

Dec

2 0 1 0

SALTSHAKER



TRINITY
Methodist Church

MICA (P) 158/09/2010



CONTENTS

6 CONNECT WITH
GOD



9 CONNECT WITH
ONE ANOTHER

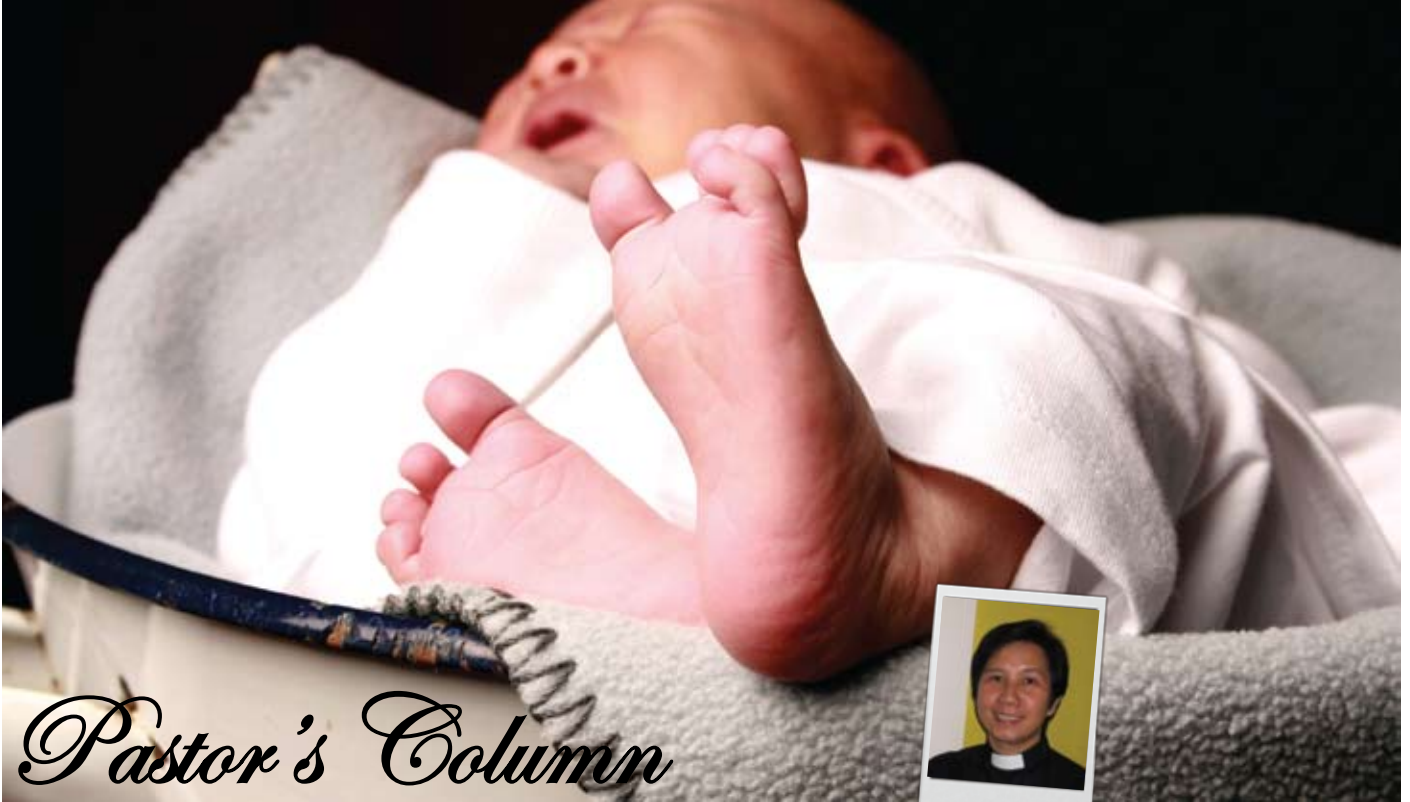


15 CONNECT
WITH OTHERS



Missing:
Baby Jesus

Reward:
Priceless



Pastor's Column

Missing: Baby Jesus Reward: Priceless

by Rev Dianna Khoo

The first Christmas after moving back from England, we scrambled to unpack our boxes, looking for the nativity set which we display every year at home.

But somehow after finding every single piece, including an extra sheep, we somehow managed to lose the Baby Jesus. I looked everywhere for him, in places high and in places low, and those places where only a toddler can go. But still, no baby Jesus!

After church service and Christmas lunch, we sat down as a family to open our Christmas gifts.

It was only in this child-like posture that I found Baby Jesus under the corner of the many Christmas gifts under the tree. He had either been knocked or pushed over.

寻人启示

邱宜观牧师

从英国搬回家后的第一个圣诞节，我们在混乱中打开各个箱盒，企图找出那些我们每年圣诞节都会用来摆设的基督降生布景装饰物。可是不知道为什么，不管我们怎么费尽心思地找遍了各个角落，还是没法找到小婴孩耶稣。

我东找西找，四处都找遍了。连那些只有初学走路的婴孩才会去的偏角处我也找过了。可是仍然没有小婴孩耶稣的踪影！

在教会崇拜和圣诞午餐后，我们全家聚集在一起打开我们的圣诞礼物。在这样仿佛象个小孩般的时刻，我终于在树下众多圣诞礼物堆里的一个角落找到了小婴孩耶稣 - 祂大概是被碰倒了或是被推倒了。其实那就是那年我们最好的圣诞礼物 - 在圣诞树下找到了耶稣。

That, for us, was the best Christmas gift that year - finding Jesus under that Christmas tree.

It's a memory I want to cherish and never forget. So I started a tradition in my former church where baby Jesus does not make his debut in the nativity scene until Christmas morning.

I recall some very perturbed worshippers asking me if Jesus had been stolen! I would explain to them why we do not place Jesus in the manger until Christmas Day.

After all, Christmas Day represents His birthday and He really shouldn't be made to hang around in the manger scene before His scheduled entrance.

As for the symbolism and metaphorical view? Jesus is the gift of Grace by which we are saved through faith.

The best gift of all is when you find Him and receive Him.

我一直珍爱着这段记忆，永远难忘。于是在我事奉的前个教会，我开始了一个惯例：只有到了圣诞日早晨，才让小婴孩耶稣出现在基督降生布景里。我记得一些弟兄姐妹还不安地问我：耶稣是否被人偷走了！我会向他们解释为什么只有到了圣诞早晨时刻才将耶稣置放在马槽里的原因。再说，圣诞节代表耶稣的生日，而祂实际上是不应在预定时间之前出现在马槽布景里的。

这里头的暗喻是什么？耶稣就是恩典的礼物，我们因信而得救。

当你找到祂并接受祂，那就是最好的礼物。



**I AM FREE.
PERIOD.**

Leader's Column

I AM FREE. PERIOD.

by Richard Seng
Associate Lay Leader



"You're a free man now," said the guard, handing over the bag of belongings to Sam.

Sam looked up at the late morning sun that warmed his face, and noticed one thing. He was now on the outside of the place that had been his "home" for the last decade – the state prison.

Sam now had a choice. What would he do with his life?

Three months later, Sam met some of his "old buddies".

"Hey, Sam! You're out!" said one. "The business is seven times better now! Come, let your experienced ways help all the brothers prosper even more!"

Sam knew the trade – illegal betting, drug-peddling and part-time pimping especially if this involved foreign girls.

Eight thousand dollars a month as an area operations head versus \$350 as a coffee-boy at a kopitiam. It was a no-brainer. All he needed to give was a nod. The protocol would be understood.

Long pause.

The money was waiting and would be ready in two days.

"No," Sam said calmly to a dozen faces which suddenly twisted with puzzlement.

Then, a chorus of disbelieving laughter burst forth, followed by a second overture from the group's leader, this time in a more serious tone.

"Sam, I am giving you a chance to live out the glorious days you know."

Sam looked at him squarely. "No, Cheong. I am done. I am a free man now."

The group got up from their seats and left. But not before spewing mocking taunts of "Free Man Sam".

What does it mean to be free?

In October, Mr Chan Chong Hiok preached from God's Word on what it means to be "set free as children of God". Our sins - past, present and future - have been forgiven. Period.

It is well with our souls. Simply by the blood of Jesus and His finished work on the cross, we are free. There is nothing more we need or can do to enjoy God's fellowship and acceptance.

Two weeks before that, Pastor Bernard preached on being "set free by faith alone". When his son Elijah listened to his voice to fix his heart and mind on "the wind passing by your cheeks", the young boy discovered what it meant to listen and trust his father and within moments, was cycling without training wheels.

Falling down whilst trying to balance? History. In fact, Elijah got on two wheels so well that he had a hard time slowing down.

Two months before that, Pastor Dianna preached that we need to look afresh at how we see ourselves as we come before Abba Father: "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

Do we keep seeing ourselves as unworthy beings coming before an awesome God, trembling in fear, and leaving with a sigh of relief (again) that He has forgiven us (again)? Or do we wallow, perhaps unknowingly, in a prison of pseudo-humility ("I am a wretched being, God have mercy on me") instead of living as His beloved children who have been called out of darkness into His wonderful light?

As a body of Christ, if we are continuously seeking a fuller, deeper, more fulfilling journey in our walk with the Father, we need to stop coming before Father God with that excessive sense of unworthiness that leaves us no different from when we first came before Him.

I am God's child FIRST before any other role that I assume. When I draw my first breath of consciousness each morning, I am a living miracle – a masterpiece! I can automatically draw air into my body. How beautiful is that? I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

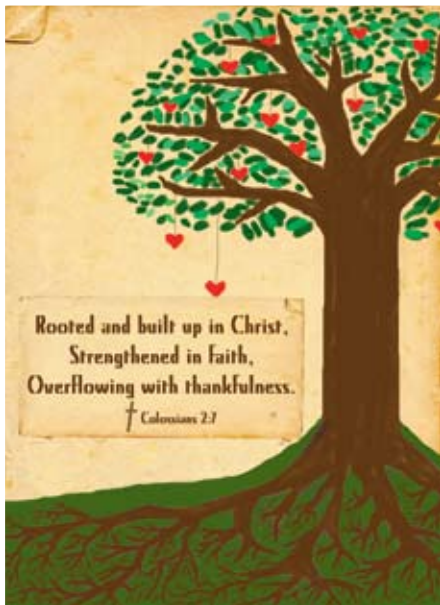
God wants us as His children, always to focus on His love for us first - our position in His heart never changes. With that fundamental truth established, every time I fail, I can get up again, even if it is to face His correction (the Bible calls it training).

Personally, for a long time, I was shackled in chains, trapped in the wrong picture of who God is and who I am before Him. And all because half the time, my focus was on trying to balance and not fall into sin instead of just pedalling forward. Now I know that I will fail at times, but I no longer focus on my failures.

I have chosen the Way to believe and I am walking towards it. Like Sam. Like Elijah. I am challenged to fix my eyes on my Saviour and to marvel at the possibilities ahead. Falling down or sinking in sin no longer has a hold on me, because as His beloved masterpiece, I can enjoy fellowship with God.

In the moment of a hard fall, His love is greater. His grace is deeper than my deepest shame. The continued focus on pedalling forward has this consequence: I find myself falling into the same pothole less and less!

I have received Christ, so I shall continue to fix my eyes on Him and live in Him. The more I do that, the more rooted I will be in Him. He builds me up in His strength, and I shall overflow with thankfulness because I am free. Period.



我自由了。

RICHARD SENG,
执事

“你现在是一个自由的人了，”警卫边说边将一包衣物递给山姆。

山姆抬头望了望近中午的太阳，温暖的阳光洒在他脸上。他突然觉察到一件事，他现在所在的地方就是一个他曾经称了十年为“家”——国家监狱，的外面。

此刻面对着山姆的是一个抉择：往后的日子该怎么办？

三个月后，山姆遇见了一些“旧日死党”。

“嗨，山姆！你出狱了！”其中一个说道。“现在买卖比以前还要好上七倍！来吧，用你的经验帮大伙儿赚更多的钱吧！”

山姆太了解这个行当了——非法聚赌、贩毒和兼职拉皮条，尤其是涉及那些外来妞。

比起在咖啡店当个咖啡助手的350元工资，当个地方头头就可得8000元的月工资简直就是想都不用想的选择。就只需点头就行了。所有的协议细节都简单明了。

一个长长的沉默。

钱都准备好，两天就行了。

“不，”山姆平静地回答道，面对着十多张脸孔，这个回答带来了许多惊讶和不解。

接着，大伙儿对这个不可思议的回答不约而同地爆出阵阵嗤笑声，党的头头儿更是阴冷狂笑不已，但间中语气却是凄肃的。

“山姆，我这可是给你一个机会让你再度过从前奢华的好日子。”

山姆看着他断然说到，“不，阿强。一切都结束了。我现在是一个自由的人了。”

那一党的兄弟们顿时从椅子上起立，索然掉头走了。临走前却没忘记丢下“自由了的山姆”这样的嘲笑绰号。

自由意味着什么？

十月，CHAN CHONG HIOK先生在讲道时提到：“成为上帝儿子那样的自由”。我们的罪——过去的、现在的和将来的——全都已经被赦免。句号。

我们的灵魂得到康复。仅仅因为耶稣的宝血和祂在十字架上所成就的事，我们得以自由。为着享有与神之间的关系及被祂所接受，我们不需要也无能力做出其它更多的事。

两个星期前，赵牧师曾分享有关“仅仅因信而被释放”。当ELIJAH，赵牧师的儿子，为了要体验“风吹拂面颊”而专心一意地聆听他的声音时，孩子通过聆听和信赖父亲的瞬间，在没有轮子的情况下骑了脚踏车。

小孩在学习平衡的过程中摔倒？那已经成为过去了。事实上，ELIJAH把两只轮子把玩的太好，几乎已经欲罢不能了。

两个月前，邱牧师讲道时曾提到当我们来到阿爸圣父的面前，我们需要从新学会如何看待自己。“因为我们是神的杰作。祂已经在基督耶稣里重新创造了我们，好让我们可以履行祂在很久以前就已经为我们准备的美好计划。”

我们在神的面前是否一直看自己是微不足道的？我们是否在祂面前畏惧而颤抖着，不时因为祂的赦免（一次又一次）而留下释怀的叹息（再一次）？或许，我们不知不觉又陷入自己构想的谦卑牢狱中（“我是一个卑劣的人，求神怜悯”），而不像是一个被祂从黑暗中呼召出来进入祂美妙光明中、并如祂所疼爱的孩子般的生活着？

作为基督的肢体，如果我们为要继续与父神同行而寻找一个更圆满、更深刻、更有满足感的旅程，我们需要停止在我们的父神面前有过多的自我诋毁，仿佛自己初次站在祂面前一般的一文不值。

在我们所有角色之上，首先我们是上帝的儿子。每个早晨当我们醒来吸第一口气时，我们就参与在一个奇迹当中——一个杰作！我能自动地将空气吸进我的身体里，这是多么美妙的事！我这个成品是无惧而美妙的。

上帝要我们成为祂的子女，始终要我们首先关注祂给我们的爱——我们在祂心中的位置永不更改。基于这个基本事实，每一次当我跌倒，我能再次站起来，即使得要面对祂的训诲（圣经里称之为培训）。

对我个人来说，有很长一段时间我是被束缚在锁链的囚禁当中，我被截留在上帝是谁而自己在祂面前又是谁的错误框架中。我有一半的时间是关注尝试该如何平衡自己好让自己不再掉入罪恶中，而不是努力向前行。现在我知道我偶尔会跌倒，但我不再专注于我的失败。

我选择相信了祂的道，并要走在道中。就如山姆，如ELIJAH一般。我要面对挑战将自己的目光集中在我的救主身上，我要迎接前方即将来临的惊喜。不管是跌倒或沉入罪恶，它们都不再拦阻我，因为我是祂最深爱的杰作，我能享受与神的交往。

在跌倒最痛苦的时刻，祂的爱是最伟大的。祂的恩典深过我最深沉的羞愧。持续地如此向前行会有这个结果：我发现自己渐渐不再堕入同样的罪穴中。

我已经接受基督，所以我必须继续将目光集中在祂上面并要活在祂里面。我越是这么做，我越是在祂里面扎根。祂用祂的大能建造了我，而我将满载恩典，因为我已经自由。句号。

THE BENEDICTION



Worship Whys

The word **benediction** is derived from Latin, meaning “to bless” and refers to the blessing of God’s care given by the minister at the end of the service.¹

also on many other occasions not only in Israel, but among the heathen as well. We may readily see, therefore, that from the very beginning of the Christian church the use of the benediction was common...³

The origin of the word benediction is from the Latin ‘benedictionem’, the noun form of ‘benedictus’, which in turn is the past participle of the verb ‘benedicere’, meaning “to speak well of, to bless”. Latin ‘bene’ = ‘well’; ‘dicere’ = ‘to speak’.²

The most common form of the benediction used today which names all three Persons of the Trinity is that in 2 Cor 13:14.

¹⁴ May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Jacob W. Kapp says, ‘From the earliest times the records bear testimony that pronouncing the benediction or giving the blessing was a common practice. In the temple service, this duty was assigned to the Aaronites and was made an impressive part of the service. The form of the benediction used is given in Num 6:22-27.

The benediction is given by the pastor facing the people. The benediction is addressed **to** the people, not to God. Therefore, the pastor and people appropriately look at each other as it is given. For this reason, it is also given from the front, and not the back, of the place of worship.⁴ When an ordained minister is not present at the service (or like on Laity Sunday at TMC), a corporate benediction is said or sung by the entire congregation.

²² *The LORD said to Moses,* ²³ *“Tell Aaron and his sons, ‘This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:*

²⁴ *““The LORD bless you and keep you;*

²⁵ *the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;*

²⁶ *the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.”*

²⁷ *“So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.”*

Since the benediction is a blessing of God’s care, don’t miss out on that blessing by leaving the service early.

Receive the benediction with opened eyes and lifted hands!

Bibliography:

1. “Pocket Dictionary of Liturgy & Worship”, © 2009 Brett Scott Provance
2. Online Etymology Dictionary © 2010 Douglas Harper
3. <http://www.bible-history.com/isbe/B/BENEDICTION/>
4. United Methodist Book of Worship © 1992 The United Methodist Publishing House

‘It was common not only to pronounce the benediction in the public worship but also in the family. We have such instances in Gen 9:26, 27; 27:27-30. This practice prevailed

OTHER BENEDICTIONS FROM THE BIBLE

Jude 24 -25

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 16:24

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

Pastor's prayer for the christmas season

By Rev Dianna Khoo

My prayer is for us to be blessed this Christmas season with Hope, Love, Peace and Joy, ridding each and every heart of grief and distress, loneliness and pain, the sorrows of yesterday and the fears for tomorrow.
Fill us with Hope, as You filled the world with Hope so very long ago.
Fill us with Love, the Spirit of Love that has filled hearths and homes of times gone by.
Grant us Your Peace, the Peace given to us with the birth of the Christ Child.
And may we rest in the Joy of Your everlasting love.
In the precious name of Your Son, we pray,
Amen.

圣诞节的祈祷 邱宜观牧师

我祈求我们在这个圣诞季节里能得着信、爱、平安和喜乐。
让它们驱除我们每一颗心中所充满了的忧伤和压抑、孤独和悲痛，
让它们洗去昨日的忧愁和明日的恐惧。
求祢让我们充满了信心，就如祢在许久以前曾让这个世界充满了信心。
求祢让我们充满了爱心，就是那许久前曾充满过我们心灵和家庭的爱的圣灵，
求祢赐给我们祢的平安，就如那个曾经与基督圣婴一起赐给我们的平安。
求祢让我们在祢永恒的爱所带来的喜乐中安静栖息。
我们祷告是奉基督圣子宝贵圣名祈求的，
阿们。





AND 29 PEOPLE SAID,
 “JUST GOD AND ME”



Two days away from home.

Two days of rest and retreat.

And in those two days, 29 Children’s Ministry (CM) workers “soaked” themselves in God’s presence.

So much so that one was inspired to say: “God showed me that I can rest in Him. At one point when the lights went off on the first day, I felt God’s presence keenly. My mind was emptied of all distractions, worries and anxieties. It was just God and me.”

This weekend retreat for CM workers took place at Batam on 3 to 4 July. It turned out to be a Spirit-filled time of rest, rejuvenation and fellowship together.

“

“I will pray for each individual child in my class during my quiet time because prayers will move God’s Hands”

“I am challenged to ingrain the word of God into the children via exciting and creative ways – make it fun!”

“Words have an impact on lives and I have to be mindful of what I say, especially to the children”

”

Many of us were ministered to and were convicted to re-focus and re-order our priorities. We were reminded always to put God first in our personal lives and many resolved to spend more quality time with God to understand what He is teaching us each day.

God spoke to many of us, telling us not to be self-reliant in our ministry and our lives, but to entrust and lift up to Him all of our problems. We were encouraged when we were reminded that we could also count on the support of our fellow CM workers instead of struggling alone.

The wonderful time of fellowship and sharing led our CM workers to realise the power of prayer. The prayers we lift up to God for the children under our care, be it in class, during our weekly CM prayer sessions, or in our personal time, are very compelling, and we are beginning to see God’s Hands move mightily within CM.

Hallelujah and all glory be to God!

The Children’s Ministry aims to ground each child in the foundations of the Christian faith through Sunday classes for pre-school through to Primary 6 children. Sunday classes are at 0845 and 1115 hrs.

A Generation Tells of His Mighty Acts



A typical sunday - but just one facet - of ministering to youth

connect with one another

We don't just meet on Sundays at 9am in the Upper Room. We're just a call, an SMS text, a Facebook message or an MSN chat away from the youths under our care.

Who are these youths? Anyone (and we mean everybody!) aged 13 to 19. Whether it's your children, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, youths who just stumble into church, or sit alone in the pews, anyone is welcome to join our ministry to YOUTH.

The leaders of TMC's Youth Ministry don't just play games or facilitate bible studies with our youths on Sundays. We are also committed to walking alongside our youths, continually seeking to encourage, assure and affirm them as they grow in their Christian faith - to become men and women after God's heart.

We want to challenge them to accept Christ as their personal saviour, not just their parents' saviour, or a saviour who is distant from them.

We may be young, but we trust in God to perfect the work of our hands as we serve in the ministry. We also trust in Him to renew our strength, refresh our spirits and realign our focus, so that our ministry is always focused on capturing His vision for the youths.

*Cheers from YM,
Timothy Yong (Youth Ministry Lay Executive Staff)
Terri Koh (Youth Ministry Co-ordinator)*



Youth leaders gearing up for a time of games at their retreat

Voices of our youth leaders

We hear the voices of our youth leaders fresh from their recent retreat, from 9 -10 October, at Singapore Vision Farm:

Daniel Gwee

The word "retreat" brings to mind a time spent away from the battlefield to recover, reflect and ready oneself for the next fight. At the 2010 youth leaders' retreat, we did just that. We prayed, planned and just lived as brothers and sisters in ministry together. God spoke, inspired, rebuked us and showed us His direction for the ministry. As the retreat closed, we felt refreshed and united as ministry partners, ready for the ongoing battle."

Dionne Hoe

Spiderman said: "With great power comes great responsibility." My power has nothing to do with sticky webs flying out from my fingers but rather a power of leadership which also entails me to be responsible

not only for others but also myself. Truth be told, sometimes I take my leadership role for granted as I had always thought that older youths would eventually be given leadership roles. But the youth retreat changed my mindset: I must first walk right with God before I can help the younger youths. My leadership role is not played out only on Sundays but throughout the weeks, months and years. As a leader I have also learnt to humble myself because not only do I teach the youths, I am also learning from them.

Shermaine Lim

During the retreat, it was good that we shared things that were personal and intimate to each one of us. Through our sharing of how we have been coping as youth ministry leaders and the ministry as a whole, I believe that the Lord will continue to strengthen and help us as we face obstacles. The youth leaders' retreat has allowed me once again to be grateful for what the Lord has done for me in my life.

DO KEEP PRAYING FOR US!

TMC's Youth Ministry is on cyberspace and Facebook! Check us out at tmcyouthmin.blogspot.com and add us as a friend from the TMC Youth Ministry page on Facebook.

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:9

LEADERS JUST LIKE



PRESENTING...

THE LOCAL CHURCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (LCEC) 2010 / 11

The LCEC has many functions in the local church under the Discipline of the Methodist Church, which governs our principles, practices and procedures. These functions include but are not limited to:

- having oversight of and responsibility for the administration, organization and programme of the church;
- initiating and executing the planning process, establishing objectives, adopting goals and programme plans, authorising action, determining policy, providing ongoing and regular evaluation and review of the mission and ministries of the church;
- making proper and adequate provision for the financial needs of the church etc.

connect with one another

pastors



Rev Dianna Khoo has a menagerie at home, from dogs to guinea pigs. She also plays the flute.

Pastor-in-Charge Chairperson, Nominations

The Nominations Committee (not part of the LCEC) nominates officers and members of the LCEC.

honorary stewards



Fondly known as Uncle Sathia, **Mr P Sathiasingam** got the church premises ready on Sunday mornings after his night shift in the pioneering days of TMC. Since then, he has had an illustrious ministry at TMC and with TRAC. Ask him anything about the history of TMC and be marvelled by his impeccable memory.

Honorary Steward

LCEC officers



Yip Fook Yoon's home-made yam cake is much sought-after in TMC. He also has a soft spot for children.

Lay Leader

Lay Leaders function as the primary lay representative of the laity in the local church.



A former litigation lawyer, **Rev Bernard Chao** is now focussed not on rights but on relationships. He shares a love for kayaking with his wife Ai Jin, and is a certified sailor and archery coach.

Assistant Pastor



Don't let **Mrs Judy Yip's** petite frame fool you – she has a powerful soprano voice.

Honorary Steward



Richard Seng works in the IT industry. He loves his wife and 3 children very much, otherwise, he'd be a race car driver.

Associate Lay Leader

Second Lay Delegate to TRAC

Lay Delegates to the Trinity Annual Conference (TRAC) report to the LCEC on the actions of TRAC, and together with the pastor, interpret the actions of TRAC.



Jack of many hobbies and master of none. You might want to join **Albert Yeo** in running, biking, swimming, cooking, photography and reading.

Associate Leader
Nominations Committee,
Class of 2012



Dr Koh Shu Wen has warmed TMC's pews since 1992 before she was inspired to serve after attending the church camp to Penang in 1996. Back home after being in and out of the country for the last 10 years, Shuwen is excited about serving once again amongst friends and God's family.

Recording Secretary



Sean Say practises law and has the uncanny ability of using 'legalese' in any conversation at any time. He loves coconut ice cream.

Chairperson, Discipleship & Nurture
The Discipleship & Nurture Committee gives attention to lay training, stewardship, and, where applicable, church school and small groups.



Lim Khia Teck has reluctantly handed over command of a Navy Missile Corvette and now drives a desk in Navy HQ.

LCEC Chairperson
The LCEC Chairperson leads the LCEC in fulfilling its responsibilities.

First Lay Delegate to TRAC



Heather Pates runs her own catering business. She never expected her Accounting degree to land her in TMC's finance ministry for so long.

Church Treasurer
The Church Treasurer is responsible for maintaining the financial records of the church, and making financial reports to each LCEC meeting.



Benjamin Goh enjoys reading, learning and teaching, especially in the areas of leadership and management. Somewhat semi-retired, he regularly coaches, and is consulted by, brothers and sisters in emerging economies in their tent-making endeavours.

Chairperson, Finance Committee
The Finance Committee organizes and administers the financial resources of the local church.

Nominations Committee, Class of 2012
Third Lay Delegate to TRAC



These days, **Sharon Lim-Ang's** preoccupation is with talent development - both at the workplace where she is involved in human resource policies, and at home where she is learning how to nurture her two little 'princesses'.

Recording Secretary
Keeps an accurate record of the LCEC meetings.



Dr Khor Tong Hong is an avid contributor to the Volkswagen forum when he rests from caring for cancer patients. He is an occasional soloist at the 8.45 am service.

Chairperson, Church Governance
The Church Governance Committee ensures that the church complies with the requirements of the Code of Governance for Charities and Institutions of a Public Character issued by the Charity Council in 2007.



Andy Chew is a diehard Liverpool FC fan. During football season, you'll hear his roar of "Goal!" as he cheers his team to victory in the wee hours of the morning.

Chairperson, Missions
The Missions Committee seeks to raise awareness about how worshippers can be involved in world evangelization, adopting unreached people groups and other missions-related concerns. Nominations Committee, Class of 2013



Paul Ng runs a family-owned business. He is a true-blue Singaporean and is proud of his humble origins from the Hingwa community. His indulgences include spicy food and being a doting grandfather.

Chairperson, Outreach & Social Concerns
The Outreach & Social Concerns Committee drives TMC's efforts to give attention to the social, financial, educational and spiritual needs of people in society such as needy families, underprivileged children and the mentally ill.



Although a banker, **Woon-Chew Kim Ling** prefers people (especially children) to numbers. She and her husband Tai Keat enjoy travelling and have a shared passion for golf and scuba diving.

TMC Kindergarten Management Coordinator, Children's Ministry
The Children's Ministry aims to ground each child in the foundations of the Christian faith through Sunday classes for pre-school through to Primary 6 children.



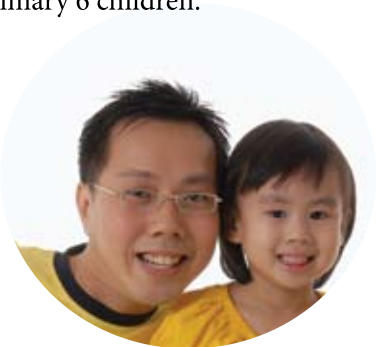
Tricia Tong is an accidental lawyer. She much prefers not to talk, travelling and photography especially of UNESCO sites. One day, she will visit Table Mountain in South Africa.

Coordinator, Communications
The Communications Committee advises and assists committees and organisations of the church with their communications, and helps to accomplish effective communications throughout the congregation.



Where **Gary Low** is, there will never be a lack of food. Gary runs his own audio-visual business and knows where all the good eateries are.

Chairperson, Property Management Committee
The Property Management Committee manages, supervises, oversees, cares for, maintains and repairs all property of the church.



Adrian Cheong loves to pick up his guitar and play a song or two, singing or praying to the Lord.

Chairperson, Worship & Music
The Worship and Music Committee assists and enables worshippers to understand the meaning, purposes and practices of worship.



Dr Hum Sin Hoon is a professor who feels young everyday because of his many young undergraduate students. The old professor also loves to jog because running helps him feel young and allows him the solitude before his God.

Coordinator, Hospitality
The Hospitality Ministry seeks to provide a welcoming engagement with first-time visitors to the church, and helps regular visitors integrate into our fellowship and ministries.



Violet Khor is a retired Principal. Although senior in age, she is still a child of God, learning and receiving guidance from Him every day. Likes to play a round of golf and loves plants and nature.

Chairperson, Witness & Evangelism
The Witness & Evangelism Committee works to make evangelism an ongoing priority ministry of TMC to win people to a profession or a renewal of faith in Jesus Christ.



Victor Seah enjoys photography and working with senior adults, helping in their various activities. He helps out regularly at Ling Kwang Home.

Church Archivist
The Church Archivist keeps historical records up to date, preserves local church records and historical materials.



Joycelyn Tan enjoys travelling, swimming and times for quiet reflections.

Coordinator, Mandarin Service
The Mandarin Service is held at 11am in the Sanctuary on level 1. It encourages worshippers to bring their loved ones, relatives and friends who are Mandarin-speaking and wish to know more about Jesus Christ.



Tan Seng Hee is glad that he now travels less for work, enabling him to spend more time at home with his family. Encouraged by his wife, Agnes, he is enrolled in the BSF programme and finds the studies informative and thought-provoking.

**Coordinator,
Prayer & Intercession**

The Prayer & Intercession Ministry rallies the church to pray for both corporate and individual needs.



While she's not busy fending off "terri"ble nicknames, **Terri Koh** is perpetually plugged into her ipod, planning dream vacations in her head, facebooking, reading and eating. She is part-time lawyer, full-time youth.

Coordinator, Youth Ministry (YM)
YM's vision is to see TMC youth grow into God-loving disciples who carry on the disciple-making process. The Youth Ministry meets for lessons and workshops as well as games and activities. They also join small groups for bible study and sharing.



Don't be taken in by **Lim Choo Siang's** svelte frame – according to his wife, he gets hungry once in every 2 hours.

**Captain,
47th Company, Boys' Brigade**
The Boys' Brigade 47th Company is a joint effort between Serangoon Garden Secondary School, the Boys' Brigade and volunteers from TMC to teach and train boys into Christian manhood.



Wee Eng Hock is known for his green fingers and the lovely landscaping in TMC is largely his doing.

Coordinator, Seniors' Ministry
The Seniors' Ministry encourages caring, sharing and mutual support among seniors so that all may grow in spiritual maturity together.



Patricia Yong works in the lift industry, and having raised 4 children to adult age, she now enjoys seeing her little nursery bloom and grow.

President, Women's Society of Christian Service (WSCS)
The WSCS aims to help women grow in their knowledge and experience of God, as well as challenges them to respond to God's love in various forms of ministry.

pastor parish relations and staff committee (pprsc)



William Goh can sing Teochew opera...and it sounds absolutely authentic.

**Chairperson,
Pastor Parish Relations and Staff Committee (PPRSC)**
The PPRSC looks after all matters with regard to the appointment of pastors and staff. It is not part of the LCEC.



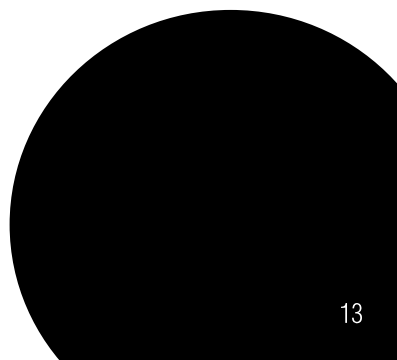
Colin Yip enjoys playing the guitar and tennis (not both at the same time) but, these days, his time is taken up with his young daughter, Colette.

**Coordinator,
Small Group Ministry**
The Small Group Committee coordinates the small group programme and structure, and promotes small group ministry amongst all worshippers for spiritual growth and nourishment.



Lee Hui Ling is a school teacher who loves cats. She tries to swim as often as possible – once a week ... or once a month.

**Captain,
55th Company, Girls' Brigade**
The Girls' Brigade 55th Company is a joint effort between Serangoon Garden Secondary School, the Girls' Brigade and volunteers from TMC to teach and train girls into Christian womanhood.



WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEBSITE

by the Communications Committee

"Oh where, oh where has my bulletin gone?
Oh where, oh where can it be?"

Want to sign up for that "Connect with God" course but misplaced your church bulletin?

Travelling again on business but wish you had the bulletin to keep in touch with what's happened / happening on Sunday?

The church bulletin for each Sunday is uploaded onto the church website every prior Thursday, and can be found on the church website on various pages -

the Home Page in the Quick Links section (www.tmc.org.sg)

the Service Timings page (<http://www.tmc.org.sg/timings.html>)

the Worship & Music page (<http://www.tmc.org.sg/worshipandmusic.html>)

So there's no need to fret if you're missing your church bulletin with its treasure trove of important information.

Just get onto the internet and click away.

By the way, the church website is itself a cache of information for you to keep in touch with the ministry of TMC. Bookmark it as a favourite today!



A Cambodian family listening to the TWR broadcast via their communal family radio



CM children writing letters to their Khmer peers

connect with others

God's Word through a Transistor Radio

TMC Children's Ministry in partnership with Trans World Radio



by Sunitha Jayaram

At TMC on Sundays, our adult congregation hears the Word of God from the pulpit, and our children hear His Word through the Children's Ministry (CM) teachers.

But for some Cambodian families, the Word of God comes through a different medium— radios that broadcast Christian teachings via local stations in Cambodia.

Such an innovative twist to missions can be traced back to Trans World Radio (TWR), which uses the mass media to reach the world for Christ.

CM is honoured to be in partnership with TWR in this novel method of discipling the Khmer Christians, especially in the provinces.

For five Sundays from September to November, CM invited Mrs Blossom Phillips from TWR to conduct a series of teachings on missions for our children.

Our children have been encouraged to put aside savings from their daily pocket money into containers which they have made. The funds raised will be used to purchase radios which cost about S\$35 each for Cambodian families. The radios will give these families the chance to listen to the Christian teachings from TWR local stations.

Currently, more than 30 children can be found huddled together around one radio, not unlike 1930s Singapore when several Singaporean families would strain to hear what was emitting from Radio Singapura then.

The Khmer children listening to the radio programmes write letters to TWR in Cambodia who reply to the children's questions. TWR also translates letters from overseas correspondents into the Khmer language and vice versa so that children from different nations can communicate with each other.

Although the postal system is not very efficient, more than 1,000 listener letters arrive at the TWR office every month.

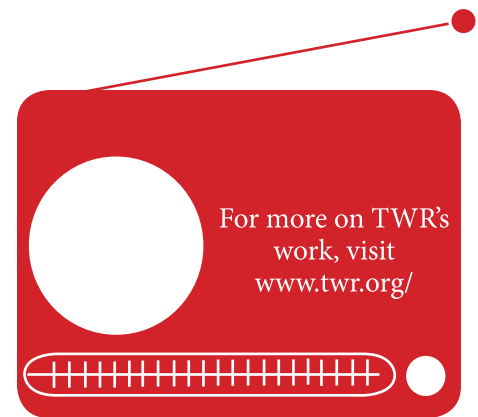
With guidance from Blossom and TWR in Cambodia, our children have started writing letters to their peers in Cambodia to express their prayers

for the physical and spiritual needs of the Khmer children. You can imagine how radical it is for Singapore children of the 21st century IT age to have a traditional pen pal.

CM hopes to take our children to Cambodia for next year's CM Mission Trip to meet their pen pals.

We are grateful to all who have made this "Connection with Others" possible – Mrs Blossom Phillips, TWR, Missions Ministry, CM workers, our children and parents.

Most important of all, we thank God for His provision and guidance, and look forward to more of these partnerships for His Kingdom's Glory!



For more on TWR's work, visit www.twr.org/

Reaching Out

to the Elderly in our Midst

The opening of St Luke's Eldercare Centre (Serangoon)



Under the tentage, a gentle breeze lulled the hundred-odd audience into a celebratory mood.

A choir from TMC performed two songs in Chinese, singing first of love, taken from 1 Corthinians 13:4-7, and the second, of friendship. This was an apt prelude to the official opening of St Luke's Eldercare Centre (SLEC) Serangoon where TMC members volunteer as befrienders.

The ceremony, which took place on 24 July, was graced by Mrs Lim Hwee Hua, Minister, in the Prime Minister's Office and Member of Parliament for Aljunied GRC, where SLEC Serangoon is located.

SLEC Chairman Prof Lee Hin Peng spoke of the initial planning for SLEC Serangoon, a project that had begun in 2008. Not long after, plans were held back temporarily with a review in government policy. The rethink was however not a set-back but a push for not one, but three new eldercare centres to spring up, with SLEC Serangoon being the first of these three.

Mrs Lim was instrumental in setting up the centre with her choice and offer of location, along with the support of Trinity Methodist Church and Bless Community Services of Yio Chu Kang Chapel.



21 TMC members of the choir that performed at the SLEC opening.



Cyclists from Charity Bike 'n' Blade (Charity BnB)

Trinity Methodist Church's Links with St Luke's Eldercare Centre – Serangoon

Who's our main representative at SLEC Serangoon?

Mr Robert Yeo. He has been faithfully attending the fundraising committee meetings.

Did help raise funds to set up SLEC Serangoon?

Yes, through a golf tournament at Tanah Merah Country Club in January that raised \$59,000. This was the essential seed fund to set up and renovate the centre.

Also, the Charity Bike 'n' Blade (Charity B nB), chaired this year by Mr Albert Yeo from TMC.. A yearly event that aims to raise money for society's underprivileged, this year's Charity B n B was held in September and SLEC Serangoon was the beneficiary.

Covering some 320km, cyclists endured a grueling hilly ride from the Malaysian towns of Kota Tinggi to Kuala Rompin and back. Well before the race, over \$325,000 had already been collected for SLEC Serangoon. The amount raised goes towards the operating expenses of the Centre for the next three years.

How will we be participating in SLEC?

Subsequently, TMC will participate in SLEC's Centre Advisory Council to oversee the operations of the centre, work with Bless Community Services in promoting the services and recruitment of volunteers and help in the running of programmes and funding.

TMC will also provide for the spiritual, social and rehabilitation needs of the elderly who use the centre. The last TMC/SLEC meeting appointed Mr Robert Yeo and Mr Eric Cheong to sit in this council.

“TMC is involved in SLEC because it gives us an opportunity to work together with another church, Yio Chu Kang Chapel, and partner the community in a meaningful outreach to people as elderly folk require companionship and care. SLEC Serangoon is a day-care facility in the proximity of our church and our volunteers can easily contribute to their needs and not just in preaching the word of God. Also a few of our TMC members use the on-site gym facilities as SLEC Serangoon also makes available its services to those over 40 years.”
Rev Dianna Khoo, TMC Pastor-in-charge

Devotion Service and Visitation:

How else is TMC helping at SLEC Serangoon now?

Our volunteers participate actively in leading songs, providing music, prayers and sharing testimonies and messages every last Thursday of the month.

TMC befrienders cannot always offer solutions for the problems they are presented with by SLEC's clients. But as pastoral care givers, being good listeners with a compassionate heart, empathy and patience, makes all the difference.

Just by being present and engaging SLEC's clients in their own language, volunteers are able to hear hidden words that are often unspoken. Pastoral conversations involve active listening and reflecting back on personal feelings as well as understanding what state the clients are in.

For those who are unable to speak or hear due to one reason or another, the “ministry of silence” is introduced whereby spending time, holding the client's hand and praying for them are essential care aspects.

Have we grown through our service at SLEC Serangoon?

Definitely! Our ministry there has enabled our English and Chinese speaking members to work together as close associates in harmony and complementing one another as a body of Christ. The team is very highly-spirited and even volunteer to come together to pray and to learn singing Christian songs in various Chinese dialects.



About Saint Luke's Eldercare Centre

Who's behind it?

A collaboration between the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports, the National Council for Social Service, the Serangoon Citizen's Consultative Committee, Bless Community Services and Trinity Methodist Church.

When was it opened?

1 April 2010

What goes on there?

A range of activities and programmes that encompass the pursuit of healthy lifestyle through holistic care - physically, mentally, emotionally, spiritually and socially - in its pursuit to ensure and promote successful and active ageing. This is found in the Active Rehabilitation and Wellness Programmes offered at the centre.

What's Active Rehabilitation?

It is a specialized and customized intensive rehabilitation for clients who wish to maintain, restore and maximize their functional ability. This is particularly beneficial to help clients delay the deterioration of their bodies due to ageing and disease. A physiotherapist is on hand to assess the capability of each client, followed by scheduled session of physical therapy either with the physiotherapist or therapy assistants. This is especially helpful for clients who have suffered a stroke, Parkinson's disease, spinal cord injury, have musculoskeletal problems such as arthritic pain and post-operation rehabilitation.

What's the Wellness Programme about?

It promotes activities that help prepare for active and successful ageing. The gym is specially designed with the senior population and those above 40 in the community in mind. It includes supervised exercise sessions, health checks and fitness assessments, monitored progress and achievements by a physiotherapy team and regular health talks and screenings.

Who goes there every day?

32 day care, 29 active rehabilitation clients and close to 130 members are registered in the Wellness Programme currently. But the centre has the capacity to serve about 70 day-care and active rehabilitation clients and 100 wellness clients daily.

TMC visits SLEC every last Thursday of the month. If you would like to serve with TMC's ministry at SLEC, please contact Eric Cheong at eric@tmc.org.sg / 6282 4443.

Who rocks?

ENOCH

2 Grammy Nominations
Unique Multimedia Experience

Live at

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

Christmas Day

25 December 2010

8.45 am / 11.15 am

34 Serangoon Garden Way

Singapore 555940

Tel: 6282 4443

www.tmc.org.sg

You can't get enough of **ENOCH** this Christmas!

connect with others

Enoch Fernando has an unique style of Christian music. His concerts are an emotional, soothing, moving experience of sound and video and include popular songs of praise along with original contemporary compositions and arrangements.

Invite your friends and family to experience Christmas joy with Enoch by sending them an e-invitation card or pick up some cards from the magazine racks on Sunday.

TWO GRAMMY NOMINATIONS

MULTIMEDIA VIDEO

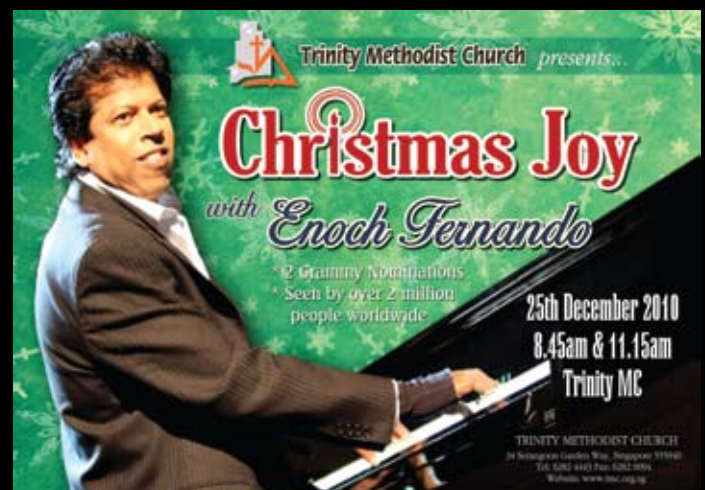
INSPIRING TESTIMONY

BREATHTAKINGLY RICH ORCHESTRATIONS

4,000 CONCERTS IN OVER 50 COUNTRIES

SEEN BY 2 MILLION PEOPLE

ADMISSION FREE



EVENTS

Connect with God

25 December

8:45 & 11:15 Christmas Day Services
(see page 19)

Baptism of Infants & Children

31 December

New Year's Eve / Covenant Renewal Service

Connect with One Another

1-4 December

Youth Camp

11 December

Seniors' Ministry Christmas Celebration

12 December

Reception of New Members

18 December

YM Christmas Party (pm)

31 December

Watchnight Service Porridge Supper

Connect with Others

1 December

Yum Cha

2-6 December

Mission Trip to Cambodia

7-11 December

Children's Ministry Cambodia Missions Trip

7-13 December

Youth Ministry Cambodia Missions Trip

18 December

Contact 123 Christmas Programme (2-4pm)

30 December

St Luke's ElderCare Visitation & Devotion

SERVICES REQUIRED

TREASURE HUNT

Anyone who would like to help preserve the treasured memories of our church, please contact Victor at 9619-6176 / vseah@singnet.com.sg.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

The Communications Committee still requires photographers to serve once a month. Please email tmccomms@gmail.com if you are a shutterbug.

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

If you have a gift of graphic design and are proficient in InDesign or equivalent software, please email tmccomms@gmail.com to exercise your gifts which are sorely in demand.

TEACH

The Children's Ministry (CM) is looking for Small Groups which can volunteer to teach children during the Christmas period so that the CM teachers can take a rest. Contact Alice at alice@tmc.org.sg if you are able to help.

CONTACT 123 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Contact 123 welcomes any small group that can volunteer to organize and run a Christmas Party on Saturday, 18th December from 2 to 4 pm. Contact Eric at eric@tmc.org.sg if you want to bring some joy to the Centre.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS TO NEEDY

The Outreach & Social Concerns Committee needs help from anyone who can help collect, pack and deliver Christmas Hampers to the Needy.

20th Nov

Collect groceries from Sheng Siong Supermarket.

27th Nov

Pack hampers.

28th Nov onwards

Deliver hampers to Needy.

Contact Eric at eric@tmc.org.sg if you are able to deliver good cheer.

ANGEL TREE HAMPERS FOR PRISONERS' FAMILIES

Collect and distribute hampers to 8 prisoners' families from 1st December 2010. Contact Eric at eric@tmc.org.sg if you are able to be a Delivery Angel.

CAROLLING

SGs can also go carolling to shut-in members or pre-believers homes. Contact Dawn at dawn@tmc.org.sg for a list of shut-ins you can visit.

CREDITS

Editorial Committee

Rev Dianna Khoo
Rev Bernard Chao
Amanda Yong
Tricia Tong

Translator

Mavis Kuah

Designer

Noelle Yong

Photographers

Andy Chew
Chew Kim Ling
Jason Tang
Raymond Seah
Sean Chia
Valerie Tang

Stock Photography

<http://sxc.hu>

Printer

Lithographic Print House Pte Ltd

Trinity Methodist Church

34 Serangoon Garden Way Singapore 555940

T: 6282 4443

F: 6282 0094

E: churchoffice@tmc.org.sg

www.tmc.org.sg