

TMC NEWSLETTER

November — December 1987
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TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH 34 SERANGOON GARDEN WAY (1955)
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PARTICIPATION

Christmas is just around the corner and 1987 is drawing to a close. As Christians, we praise our wonderful God for His hand in everything we have done and accomplished. More importantly, we thank Him for sending our Lord Jesus on earth 2,000 years ago to save us from our sins.

For some of us, Christmas is a good time to pause and review our relationship with Jesus Christ. Have we been faithful to Him? What is our commitment to Him and His church? If you had a car that failed to start every seventh day, you probably wouldn't call it faithful. If your hot water heater greeted you with cold water on some mornings, you wouldn't regard it as dependable.

Unlike the items mentioned above, Christians can and should be dependable at attending church. Remember the words of Jesus:

"Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." (Revelation 2:10)

During the recent church retreat, it was noted that almost half the church membership are not regular churchgoers and do not actively participate in church activities or form part of the life of this church.

One reason could be that there is a lack of information on the church's good works for the community and the fellowship within. I pray that this newsletter (and those to come) will help communicate to members the warm church community that exists at TMC. I also hope that this Christmas and New Year, your resolution will be to be an active part of this community of God.

Have a Blessed Christmas & Happy New Year!

The Editor.



Dec 19 — MYFers & MYFers' families will be a season of salvation for many, to know Jesus as their personal Lord & Saviour.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM MYFERS

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS!**

Maureen Lee *Georgie*
Christopher Qu...
Dan *Yongluck* *Indira*
Mabel *Doris* *Lawrence*
Orin *John* *Shao Chuen*

PROGRAMMES HIGHLIGHT

Jan & Feb (Theme: FOLLOW-UP)

- | | | |
|----------|-----|---|
| Jan | 2: | "Count the Cost" (Speaker) |
| | 9: | "Handling Questions People Ask" (Bible Study) |
| 16 & 23: | | "Apologetics" (Speaker) |
| 30: | | Prayer & Praise |
| Feb | 6: | "Imparting the Basics" (Speaker) |
| | 13: | Combine with Clementi MYF |
| | 18: | Chinese New Year Visitation |
| | 20: | — |
| | 27: | "Imparting the Basics" (Bible Study) |

COMING UP:

MARCH '88 — "MINI-CAMP SERIES II"

CHRISTMAS TO ME

Christmas is a time of sharing & caring. In the past recent years, we raised funds for CHEST, because there's the "sharing & caring" attitude towards the destitutes. We are concerned about the social welfare of this group of people. As for Christians, we have an additional role to play. We have to meet their spiritual needs too. Jesus Christ did not become a babe just to have Christmas, but to give His life as a ransom for many. We are His messengers, to spread this good news.

The MYFers will be doing just that. They will bring the Christmas joy to the old folks' and children's Homes.

What is your role this Christmas? Will it be a meaningful Christmas for you & the others, or just another December 25th?

CAROLLING

MYFers will be going to the Old Folks' and Children's Homes to bring Christmas joy to the residents.

In addition, we will also distribute the food provisions that are donated by church members.

COME AND JOIN US!
**For a time of learning
 and fellowship**

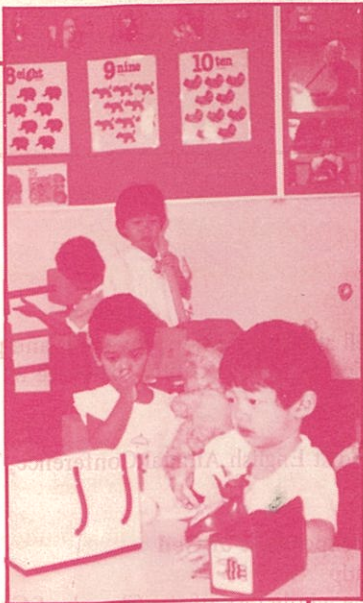
MYF T-Shirts

Good news! Youth of the church, you are invited to purchase the newly-designed MYF T-Shirts. Place your order at the MYF Notice Board (Level 1, TEC).

ORCHARD BLITZ

Dec 19 — MYFers & the Evangelism Committee will be evangelising at Orchard Road. Christmas will be a season of salvation for many, to know Jesus as their personal Lord & Saviour.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



The best people are assembled for Sunday School, and I desire the blessing of their friendship and fellowship.

THREE GOOD REASONS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

1. **Bible study.** Feeding on the Word of God is just as essential to the Christian's spiritual growth as food is to physical growth.
2. **Evangelism.** The Sunday School is the arm of the church that leads in reaching people for Christ and the church.
3. **Application.** One important objective of the Sunday School is to lead members not only to understand the message of the Bible but to see how it applies to their daily lives.

At TMC, Sunday School basically comprises junior, intermediate and senior classes.

In the junior section (Pre-Primary up to Primary 3) growth has been tremendous resulting in an urgent need for more teachers (Help!). Starting December 6, there will also be half-hour story telling sessions for the toddlers by Ms Ang Hwee Suan. Then, there is a Book Review Contest to be organised shortly to encourage children's readership on Christian books.

Intermediate students (Primary 4 to Secondary 2) have bible lessons, camps and learn to plan programmes and concerts.

Besides Sunday School activities, the seniors (Secondary 3 to Young Adults) also form small groups where they interact with Youth Fellowship (MYF) members. The Seniors also have a camp from December 9-12, 1987 to learn leadership skills. This leadership camp, organised in conjunction with Christian Education Committee, is planned once every six months.

In the area of evangelism, Sunday School members have been fruitful in winning souls for Christ. More than 20 souls have been saved in the last 5 months through their efforts. Praise the Lord!

Last but not least, a musical band is currently being formed.

So with the Lord's blessing (all Glory to Him) Sunday School members will continue to grow from strength to strength both individually and as the body of Christ.

Ivan Tan

W S C S

WSCS — you might ask what this is? To some Trinitarians, WSCS is all about food fairs, joy-stalls and pot-luck meals. Well, WSCS stands for **Women Society for Christian Service**. And thankfully, there are in our midst a number of fine cooks!

Trinity WSCS is one of thirteen local chapters under TRAC, the Methodist English Annual Conference. The Society aims to:

- (i) help women **grow in the knowledge, understanding and experience of God**
- (ii) challenge them to respond to God's redemptive **fellowship**
- (iii) develop a personal **responsibility** among members for the whole task of the Church of God
- (iv) **evangelise**.

In summary, it caters to spiritual growth, fellowship, service, missions and witness of ladies in the church. Programmes are planned therefore to meet these needs and responsibilities. For example in Noember '87, a series of 4 sessions in "PRAYER" was conducted by a speaker for WSCS ladies. Sometimes too, by pooling resources, services such as visitation to the hospitalised, shut-ins and bereaved can be effectively rendered.

In this advent season, WSCS has planned two programmes:

Christmas Party for the Blind
Visit to Singapore Broadcasting Corporation

December 5
December 11

A "Family Retreat" in nearby West Malaysia is planned for March 1988. Also, cookery classes, flower arrangement lessons and health talks will be organised. Not to worry, any forthcoming programmes/activities will be announced to keep everyone informed and to invite as much participation as possible.

Ladies, it's not only all Christian work at WSCS; members have lots⁴ of fun too! So the next time you patronise a food stall in church or are invited to a pot-luck meal, make sure you get one of the WSCS ladies to brief you. May you have a superb time participating in the activities.



Mrs Violet Seah
WSCS President

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL CONCERNS

Christian Social Concerns (CSC) at TMC rejoice and thank the Lord for "overgrowing" in size and number of activities. With the activities now decentralised, the following Vice-Chairmen have been appointed to oversee the various sub-committees:

Name	Area of Social Concern
Mr Victor Han	TMC Prison Ministry
Mrs Emily Wilfred	Woodbridge/Pelangi Home Ministry
Mrs Janet Sathiasingam	Free Tuition for Needy Students Ministry
Mrs Adeline Chia	Needy Families Ministry
Mrs Daisy Teh	Christmas/Chinese New Year Outreach Programmes
Mdm Wan Siew Bin	The Hiding Place Ministry
Mr Ng Yean Kiat	Other Charitable Homes & New Challenges



— *Ng Yean Kiat (with hand raised) at a Social Concerns Sunday Service earlier this year.* —

Christian Social Concerns would welcome assistance from members in the above areas of ministry. Together, as Mr Ng Yean Kiat shares, 1987/88 will be a time of cohesion and consolidation for CSC.

To bring cheer and warmth to the needy and less privileged ones, CSC has organised the following Christmas/Chinese New Year Programmes.

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| (a) Christmas Carolling together with Good Neighbours | 12.12.87 2.30 pm |
| (b) Buy Christmas Presents for Woodbridge Patients and Needy Families | 13.12.87 |
| (c) Distribute presents to needy families | 20.12.87 |
| (d) Woodbridge Christmas Party | 27.12.87 |
| (e) Chinese New Year Party for Woodbridge Patients | 28. 2.88 |

Concerned and interested members should please contact any vice-chairman listed above. God will accept your contribution in the Christian Social Concerns programmes and multiply it to the blessing of many!

A Brother-in-Christ

CARE PARTNERS

Much curiosity has recently arisen over the church "care partner" program that has been proposed at the church annual planning retreat. Well, over 30 people came forward to volunteer as care partners and we thank the Lord for their enthusiastic response. Every member and church friend registered with us will have a care partner.

Objectives

This church is a living and growing one and we all know wonderful things are happening in our midst. Not all our members have been enjoying the opportunities and experiences that Christian living within our church community offers. Care partners are thus to provide a two fold service to our members.

- 1) To build a stronger link between the members and the church so that members may not only know more of what is going on in our church but also have the opportunities to participate meaningfully in it.
- 2) To assist the pastor and the membership committee in pastoral care.

What they will do.

Your care partners will do exactly that — care for you, be your partner in caring and helping you to get to know church activities, programs and objectives by:

- 1) Maintaining contact with you thus building up a close dialogue between members and partners. This may be in church, on the phone, through personal visitation or social functions.
- 2) To reestablish contact with less frequent church attendees who may feel more comfortable with a friend or familiar face they can look for when they come to church.
- 3) To provide feedback to church leaders on members feelings and their views.
- 4) To help and support a member during his or her difficult periods.

Care partners are your friends. Their warm response to this program is testimony to the warmth, care and love that we see in our church today. We feel it is our duty that all members should and must enjoy and share in this, God's gift of love.

Our list of care partners is by no means closed and anyone who feels that he or she would like to come forward as a care partner may contact either the Pastor, Mr Wong Yow Chuen or Mr Viva Doraisingham.



WHICH ONE OF THESE CHURCH LADIES IS OL' MRS. HYPOCRITE, MAMA?

A SAD ANNOUNCEMENT

With great regret we announce the loss of one of our church's most valuable families. Mr. and Mrs. Someone Else have moved away. The vacancy they have left will be hard to fill. The Else family had been with us for many years. They did far more than their share of work around the church.

Whenever there was a job to do, a class to teach, or a meeting to arrange or attend, their name was on everyone's list: "Let Someone Else do it." Whenever visitation was mentioned, this wonderful family was looked to for inspiration as well as results: "Someone Else will bring people to church." Mr. and Mrs. Else were also the biggest givers in the church. "Let Someone Else make up the difference."

The Someone Else family were wonderful people, but they were only human. They could spread themselves only so far. They did the best they could, but people expected too much from them.

Now Mr. and Mrs. Else are gone. They left us a wonderful example, but who will follow it? Who is going to do the things that Someone Else did?

WANTED!

Shamgar had an OX GOAD,
David had a SLING,
Dorcas had a NEEDLE,
Rahab had some STRING,
Mary had some OINTMENT,
Moses had a ROD,
Have YOU some SMALL TALENT
You'll dedicate TO GOD?

SEASON'S REMINDERS

The Son of God became the Son of Man
that he might change
the sons of men into sons of God.

CENTER
your Christmas
in
CHRIST

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

God give you faith this coming year!
The faith that will not fail in keenest test;
That trusts and sings in midst of fire and storm,
And dares rely upon his Word and rest.

God give you hope this coming year!
The hope that through the darkness sees afar —
The purifying hope that fondly waits
The rising of the Bright and Morning Star.

God give you love this coming year!
His own great love that burns out for the lost;
That intercedes, and waits, and suffers long —
That never fails, nor stops to count the cost.

— Margaret D. Armstrong