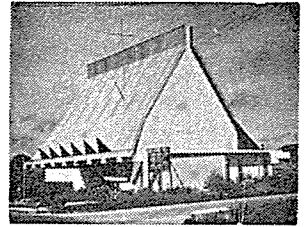


# Newsletter

from

## Trinity Methodist Church

34 SERANGOON GARDEN WAY  
SINGAPORE-19



Pastor—Rev. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

PARSONAGE:

28 CHUAN HOE AVENUE  
SINGAPORE 19 • PHONE: 806339

MC (P) 561/73

### PASTOR'S MESSAGE

OCTOBER 1973

### BRIDGE BUILDERS

It is good to listen, sometimes, for the words which are being sung over our radio and TV by our popular singers. If and when you can actually hear them, they often stab us broad awake, not only to realise what so many people, particularly the younger ones, are searching for, but with a sense of truth discovered.

Out of the charts now, but still worth hearing, is Simon and Garfunkel's once popular 'Bridge over Troubled Water'. (Strange preachers, these, but very much on the ball!)

When you're weary, feeling small,  
When tears are in your eyes, I will dry them all;  
I am on your side.  
When times get rough and friends just can't be found,  
Like a bridge over troubled water  
I will lay me down.

It is a love song, a song about personal relationships, but can't you hear echoes of a well-loved hymn, "What a Friend we have!" When things get on top of us, and problems threaten to engulf us, we need a friend; and millions of men and women and boys and girls have found in Christ a bridge over deep trouble and need.

Paul says, "God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, no longer holding men's misdeeds against them," and, he goes on, he "has made us agents of that reconciliation." We could paraphrase these words by saying, "God in Christ is building a bridge over troubled water, a bridge from man to God and from man to man on this planet." His love is for ever bridging the gaps between us, making for understanding and brotherhood and love between men

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TRINITY FAMILY NEWS  
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ADULT BAPTISM Peter LIM Chin Kuan, 10 Cardiff Grove

NEW MEMBERS We welcomed into the fellowship on September 30

On Confession of Faith

Miss Lim Guat Kim, 67-A Kovan Road (19)

Peter Lim Chin Kuan, 10 Cardiff Grove (19)

Malcolm Tan Thian Hock, 64 Jalan Labu Ayer (19)

On Transfer

Paul George, 420 Lorong Renjong, Woodbridge Hospital Compound  
Singapore 19 (from Trinity, P.J.)

James Tay, 75 Jalan Tari Piring of Tong Lee Road (28)  
from St.Hilda's Anglican Church

ENGAGEMENTS

Congratulations to two couples who celebrated  
their engagement recently:

Chan Chong Hiok & Miss Margaret Lai Seow Keet on 18 September

and Lee Cheong Seng & Miss Tay Boon Siew on 22nd September.

WEDDING BELLS rang at Trinity Church on 8th September for  
Malcolm Roderick & Yvonne Wharton of 9, Crichton Close (19)

WELCOME HOME

We are delighted to welcome back to Singapore  
Edwin Tan, elder son of Mr & Mrs Tan Khe Tong, after being  
away for three years studying at Sheffield University, U.K.  
Edwin is presently working for the Mobil Oil Co.

BACK TO SCHOOL A small group of Trinity families have lost chil-  
dren at the end of the summer holiday to school in England.  
Among them are Melvyn Tan, David Smith and Ruth & Sara  
Marshall. We send them our best wishes for a happy and  
successful term.

ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL

Good wishes for a speedy recovery go to  
Mr Ong Seng Geok of 36, Chartwell Drive who was admitted  
to Ward 4 ORGH on 21 September

and Mrs B. K. Khoo of 27, Blandford Drive who underwent surgery  
in Ward 20, K.K.Hospital on 28 September

ALSO BAPTISED on 30 September was Mr LEE Cheong Seng

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 LET US RENEW OUR PLEDGES  
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We have come to the beginning of a new financial year in the Church and enclose with this edition of the 'NEWSLETTER' a Pledge Card for your careful and prayerful attention.

At its meeting on 30th September, the Local Church Executive Committee approved a Budget of \$ 34,000 for presentation to the Local Conference when it meets, under the chairmanship of the District Superintendent, on Sunday 21st October after the 10 a.m. service.

This is substantially the same amount as was budgetted for the year 1972/73, and the Committee feels that this is a realistic amount for which we need to plan, if we are to maintain the work and witness of Trinity Church, without ignoring our continuing responsibility to reach out with the gospel, as we are able.. We have, of course, had to bear in mind that, when the Church Extension plans have been finalised, we shall have to approach all of you again for really sacrificial giving if we are to be able to carry forward our substantial development scheme without undue delay, in these days of spiralling building costs.

What we ask, therefore, is that those who have been pledging regularly endeavour to maintain their present level of giving, and that those who have not yet started this discipline of systematic, planned offerings to the church should take this opportunity of joining, in however small a way, with their already-committed fellow-members.

We are delighted to be able to report that the current year saw us reach our target figure of \$ 18,000 from pledges (which represents a 20% increase compared with the previous year). If we can maintain the same kind of dedication during 1973/74, we shall have no problem about meeting our regular needs.

Please complete the enclosed Pledge Card, and bring it with you to our services of Holy Communion this Sunday, so that gifts and pledges may be dedicated together to God's work.

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WORKING AMONG SICK CHILDREN in the Outram Road G.H. each week are  
 Miss Phyllis Kwok & Miss Lucy Lau (Orthopaedic) Mrs Daisy  
 Lai (Paediatric) & Mrs Smith and Miss Sonia Wee (Remedial)

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CHURCH CALNDAR FOR OCTOBER 1973  
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- 3 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 5 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE  
7.30 P.M. SONG FESTIVAL at Trinity Theological College
- 6 Sat. 5.30 P.M. TRINITY THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE 25TH ANNIVERSARY  
SERVICE preceded by an 'Open House'
- 7 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL  
10.00 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE - The Pastor  
3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING  
5.30 P.M. HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE - The Pastor  
with Sacrament of Adult Baptism
- 10 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 12 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 14 SUN. LAYMEN'S SUNDAY  
8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL  
10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Laymen in charge  
12.00 NOON Worship Service at Woodbridge Hospital  
3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING  
5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor
- 17 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 19 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 21 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL  
10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Rev. T.C.Nga (Dist.Sup.)  
11.15 A.M. CHURCH LOCAL CONFERENCE in the Basement  
3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING  
5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Rev. Clarence Lim,  
pastor of Fairfield Methodist Church
- 24 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse
- 25 Thu. DEEPAVALI - Public Holiday
- 26 Fri. 8.00 P.M. CHOIR PRACTICE
- 27 Sat. 2.30 P.M. S.M.A.C. SINGAPORE DISTRICT CONFERENCE at  
Wesley Methodist Church

- 28 SUN. 8.45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL  
 10.00 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - The Pastor  
 12.00 NOON Worship Service at Woodbridge Hospital  
 3.30 P.M. M.Y.F. MEETING  
 5.30 P.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP - Mr Lam Yet Seng
- 29 Mon. HARI RAYA PUASA - Public Holiday
- 31 Wed. 7.45 P.M. BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP at the Manse

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SPECIAL EVENTS DURING OCTOBER

- TRINITY THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE 25TH ANNIVERSARY - 5 & 6th October  
 LAYMEN'S SUNDAY - 14th October  
 MONTHLY PARISH MEETING
- LOCAL CHURCH CONFERENCE - 21st October  
 SINGAPORE DISTRICT CONFERENCE - 27th October  
 W.S.C.S. WEEK OF PRAYER & SELF-DENIAL 25th - 31st October

Showing of the film: "THE BIBLE"  
 at Trinity Church  
 on Saturday, 27th October (Time to be announced)

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Church Anniversary Report (continued from page 6)

of an energetic Planning Committee, for their imaginative and careful arrangements. The attractive Anniversary handbook roused interest and the appeal for 'Bricks' at \$20 each raised \$2,700 for the Extension Fund. Altogether the Anniversary weekend brought in more than \$5,000 for the Fund - truly a magnificent achievement!

FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE

Mr Lee Teck Hock has accepted the Executive Committee's invitation to serve as Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee in connection with the Church Extension plans.

Committee Members are: Mr Chew Chin Jin, Mr Peter Lai  
 Mr Lai Men Soe Mrs Loh Heng Chow  
 and Mrs Catherine Pang

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OUR SIXTEENTH BIRTHDAY \*\*\*  
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Three hundred members and friends of Trinity Church sat down together to enjoy our 16th Birthday Dinner on the evening of 14th September. With us were representatives from sister-congregations in Serangoon Gardens and Paya Lebar, with Rev T.C. Hga and Rev & Mrs Chew Hock Hin as special guests-of-honour. There were sixteen candles on the birthday cake, to be blown out by the Pastor and Mrs Smith and speeches were kept to a minimum on this happy day.

Afterwards, the church sanctuary, re-arranged for the occasion, was packed with an appreciative audience to listen to the Choir, under the baton of Miss Maureen Tan our Choir Director, present an informal, non-stop programme of popular songs and negro spirituals. Carefully disciplined by Mrs Smith, under a battery of coloured lights arranged by Ong Chye Huat and Seah Seow Kiang, both choir and soloists bewitched us with the nearest approach to the Black and White Minstrel Show we have had on our premises.

They were followed by the M.Y.F. Singers, With Clifton Tan conducting a striking sequence of items, in more modern vein, depicting the quest of a young person for God and a meaningful life. What talent our young people shared with us! And how appropriate the Grabd Finale, when the Church Choir joined them in the darkened church, passing the light of candles from hand to hand in a way that symbolised the need to share with others the light we have discovered in Jesus Christ.

All those who worked so hard to arrange the Dinner and those who took part in the Concert deserve our heartfelt thanks and congratulations for a highly enjoyable evening.

There was a crowded church again for the Anniversary Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 16th September, after which there was food in plenty prepared by the ladies of the W.S.C.S., their families and friends, at the Grand Food Fare which netted \$1,360 for the Church Extension Fund. Anybody who went away disappointed from that mouth-watering display must truly be impossible to please.

We are deeply appreciative to Mr Chew Chin Jin, the Chairman  
(concluded on page 5)

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 WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE  
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Pledges during September totalled \$1,599.

Thanksgiving gifts were received during the month from Mr & Mrs Tan Keng Hian, Mr & Mrs R. Henley, Mrs Tan Kim Tee, Mrs Grace Wee, Dr & Mrs Alan Tay, Miss Jenny Miller, Mrs Elsie Hardy, Miss Khoo Hee, Miss Ho Lek Cheng, Mr & Mrs Chew Chin Nam (in loving memory of the late Mrs Chew Hock Lee, who passed away on 22nd September 1968)

Donations for Anniversary 'Bricks', in addition to the list in the Anniversary Handbook, were received from:-

Miss Khoo Koh Hee (\$20) Mr & Mrs Chew Chin Ghee (\$40) Mr & Mrs Lee Eng Hoe (\$20) and Mr & Mrs Jason Tan (\$20)

Thanksgiving Gifts for the Church Anniversary were received from Mr & Mrs Yeo Kin Kiat, Mr Yap Yong Lip, Master Ernie Tan, Mr & Mrs Wee Chye Huat, Mr Yip Fook Yoon, Messrs Anthony and Bernard Kan, Mrs Lin Leong Siung, Mr & Mrs Lim Tin Soon, Mrs Chia Chye Koon, Mr Ong Thiam Kok, Mrs Pauline Ong, Mrs L.N.Tan, Mr Tong Sik Lun, Dr & Mrs Alan Tay, Mr S.M.Seah, Mr & Mrs Willy Tan, Mrs Tay Chye Huat, Mr Sydney Lowe, Mrs Wee Sip Ghee, Mr & Mrs Ernest Kan, Mrs Harriet Chua, Mrs P.Lemos, Miss Choy Yin Loy, Mr & Mrs Chiang Hai Chew and children, Mr & Mrs Lim Hock Aun, Mr & Mrs Stanley Lam, Mrs Moo Chee Nam, Mr & Mrs Moo Chih Cheong, Mr & Mrs Wong Tit San, Mr & Mrs Ong Cheng Yam, Mr & Mrs Goh Siak Juay Mr & Mrs Lim Eng Hoe, Mrs E. Yan and family, Mr & Mrs Jolly Low, Dr & Mrs Khor Tong Hong, Dr (Miss) S.Doraisingham, Mr & Mrs Koh Tiong Tat, Rev & Mrs Christopher Smith, Mrs Irene Koh, Mrs Susie Lee, Mrs Winifred Lim, Mr & Mrs Tan Hoay Djin, Mr Teo Beng Chuan.

We express our grateful thanks to all these generous donors, and all those other anonymous givers who have helped us maintain and develop the work of the church. And at the close of another Conference year, we say a special thank you to the members and friends who, by their regular committed giving throughout the year, have undergirded our entire programme with pledges which reached a record total of almost \$18,000

and men, and he has called us to be builders of bridges with him.

The great good news in Jesus is that God, through him, calls and makes us his friends. In one of H.G.Wells' books there is the story of a man of affairs whose mind was so tensed and strained that he was in serious danger of complete mental breakdown. But when his doctor told him that the one thing that could save him was to find the peace that fellowship with God can give, he replied:

"What! to think of that, up there, having fellowship with me! I would as soon think of cooling my throat with the milky way or shaking hands with the stars!" If only he had dared to believe the gospel promise that the bridge has been built and God, through the lips and life of Jesus, says: "You are my friends"!

But this we must add. The Church of Jesus Christ at its best, when it has the spirit of her divine founder and head, is a company of bridge-builders. As members of the community of faith, we have been entrusted with the difficult, often arduous and yet splendid task of building bridges of understanding, mutual concern and helpfulness. The Church is the greatest bridge-building concern in the business. If it cannot build bridges of understanding and love, no other institution can. Jesus Christ, operating through his body the Church, can do it - reconciling persons and groups, communities and nations which at present are estranged from each other.

We need to learn from him how to empathise with another, how to project ourselves imaginatively and sensitively into that other person's situation. When the troubled waters rise, and a fellow-human falls into depression, discouragement and moral defeat, we are to show we care by identifying ourselves with that person, staying alongside him as long as we are needed.

When you're down and out, when you're on the street,  
When evening falls so hard, I will comfort you.  
I'll take your part.  
When darkness comes and pain is all around,  
Like a bridge over troubled water  
I will lay me down.

This is the way of Jesus. He laid his life down and the Cross became a bridge over troubled waters. And he says to us, "Greater Love has no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." We do not need to die before we can do that - except, and it is a big exception, to die to ourselves.