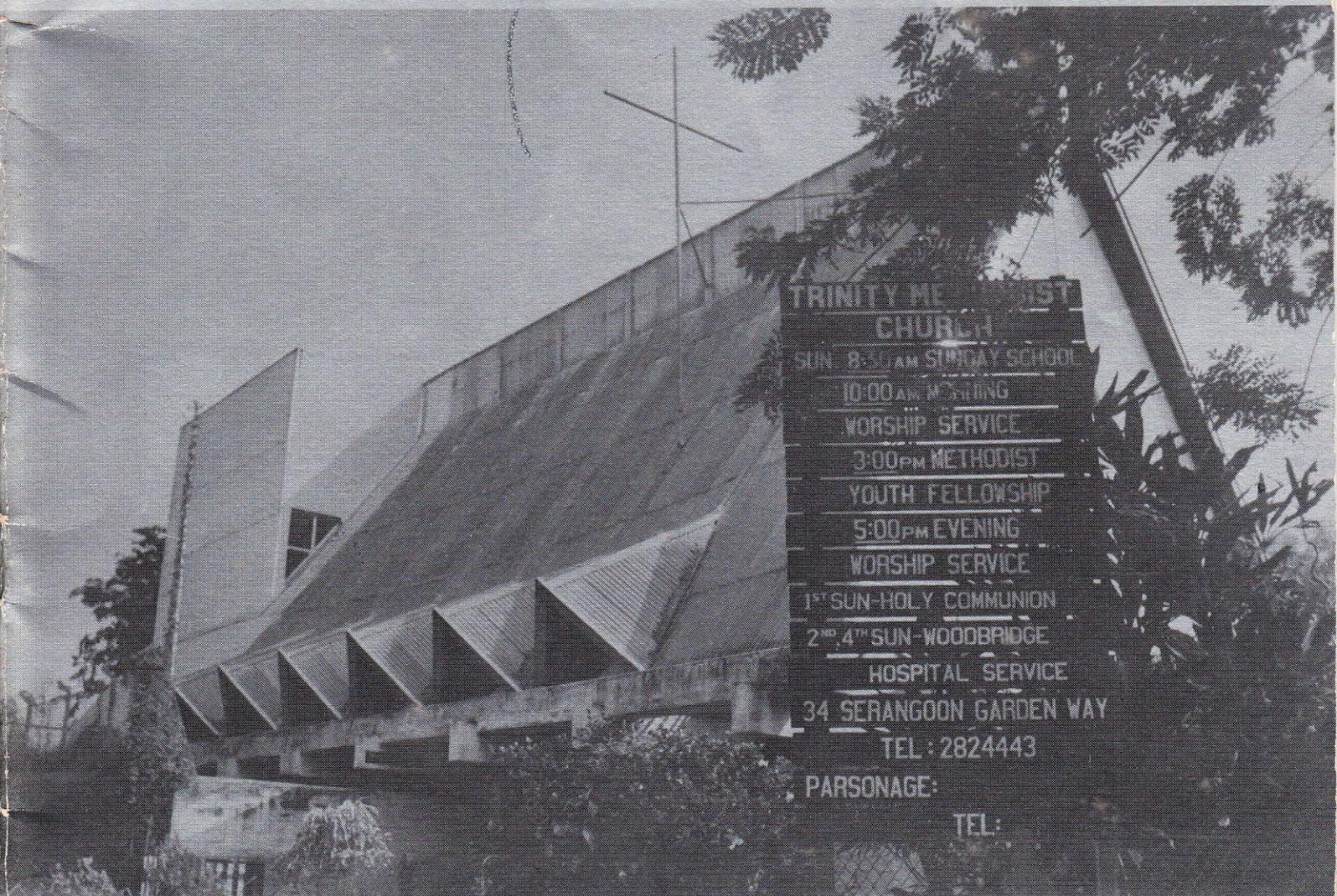


TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

SILVER JUBILEE 1957-1982



25 th Church Anniversary

Dinner Programme

1. *Sing-a-long*
2. *Words of Welcome and Introductory Remarks-*
Mr Daniel Gwee - L C E C Chairman
3. *Grace Before Dinner - Bishop Kao*
4. *Cutting of the Anniversary Cake - Rev. Dr. Olin Stockwell*
5. *Dinner*
6. *Musical Items -*
 - (a) *Solo - Mrs Judy Yip*
 - (b) *Oboe Solo - Miss Selena Lai*
 - (c) *Duet - Mrs Daisy Lai and Dr Khor Tong Hong*
7. *A Sketch - Sunday School*
8. *Film Slide Presentation - Mr P. Sathiasingam*
9. *Closing Prayer and Benediction - Pastor Daniel Kob*

11th Sept. 1982



Foreward

This year Trinity Methodist Church is celebrating its Silver Jubilee. It was 25 years ago that a group of dedicated and God fearing young Christians had the vision that the 'good news' should be brought to the then 'new housing estate of Serangoon Gardens'.

Since then, God has richly blessed the church which grew from its humble beginnings at Cowdray Avenue to the present Trinity Methodist Church with a membership of 426.

However, let us be reminded of what the Apostle, Paul said in Philippians 3: 10-14 '... that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings being conformed to His death in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect but I press on in order that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet, but one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead. I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.' and in 1 Corinthians 12 :12-13 "For even as the body is one and yet has many members and all the members of the body, though they are many are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body." and in 1 Corinthians 12: 26-28 "And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it, if one member is honoured all the members rejoice with it. Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the Church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kind of tongues."

As a member of Trinity Methodist Church each and every one of us is chosen by God and God has a purpose in placing us where we are. And if God has planned it and has a purpose by placing us in Trinity Methodist Church, have we fulfilled the 'role' God has for us?

Are we "all the members of the body, so also is Christ"? Are we pressing on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Jesus Christ"?

For the past year or so there are signs of revival in the Church. Several small groups are in existence for fellowship, bible study and prayers. As more members get excited with the small group ministry, more small groups are envisaged.

God is faithful and just and if we walk right with God, He will surely bless us and the Church richly. To God Be The Glory.

Yours in His Service

THAM YEW KEE



Message

It gives me great pleasure to be invited to write a few words in this special souvenir publication to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Trinity Methodist Church. On behalf of the Methodist Church in Singapore, I convey warmest greetings and congratulations.

The very name of this Church reminds us that the All Powerful and Almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is the Head of the Church; the Church is the Body and the believers are the Members of the Body. When the different parts are functioning properly, with mutual love and assistance, the body can grow and develop, until it achieves the fullness of the stature of Jesus Christ. All who are called of God, who are redeemed by Jesus and who have been born again by the Holy Spirit are all members of His Body without regard to location, race, nationality, or whether they are rich or poor, intelligent or dull, male or female, old or young. If they are "of one accord", "of one mind" in Christ, then the Church can be revived.

The Spirit has been active in the Trinity Methodist Church over the past 25 years. The pastors have served faithfully and preached the Gospel courageously. The lay people have given their time, their talents and their means in the service of the Lord. He has blessed them and prospered this Church. We remember their labour of love and we remember the bounteous mercies of the Lord. We give thanks for the past and look forward to the future in the strong confidence of God's continued provision for all our needs.

May God continue to bless this ministry.

BISHOP KAO JIH CHUNG



Message

In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, I bring you greetings from the congregations of the Trinity Annual Conference, Singapore.

Dear Members & Friends:

As we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Trinity Methodist Church let us, first of all, praise and thank God for His guidance and blessing upon the Congregation in the past years; and pray that He will continue to inspire and help all of us to do what He wants us, and not what we want, to do for His Church in the days ahead.

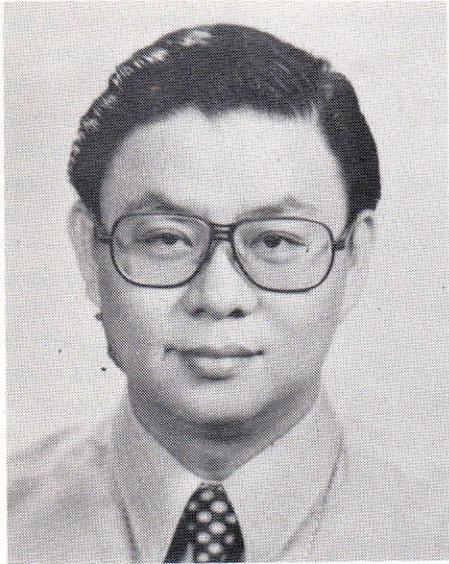
Let us also place on record our gratitude to all who had laboured faithfully in helping to build up the Trinity Methodist Church in the past 25 years; and express our sincere appreciation to all who are serving the Church today with zeal and zest.

On behalf of Trinity Annual Conference of the Methodist Church in Singapore, may I say a big "THANK YOU" to the Trinity Methodist Church for the co-operation and support given to our Conference since its birth in December, 1976.

Lastly, I want to thank the Anniversary Celebration Committee for inviting me to write this brief message for the souvenir publication.

May God continue to bless you and your efforts in helping to establish His kingdom here on earth and bringing others to His fold.

REV. T.C. NGA
President
Trinity Annual Conference of
The Methodist Church in Singapore



Message

Dear Members and Friends of Trinity,

May I congratulate you on your 25th Church Anniversary.

Through the Cross Christ has been exalted and has become the irresistible light of the world - the greatest draw in history! He gave God the glory and so God has glorified him. In glory He awaits us (the church). Go for the glory! Become his faithful servant. Share in his self-sacrifice and you will share in his glory.

May God continue to bless the ministry of Trinity as his people (the Church) make the gospel live in the practice of daily living.

Shalom!

MICHAEL C.W. WONG
D.S. - East S'pore



Message

We have reached an important milestone in the history of our church when we celebrate her Twenty-fifth Anniversary this year. I am personally not quite sure how we have come to see the twenty-fifth year as an occasion which calls for special celebration. What I do know is that Jubilee Year has its roots in the Old Testament. It originally refers to the fiftieth year and it reflects God's unfailing interest in justice and the welfare of the poor. Among other things, in the year of Jubilee, properties which were acquired by the rich were returned to the original owners, the poor would be cared for by the rich and slaves would be released and granted freedom (Leviticus 25:8-55). These Mosaic laws governing the celebration of Jubilee Year were given to emphasise that the ultimate ownership of land, properties and everything which we have really belong to God. The laws were given to encourage God's people to take seriously the proclamation and practice of justice and righteousness.

We may not celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of our church. Not yet anyway. But since it is a "Jubilee" celebration, albeit minus twenty-five years, I see no reason why we should not remind ourselves of God's concern for justice and commitment to the welfare of the poor.

Jubilee celebration is meant for all God's people regardless of talents, socio-economic status and the colour of our skin. Let us rejoice together as members of God's universal family placed in Trinity Methodist Church. At the same time, be thankful that God is the owner of our church sanctuary, our properties, our jobs, our bank accounts and all that we have. They are handed to us as a trust from Him for us to bring glory and honour to His Name.

Looking back, we want to thank God for the faithfulness of the pioneers of this church. Their vision, sacrifice and perseverance in both good times and rough times ensured that this church is built on firm foundation. We do well to develop and expand on what they have left with us, a growing church. With God as our guide, we shall strive to reach greater heights in the years to come.

As our church move towards the end of this century, we will have to face new challenges. People whom we want to reach for Christ will be better educated and more sophisticated in their outlook of life. We have to meet the challenge posed by an increasingly over-whelming technological era of computers and space-age communication systems. We have to provide a credible ministry to a people who are getting seduced by affluence and extravagant lifestyles.

Outside the church, the government and the business world have taken the lead in attracting capable and highly qualified men and women to assume positions of leadership. They have been calling for greater commitment to work, skill development, and higher rate of productivity. They are quite relentless in their pursuit of excellence and high calibre leadership. We abdicate our responsibility if we fail to give God our best. We forfeit our credibility if we court mediocrity in our approach to God's work both within and outside the Church. God calls the best from us in our commitment and contribution. We cannot afford to give less.

This Jubilee gives many reasons for us to rejoice and be thankful. It also challenges us to reaffirm our commitment to God and His on-going mission.

With you in His Service

PASTOR DANIEL KOH KAH SOON



Message

Twenty-five years have passed so quickly, and today, by God's grace, we are able to celebrate our twenty-fifth anniversary.

We have come along way since then. In those twenty-five years, we have seen a lot of change in our community. Serangoon Garden Estate is now surrounded by a large HDB estate. What tremendous opportunities lie in wait for us in this estate!

The progress of our Church is in no small measure due to the dedicated work and sacrifice of many of our earlier pastors and lay members. I wish to recall the names of a few people who played an important role in the growth of our Church. They are Mr. Andrew Lee, Mr. Lam Yet Seng Mr. Choo Poh Siong and Rev. & Mrs. Chew Hock Hin. Although they have gone to be with the Lord, we shall always remember them fondly.

At this time, we are going ahead with the extension of our Church building to meet our growing needs. With the tremendous opportunities that confront us in our community, a further expansion will surely be necessary. I am sure the Lord will give us the strength to meet that challenge when it comes.

I consider it a privilege to serve you as your chairman in this our twenty-fifth year. May I extend my sincere appreciation to the organisers of our twenty-fifth anniversary celebration and to you members of the church for your support.

"Since we have a kingdom nothing can destroy, let us please God by serving him with thankful hearts, and with holy fear and awe."

Hebrews 12 : 28 (TLB)

DANIEL GWEE
Chairman,
Local Conference Executive Committee



Message

We send you our warm congratulations for your twenty-five years of Christian witness. Our prayers and good wishes are with you as you enter upon another quarter of a century of growth and achievement.

You began as the early church did in Biblical times, as a church in a house (Rom 16.5; Col 4.15). You grew by the warmth of your fellowship, by the certainty of your faith in the living Christ, and by your faithfulness to the task of making your love real in Christ-like service. Now we bid you to press on to the new achievements of Christian witness in the sure knowledge that He who has been your life in days gone by will be your strength in the days to come.

**Esther and Olin Stockwell
July, 1982 - Denver, Colo.**



Message

Congratulations on your Silver Jubilee! How we wish we had been able to celebrate it with you, for Eileen and I have many happy memories of the earliest days.

My first is from 1955 - an open-air witness, surrounded by builders' rubble, somewhere near where the 'Chomp-Chomp' now stands (if it still does!). The late Andrew Lee, then a fairly recent new resident in Cowdray Avenue and for so long the founder-spirit of the venture; Jimmy Martin, a British businessman later to resign and become a Methodist minister; and the lovely voice of Leila Havelock rising above the noise of the traffic.

Then the first services, sitting on the chairs and floor at No. 85, overflowing sometimes into the kitchen for lack of space elsewhere; the visit of the D.S., Rev Ayaduray, to constitute a new church; Kenneth and Daisy Chellappah lodging in the estate to exercise a part-time ministry while still studying at Trinity; the growing Sunday School, with its departments spread along Cowdray Avenue; deep, urgent planning for the future round the kitchen table; visions and dreams.

I remember the welcome, generous offer from St Peter's for the use of their sanctuary for worship on Sundays, the happy procession of palm-waving children from Cowdray Avenue to the church on Palm Sunday, and the bold adventure, under Olin Stockwell's encouragement, of buying the site at the corner of Lichfield Road for future development. Should we build a hall and classrooms that could be used by the whole community, while continuing to use St Peter's for worship? Or should we plan a church building of our own? The debate was long and serious, but the decision eventually clear-cut.

I recall the energetic, back-breaking toil of clearing the levelled site for the first great Food Fair and Fete - the crowds, the sweat, Wong Yuk Lun taking photographs of friends in the company of the great toy bear borrowed for the occasion from C.K. Tang, and the delight and stimulus that the success of the day brought to us.

Then, at last, the solemn breaking of the ground for the new building; the laying of the foundations (was it really going to be so small?); the raising of the tent-like roof (symbol of a pilgrim people) and the first, candle-lit Watchnight service in the uncompleted building - and, at last, the thrill of being able to share, with Eileen, in the opening ceremony, the fulfilment of the dreams and faith of so many!

Later we were to have the privilege of five happy years of service, in partnership with such great spirits, now in glory, as the late Uncle and Auntie Lam, the late Uncle Andrew, and the quietly faithful late Choo Poh Siong; working, in his closing, fruitful years with the late Rev Chew Hock Hin, that much-loved father-in-God to so many. But the memory of those first infant years, and the long line of people who shared them - Larry Cheah and Trinity students, Mo Chi and Peter Lee, and some of those who still play their active part in the leadership at Trinity (the founding Fathers and Mothers, as I like to think of them) - is especially vivid and precious, and brings great joy to me as I write. "I thank God for every remembrance" of you all.

May God continue to bless Trinity Methodist Church and use it as His witness and servant for many years to come!

CHRISTOPHER SMITH
With Eileen, David, Richard & Cathy

HISTORY OF TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH, SINGAPORE

The Early Years

Late 1956, while Serangoon Garden Estate was still under construction, a small group of young married couples, most of them members of Wesley Homemakers Group, who had taken residence in the Estate, first began to envisage a Methodist Church to serve the growing population in the Estate.

With nothing but faith in the Lord, the group held its first meeting on 9th March 1957, before which the intention of the group was considered at the Malaya Annual Conference, held in December 1956 at Ipoh and the appointment of



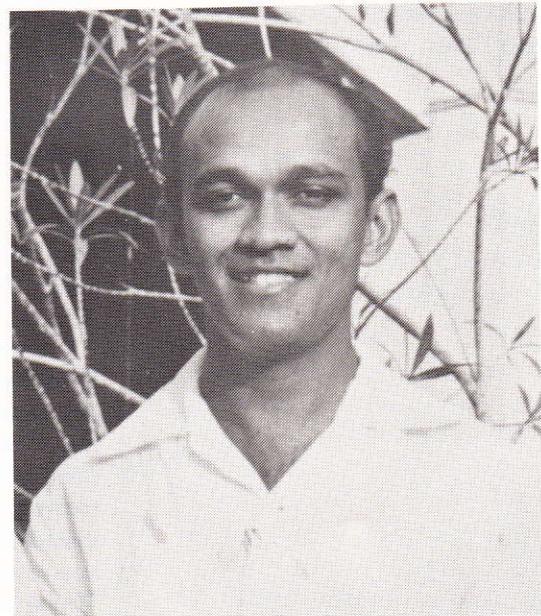
Mr. Syn Wai Yin, a senior student at Trinity College, was announced to begin Methodist work in Serangoon Gardens. Dr. F. Olin Stockwell, lecturer at Trinity College, took personal interest in the work of the Trinity Student and helped and gave directions to the group in their effort towards establishing the Methodist Church.

The first Sunday service was conducted by Mr. Syn Wai Yin at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Tong Kum Toh 85, Cowdray Avenue on 17th March 1957. The first Sunday School class started on May 5th at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Tan Hoay Gie, 15 Huddington Avenue, later transferred to 75, 85 to 91 Cowdray Avenue with Mrs. Nancy Lee appointed the Sun-

day School superintendent. Miss H. Desjardins, a lecturer at Trinity College was adviser and provider of materials for the Sunday School.

On 17th July 1957 discussion between Methodist and Anglican leaders on co-operation, recognised the immediate need to build up the congregational life of the Methodist Church and St. Peter's Church. This led to the use of the St. Peter's Church and on 24th November 1957 the first Methodist service was held at 4.30 p.m. We enjoyed the most friendly relationship with our Anglican brethren from the very early days and was fortunate to be allowed to use their premises, not only for services, but also for other functions until in February 1963 when we finally moved into our own building.

On 25th November 1957, at the first Quarterly Conference, Methodist Church Serangoon Gardens was officially constituted as part of the Malaya Annual Conference, Singapore District. Rev. Syn Wai Yin, who had been ordained, left us for further studies in the United States.



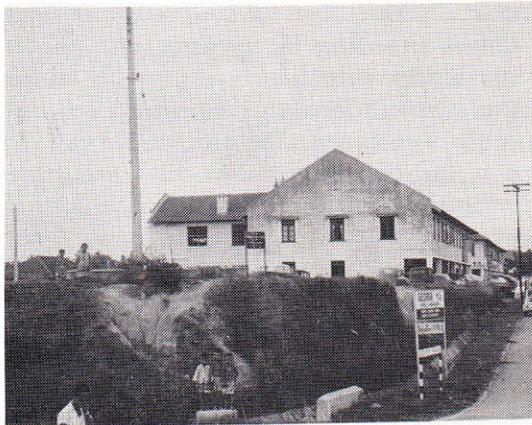
Mr. Kenneth Chellappah also a student pastor succeeded Rev. Syn in December 1957 with Dr. F. Olin Stockwell as Associate Pastor and Mr. Denis C. Dutton as Student Assistant.

On 4th March 1958, the Women's Society of Christian Service was inaugurated with Mrs. Daisy Chellappah as its first President.

Plans for the New Building

On 9th March 1958, Mr. Tong Kum Toh was elected by Quarterly Conference as Chairman of the Church Building Fund Committee.

At the end of 1958, with only a membership of 28, the infant church took a bold step and purchased this site at a cost of \$60,000 for a church and parsonage. Under the energetic leadership of the late Mr. Andrew Lee, the first lay Chairman of the Official Board, Mr. Tong Kum Toh and his Building Fund Committee worked very hard on the project. The Trustees of the Methodist Church relaxed the stringent conditions on granting of Loans to new churches, provided the entire amount for the purchase of the land with the Official Board guaranteeing the repayment.



The Church Site

The first \$2,500 was raised at a Church Fair held in pouring rain at St. Peter's Church on October 31st 1959. Wesley Methodist Church gave us their firm support and Rev. Craig S. Wilder their pastor personally made an appeal to the First Methodist Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan, where US\$5,000 was raised for the fund. In December 1959 Mr. Larry Cheah Chee Yoon was appointed pastor and Rev. Christopher Smith (Methodist Church of Great Britain, lecturer at Trinity College) as Associate Pastor. On Easter Day 1960 our own members pledged \$11,000 towards the fund and by September we were in a position to engage Mr. William Lim of Malayan Architects Co-partnership to prepare the plans for the building.

In July 1960, the Trinity M.Y.F. was formed with Miss Lucy Lau as its first President. In December 1960, Christopher H. Smith was appointed pastor by Annual Conference with Mr. Peter Lee, Trinity Student as Associate Student Pastor. The M.Y.F. held its first service on 11th June 1961 at which Dr. F. O. Stockwell preached. In September 1961, Dr. Murray Leiffer's Report on the survey of our Church was released. By the end of 1961, the member-

ship increased to 57 and the debt for the site was settled. At this time, we were fortunate that the Board of Trustees of the Methodist Church agreed to lend us up to \$60,000 for the building project. By the 8th of May 1962 the Official Board was able to accept a tender of \$66,000 from the Overseas Construction Co. for the construction of the sanctuary.

In June 1962, Mr. P. Sathiasingam assisted by his committee, organised the 2nd Grand Fair under the distinguished patronage of Mrs. Celeste B. Amstutz, wife of Bishop H.B. Amstutz. The event raised a further sum of over \$5,000, and only a week after the Fair on June 10, two hundred people, members and friends, were able to witness the Breaking of the Ground Service at the Church site.



The Breaking of Ground led by Rev. C.H. Smith

Dr. F.O. Stockwell preached at this service and the W.S.C.S. was on hand to provide light refreshments to the guests. Construction work began the next day. Regular site supervision was rendered by Mr. Tong Kum Toh and Mr. P. Sathiasingam.

Due to inclement weather, the completion of the church building was delayed but on 31st December 1962, a candle light Watch Night Service was held in the partially completed church, preceded by a farewell dinner to Rev. & Mrs. Smith as they were not expected to be present for the Official Opening of the Church on 17th February 1963.



The Official Opening of the Church

On 17th February 1963, the church was officially declared open for services by Bishop H.B. Amstutz in the presence of a large gathering of members and friends. The Lay Leader, the late Mr. Andrew Lee and Trinity student Mr. Tang Kin Wah took charge of the Church services. In April 1963, evening services were held every first Sunday of the month with the assistance of Rev. D.B. Dougall and Rev. Howard John both chaplains of the British Forces in Singapore.

The Progress

In September 1963, Rev. Charles Grose and Mrs. Grose with their children arrived from Raub, Pahang to take up full-time pastoral duties and was assisted by Associate Pastor Wong Oon Thian and student assistants Mr. Lim Huat Teng and Miss Lam Mo Chi. By January 1964, the membership increased to 69 and the Sunday School attendance continued to grow. On May 1st, 1964 another Grand Fair was held under the patronage of Mrs. Eileen Smith. The Fair raised \$8,000 for the Building Fund.

The dedication ceremony for the Church was officiated by Bishop Robert F. Lundy on February 21st, 1965. Meanwhile, Rev. Grose and family were transferred. The late Mr. Andrew Lee and the late Mr. Lam Yet Seng took charge until Mr. Michael Wong from Trinity College took over the pastoral duties, with Dr. F.O. Stockwell acting as Associate Pastor. Towards the end of 1965, the late Rev. Chew Hock Hin, retired minister took over from Mr. Michael Wong. The late Rev. Chew was initially assisted by Mr. Tan Eng Seng and later by Mr. George Wee, Student assistants.

It was during this period that a full Church Choir under the able leadership of Mrs. Chew Chin Jin was formed. At the same time, the Boys' Brigade Company of St. Thomas School was transferred to Trinity under the captaincy of Mr. Tay Soon Hock. Evening Services conducted in Malay and English were held every 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. A Chinese New Year Service was introduced for the first time in 1966 and has since become a tradition.

On 26th February 1967, members and friends bade farewell to Dr. & Mrs. F. Olin Stockwell at the Anniversary Service. Dr. Stockwell was the moving force and strength behind the group that conceived the Methodist Church in the Estate. It was sad that the parting should come after several years of acquaintance and working together for the Lord. The late Mr. Andrew Lee, a member of the "Old Brigade" expressed the feelings of those present aptly.

On 17th August 1967, another significant event under the distinguished patronage of Mrs. Goh Keng Swee was held to raise funds. The TRIN FAIR '67 a half a day affair helped to raise over \$5,000 for the Building Fund. With this and many other fund raising projects in between, the debt on the Building which was \$26,150 in 1966 was completely paid off by August 1970.

The membership which was 75 in 1966 increased to 246 towards the end of 1970. After five years of outstanding service to the Church, The late Rev. Chew retired as Pastor Emeritus at the end of 1970 and once again Rev. Christopher Smith, who was actively involved with the Church during the early days, was appointed Pastor. He was assisted by Trinity College student Mr. Loune Afoa of the Samoan Methodist Church.

A survey on Church membership was conducted over a period of 5 to 6 weeks to determine Church attendance by age group, etc. The Survey results were later used by the Planning Committee to forecast future growth and needs of the membership. The plan for Church Extension was temporarily shelved since there was no immediate need for additional facilities. Instead a sum of \$10,000 was donated by the Church towards the Toa Payoh Methodist Project. Towards the end of 1972, the membership increased to 269 and attendance at Sunday School was significant. Donations for the Church Extension Fund kept coming in to remind us that the Extension was inevitable. By this time, some physical changes had taken place in the Church i.e. a concrete pavement was constructed by the MYFERS which was used for recreational purposes and doubled up as parking area too. An extension at the back of the basement was designed by the Property Chairman, Mr. Pang Kia Seng, adding more space for the Sunday School and Social Hall. It has once again become necessary to seriously consider Church Extension as the temporary measures taken will soon become inadequate. The Planning Committee which met several times with the architect Mr. Edwin Choo, was once again forced to abandon the project due to escalation of building cost.

By the middle of 1975, Rev. & Mrs. Christopher Smith bade farewell to the Church after serving the Church for a full five years. The dedicated leadership which he gave the Church is immeasurable. By the end of 1975 the membership had increased to 313. Rev. Denver Stone's appointment to take over from Rev. Smith did not materialise. Once again the late Mr. Andrew Lee took charge until the appointment of Mr. Daniel Tan, who was admitted on trial by the Annual Conference, took office in December 1975.

In 1976, the Local Church Executive Committee appointed Mr. Peter Lai and Mr. Lawrence Pang to form a Planning Committee to look into the possibility of Church Extension. The present addition to the Sanctuary was completed in February 1978 at a cost of \$175,000 inclusive of furniture and fittings and alteration to the basement. Funds for the extension came from members and friends who pledged, sale of old newspapers, a loan of \$30,000 from the committee administering the Ecumenical Church Loan Fund in Singapore and a 'MUSICAL NIGHT' at the Victoria Theatre on the 8th April 1978 by the BEL CANTO SINGERS produced by Mrs. Lilian Choo and directed by Mr. Tonni Wei a member of our Church. The LCEC of Wesley Church co-sponsored the event and the takings for the Trinity night was \$6,999. The Extension was dedicated by the Bishop Kao Jih Chung on 9th Sept. 1978.

Our Outreach Projects

From the very beginning in 1956, the Church has promoted programmes worthy of Christian acceptance. The reports show that Trinity held the record for per capita giving towards Conference Commitment in 1957 from among the Methodist Churches in Singapore and Malaysia. The various Programme Committees both at Conference and Local Church level continue to receive support. Missionary support has been and continues to be given to Mr. & Mrs. Chan Chong Hiok in the Philippines, Mr. Gabriel Liew with the Campus Crusade for Christ, Singapore and Mr. Seah Siow Tong who has just left for Belgium to work with Operation Mobilisation. Two of our members have gone into full-time ministry, namely, Miss Lorna Khoo, Associate Pastor of Paya Lebar Methodist Church and Mr. Malcolm Tan student at Trinity College whose studies are paid for by the Church. Subsidies for Mission exposure trips have been provided for those travelling to mission fields in other countries. The Poor and Needy are cared for. Worship Services for the Woodbridge inmates are held once a month in conjunction with St. Peter's Church. Contribution to Sengoi and Iban work continued. The late Mr. Andrew Lee was a pioneer in the Sengoi work and to perpetuate his memory, the family and friends of the late Uncle Andrew have set up funds for the Sengoi Training of Christian workers and Trinity Theological Scholarship Fund with \$5,000 and \$2,000 respectively. These Funds continue to grow and are being utilised for the purpose for which they were set up.

Rev. & Mrs. Daniel Tan were transferred to take up pastoral duties at Kampong Kapor Methodist Church at the beginning of 1980. A farewell cum welcome dinner was held for Rev. &

Mrs. Tan and Rev. Dr. George Wan and his family on the 31st of December 1979.

Having accomplished our own Extension Project, the Church was in a position to help (in a small measure) other churches to overcome their financial needs. In 1980 we were able to donate \$20,000 towards the Ang Mo Kio Church Project. In addition we gave an interest-free loan for one year a sum of \$50,000 to the same project to help them with their overdraft account. The loan has since been returned. Also in 1980, the Church responded with a \$10,000 donation to the Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' School Building Fund in memory of the late Rev. & the late Mrs. Chew Hock Hin. We also contributed \$1,500 to St. Peter's Church to defray half the cost of renovation work for St. Luke's Chapel at the Woodbridge Hospital. The Chapel is also used by our Church for the Woodbridge work.

Rev. George Wan was transferred to take up pastoral duties at the Fairfield Methodist Church after spending one and a half years with Trinity. During the time Rev. Wan was with us he started the Contemporary Choir and the third Sunday of each month was allocated to the Contemporary Service. During the same period, the MYF, MAF and the Small Groups made significant contribution towards meaningful fellowship and group interaction. Rev. Wan also started the Adult Bible Class on Sunday mornings to enable parents who took their children to Sunday School to spend their time profitably while waiting for their children. The Adult Bible Class continues to meet every Sunday at 9.00 a.m. under the able direction of Mr. Victor Han. The membership by this time had grown to 425 surpassing the original intention of a Church for a membership of 400.

On 1st August 1981, Mr. Daniel Koh Kah Soon, Trinity College graduate waiting to be admitted on trial by the Annual Conference at the end of the year, was appointed Pastor.

The Future Opportunities

It has once again become apparent that structural changes have to be made or added to the Church to accommodate the ever increasing attendance at Church Services, Sunday School, MYF, MAF, WSCS and the Programme Committees. Less than four years after the completion of the Church Extension, the LCEC was once again involved in making plans for extension work and has almost finalised plans which will cost approximately 1 million dollars. Mr. Peter Lee the architect and a member of our Church, commissioned to carry out the Planning will be submitting the Plans for the LCEC's considera-

tion. We must admit that the opportunities presented to us in the past have been allowed to pass by, being too cautious of the financial implications. But through prayer and the experience of lost opportunities, the LCEC has boldly determined to pursue the matter of Church Extension, their source of encouragement coming from the "Small Group" in 1956 whose determination and push resulted in our present witness for Christ through Trinity Methodist Church.

Today Trinity Methodist Church is strategically situated in the centre of a developed area. Large new estates like Golden Hill, Tai Hwan Garden, and Grace Park have been completed on both sides of Lorong Chuan. The recently completed

Ang Mo Kio New Town along the fringes of Serangoon Garden Estate opens up a wide field for Christian witnessing. We have to open wide the doors of our Church for all to know Jesus Christ. Religious Education for both the young and the old is the order of the day and to this end, our Government's encouragement and emphasis should also be our first priority.

Twenty-five years of witnessing for Christ in this community through our Church is only the first milestone. Let us put our trust in the Lord and work together to achieve our next major objective of enlarging the base from which we shall continue to proclaim the Word of God.

"TO GOD BE THE GLORY"



Compiled by

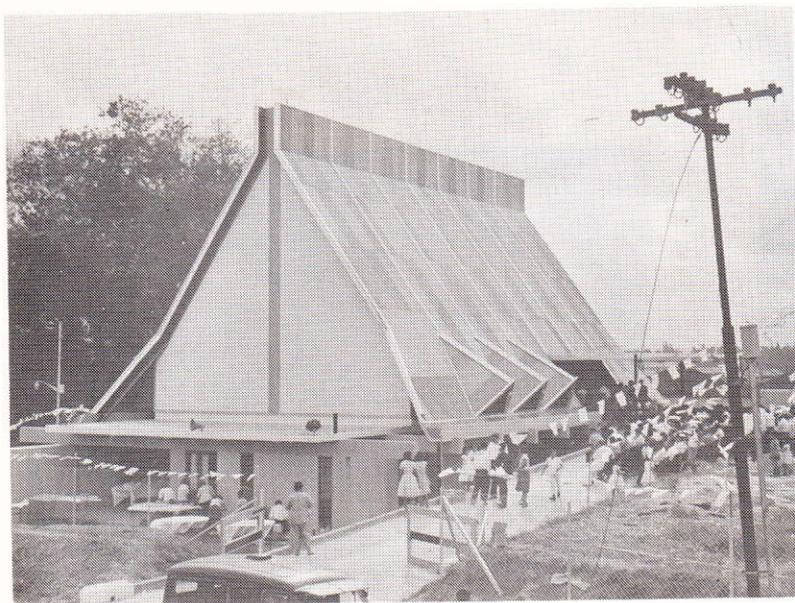
Mr. P. Sathiasingam, one of the pioneers of Trinity Methodist Church, with reference to Church and Conference records dating back to 1956.

OLD GUARDS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr. Tong Kum Toh | Mr. Wilfred, Jacob Thevarajah |
| Mrs. Tong Kum Toh, Ruth | Mrs. Wilfred, Lily Poomalar |
| Mrs. Nancy Lee | Miss Wilfred, Helen Rajapoopathy |
| Mrs. Lee Poh Lin | Mr. Andrew Lee (deceased) |
| Mr. P. Sathiasingam | Mr. Kenneth Chellappah |
| Mr. Lawrence Pang | Mrs. Daisy Chellappah |
| Mr. Ng Vee Chong | Mr. Phung Khye Sun |
| Mrs. Ng Vee Chong, Lily | Mrs. Phung Khye Sun, Jessie |
| Miss Rosy Wee | Miss Goh Sock Eng |
| Mr. Kwan Chee Yew (deceased) | Mr. David Fang |
| Mrs. Kwan Chee Yew, Violet | Mr. Robert Cheok |
| Mrs. Lemos, Susy Khay Siew | Mr. Goh Siak Juay |
| Mr. Willie Satkunasingam Rasiah | Mr. Lai Men Su |
| Mrs. Catherine Pang Sok Soon | Miss Wong Woon Ping, Clara |

PIONEER PASTORS

- Rev. Dr. F. O. Stockwell
- Rev. Christopher H. Smith
- Rev. Syn Wai Yin
- Rev. Kenneth Chellappah
- Rev. Denis Dutton



Official Opening of the Church



Rev TR Doraisamy, Mr Tang Kin Wab and the late Mr Andrew Lee leading at Palm Sunday Service in 1963



Mrs Gob Keng Swee cutting the ribbon to declare the 1967 Fun Fair Open



Ecumenical Sunday with the pastor of St Peter's Church Preaching



A Christmas Party for the Sunday School Children at Cowdray Avenue



Altogether Now!



Can You Remember The Occasion?



Can You Guess Who is the 'Vendor'?



Can You Recognise Yourself Here?



Sunday School Children busy with their assignment under the watchful eyes of Sunday School teacher, Helen Wilfred



Do you recognise any of these 'early' MYFers?