

Saltshaker

Trinity Methodist Church • December 2002

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Pastor's Message
Seniors Ministry
Challenging Lives
Silent Retreat
Mission Trips to Cambodia
46th Church Anniversary
BB CARES
Church Redevelopment
Trinity Gospel Players

"Challenging Lives"

As we end the year, 2002, and look forward to another year of ministry, we have adopted as our Theme for 2003, "Challenging Lives." Why? Because for the last two years, we have been "Touching Lives" for Christ and "Moulding Lives" into what God would want them to be.

Year 2003 will be a challenging one for us. Our worship services will relocate to Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' Primary School Hall and the church administrative function will be operating from temporary premises. Changes will take place and changes will cause disruptions in the lives of members and worshippers. As we cope with these changes, we want to challenge you and those whom we have touched and moulded in three areas:

1. Faith. As Romans 10:8-13 challenges us to proclaim what we have believed in our hearts, we challenge you to put your faith into action. As you believe in God, show it in your actions. Let others see Jesus in your lives. Let the love that God has put in your heart reach out to touch lives for Him.

2. Hope. Hebrews 6:11-14 reminds us to that when God made a promise, He will fulfill it. So we are "to show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope to the very end, so that you may not become sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises." Our redevelopment project will certainly put our faith to the test. Therefore, we have to cling on to the hope that God has given us, and let Him take us to higher levels of commitment for Him.

3. Commitment. Our commitment, as Mark 14:35-36 states it, is to do what God wants us to do. So in all things, let us seek to do His will. The flesh may be weak, but God's Spirit is strong in each of us. As we seek to do God's will, let us allow God to use us to fulfill His promises in each of us.

Therefore, as we challenge lives for God, let us live so that others will see Jesus in us, let us bring hope to others and let us be committed to the will of God.

Pastor-In-Charge
Philip Lim

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Seniors Ministry



*An Interview with
Mr Wee Eng Hock,
Co-ordinator of
Seniors Ministry*



What has the Seniors Ministry been up to in these past few months?

WEH: Nearly one in three of TMC members are over 55 years old. Many of them have retired from work, but are still physically and mentally fit with much free time. Our aim is to draw them out and participate in activities so that they can make more friends and strengthen the bonds amongst fellow worshippers.

With this in mind, in these past few months the Seniors Ministry Committee organised a quarterly Tea Fellowships as well as a 2 day/ 1 night excursion to Malacca. We have just celebrated Seniors Week with a buffet lunch attended by about 80 seniors.

Meanwhile, the monthly morning walks continue with veteran Mr Wong Yow Chuen, in charge. However, our 'open house' on Wednesdays at the Resource Centre has not taken off. We have just introduced "Rummikub", said to be the world's third most popular game, and hope that this will interest some members to come and learn the game.

We have also planned a "Christmas Fellowship and Buffet Dinner" on 14 December and expect a good attendance!

How do you see the seniors contributing to TMC, especially during this period of redevelopment and relocation?

WEH: Rather than feeling marginalized and 'have beens', seniors can contribute in various ways and I'm sure, most seniors who have been with TMC for some time, will want to do whatever they can for their church.

Many seniors are already serving in various groups / ministries in TMC, including collating the weekly church bulletin and sorting out the mail for dispatch. I believe that there are others willing and able to help if approached.

Some of the activities of the various groups / ministries overlap or are duplicated and some centralisation and better co-ordination will result in more effective use of our limited resources. Seniors Ministry can help to actively encourage more support for these activities.

Through the activities which we have organised, seniors get to know one another better and make

new friends. This will strengthen the bonds and keep them together when we move out of our present premises. New channels of communication are opened and these can be used to relay information or provide mutual assistance, e.g. car pooling.

What are your personal dreams for this Ministry?

WEH: I would like to see a more vibrant Seniors Ministry with more of our seniors.

- Knowing each other personally as friends rather than as mere fellow worshippers.
- Actively participating and enjoying themselves at various activities.
- Caring and helping one another, whenever and wherever possible, in Christian love.
- Doing voluntary work, if time permits, in the various ministries, or helping out in church.
- Having a closer walk with God with prayer, attending bible studies, talks and discussions to know Him and His commandments better.

Challenging Lives 2003

As we come to the end of the year 2002, we stand at the threshold of a new phase of church life. The redevelopment works will begin in January 2003, and our relocation to the PLMGPS school hall will present many challenges to us as a community of faith.

During the LCEC Planning Retreat, we spent much time praying and studying the following passage of Scripture:

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." - Matthew 9:35-38

We had the conviction that God wanted to challenge each and everyone of us. Hence, the theme for next year is Challenging Lives. Let me share three of God's attributes from the above passage that should give us courage to rise to the challenges that lie ahead. They are: God's Compassion; God's Sovereignty; and God's Providence.

God's Compassion *The Lord Jesus Christ saw that the people were in need and had compassion on them. They were like fields ripe for the harvest, and He asked His disciples to pray for workers to shepherd and care for the*

people. God has led people to us: BB boys and GB girls, Singapore Polytechnic Primers, PLMGPS students, Chen Su Lan children, TMC Kindergarten children, our neighbours and friends.... Surely God wants us to have compassion on them and reach out to them.

God's Sovereignty *Our Heavenly Father is the Lord of the harvest, and does not want any to perish but everyone to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9). He is the Sovereign LORD, the Creator of heaven and earth - nothing is too difficult for Him. God has the power to bring about what we ask for: workers for the harvest fields.*

God's Providence *God has provided us with another Counsellor, the promised Holy Spirit, to be with us forever. The Holy Spirit will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness, and empowers us to be His witnesses (John 16:5 - 13). With such assurance, we can have confidence to go and make disciples of all nations.*

The Sovereign LORD has led us to the verge of the Jordan River, and bids us cross over and possess the land. Let us therefore take courage, and face the challenges that lie ahead with faith. For the Lord is surely with us always, to the very end of the age. Amen.

Ivan Tan
Chairperson
Local Church Executive Committee



Local Church Executive Committee 2003



The LCEC
Dedication
13 Oct 2002



Silent Retreat

"Our days are lived in a noisy world. In the age of information, we are daily bombarded with an endless flow of words clamouring for our attention. The words come in our mail, email, billboards and a host of channels that demand "eye-time" and "ear-time" from us. Because of the growing claims over our time and attention, and the increasing stress levels in our lives, we are forced to be constantly chatting - hearing and talking.

Lest we drown in our own words and chatter, we need to rediscover our need for silence. The wise man in the Bible wrote that there is "a time to be silent and a time to speak" (Eccl.3:7). Regular periods of silence are essential for healthy and holy Christian living. But why is this so?

At some time or other, each of us has probably enjoyed the silence of a remote place (such as a mountain or a desert). Such moments of silent contemplation tend to bring us face to face with eternity and help us to think about God and the meaning and mystery of life. Having experienced the refreshing potential of silence, we begin to realise that it is in silence that we have our most profound experiences....

Likewise, the most painful experiences are also experienced in silence. When we are in pain, we cry aloud and scream. However, when the pain is greatest, we often experience it - in silence. The heart may crack noisily, but it always breaks silently....

When Christians share about their experiences they sometimes talk about the silence of God. Our God is not a noisy God. In fact sometimes He seems to be too

silent. The psalmist cried out to God, "O God, do not keep silent; be not quiet..." (Ps 83:1). Obviously God was too silent for the troubled psalmist who was worried about the enemies of the people of God. But was God silent because He had nothing to say? No, in fact He was silent because he had something to say. And we can only hear what He has to say if we join Him in His silence. This may be because when He speaks, God is often heard in a gentle whisper (1 Kg. 19:12). If the noise levels around us are not turned down, and if we do not stop speaking, we may miss what God is saying to us. Too many words can stifle the word from God."

Bishop Dr Robert Solomon, *Methodist Message*, June 2002.

This Silent Retreat, scheduled for the beginning of Lent, is planned to give us time to pause and be silent so that we can listen to the word of God. Lent is the 40-day period before Palm Sunday and is traditionally a time for penitence and reflection. Beginning with Ash Wednesday (5 Mar 03), it mirrors Jesus' 40 days in the desert (Matt 4: 1 - 2) before He began His public ministry.

Take time to be silent. Book your leave now.

SILENT RETREAT

- 5- 7 March 2003
 - St Francis Xavier Major Seminary
 - \$75.00 per person
- If you are interested, kindly contact the church office.



**The LCEC
Retreat
25 - 26 Oct 2002**



Mission Trips to Cambodia

TMC sent two teams to Cambodia from 29 Oct to 3 Nov. This is the third year we are hosting the Cambodia Methodist Youth Leaders Training School. About 60 youths gathered in Phnom Penh from other parts of the country to take part in the 3 day camp. Patsy Mah shares her reflections.

Before the trip, I felt tired, drained mentally and physically, and really doubted whether I made the right decision to go for this training school. But throughout the trip I kept reminding myself of God's promise that His strength will be made perfect in my weakness, and that His grace is sufficient for me. Now, back in Singapore, I am still tired physically. Yet I am at peace because I was so blessed by this trip. Here are some reasons that contribute to my sense of peace:



Our Cambodian brothers and sisters were glad to have us there: one bible school student told me he was really

and fun. On the last night, disobedient sons, hapless parents, bungling and corrupt policemen and good Christian children featured prominently in the skits presented. It was a cultural eye-opener for me. It was not all slapstick, however. One of the teams presented a sophisticated mime about how God had to send Jesus to heal the hurts and sins of the world. I was also impressed by the spontaneous accompaniment from the band which changed tunes to suit every play presented.

The Khmer songs -

Surprisingly, I like Khmer songs, even though to me they sound more like Buddhist chants. The songs still resounded in my head a few days after the camp and it's a wonderful feeling knowing that I wake up singing God's praises, even though I don't understand the words.

Prayer - I was really touched when the Cambodians prayed for us on the last night. They prayed aloud and simultaneously. Although I didn't understand the words, I felt them imploring God to bless us. The prayer reminded me that despite coming from different countries, we are brothers and sisters in Christ.

Phnom Penh - I was glad for the chance to see the city. Seeing the way of life of the people helped me understand better the youth who came to the camp. The visit to COSI was also an eye-opener, and my heart went out to the children who were among the destitute of the land before they were brought in. Normally I have an aversion to children because I have seen many spoilt ones in Singapore. But the children at COSI smiled happily and openly at us and were extremely well-

behaved. I wished that students in Singapore had the chance to visit and help out there so they could realise how blessed we are. The visit to Takmau was also memorable. When it was time for prayer,

individuals stood up to make their requests: one lady asked for a well and that she would be free from persecution from her neighbours who picked on her because she was a Christian in a predominantly Buddhist village; a youth asked for musical instruments for Takmau; another asked for healing for a sick relative and another asked for help because her house was collapsing. It opened my eyes



to this aspect of community life in church. "...train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." 1 Tim 4: 7 & 8. Back home, it is easy to be caught up with the demands of life and forget or neglect to put aside time for training in godliness. Training entails hard work and sacrifice. On reflection, this trip was a form of training in godliness for me, and God knew I needed it.



thankful for us to come and teach; another youth said, on the last night, that he was sad that we would be leaving.

The skits - though they had less than one day, the youths were able to come up with short skits on various stories of the bible. Cambodians are natural entertainers and even while acting out the stories of Joseph and his brothers, the plagues in Egypt or Moses and the parting of the Red Sea, they incorporated plenty of jokes

Vacation with a Purpose

By Tan Kiem Kiok



The Tonle Sap (Great Lake) and Mekong Rivers dominate Phnom Penh in various ways. The Royal Palace sits in majestic grandeur on the banks of the Tonle Sap and is beautifully lit up at night. We visited the Palace on the first day and were in well-manicured gardens. We saw among other things, the glittering throne room and priceless Buddhas. But at other parts of the rivers, it was a stark contrast. Shanty villages built along the banks, people bathing and washing in muddy waters and children cavorting in those same waters. On another occasion, we had a wonderfully relaxed time by the Mekong River, hanging out with 6 girls from an English class. Such contrasts were our experience on this purposeful vacation.

Our team of 7 women were privileged to take part in a combined small group meeting at Prek Omperl (Omperl means 'tamarind'). This was a gathering of about 80 women and children at this village an hour's journey from Phnom Penh. In a small wooden shack, sitting on a



plastic sheet on the floor, we joined in them in worship. The two mothers in our group shared their experiences, we presented a skit and gave a devotional. We brought food (bread, some pâté filling, bananas and longans) and were amazed



that though they were poor and hungry, they waited patiently to be served and did not push forward to grab their share. After the women had left, we were served our lunch - rice and dishes and lots of coconuts to drink. experience at the orphanage set up by the Methodist Church.

Community Outreach Services Immanuel (COSI) was another heart warming experience. It was a joy to sing with the children - they happily sang



"Jesus loves me, this I know" in Mandarin for our benefit and we taught them "From the rising of the sun", together with actions, in English. They seemed to appreciate the simple craft we prepared for them, and then went quite wild during the game, running about and shouting.



Because of the language barriers, we needed interpreters when giving messages or instructions. But at other times, we communicated very well with the universal language of touch and laughter. Both at Prek Omperl and at COSI, we were touched and hugged in spontaneous shows of affection. At both these places and at church on Sunday, people came forward, put their hands together in greeting and say "Jimreapsure" with a little genuflection of the knee.

This trip was a first 'mission' trip for many of us. What we saw and experienced challenged us in many ways...how will our lifestyle change having seen people live with much less? How will our worship and prayer life change having participated in such exuberant and fervent worship?



KEEP IN STEP

District Superintendent Rev Dr Gordon Wong preached at TMC's 46th Anniversary Service held on 8 September 2002, expounding on the theme of the church year, "Moulding Lives". Using Galatians 5: 25 - 6:5 as his text, Gordon started by showing a picture of a baby, saying that it was perfectly normal for a young child to be sucking milk. The next picture was a cheekily drawn picture of Pastor Philip sucking milk and wearing nappies, which Gordon used to illustrate the point that it was not healthy nor normal for an adult to do the same thing. Referring back to 5:25, "Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit" he challenged us to keep growing, in step with the Spirit. Below is an excerpt of his sermon.

Paul explained what "keep in step with the Spirit" means in the next two verses. He tells us, first, what puts us out of step with the Spirit. Verse 26. "Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other." To be conceited is to think too highly of yourself. To be conceited means to think: "I don't make elementary mistakes like that!" To be conceited means to believe that "My church is spiritually stronger than yours!" To be conceited means to have a superiority complex. And to be so conceited is to fall out of step with the Holy Spirit.

Many of us are in danger of this conceit. Churches that stress the gifts of tongues, healing and prophecy may start to look down on churches where these spiritual gifts are not widely practiced. But when they start to look down on other churches, they have started to fall out of step with the very Holy Spirit whose power they claim to be moving in. But the same danger of conceit is present in non-charismatic churches. Non-charismatic churches look down on the charismatic ones because of their preoccupation with emotion, prosperity and health. But when they start to look down on others, they too have started to fall out of step with the Spirit.

Sometimes it is seen in juvenile fighting.

My church does real Bible study.

- But do you exercise the gifts of the Holy Spirit?

We speak in tongues.

- But do you memorise Scripture?

We are concerned for the poor.

- But I see you do not believe in healing services for the sick.

We focus on evangelism in every Singapore HDB block.

- But do you neglect World missions?

Don't misunderstand. Each and all of these emphases are good. Healthy competition is a good thing. Healthy

discussion can promote progress and growth for everybody. But Paul is not speaking about healthy competition here. He is warning against unhealthy competition. The kind of juvenile, immature competition that only provokes anger. It splits churches. It divides the people of God into charismatic and non-charismatic camps. It promotes division, not unity. It provokes anger, not love. Such a spirit of arrogance and competition is out of step with God's Spirit.

What is true of churches is also true of individuals. Two leading scientists are researching a cure for liver cancer. But they are on different teams funded by different companies. The companies forbid them to discuss their work with each other. They do not share their progress or ideas with each other. They do not help each other, because the other team might take your idea, develop it and reach the finish line first. So instead of saving time and working together, they end up competing against each other. They do not keep in step with each other. They do not want to. They race at their own speed. And the race is no longer a race against cancer. It becomes a race against each other. We call it the rat-race.

Paul writes, "Keep in step with the Spirit. Let us guard against becoming conceited, provoking and envying each other." These things put us out of step. They are characteristics of juvenile and immature behaviour. It's time to stop acting like babies. It's time to grow up.

Paul goes on to tell us what keeps us in step with the Spirit. Chapter 6 verse 1: "Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted." Notice the phrase "you who are spiritual". In other words, you who truly keep in step with the Spirit.

After reading verse 26, you may think that the spiritual person keeps to himself. He doesn't show conceit and arrogance over others. He doesn't provoke others by competing against them in a rat race. He doesn't envy them by wishing that he had what they had, or wishing that they come to some harm. He simply minds his own business, reads his own Bible, prays quietly, and doesn't allow himself to be involved with other people. After all, if you don't allow yourself to mix with others, the less likely you will be able to envy them, or provoke them or feel superior over them. In fact, some Christians do practice this kind of spirituality. They go far away from people, and they spend their lives in quiet seclusion.

But the kind of spirituality that Paul here recommends is more demanding. It involves making the effort to help people.

I did my A levels over 20 years ago, but I still remember someone very clearly. He was one of our top students. For most of us ordinary mortals, the school prelim exams were a wake-up call to study harder. But my friend received an A in every subject for his prelims. He was more than ready. What else was there for him to do? He could have become conceited. "Gosh! I'm so good. All these poor guys - they have to slog. I can relax." But that's not what he did. He could have kept to himself, stay in a corner of the library, read his books, minded his own business. But that's not what he did either. Instead, he helped anybody who came to him for help. He sat in the canteen, and struggling, panicky students like myself would sit around and ask him to show us how to solve the different problems in the 10 years series books. He gave us tips on how he analysed each question. He told us how to be exam smart in spotting the tricks in certain questions. He answered our questions as best he knew how. He helped us pass.

Was he taking a risk? By spending so much time answering our questions, was he neglecting his own studies? The apostle Paul is certainly aware of this danger. Look again at the verse. "Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted."

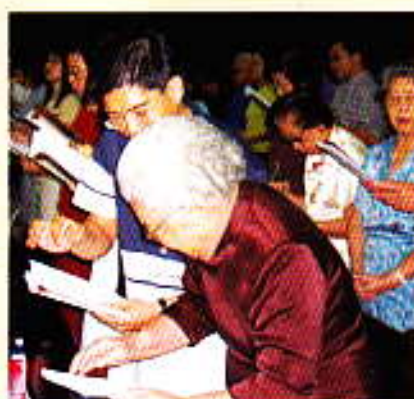
Counsellors and care-givers are also aware of this danger. A recent Straits Times article described how many care-givers fall into depression because of the constant attention that they show to help people who are suffering from illness. In helping others, there is the real danger of being badly affected yourself. Paul highlights this danger so that we will not be naïve or simplistic in our involvement. But

he refuses to let this be an excuse to altogether ignore concern for others. To keep in step with the Spirit is to be concerned for the growth and welfare of others. Let me come back to my school friend. I remember feeling a little guilty for taking up so much of his time. So I suggested that he take some time for his own revision. With his usual modesty, he replied that helping others actually helped him too. By having to explain things to us, it made him understand the problems even better. He attained straight As for the real exams also.

Let me tell you more about him. He only became a Christian in the middle of that examination year. In other words, he was only just born of the Spirit. But already, he was growing. Using Paul's words in verse 25, my friend did not just live by the Spirit, he kept in step with the Spirit. Today, almost 25 years later, he is still keeping in step with the Spirit, actively helping others as Chairperson of the Social Concerns Committee in one of our Methodist churches.

"Moulding lives." A church that isn't involved in moulding the lives of people is a church that has gone out of step with the Spirit. There are many ways in which the Spirit-filled Christian can help to mould lives. Let me close by giving a general answer based on the today's Scripture passage. We mould lives by helping each other keep in step with the Spirit. We mould lives by restoring each other when we have fallen out of step and into sin.

The "sin" Paul mentions in v.25 include that of conceit, the sin that provokes unhealthy competition, and the sin that provokes envy and division. These "sins" are very common in our modern competitive and individualistic culture. May God help me to mould the lives of my children so that they can resist these attitudes that put us out of step with God's Spirit. May God help you to mould each other's lives in the same fashion. And should we falter and get out of step, may God give us the grace to restore each other gently. To bring each other back into step with God's Holy Spirit. May Trinity Methodist Church continue to grow, always keeping in step with God's Spirit.



BB CARES

Testimony by Koh Eubeng

We all know that TMC is the sponsoring church for the Boys Brigade (BB) 47th Company and Girls Brigade (GB) 55th Company at Serangoon Gardens Secondary School, but what do we actually do with these boys and girls? It wasn't until I was involved in "BB CARES" that I found out.

It all started in May, when I met with Jacob Cheng at Singapore Polytechnic (SP). He was there running a camp for the SP Primers, the BB wing for tertiary students, both boys and girls. As there was a need an urgent for volunteers, Jacob challenged me to be involved, and my first project was BB CARES at the 47th Coy.

CARES stands for "Community Activities to Rally Everyone to Serve", a community outreach to the less fortunate amongst us. The weekend 31 Aug to 1 Sept was assigned as "Community Service Weekend", and the 47th Coy chose to conduct an Adventure Camp for 14 children, aged 5 to 10 years from the Chen Su Lan Methodist Home. (More about BB CARES at can be found at www.bb.org.sg/bbcare)

The objectives of the Camp were:-

- to create a sense of responsibility in the Boys to care for the less fortunate;
- to an provide outdoor camping, games and learning experience for the children to appreciate and be responsible for our environment, as well as to build confidence in and co-operation amongst them.

Staying in tents was a novelty for the children. The Boys built obstacles like a "monkey bridge", a "swing bridge" and "flying fox" for the confidence courses. Included was a field cooking exercise, with the Boys and children cooking their

own lunch - instant noodles and hot-dogs. To cap it all, a campfire was organised by the SP Primers. The Boys also put up a skit to teach the children how the environment is affected by littering. They even had "munia" birds and longkang (drain) fishes as 'props' to show that these animals needed a good environment to survive.

The Boys found that caring for children was not easy. Two Boys were assigned to look after each child, and it was a learning and trying experience for them, since many of them have not had such an experience. Their wards either did not listen to them, ran around on their own, or simply refused to co-operate. You could tell who was in charge here! But after some coaching, the Boys and children soon worked out their relationships, and the children realised that they needed to co-operate in order to get what they want. By the end of the second day, the bonds and attachment between Boys and their wards were established; and some Boys told us that they were sad to part with the children.

The "RES" (Rally Everyone to Serve) in CARES involved others from church - special thanks to Richard Seng for teaching the boys how to build the bridges and camp crafts, Peace Small Group for providing a delicious dinner, and Kathy Lim from that group who unexpectedly also provided porridge for breakfast.

This weekend opened my eyes to this vast harvest field, but there are few workers (Matt 9: 37 - 38). The BB Company is an avenue into the lives of many people: of the 36 Boys in 47th Company, only six come from Christian homes. Getting to know the Boys will,





hopefully also lead us to friendship with their parents, and the opportunity to share the Gospel with whole families. Furthermore, BB has turned delinquents into responsible adults, and many deprived children nurtured into men and women of character. Though I had been approached before, I refused to come forward then as I did not identify with the BB, nor did I find it necessary to serve. Why the change of heart then?

"As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead" (James 2:26). I was guilty of doing only the things I liked and enjoyed; and giving the excuse that I am too busy to serve in a ministry. But If I love the Lord, what am I doing about it? "The Great Com-mission", the task that Christ has set before us remains uncompleted, and I have not done enough, if anything at all.

Fact: BB is the only Christian uniformed group recognised by the Ministry of Education which is allowed, and even welcomed, into schools.

Fact: BB companies must be sponsored by churches. BB is a partnership between the church, the Company, and the school. Sadly, there more schools ready and willing to start BB companies than there are churches to sponsor them. (see Nov issue of *Methodist Message*)

Fact: Sponsorship does not only mean supporting the BB Officers, and leaving it to them alone. Sponsorship means

that we, members of the sponsoring church, are involved in running camps, programmes and generally becoming friends with these youth. Involvement does not mean it has to be full time, Saturday after Saturday. Involvement can also be short-term, such as conducting worship, games and sports (e.g. football, basketball and archery), giving tuition, doing follow-up with those who become Christians etc. Individuals, small groups, youths and seniors, women and men, all can, and must be involved.

At the end of the day, it is not the programme, but the people whom we get to know, and the lives whom we can touch with the love of God for His Kingdom.



Anyone interested to find out more can approach the church office and BB officers.

Annoucement

Last worship services before relocation: Christmas 25 December 2002

1st Sunday services at PLMGPS: Sunday 29 December 2002

When relocate, we will have only 2 worship services:

9.00am - Contemporary service

11.00am - Traditional service

A Watchnight service will be conducted at 34 Serangoon Garden Way on Tuesday 31 December 2002 at 10.30pm. The premises will be handed over to the contractors in January 2003.

The Trinity Gospel Players



Formed in June 2002 after the Forsaken / Not Forsaken Good Friday / Easter plays, the Trinity Gospel Players (TGP) is the result of the desire to serve the Lord through drama responding to the call for a church drama group to be revived in Trinity Methodist Church.

The group comprises Amy Cheong, Thomas Liao, Thomas Lim, George Sathiasingam and Catherine Wei, all working adults. They usually meet once a week on Sundays, from 1.30 to 3.30 in the afternoon, with extra rehearsals the week or two before a performance.

Most of the scripts they use are gleaned from "Free Christian Scripts" websites on the internet and adapted to suit the local context. They are contemporary skits with the general theme of living life after Christ's example. There are plans to go into other dramatic forms like mimes, and maybe even musicals.

Their first performance was on 25 August 2002 and was a skit aptly about using one's God-given gifts and talents to serve Him and His people. It was adapted from Bob Snook's short play, Purpose.

Another adaptation from a Bob Snook skit was Love2, performed on Sunday, 27 October 2002. It showed how to win souls for Christ in the real working world by loving others through Christ.

The Trinity Gospel Players will be presenting a very interesting short play on Christmas Eve during the service, so invite your friends and family.

To find out more about the Trinity Gospel Players, speak to any one of them after the Sunday services, or e-mail Amy at amy@legends-resort.com.

Fund Raising Activities

Basketball Challenge

Organised by the Youth Ministry

Date: 22 March 2003 (Sat)

Time: 9am - 6pm

Venue: Serangoon Gardens Secondary School

This is a 3-on-3 basketball tournament open to all Methodist churches. Each team shall have 4 members (3 players and 1 reserve). There are 3 categories (Open, U-14, Ladies). There will also be a shootout competition on the same day, as a spin-off from the main tournament. Entry fees are \$60 per team for the tournament and \$40 per team or \$15 per person for the shootout. All proceeds from this tournament will go towards the Redevelopment Fund.

"Wok With Me" - TMC Cookbook

An ideal gift for Christmas for only \$20.

Other Forthcoming Activities

(all to be confirmed)

- Feb 03 Walkathon
- June 03 Golf Tournament
- Sept 03 Musical Concert