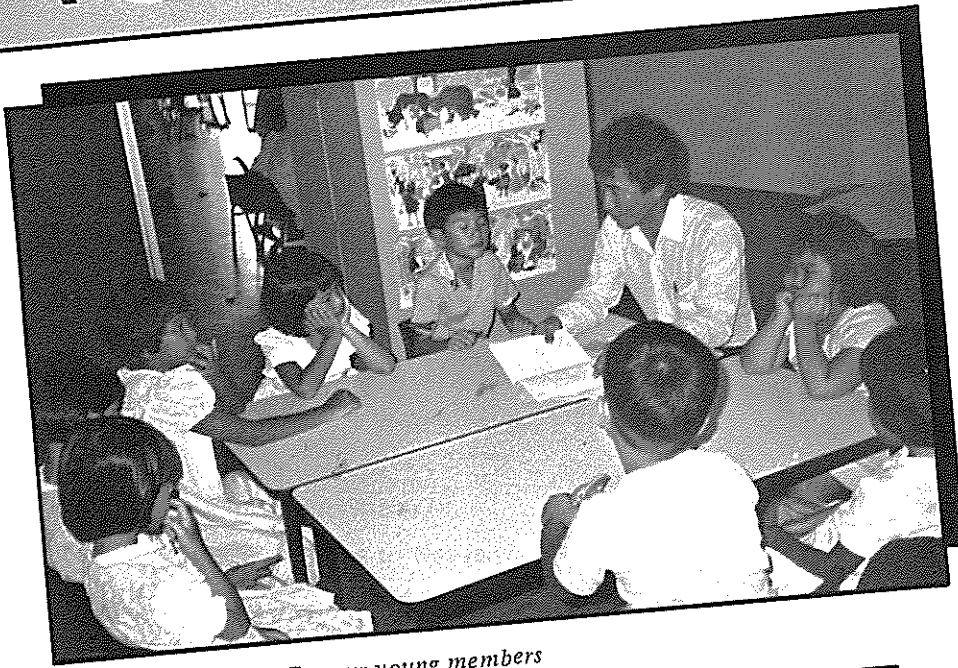
You can borrow this enjoyable book from our resource centre.

E.W.

Other new books available at the Library:

- 1) Answers your questions about raising children — Dr. Dobson
- 2) I believe in the Church — David Watson
- 3) Conquering family stress — Allan Peterson
- 4) More Special Times with God — David Shirley
- 5) When Mum Goes to Work — Andre Bustanoby
- 6) Taste of Tears, Touch of God — Annkiemal Anderson

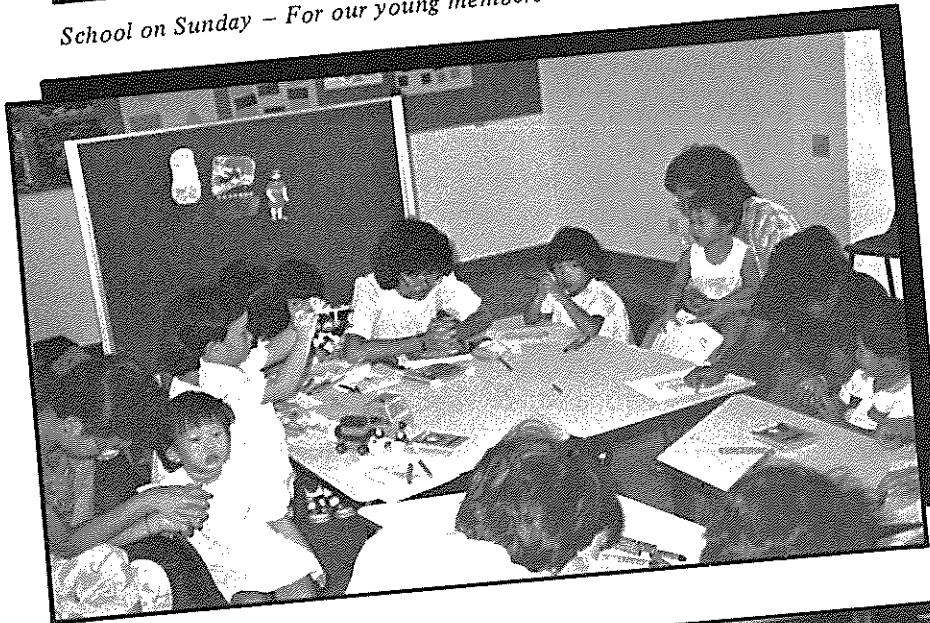
ACTIVITIES IN



School on Sunday – For our young members



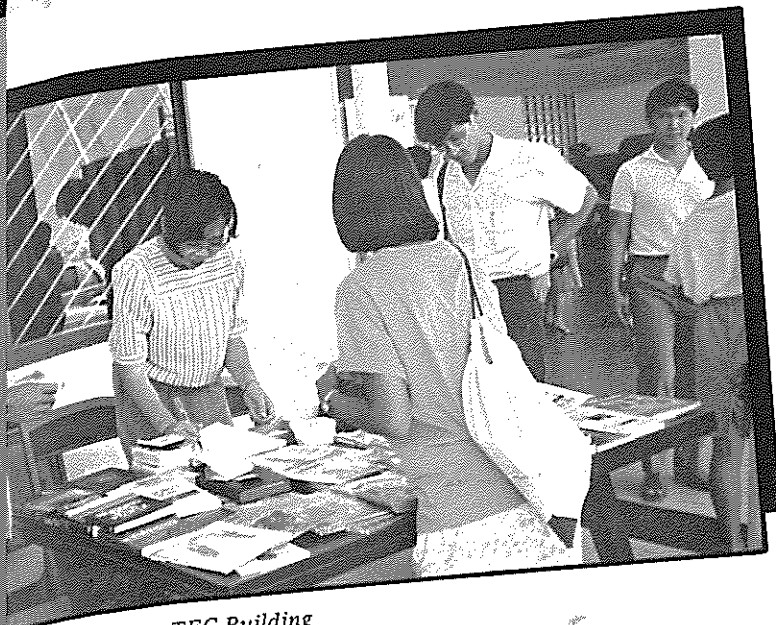
Our Book Co



Guest Speaker



*Bible
Study
– MAF*



ner - Outside TEC Building



'Community of the King' Training Series
- By Pastor



Missions Sunday - Dr. Walter Hansen



A section of the participants at this 4-part series



Music Ministry - Kevin & Friends

OUR CHURCH



CHURCHES: DEAD OR ALIVE

LIVE churches always have parking problems, dead churches don't.

LIVE churches are constantly changing methodology, dead churches don't have to.

LIVE churches have lots of "noisy" youth, dead churches are fairly quiet.

LIVE churches are constantly deficient on staff, dead churches usually have a surplus.

LIVE churches' expenses always exceed their income, dead churches always take in more than they ever dream of spending.

LIVE churches are filled with folk with Bible in hand, dead churches aren't.

LIVE churches grow so fast you forget people's names, in dead churches everybody has known everybody's name for years!

LIVE churches move out on faith, dead churches operate totally by sight.

LIVE churches support missions very heavily, dead churches keep it all at home.

LIVE churches are filled with tithers, dead churches are filled with tippers.

LIVE churches dream dreams for God, dead churches relive nightmares.

LIVE churches have the fresh wind of love blowing, dead churches are stale with bickering.

LIVE churches focus on people, dead churches focus on programs.

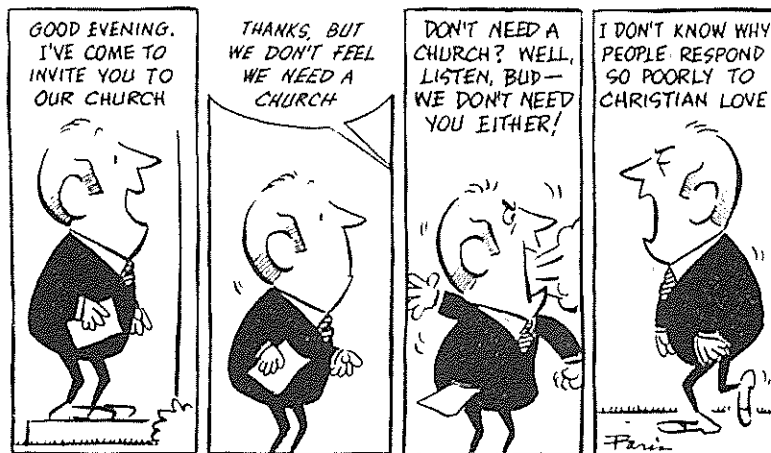
LIVE churches are intense and earnest about praise, dead churches aren't.

LIVE churches don't have "can't" in their dictionary, dead churches have nothing else but.

LIVE churches evangelize! Dead churches fossilize.

— Bob Moorehead —





TEN COMMANDMENTS OF A FRIENDLY CHURCH

1. Speak to people, even if you don't know their names. There is nothing as nice or cheerful as a friendly word of greeting.
2. Smile at people. It takes seventy-two muscles to frown and only fourteen to smile. Your smile is one of your finest assets. Use it regularly.
3. Call people by name. The sweetest music to any person's ears is the sound of his own name.
4. Be friendly and helpful. If you want a friend, be one.
5. Be cordial. Speak and act as if everything you do is a genuine pleasure. Try to look happy, and you'll be happy.
6. Be genuinely interested in people. If you try, you can like everybody. Don't limit yourself to a few friends when there are so many likeable people all around you.
7. Be generous with praise and sparing with criticism.
8. Be considerate of the feelings of others.
9. Watch for ways to serve others. What we do for others counts most in life.
10. Add to all of these a good sense of humor, a generous dose of patience, and a dash of humility.

Are you doing all you can to make your church a friendly church? If not, why not start today?

CHRISTIAN QUOTATIONS

No one is too good — nor too bad —
to be a candidate for salvation.

— ANON

Obedience to God is the most infallible
evidence of sincere and supreme love to him.

— NATHANAEAL EMMONS

PRAISE

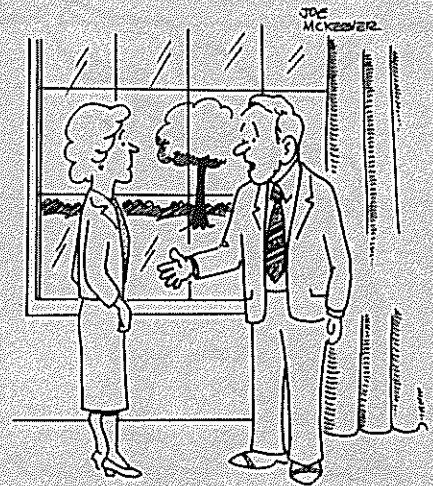
You don't have to be afraid of praising God too
much; unlike humans He never gets a big head.

— PAUL DIBBLE

PRAYER

Keep praying, but be thankful that God's answers are
wiser than your prayers!

— WILLIAM CULBERTSON



I'VE DECIDED TO MEND MY WAYS—I'M TIRED
OF PRAYING UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME

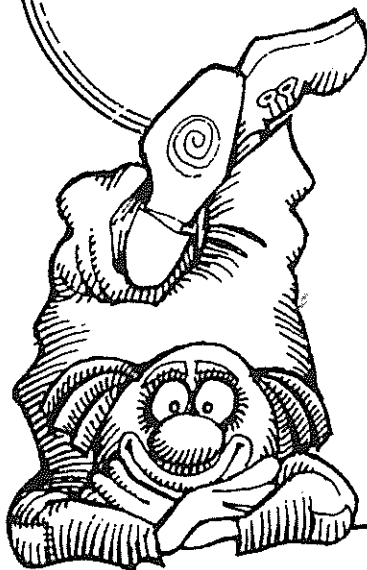


Congratulations

to Yong Poh Fah & Adeline Yong Tee on
the birth of their baby daughter in August
1987.

to Dennis and Prudence Oei their baby son Leon on
August 13.

Just a friendly
reminder...



SMALL GROUP TRAINING COURSE

One of TMC's 1987 objectives is the formation of 6 new small fellowship groups. A 5-week course for all interested in this activity has been organised.

DATE : Every Wednesday,
starting September 2, 1987

TIME : 7.30 pm

PLACE : TEC

COST : \$3 — working adults; \$2 — others

INSTRUCTORS: Mr. Chan Chong Hiok &
Rev. Melvyn Huang

A PASTOR'S JOB

The pastor teaches, but he must solicit his own classes. He heals, but he does it without pills, medicine, or scalpel. He is sometimes a lawyer, often a social worker, something of an editor, a bit of a philosopher and entertainer, a salesman, a decorative piece for public functions, and a student and scholar.

He visits the sick, marries people, buries the dead, comforts the sorrowing, admonishes sinners, and encourages the weary. He plans programs, appoints committees, and spends considerable time helping people with their difficulties. On top of all this, he prepares a sermon and preaches it on Sunday to faithful members of the congregation. Then on Monday he smiles when some person slaps him on the back and says, "One day a week. What a job!"