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Joyful Christmas and A Blessed New Year

*From:
The General Conference Executive Council,
The Methodist Church in Malaysia*

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28)

By Rev Dr. T. Jeyakumar
Bishop of The Methodist Church in Malaysia



Elvis Presley has a song called, “I’ll be home for Christmas.” The desire of the heart is always to come home. Why?

Home is familiar ground. Home is the place where we are known. Home is where we feel safe. At home, I am protected. Home is where I am valued.

A man came to see me in the church office some time ago and said that he is missing the peace he had as a young boy in Sunday School. He asked me how he can regain that peace. Within 40 years, he had strayed so much and lost his way.

When this man came to my office and said, “I want that peace,” he was essentially saying, “I want to come to a familiar place, a secure place, where I feel protected and valued.” He wants to come home.

But you know what? He had to first wreck his life and find out the hard way that he needed to come home to God to regain that peace.

Elvis has another song:

*We call on Him whenever storm clouds gather
We call on Him to light our darkest day
Why must it be that only when we’re lonely
And hopes are dim, we call on Him*

*Why don’t we call on Him before we lose our way
To count our blessings and thank Him while we may*

*We call on Him when no-one else will answer
We ask of Him a reason to go on
When our cup of joy becomes a cup of sorrow
Filled to the brim, we call on Him*

*Why don’t we call on Him before we lose our way
To count our blessings and thank Him while we may.*

Why must we wait until tragedies strike before turning to GOD? Why must we wait for sickness, broken relationships, financial crises, or failures of some sort to occur before turning to HIM?

The Aramaic Bible in English (2010) translates the words of Jesus in Matthew 11:28 like this: “Come unto me, all of you who labour and are forced to bear burdens, and I shall give you rest.”

If we come to Christ this Christmas, we will be coming home to the place where GOD will save us, protect us, and give value to our lives. This is what Christmas is. GOD wants to do all this for us. Can we tell GOD, “I’ll be home for Christmas?”

48th Session of the Trinity Annual Conference (TRAC)

By Rev. Ashok Amarasingham
BOM Chairman, TRAC



The 48th Session TRAC was held from 17-19 November 2023 and returned to Port Dickson Methodist Centre (PDMC) after a 3-year hiatus since 2019. For the first time, delegates witnessed Bishop Dr. T. Jeyakumar and President Joshua Khong on stage together with the new Conference Secretary, Mr Yap Koon Roy.

It was encouraging to see many intercessors joining the intercessory prayer on Friday prior to the start of the conference. President Joshua Khong preached on 2 Chronicles 34:1-8 (lessons from King Josiah) at the Opening Holy Communion Service.

The Conference celebrated the ministry of Rev. Dr. Andrew Tan Kok Khoo who served with excellence for 40 years as a pastor of TRAC with a retirement service. The Conference also remembered the late Rev. Ng Ee Lin who returned to the Lord a few weeks after the 47th Session TRAC in 2022 with a memorial service.

On the final day, four ministers were ordained. Rev. Chang Choy Quin and Rev. Luke Ng Say Ming became Elders, while Rev. Edward Lee Kit Siang and Rev. Shaan Sya Sim Swan became Deacons of the

Methodist Church in Malaysia. Bishop Jeyakumar preached a stirring sermon on “Striving with Christ’s Energy” (Colossians 1:29).

The Conference ended with the reading of Appointments for 2024. Rev. Teoh Lee Yng and Rev. Gaurri Maniam were made new District Superintendents of the Perak District and the Eastern District respectively.



From left: Pastor Lim Pei Li, Pastor John Lai, Pastor Dr. Cheah Sene Kar, Rev. Shaan Sya, Rev. Edward Lee, Rev. Chang Choy Quin and Rev. Luke Ng

48th Session of Chinese Annual Conference (CAC) - Renewed towards Revival



The 48th Chinese Annual Conference Session was held from 14-16 November 2023 at Port Dickson Methodist Centre. The theme of this year's conference is "Renewed towards Revival" and was attended by 407 attendees.

Guest Speaker for the Conference, Bishop Emeritus Dr. Hwa Yung preached a sermon on "God is still on the throne" (Isaiah 6:1-7), reminding participants that the prerequisite for revival is to believe that God is in total control and that He has the means to "set things right". The Communion Service was led by CAC President, Rev Liew Kek Ming and presided over by the Bishop of The Methodist Church in Malaysia, Dr. T. Jeyakumar.

On the second day, Bishop Emeritus Dr. Hwa Yung led participants to explore the message of Isaiah 57:15: God is a living God, who does not dwell in

temples made with hands; He is with the humble and contrite in spirit.

Other highlights saw the election of President Liew Kek Ming, Rev. Wong Kong Hoo, Rev (Dr) Kok Chin Ngin, Rev. Lau Chung Wu, Rev. Earnest Tan Chee Hoe, Rev. (Dr) Kok Chin Ming and Rev. Teng Pong Shyang as ministerial representatives to the General Conference for 2024.

On the final day, Bishop Emeritus Dr. Hwa Yung preached at the Ordination Service. He gave a brief presentation on Isaiah 63-64, bringing out the message that before revival, one has to know the power of God. When God is humbly sought, He will come. The Ordination Service was presided over by Bishop Dr. T. Jeyakumar and witnessed by Bishop Emeritus Dr. Hwa Yung, President Liew Kek Ming and the District Superintendents.



New Co-workers (新同工)



Retiring Elders (荣休的牧师)



Newly ordained Vice-Pastors (被按立的副牧)



The ten District Superintendents (十位教区长)



Newly ordained Pastors (被按立的长牧)

48th Session of the Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference (SCAC) 2023年第48届砂拉越华人年议会

整理/报导：许莉莉、许庆琳

贾古玛：还没准备好吗？没关系！上帝寻找的是一颗渴慕的心

2023年11月21日（星期二）马来西亚基督教卫理公会砂拉越华人年议会（SCAC）假诗巫福源堂举行为期三天两夜的第48届年议会。近500位牧者和会友领袖齐聚这一年一度的“属灵的嘉年华”。

本次开幕礼由马来西亚卫理公会总会会督贾古玛牧师（Bishop Jeyakumar）宣讲今日信息——“生命的教会”并主持圣餐礼。

会督以使徒行传第八章作为本次分享的核心，讲述一个拥有使命的教会应具备的特质。他从七个执事之一的腓利（参使六）身上归纳出三个“心”：顺服的心、自我中心的心（以神为中心）、渴望的心。会督盼望并勉励我们重视将福音广传的使命，去向全世界传讲福音的好消息，使人得着自由、喜乐且充满欢乐的心，让遍地充满欢喜。会督说，上帝所寻找的从来不是一颗“预备好”的心，而是一颗渴慕的心。

另外，砂拉越华人年议会会长刘会明牧师表示“有门徒的地方总有教会，但有教会的地方不一定有门

徒。”主耶稣要我们建立能培育更多门徒的教会。他指出“门训大蓝图”的目的就是要指引着我们更像基督（罗八29；弗四13）。今天教会所需要的不仅是多一个事工、多一篇信息、多一个听道的机会、资源的供应等等，而是愿意活出真道，谦卑服事主的心。

按立7长牧10副牧

2023年11月22日（星期三）晚间七时十五分假诗巫福源堂举行“追思、按立礼拜暨宣教士差遣礼”。大会上刘会明牧师在师母的协助下，效法耶稣基督为门徒洗脚之姿，为即将被按为长牧们洗脚，借此提醒受牧者学习主耶稣的谦卑样式，真诚地服事身边的人。

本次按立了七位长牧：DORTI MATIUS、ARIN ANAK MANJA、萧明政、赖凯贤、蔡常业、刘立伟和赵久荣；同时，按立了十位副牧：黄雪伦（本处）、刘宜棋、黄育进、ROSELIND ROSY MERANG、LIZA EMBA AK LIAN、黄启云、朱全伟、苏志谋、杨良钗和钱意良。

此外，还差遣了一位宣教士——林慧桦姐妹。在追思礼拜中，邱和平牧师领会众一同悼念陈惠敏



贾古玛会督盼望我们能够有一颗顺服、以神为中心、渴慕的心，看重将福音广传的使命，往天下去传讲福音的好消息。



刘会明会长



刘会明牧师在师母的协助下，为一众即将被按立为长牧的牧者洗脚，借此提醒受牧者学习主耶稣谦卑的样式，真诚服事身边的人。



荣休牧者及宣教士：左起赖菊花宣教士、黄声忠牧师、陈联萍牧师、林曼曦牧师、刘慈瑜牧师及钱本贵牧师

牧师（1940-2023）。最后，近200位牧者共同献唱《真光普照》和《求复兴众人》，以此提醒彼此将自己献上，成为上帝所用。

5牧者及1宣教士荣休

三天年议会的尾声，贾古玛会督引用保罗在歌罗西书一章29节的经文，勉励在座的每一位：事奉固然劳苦，但要靠着上帝所赐予我们的力量，竭力奔



按立长牧大合照

跑，不厌倦。刘会明会长以“谁的意思”为题，勉励我们在事奉的生涯中认清上帝的旨意，而不是以上帝的名义宣告自己的意思。

本次有5位牧者及1位宣教士荣休，为他们在主里的竭力服事献上感恩。荣休的牧者及宣教士：陈联萍牧师、刘慈瑜牧师、钱本贵牧师、黄声忠牧师、林曼曦牧师及赖菊花宣教士。



本会近200位牧者同心献唱诗歌



按立副牧大合照



48th Session of the Sarawak Iban Annual Conference (SIAC)

By Jefri Ngalambai



Delegates and observers with Bishop Dr. T. Jeyakumar

The Sarawak Iban Annual Conference (SIAC) held its 48th Session at Starlink Hotel, Sibul on 24-26 November 2023. Bishop Dr. T. Jeyakumar presided at the session which was attended by 139 delegates and observers from all the 5 Districts of the Annual Conference.

It was a momentous occasion for three Elders - Rev. Mathias Yusser Buaya, Rev. Alistair Anak Jupiter, Rev. Dorethysia Anak Dinggun and a Deacon - Rev. Danny Janti Anak Belawan who were ordained by Bishop Dr. T. Jeyakumar at Sibul Jaya Methodist Iban Church.

The conference had also invited Rev. Phua Seng Tiong as the guest speaker at the Session where he shared on "JESUS - The Center of It All, Nothing Else Matters."



The newly Ordained Elders - Rev. Mathias, Rev. Alistair, Rev. Dorethysia and Deacon Rev. Danny Janti



SIAC President, Rev. Bonnie Sedau presenting his presidential address



48th Session of the Tamil Annual Conference (TAC)



The TAC 48th Session was held at Port Dickson Methodist Center from 30 November - 2 December 2023 with a total number of 193 participants.

In the Opening Holy Communion Worship Service, President Rev. Dr. Dennis Raj shared his message from Jonah 4:1-11 and Exodus 32:30-32. The title of his message was "Seek God's glory by seeking God's heart". He spoke about the heart of Jonah and the heart of Moses - a revengeful versus a compassionate heart. Moses was willing to give his life for his people. Moses had the heart of God. Are we willing to seek what is in God's heart as we lead his people?

The Guest Speaker was Rev. Dr. John Daniel from India. He spoke about the properties of salt and light, especially the power to penetrate but still able to keep its character. He shared from Ephesians 4:1-6 and Ephesians 5:8-16. We need to be the salt of this world, sharing the goodness of Christ and we need to share the light, the word of God when we penetrate into the lives of the lost.

We praise and thank our LORD for the formation of two new Local Conferences - Tamil Methodist Church Tasek and Tamil Methodist Church Kuala Ketil Kulim, making the 56th and 57th Churches in the Tamil Annual Conference respectively. The ordination service was held on 1 December 2023 where six Elders and two Deacons were ordained by Bishop Dr. T. Jeyakumar. Bishop spoke on "A Missional Church".

He shared from Acts 8 focusing on Philip, one of the seven. We need an obedient heart, a sacrificial heart and be willing to share the Gospel wherever the Spirit of God leads us.

The TAC 48th Session was concluded with the reading of appointments for 2024. We thank and praise God for a meaningful and blessed conference. To God be all honor and glory.



Back row from left: Registrar Rev. Joseph Yesupatham, President Rev. Dr. Dennis Raj, Bishop Dr. T. Jeyakumar, Guest Speaker Rev. Dr. John Daniel and Board of Ministry Chairman Rev. Justin Clarence

Front row from left: Ordained as Deacons: Rev. Susannah Rajen and Rev. Jayaprakash Ordained as Elders: Rev. Jonathan Arulanthu, Rev. David Thanivel, Rev. Roland David, Rev. Joel Zechariah, Rev. Joshua Shubash and Rev. Joseph Ambrose

Konferansi Persidangan Misi Sengoi Methodist Yang Ke 34

Oleh Rev. Haris Husin



Shalom.....

Konferansi 2023 adalah bersejarah bagi saya kerana saya juga salah satu pekerja gereja (Persidangan Misi Sengoi Methodist (PMSM) di angkat sebagai Elder. Isi hati dari hamba Tuhan gereja PMSM.

Bersyukur saya kepada Tuhan, kerana Dialah yang memanggil saya untuk menjadi pengikut Kristus dan sebagai hamba-hamba Tuhan dari peringkat awal sehingga hari ini.

Semua itu adalah berkat kasih kurnia dari Tuhan untuk lebih membesarkan keluarga dalam Kristus yang masih banyak lagi di luar sana.

Puji Tuhan masih lagi Dia memakai hamba-hamba-Nya bekerja lebih keras lagi untuk meninggikan kerajaan-Nya saya percaya itu adalah tujuan mengapa saya diangkat sebagai Elder.

1. PERKONGSIAN SEBAGAI ELDER YANG BARU PMSM.

Seperti biasa semua kewujudan pelayan sebagai hamba Tuhan mesti bermula daripada peringkat awal. Sudah tentunya kami akan menempuhi cabaran dalam perjalanan di setiap peringkat seterusnya. Saya sebagai hamba Tuhan perlu siapkan hati yang ikhlas dan jujur dalam pelayan sebagai Elder yang baru.

1.1 MENERIMA JAWATAN ELDER.

Menerima jawatan Elder bagi saya adalah

anugerah dari Tuhan. Izinkan saya perkongsikan sedikit tentang petanda dalam perjalanan ditahbiskan sebagai Elder. Ketua daerah Slim River awal lagi pernah kemukakan di mesyuarat daerah dan nampaknya ada unsur sokongan dari rakan-rakan setugas. Juga diperingkat Exco dan Lembaga pelayan PMSM, ada sokongan bila beliau mencadangkan saya layak dipertimbangkan untuk jawatan Elder.

Sebenarnya apa yang dicadangkan itu bukanlah menurut kehendak saya dan saya pun tidak pernah meminta untuk diangkat sebagai Elder. Ini adalah budi bicara beliau yang mungkin melihat pelayan saya yang tidak seberapa ini sehinggalah beliau membawa perkara ini ke peringkat seterusnya sebagai orang yang bertanggungjawab.

Namun saya akur ini adalah pemerhatian beliau untuk pekerja PMSM Daerah Slim River, yang sewajar beliau sebagai Ketua Daerah. Beliau membuat cadangan ini untuk meningkatkan peribadi hamba-hamba Tuhan secara benar, jujur dan adil dan juga untuk dikemukakan di peringkat Exco untuk dipertimbangkan.

Hari ini saya bersyukur apa yang dirancang sudah diterima untuk dibawa ke peringkat seterusnya. Pada 21 September 2023 saya di temuduga di Pusat PMSM Kampar untuk pentahbisan sebagai Elder dan hal-hal pelayan.

Temuduga yang terakhir sekali pada 17 Oktober 2023. Dan keputusan saya diterima tanpa ada halangan di Exco tertinggi masa itu di hadapan Presiden Rev. Joshua Khong, Pengetua Rev. Ronald Yap dan juga semua Ketua Daerah PMSM.

Perancangan itu sudah menjadi kenyataan pada 19 Oktober 2023 di Kerawat semasa Konferansi 2023. Dan saya disempurnakan menerima Pentahbisan sebagai Elder melalui Bishop Dtr. T. Jeyakumar, dibantu oleh Presiden Rev. Joshua Khong dan juga Pengetua Rev. Ronald Yap Pengetua PMSM serta semua pekerja PMSM.

Ada satu perkara yang saya mahu kongsi adalah berkenaan Pentahbisan Elder, pada 18 Oktober saya dikejutkan seorang Elder senior, "Bahawa sebenarnya belum tentu lagi kamu akan ditahbiskan sebagai Elder, kerana sekiranya ada yang bakal menyuarai bahawa kamu tidak layak atau kamu mempunyai isu yang tidak baik dan kamu akan dibatalkan untuk ditahbis sebagai Elder" saya akur kenyataan beliau, kerana saya sudah membaca *Buku Displin Methodis 2016*. Semalaman saya tidak dapat tidur, kerana saya lebih mengambil masa untuk berdoa dan secara jujur saya katakan saya menangis sepanjang malam itu, bukan kerana keinginan untuk menjadi sebagai Elder, tetapi takut semua itu bukan menurut panggilan Tuhan untuk saya diangkat sebagai Elder.

Puji Tuhan sekali lagi Tuhan Yesus itu baik Dia tahu siapa kita, Dia sudah melihat hati kita yang siap untuk belajar menurut kehendak-Nya.

1.2 HARAPAN SAYA SEBAGAI ELDER.

Walaupun sekarang sudah menerima jawatan Elder yang sah pada 19 Oktober 2023, juga merangkap sebagai ketua Daerah Slim River 2024. Semua ini bukanlah untuk meninggikan diri, melainkan untuk nama Tuhan ditinggikan. Dan pelayan itu bukan setakat gereja tempatan Sahaja, juga turut menjalankan tugas sebagai ketua Daerah di peringkat Daerah dan Pusat, baik hal pentadbiran mahupun lain-lain hal.

Saya sedar siapa saya, dimata Tuhan saya adalah orang yang paling kerdil sekali, maka harapan saya untuk membantu PMSM semana boleh.



Dan bekerja sama dengan saudara yang membantu PMSM mencapai kearah wawasan, saya percaya harus ada hati sebagai hamba yang menuruti kehendak-Nya, apa yang kurang nanti pasti ditambahkan oleh Tuhan.

Akhir kata dari saya, bersyukur kepada Tuhan, PMSM masih ada orang yang peduli untuk membantu dan mengangkat pekerja PMSM ke peringkat sebagai Elder. Tuhan memberkati *Gereja Methodist Malaysia*.

6th Session of the Sabah Annual Conference (SAC)



马来西亚卫理公会沙巴年议会第六届年会已成功于今年11月9至10日，假崭新的沙巴卫理总部大厦礼堂召开。马来西亚卫理公会总议会会督贾古玛牧师博士与会督娘，西马三一年议会邱子良会长、西马淡米尔年议会Dr. Dennis Raj会长、砂拉越华人年议会刘会明会长以及西马华人年议会廖克民会长等贵宾受邀出席。

今届年会共有超过八十名来自沙巴年议会按职代表和部会主席，以及东、西教区十四华英语牧区及国语教区十间布道所和布道中心的牧者、代表及观察员们出席，参与事工的讨论。沙巴年议会会长许光福牧师博士在其演词中，为沙巴卫理总部大厦顺利完工和启用，以及迎来卫理公会在沙巴设教四十周年庆典而感恩。他劝勉与会者不要停留在过往的成就中，反之应在生命和事工上继续追求成长，按总议会《更新的教

会》的主题，一起强化教会使命，丰化家庭生活，提升教育素质并携手参与这国家建设。

贾古玛会督向与会者们传递总议会将于2024年推动的一些重点事工。会督鼓励我们善用启发课程，并主动去把自之前行动管制令之下受影响而没有去教会的信徒，带领他们返回教会参与实体崇拜。他强调，卫理公会是联属的教会，因此比较强大的堂会应该主动去协助比较弱小的堂会和布道中心，乐意分享资源，帮助他们一起成长。会督也鼓励会众积极出席每个月一次为马来西亚和教会守望的线上祷告会。

贾会督在闭幕礼上传讲了哈巴谷书第二章的信息，随后由西教区长郑国强牧师、东教区长吴常健牧师及国语教区长 Effindy Pengiran 牧师宣读2024年派司委任表。最后由会督祝福并宣布第六届年会正式闭幕。



48th TRAC Methodist Women Session

By Julia Wong & MW Team



The 48th TRAC MW Session was held from 13-15 October 2023 in Novotel Hotel, Taiping which was attended by 112 participants. We wish to thank President Joshua Khong and his wife Elaine, who have always been faithfully present at our MW Sessions to grace the occasion with us.

This year's theme, "One Heart One Purpose" is taken from Romans 15:5-6, 'May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.' During the opening Service, President Joshua Khong spoke on "Being United with Christ, One in Love, Spirit Mind." He emphasised that the way forward for MW's growth and ministries should be through Christian Education, Spiritual Life and Social Concerns via three areas:

- 1) One Heart & One Purpose with the local church
- 2) One Heart & One Purpose with the community
- 3) One Heart & One Purpose with the nation

President expounded on how MW can make Christian Education (CE) more effective by being Relevant, Impactful, Creative & Effective (RICE).

In the spiritual life of the church, MW can support the seniors, young adults, children in Sunday School by Wealth (physical & mental), Influencing, Sustaining, Expanding (WISE).

Finally, MW can impact the lives of the community through Social Concerns by being Neighbourly, Inspiring, Caring and Exhorting (NICE).

Our plenary speaker was Dr Joanna Pae from Korea who currently serves as a missionary at Shiloh International Missions, and English ministry in Korea. She is also a translator and interpreter for the Center of Movement of Redemptive History.

Dr Joanna spoke over three sessions with the first session focussing on God's redemption plan for mankind.

In the second session, Dr Joanna emphasised on God's image and because we are created in His likeness, we need to reflect on our own spiritual journey to discover the Father's image in us. The image of God is love - epitomised in Jesus Christ who humbled himself for us. Hence, we are encouraged to imitate the humility of Christ, to carry the cross and count others more significant than ourselves and to always look for the interest of others.

In the final session, Dr Joanna explained that we are the 'Lampstands'.

Jesus is the way (John 14:4-6), "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him". As we journey with Christ, we are able to fathom the heart of our Father God. In order to understand the Father's heart, she further went on to explain how this 'living lampstands' of pure gold is being made. God is patient and will wait until we are his lamps and until we attain the image of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ will blossom with us.

In Colossians 4:2-3, "devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving". Jesus is the Light; He and the Father are one. In Revelation 1:20, "as for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands; the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches and the seven lampstands are the seven churches". The lampstand is the Church in the end times. And WE are the church.

Rev. Dr. Andrew Tan shared in the closing service with his sermon entitled, "United Service in One Body". He began with the apostle Paul's advice on how our renewed minds should think rightly about ourselves as the body of Christ and our giftings when serving in God's church.

In ministry, we are not to think too highly of ourselves than we ought to and we are to think of ourselves with sober judgment. We are individuals united in the body of Christ. We should exercise faith in using our spiritual gifts and serve in unity. Rev. Dr. Andrew posed the following questions for our reflection:

- 1) Am I participating in the body of Christ?
- 2) Am I serving in the body of Christ?
- 3) Have I found the niche in the body of Christ?
- 4) Am I imparting grace in the body of Christ?

I thank God for enabling us to have a fruitful Conference and for sending our two Preachers, President Joshua Khong and Rev. Dr. Andrew Tan and Plenary Speaker, Dr Joanna Pae to jointly share and bless us with His Word. Praise The Lord!

To God Be The Glory!

Some sharing from participants:
The Conference was truly amazing, inspiring and impactful. We had a wonderful time worshipping, fellowshiping, sharing and caring for one another. We are greatly blessed, deeply loved and highly favoured by our Almighty God. His awesome presence, power and peace were strongly felt and demonstrated throughout the 3-day event. There was an abundance of joy, laughter and food.



New friendships were formed; old friendships were renewed. The 48th MW session will undoubtedly leave a lasting impression on every attendee. Truly, God will lead and guide each one of us as we seek Him always. Praise the Lord!

By Ailyn Lim, TMC PJ MW

So blessed to be welcomed and included in the TRAC Methodist Women 48th Session though we do not have any local MW Society in our church. It was our first time experience to attend the MW conference. On behalf of our TMC Sungai Buloh group of ladies, I would like to say, we have learnt new things and to know that MW has three core programs ie. Spiritual Life, Christian Education and Social Concerns. All of which is evident in our day-to-day living. In addition, we noticed the many extended good works which MW is doing in helping and educating people within its reach and at the same time to keep building more MW groups. I was encouraged to see many older sisters still contributing actively for the glory of God. Having got the opportunity to be with the TRAC MW was an eye-opener for all of us, the older and

the younger sisters as well. We were inspired by the very well organized conference and all the neatly submitted reports which enabled us to visualize how the MW operates, and how united it can be even running concurrently nationwide.

It was such a blessing even just amongst us TMC Sungai Buloh sisters to have attended this MW Conference as it provided the opportunity for us to get to bond with one another and know each other better within our own circle. Together we are glad that sister Emi informed us about the conference and got all eight of us to sign up within 48 hours! We all went "goo-goo ga-ga" with excitement, first and foremost to be a part of the TRAC MW Conference and of course to step into the "land of PEACE" called "TAIPING".

We praise and thank God for the wonderful opportunity to participate in the TRAC MW Conference.

By Phyllis Ng, TMC Sungai Buloh



Dedication of Wisma Methodist Sabah HQ – Glory to God!

【沙巴卫理总部大厦】落成奉献典礼：荣耀归于上主！



【沙巴卫理总部大厦】由购地、开工建造直到竣工，这其中是一个充满恩典与神迹的过程！沙巴年议会全体牧者和会友一起体验了上主的信实和丰富的供应。在经历了全球疫情、行动管制令、人力和经济资源各方面的挑战后，我们终于在本会庆祝在沙巴设教40周年之际顺利完成大厦的工程！此栋大厦共六层楼，设在底楼的有Eulogeo Café和卫理福音书局；第一层为行政中心，内有办公室以及会议室；第二层为生命培育中心，设有圣经中心、团契室/课室、资讯传播室等等。至于第三、四层则有39间客房，为牧者、会友及朋友们提供接待和住宿之用。第五层是可容纳400人的大礼堂，为崇拜及会议的场所。

2023年11月11日 - 沙巴年议会同仁以喜乐和感恩的心，将【沙巴卫理总部大厦】奉献予上主！在各年议会的会长、建委会成员、领袖及会友们的见证下，我们恭请马来西亚基督教卫理公会会督贾古玛牧师博士主持奉献典礼。我们将所有的颂赞和荣耀都归于那为我们预备并成就一切的上主！也祝愿我们在使用这座大厦时，不违《为了下一代，起来再建造》的异象与使命 - 强化行政事工、提升经济资源、深化生命培育 - 让它成为沙巴年议会大家庭以及社区的祝福！

The building project of **WISMA METHODIST SABAH HQ** has truly been a miraculous journey filled with God's grace since the inception till completion! We witnessed God's faithfulness and His abundant provisions. Despite the pandemic, MCO's and challenges in terms of resources, we managed to complete the building in conjunction with the celebration of Sabah Annual Conference's 40th Anniversary!

The building consists of six levels with Eulogeo Café and Methodist Book Room on the ground floor. The first floor houses SAC's Administration Centre equipped with offices and conference rooms while the second floor is designed for Life-Nurturing purposes with a Bible Centre, Fellowship Hall, Classrooms, Media & Communications Room set up. 39 hostel rooms occupy the third and fourth floors to provide accommodation and hospitality to pastors, members, family and friends. A Multi-Purpose Hall with a seating capacity of 400 persons completes the fifth floor.

WISMA METHODIST SABAH HQ was dedicated to God on 11 November 2023 by Bishop Dr. T. Jeyakumar, witnessed by the six Presidents of the Annual Conferences, building committee members, leaders and members. Our hearts were bursting with joy on this very special day and we give all praise and glory to God who has prepared and accomplished all these for us! May we stay faithful to the vision: *Arise and Build for our New Generation* and the mission of this building - *to Enhance our Administration, to Elevate our Finance and to Deepen our Discipleship*. May this building be a blessing to the family of Sabah Annual Conference as well as the community at large!

Opening and Dedication of Methodist Book Room Kota Kinabalu



Bishop Dr. T. Jeyakumar unveiled the plaque marking the opening of Methodist Book Room Kota Kinabalu Branch during its Dedication Service on 11 November 2023. The new branch, wholly owned and managed by SCAC, covers a floor area of about 1250 square feet and is located on the ground floor of Wisma Methodist Sabah Headquarters.

The Book Room Dedication Ceremony was attended by the Presidents of CAC, SCAC, SAC, TRAC and the Bishop of Basel Christian Church of Malaysia,

Reverend James Wong Chong Leong. About 100 persons consisting of the Board and staff of Methodist Book Room, Pastors and representatives of Sabah Annual Conference attended the Dedication Service.

We praise God that MBR now has a branch outlet in Kota Kinabalu to serve our churches and the local community with Christian books, gifts and other resources.



Unveiling the plaque



Group photo



TRAC Methodist Seniors Fellowship Camp 2023 “A Grateful Life”

By Lee Saw Hoon and Tay Choon Neo



Thwarted by the pandemic for three years, 170 ‘Young Seniors’ and Senior Seniors from MSF chapters throughout Malaysia and 20 seniors from TRAC Singapore expectantly came together for the 29th TRAC MSF Annual Camp & AGM held at Cititel Penang from 10 - 13 October 2023.

The young-at-heart participants praised and worshipped God exuberantly, experiencing God’s presence and they were touched by the messages. “...Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever”.

The Speakers, Bishop Emeritus Wee Boon Hup from Singapore and Mr Kon Onn Sein gave a series of heartwarming messages focussing on two main topics: “Living a Grateful Life” and “Missions”.



Yes, God was present with us at the camp as we paused to think of the years of experience He has allowed us to go through. Even for the bad ones, we can be grateful and thankful and turn them for good.

At this stage in our lives, many of us tell many a young person, ‘I have eaten more salt than you have eaten rice!’ We have gone through a lot, experienced ups and down, counted our blessings. But at this camp, we paused to reflect and be grateful – an attitude – and to be thankful – a doing. Such is the difference which I had never thought of and was reminded by Bishop Wee.

The call to all of us, irrespective of age or circumstance, rang out loud and clear as Kon Onn Sein shared with us his 30 years’ experience in the mission field among the Aborigines. His trust and faith in God to persevere in his work touched our hearts.

His testimony of God’s faithfulness challenged us to share in partnership in the unfinished task of missions.



At the AGM, TRAC MSF President Daniel Chan highlighted the TRAC MSF vision which is a 6-point initiative to address new challenges in the Seniors Ministry for the next two quadrennium. Director, Seniors Ministry, Rev. David Loo expanded on the Season of Growth with the MSF Vision :

- Ministry Growth – establish new local chapters, revive old chapters
- Spiritual Growth – instill Spiritual Empowerment and Growth through Alpha courses, LPL courses and others
- Missional Growth – pitch in with time, money, energy, etc
- Care Growth – establish Residential Care Centres and Day Care Centres; Hospice Facilities and End of Life Ministry
- Connectional Growth – establish the General Conference Methodist Seniors Fellowship, GCMSF, with other Conferences; a draft constitution has been prepared and TRAC is taking the lead. GCMSF could be set up by 2025

- Personnel and Resource Growth – provision for a National TRAC Director of Seniors Ministry with an office.

A proposal from TRAC MSF Board to TRAC Executive Board

- MSF Sunday collection to be taken in churches – offering for missions and outreach as has been done in the past
- Any Sunday in October can be set aside as MSF Sunday

The Fellowship Nite was an Evening of hilarious fun and camaraderie as various chapters came forward to share their talents in singing, dancing, acting and what-have-you. A few individuals, inspired by the cheerful air volunteered some impromptu talent displays as well. What a memorable evening full of fun and laughter! *Who said seniors were boring!!*

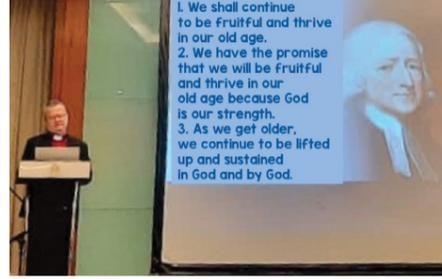


In his closing message, President Joshua Khong gave an analogy of the palm tree and cedar tree, reminding us :

- to be dedicated to God (like the palm tree growing straight and tall), and
- to remain in connection with others as we serve in His Kingdom (like the cedar spreading out its branches).

What a solid ending for us: A clarion call to us seniors that the work is not done while we still have breath!

Our appreciation to the Northern District Local Planning Committee for a wonderful camp - good hotel, good food (spiritual and physical) and good hospitality. All Glory be to God!



தலைப்பு: கிறிஸ்துவின் உண்மையான அர்த்தத்தை மீண்டும் கண்டறிதல்: வேதாகமத்தின் அடிப்படையிலான ஒரு பார்வை

இந்த கால கட்டத்தில் கிறிஸ்துவம் கொண்டாட்டங்கள் மற்றும் அதை சார்ந்த விஷயங்களில் முழுகிவிடுவது எளிதான காரியம். ஆனால் கிறிஸ்தவம் என்பது பரிசுகளை பரிமாறிக்கொள்வது மற்றும் பிரகாசமான அலங்காரங்களை பார்க்கிலும் மேலானது. கிறிஸ்தவின் உண்மையான முக்கியத்துவத்தை வேதத்தின் நிலைப்பாட்டில் இருந்து ஆராய்ந்து இன்று அதன் பொருந்தக்கூடிய தன்மையைக் கருத்தில் கொள்வோமாக.

இயேசு கிறிஸ்துவின் பிறப்பு

கிறிஸ்துவம், அதன் மையத்தில், இயேசு கிறிஸ்துவின் பிறப்பை நினைவுபடுத்துகிறது. லூக்கா 2:10-11 ல் இவ்வாறாக நமக்குச் சொல்கிறது, 10 தேவதூதன் அவர்களை நோக்கி: பயப்படாதிருங்கள்; இதோ, எல்லா ஜனத்துக்கும் மிகுந்த சந்தோஷத்தை உண்டாக்கும் நற்செய்தியை உங்களுக்கு அறிவிக்கிறேன். 11 இன்று கர்த்தராகிய கிறிஸ்து என்னும் இரட்சகர் உங்களுக்குத் தாவீதின் ஊரிலே பிறந்திருக்கிறார்.

இந்த முக்கியமான நிகழ்வு, இரட்சகராகிய இயேசு கிறிஸ்துவின் வடிவத்தில் வெளிப்படும் மனிதகுலத்தின் மீது தேவனுடைய அன்பைக் குறிக்கிறது. இது நம்பிக்கை மற்றும் இரட்சிப்பின் நினைவுட்டலாக செயல்படுகிறது, கலாச்சார மற்றும் தற்காலிக எல்லைகளுக்கு அப்பாற்பட்ட காலத்தை கடக்கும் செய்தியாய் விழங்குகிறது.

அன்பு, இரக்கம் மற்றும் கொடுப்பது

கிறிஸ்தவம் என்பது அன்பு, இரக்கம் மற்றும் கொடுப்பதற்கான நேரம், இவை அனைத்தும் பைபிளின் போதனைகளில் ஆழமாக வேரூன்றியுள்ளன. தேவன், தம்முடைய ஒரேபேறான குமாரனை விசுவாசிக்கிறவன் எவனோ அவன் கெட்டுப்போகாமல் நித்தியஜீவனை அடையும்படிக்கு, அவரைத் தந்தருளி, இவ்வளவாய் உலகத்தில் அன்பு கூர்ந்தார் என்று யோவான் 3:16 - ல் இப்படியாக எழுதப்பட்டு இருக்கிறது.

இந்த வசனம் தன்னலமற்ற கொடுப்பதன் உணர்வைப் பிடிக்கிறது, இது கிறிஸ்துவத்தில் பரிசுகளை வழங்குதல் மற்றும் பெறுதல் ஆகியவற்றின் செயலில் பிரதிபலிக்கிறது.

நாம் கொண்டாடும் போது, மற்றவர்களுடன், குறிப்பாக தேவைப்படுபவர்களுடன் நேசிப்பதற்கும் பகிர்ந்து கொள்வதற்கும் நமது திறனைக் கருத்தில் கொள்ள ஊக்குவிக்கப்படுகிறோம். கிறிஸ்து தனது வாழ்க்கையிலும் போதனைகளிலும் வெளிப்படுத்தியதைப் போல, நம் அண்டை வீட்டாரிடம் அன்பையும் கருணையையும் காட்டுவதில் கிறிஸ்தவின் உண்மையான மகிழ்ச்சி காணப்படுகிறது.

இருளில் ஒளி

நம்பிக்கையின்மையும் இருளும் நிறைந்த இந்த பொதுவான உலகில், கிறிஸ்துவம் நம்பிக்கையையும் ஒளியையும் வழங்குகிறது.

ஏசாயா 9:2 -ன்படி, "இருளில் நடக்கிற ஜனங்கள் பெரிய வெளிச்சத்தைக் கண்டார்கள்; மரண இருளின் தேசத்தில் குடியிருக்கிறவர்களின்மேல் வெளிச்சம் பிரகாசித்தது." யோவான் 8:12 இன் படி, இயேசு பொதுவாக "உலகின் ஒளி" என்று குறிப்பிடப்படுகிறார், இது நம்பிக்கையையும் மனிதகுலத்தை பாதிக்கும் ஆன்மீக இருளில் இருந்து வெளியேறும் பாதையையும் குறிக்கிறது.

கர்த்தருடைய அன்பை மற்றவர்களுடன் பகிர்ந்துகொள்வதன் மூலமும், கருணையின் கலங்கரை விளக்கங்களாக வாழ்வதன் மூலமும் கிறிஸ்துவம் காலம் முழுவதும் இந்த ஒளியைப் பிரகாசிக்குமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்ளப்படுகிறோம்.

தற்போதைய காலத்தில் தொடர்பு

இன்றைய துரிதமான மற்றும் பெரும்பாலும் குழப்பமான உலகில் கிறிஸ்தவம் பற்றிய வேதத்தின் செய்தி மிகவும் பொருத்தமானது. சமூக அமைதியின்மை, நிச்சயமற்ற தன்மை மற்றும் பொருளாசை பேராசை ஆகியவற்றின் யுகத்தில், கிறிஸ்தவின் ஆழமான உண்மை அர்த்தமுள்ள மற்றும் நோக்கமுள்ள வாழ்க்கையை வாழ்வதற்கான காலமற்ற வரைபடத்தை வழங்குகிறது.

மற்றவர்களுடன் பழகும் போது, அன்பு, இரக்கம், தன்னலமற்ற தன்மை ஆகிய நற்பண்புகளுக்கு ஏற்றவாறு வாழ இது நம்மை அறிவுறுத்துகிறது. நம்பிக்கை மற்றும் ஒளியின் செய்தியின் மூலம் போராட்டங்களில் விடாமுயற்சியுடன் கடக்க நாம் தூண்டப்படுகிறோம், ஏனென்றால் ஒரு சிறந்த எதிர்காலம் முன்னால் உள்ளது என்பதை நாம் அறிவோம்.

முடிவில், வேதத்தில் காணப்படும் கிறிஸ்தவின் உண்மையான அர்த்தம் காலம் மற்றும் கலாச்சார எல்லைகளை தாண்டி செல்கிறது. இது இருளை விரட்டும் ஒளியின் நினைவுட்டல், தெய்வீக அன்பின் கொண்டாட்டம், கிறிஸ்துவின் இரக்கத்தைப் பின்பற்றுவதற்கான அறிவுரை. இந்த கிறிஸ்தவம் கொண்டாட்டங்களை அனுபவிப்பதோடு, இந்த காலத்தை தனித்துவமாக்கும் ஆழமான வேதாகமத்தின் உண்மைகளை தழுவி பரப்புவோமாக.

கிறிஸ்து நிறைந்த கிறிஸ்துவம் மற்றும் ஆசீர்வாதமான புத்தாண்டை கொண்டாடுங்கள்.

எழுத்து போதகர் இ. குணபாலன்



Konsep Manusia Duniawi Menurut Paulus di Surat 1 Korintus 3:1-4

Oleh: Pdt. Jatan Badi (SIAC)

Paulus di 1 Korintus 3 tidak dapat terlepas dari perpecahan jemaat yang terjadi di gereja Korintus (1 Kor. 1:10; bdk. 3:3-4). Perpecahan jemaat terjadi kerana jemaat Korintus adalah orang Kristian yang belum dewasa.¹ Di 1 Korintus 3:1-4 ini secara khusus Paulus memberi teguran kepada jemaat Korintus tetapi masih hidup sebagai manusia duniawi. Paulus juga menegur kelemahan dan kebodohan jemaat di Korintus yang membuat mereka tidak bertumbuh secara rohani seperti yang diharapkan. Kelemahan dan kebodohan ini kerana mereka masih dipengaruhi oleh sifat-sifat duniawi.² Kerana itu, Paulus menjelaskan tentang tiga ciri manusia duniawi jemaat Korintus yang belum dewasa secara rohani.

Ciri pertama ialah jemaat di Korintus belum dewasa dalam Kristus (1 Kor. 3:1). Istilah “belum dewasa” dalam ayat 1 berasal dari bahasa Yunani, *nepios*, yang memiliki arti kanak-kanak, belum dewasa, atau anak kecil.³ Perkataan “belum dewasa” bukan berarti baru bertaubat atau baru percaya, melainkan mereka tidak bertumbuh atau tidak maju di dalam Kristus.⁴ Ketidakdewasaan mereka membuat Paulus tidak dapat memberikan makanan keras kepada mereka saat berkunjung buat pertama kali.⁵ Oleh itu, Paulus tidak mengajar mereka sebagai orang Kristian yang rohani (ay.1), melainkan mengajar mereka sebagai “manusia duniawi” agar khotbahnya sesuai dengan kemampuan mereka dan mereka dapat mengerti akan pengajaran yang disampaikan.

Ketidakdewasaan rohani jemaat di Korintus membuat mereka belum sanggup mengerti pengajaran Kristus dengan dalam.

Ciri kedua ialah masih makan makanan yang lembut (1 Kor. 3:2). Mereka disamakan oleh Paulus sebagai “bayi di dalam Kristus” yang mengkonsumsi susu dan bukan makanan keras.⁶ Susu adalah makanan untuk bayi kerana mereka belum mampu makan makanan keras seperti orang dewasa. Jadi jemaat di Korintus diibaratkan seperti bayi rohani yang belum dewasa secara rohani. Kata ini dapat dilihat pada ayat 2 bahawa mereka masih diberikan makanan berupa susu dan bukannya makanan keras yang berupa pengajaran dasar iman Kristian dan bukan pengajaran yang dalam tentang iman Kristian. Jelas menunjukkan bahawa ketidakdewasaan kerohanian mereka atas ketidakmampuan mereka menerima pengajaran yang dalam atau “keras.”⁷ Tampaknya, jemaat di Korintus belum dewasa dalam Kristus dari segi pertumbuhan rohani kerana mereka masih makan makanan lembut yang merujuk kepada susu. Jemaat di Korintus menurut penilaian Paulus masih tetap bayi sekalipun telah menerima pengajaran tentang iman Kristian. Yang terjadi adalah mereka tetap pada pengajaran dasar iman Kristian namun belum bertumbuh dewasa dalam pengertian dasar itu. Sebenarnya Paulus tidak ingin para petaubatnya hidup dengan susu sepanjang hidup mereka. Paulus menginginkan mereka terus bertumbuh dan

mampu menerima pengajaran atau teologi yang lebih mendalam dan akhirnya dapat mengajar atau memimpin orang lain.

Ciri ketiga, Paulus mengatakan bahawa mereka masih hidup sebagai “manusia duniawi” (ay.3), iaitu hidup di luar karakter sebagai orang Kristian yang sudah lahir baru dan telah meninggalkan manusia lama (bdk. Ef. 4:22-24). Sifat manusia duniawi yang Paulus ada nyatakan di sini adalah mereka masih hidup dalam iri hati dan perselisihan (1 Kor. 3:3-4). Manusia duniawi yang ada di jemaat di Korintus terlihat dari sifat iri hati dan perselisihan yang ada di tengah mereka.⁸ Manusia duniawi di dalam Yunani memakai kata *σαρκινος άνθρωπος* (*sarkinos anthropos*), memiliki maksud dan arti yang terdiri dari daging, lemah, dan duniawi.⁹ Namun pada ayat 3 menggunakan kata *σαρκικος* (*sarkikos*), yang merujuk kepada “manusia duniawi” namun di sini bukan *sarkinos* tetapi *sarkikos* (bdk. Rm. 7:18; 8:5), yang menunjuk kepada orang-orang yang melakukan perkara-perkara duniawi yang bersifat binatang atau hawa nafsu (bdk. Gal. 5:19-21).¹⁰ Paulus pernah memperkatakan hal yang sama di 1 Korintus 1:11, yang berhubungan adanya perpecahan diantara mereka di dalam gereja dan hal ini merusak persekutuan dan tidak pantas berlaku di dalam persekutuan mereka.

Paulus menegur keduniawian mereka dengan mengungkapkan perbantahan dan perselisihan di antara para pelayan Tuhan. Mereka berseteru, bertikai, dan terpecah-belah mengenai pelayan-pelayan Tuhan, sebab seorang berkata: “Aku dari golongan Paulus,” dan yang lain berkata: “Aku dari golongan Apolos” (ayat 4).¹¹ Pengolongan ini merusak persekutuan dan kedamaian dalam jemaat

Tuhan di Korintus. Paulus tidak menyetujuinya dan membantah sikap mereka dengan harapan membuat jemaat dapat menghindari kesalahan ini dan menyatakan kebenaran.¹² Mereka tidak sepenuhnya salah ketika mengagumi pelayan-pelayan Tuhan seperti Paulus, Apolos dan Petrus dengan menjadikan mereka sebagai panutan iman. Namun, dengan mengidolakan orang atau pelayan-pelayan Tuhan secara sepihak dan merendahkan pihak yang lain akan menimbulkan perselisihan di kalangan jemaat.¹³ Ayat 4 menyatakan bahawa orang yang memegahkan golongan sendiri menunjukkan tanda ketidakdewasaan. Kerohanian yang baik selalu disertai dengan sikap persekutuan, merangkul semua orang, hati yang luas, memberikan tempat kepada banyak orang, sehingga kesatuan yang utuh tercipta.¹⁴ Justru itu, Paulus mengungkapkan, “Bukankah hal itu menunjukkan, bahawa kamu manusia duniawi yang bukan rohani?” (ayat 4c), yang merujuk kepada perilaku mereka, yang hidup sebagai manusia duniawi, hidup dan bertindak seperti kebanyakan manusia lainnya.

Kesimpulannya, orang percaya yang belum dewasa di dalam Kristus adalah belum dapat berbuat hal-hal yang dapat menyenangkan hati Tuhan. Orang percaya yang masih sebatas anak kecil, yakni bayi rohani belum mampu belum sanggup mengerti pengajaran Kristus dengan dalam. Orang-orang yang berperilaku manusia duniawi masih dikuasai oleh jiwa yang penuh dosa, sombong, dan egois. Perilaku-perilaku ini seperti penyakit barah dengan bentuk dan akibat-akibatnya akan menghancurkan gereja dan jika dibiarkan akan menjatuhkan moral dan melemahkan hubungan sesama manusia.

¹Gordon H. Clark, *First Corinthians: A Contemporary Commentary* (Jefferson: The Trinity Foundation, 1975), 59.

²David Ibrahim, *Pelajaran Surat 1 Korintus* (Jakarta Barat: Mimery Press, 1999), 41.

³Yonatan Alex Arifianto, “Kajian Bibliikal tentang Manusia Rohani dan Manusia Duniawi,” *Jurnal Teruna Bhakti* 3, no. 1 (Augustus 2020): 15, diakses 3 Juni 2021. <http://stakterunabhakti.ac.id/e-journal/index.php/teruna/article/view/51/36>.

⁴J. Wesley Brill, *Tafsiran Surat Korintus Pertama* (Bandung: Yayasan Kalam Hidup, _), 74.

⁵Charles F. Pfeiffer dan Everett F. Harrison, ed., *Tafsiran Alkitab Wycliffe* (Malang: Yayasan Penerbit Gandum Mas, 2001), 610.

⁶Leon Morris, *1 Corinthians: An Introduction and Commentary* (Nottingham: Inter-Varsity Press, 2008), 65.

⁷Roy L. Laurin, *First Corinthians: Where Life Matures* (Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1991), 64.

⁸V. C. Pfitzner, *Kesatuan Dalam Kepelbagaian: Tafsiran atas Surat 1 Korintus* (Jakarta: Gunung Mulia, 2004), 51.

⁹Arifianto, “Kajian Bibliikal tentang Manusia Rohani dan Manusia Duniawi,” 15.

¹⁰Ibrahim, *Pelajaran Surat 1 Korintus*, 42.

¹¹Johnny Tjia, Barry van der Schoot, dan Stevy W. Tilaar, ed., *Tafsiran Matthew Henry: Surat Roma, 1 & 2 Korintus* (Surabaya: Momentum, 2015), 535.

¹²Brill, *Tafsiran Surat Korintus Pertama*, 77-78.

¹³Arifianto, “Kajian Bibliikal tentang Manusia Rohani dan Manusia Duniawi,” 19.

¹⁴Billy Kristanto, *Ajarlah Kami Bertumbuh: Refleksi Atas Surat 1 Korintus* (Surabaya: Penerbit Momentum, 2006), 37.



Methodist Educational Institutions Offer Early Childhood Education (ECE) Diploma and Degree Programmes

A child's first five years are undisputedly important when the foundation of learning is built and set toward future success. The Methodist educational institutions carefully developed the Early Childhood Education (ECE) programmes for those who enjoy teaching and nurturing children for their future. The diploma programme offered by Methodist College Kuala Lumpur (MCKL), and the degree programme offered by Methodist Pilley Institute (MPI) cater to aspiring ECE students, teachers and pre-school leaders in this area.

FROM MCKL TO IRELAND: WITH ASPIRATION TO TEACH

MCKL's Diploma in Early Childhood Education is developed to prepare students for a career working with young children in various educational and care settings. It focuses on the development of knowledge, skills and understanding related to child development, curriculum planning, classroom management, and creating a nurturing environment for young children.

Students will be fully equipped with relevant theoretical knowledge, teaching pedagogies, practical skills and a holistic understanding of young children's development, learning needs and growth. Upon graduation, MCKL graduates will be able to seek employment in the ECE field as a qualified practitioner or continue to earn a globally recognised degree either in universities in Ireland, Munster Technological University (MTU) or the U.K., University of Northampton, University of Gloucestershire and others. They will have the opportunity to complete their degree with only an additional year at such universities upon completing a Diploma in Early Childhood Education at MCKL.

MCKL is honoured to be in partnership with MTU for over 10 years. Both institutions have mutually built a long-lasting and transformative partnership to provide quality and comprehensive ECE to students to meet the ever-evolving demands of the workforce.

MCKL and MTU, Ireland first entered a partnership with the ambition of enabling MCKL students to directly enter the final year of MTU's bachelor in early childhood education programme. MCKL's students are eligible for this express pathway due to the comprehensive selection of subjects and robust practical exposure. MCKL students are also entitled to a special discount and scholarships. Now boasting over 120 alumni, the partnership has grown from humble beginnings with just six students in the first year.



Some of the recent graduates from Diploma in Early Childhood Education, class of 2023.



Denise Thean, recipient of the Government of Ireland International Education Scholarship and alumna of MCKL and MTU.

Denise Thean Pui Yan is one of the alumni who has continued their studies at MTU after graduating with a Diploma in Early Childhood Education. She was the recipient of the Government of Ireland International Education Scholarship and MCKL's 100% Merit Scholarship. "This scholarship and pathway eased my parents' financial burden and it made my dream to pursue higher education at a world-renowned university come true," stated Denise. Denise shared some positive enlightenment about her journey studying in Ireland. "The constant assistance from lecturers was especially significant for me when I was studying at MTU. It helped me to alleviate many uncertainties that I had with the assessment methods adopted in Ireland. I thank God for all the positive and negative experiences that He allowed me to go through throughout my journey of study at MCKL as well as at MTU. I would say that my experience in MCKL and MTU is both fantastic and exciting".

Denise Thean is one of many examples of great achievers from MCKL. The students and alumni of MCKL aim to achieve their highest dreams and goals through their own determination and hard work. MCKL strives to deliver excellent quality education, which ultimately serves its purpose as an institution for the community and the achievement of such students is the epitome of their values and beliefs.

For 40 years, MCKL has been providing quality higher education in the best of Methodist tradition. Besides providing top quality pre-university, diploma, American Degree Transfer Program and professional courses, MCKL is in the aspiration to offer Degree courses as this will be a great opportunity for students to continue their higher-level studies at MCKL.

For further information on the programmes offered by MCKL, contact us at 03-2300 0998 (KL Campus), 03-23362164 (Pykett Campus, Penang) or visit www.mckl.edu.my to enquire more about our upcoming intakes. Follow MCKL on its official social media channels on Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram @ MethodistCollegeKL.



Early Childhood Simulation Room at MCKL College (Pykett, Penang Campus)



Visit here to find our more information about our Diploma in Early Childhood Education Programme



Position : Teachers (Mathematics, Science and English subjects)
Location : Wesley Methodist Schools (Kuala Lumpur, Bandar Seri Coalfields, Klang, Seremban, Ipoh, Penang)

JOB DESCRIPTION

- Teach full-time IGCSE or KSSM subjects.
- Develop lesson plans, provide homework to students, marking of workbooks, and give appropriate feedback to the students. Prepare test papers and revision papers to prepare students for their exams.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Candidates must possess at least a Bachelor's Degree/Post-Graduate Diploma/Professional Degree in Education/Teaching/Training or equivalent.
- At least two (2) years of teaching experience in IGCSE subjects in an International School setting.
- Candidates must be fluent in both written and spoken English & Bahasa Malaysia

To apply, please contact Ms Geraldine at the Methodist Council of Education at (017) 255-0890 or email full resume to: geraldine@mcoe.edu.my. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.



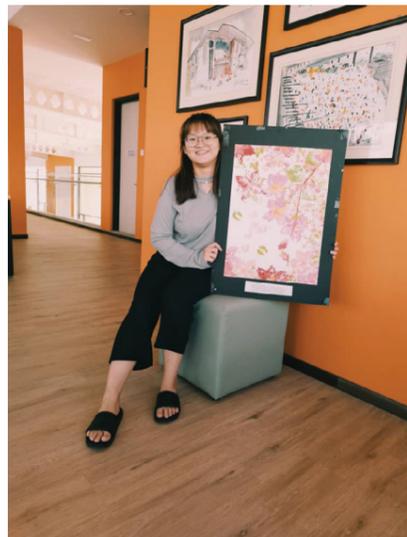
Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (Hons)

The Methodist Pilley Institute (MPI) Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (Hons) Programme (BECE) is the professional preparation for early childhood educators and carers. The programme is spiral and integrated into scope and content. It begins with a broad base, progressively becoming learning-outcome-based, and finally links school achievement with society and home. The programme helps students acquire knowledge and understanding of the foundations of early childhood education, young children’s curriculum and the contemporary societal issues and trends linking home, school, and society. The graduates are academically strong, professionally competent, and personally motivated with national and international recognition for admission to postgraduate studies such as MA/Med and PhD. The programme adheres to Early Childhood Education Principles and Practice. For example, 16 weeks of teaching practicum and the independent inquiry.

BECE at MPI will be more project-based and include elective choices in special needs, psychology and entrepreneurship. This programme is designed to provide and equip students with in-depth knowledge of teaching young children from birth up to the age of 6 years old. Using a blended learning approach, the student-centred programme includes a wide variety of learning experiences, instructional approaches and academic support strategies that intend to address the distinct interests and aspirations of those who aspire to be early childhood educators or are simply just interested in the education of young children.

Getting an insight into students who study the programme at MPI

Ms Esther Ha Hoa Yin, a UEC student from Catholic High School shares her reason for choosing early childhood education, *“I chose early childhood education because I like children. More importantly, I think that in terms of education, early childhood education is the most important and influential, because childhood experiences and education will affect a person’s life. The reason for choosing BECE programme at Methodist Pilley Institute is because it allows students the time and opportunity to work in a kindergarten. This allows me to pursue my degree studies at MPI and at the same time, gain practical experience, which eventually enables me to have a better understanding of the knowledge taught by the lecturers.”*



Esther Ha Hao Ying – MPI BECE allows her to pursue degree studies and work in a kindergarten at the same time.



Emily had always dreamed of becoming a teacher since she was a little girl.

Emily Liu En Chii, after graduating from SMK Bandar Sibu with an STPM qualification chose the study of early childhood education because it has always been her dream to become a teacher since she was a little girl. *“As I grew up, I have been curious about how to care for and educate children from 0 to 6 years old. It is my passion to interact and work with children.”*

A lot of people had recommended Methodist Pilley Institute to Emily so she did some research on the ECE programmes through MPI’s website. What interested her most is that she could complete a study degree in early childhood education (Hons) in her hometown Sibu at MPI. The programme is a collaboration between Methodist Pilley Institute and HELP University.

Emily attributes her success in study to the committed ECE lecturers at MPI, who have been supportive and caring whenever she encountered difficulties and challenges in her studies. Friends’ support is also another critical factor. *“When we study and work together, encouragement and support from each other are the driving force to keep us going.”* One of the advantages of studying ECE at MPI is that the student can pursue their studies through a blended mode (online + face-to-face). This provides students with the flexibility to work part-time while taking classes during afternoons or weekends allowing students to better understand and put into practice the theory that they have learned in the class. Emily is currently working part-time at Tadika Fu Yuan as an assistant teacher and a teacher in charge of science experiments. Beginning next year, she will be teaching at Methodist Childcare Centre.

Emily’s ambition is to become an ECE teacher because she believes that early development and education are most important for one to achieve profound success in his or her adult life. Any information that the children receive is crucial as it could have a life-changing effect on their whole life. *“I want to be a teacher who can provide fun and knowledge to every child. Becoming an ECE teacher is not an easy job. It requires a lot of passion, as well as a heart that will never stop learning. I hope I will always uphold this belief.”*



Emily aspires to be a teacher who can provide fun and knowledge to every child.

Entry requirements of the programme: STPM with a minimum 2C or UEC with a minimum 5B or an equivalent Diploma/Foundation/Matriculation with a minimum CGPA of 2.0. The next intake for BECE is on 3 January 2024. For more information and course enquiries, please contact MPI at 08-432 2268 or text WhatsApp messages to 011-5556 8806.



Building A House for the Orang Asli: Wesley Methodist School Penang (International) in Collaboration with Epic Homes



Building the structure of a house from scratch.

In October 2023, students at Wesley Methodist School Penang (International) (WMSPI) collaborated with Epic Homes to build a house for the Orang Asli in Kampung Songkok, Batang Kali, Selangor.

The construction project involved 26 students aged between 14 to 17 years old ranging from Year 8 to Year 11 in secondary school, together with four teachers and four parents who were supervised by Epic Homes master builders and its core team. The construction was completed within four working days.

This is an inaugural Orang Asli community outreach programme that the school has organised to make a difference in the lives of both students and the community involved.

Alvin Chew, a parent lauded, "I am so amazed by the students who have shown a high level of maturity, energy and enthusiasm. They have pushed

boundaries, conquered their fears and finished the project on time. I am humbled by the experience and gained much perspective of what 14-17 year-olds can do if we encourage and believe in them."

Joshua, one of the students reflected, "Before the project, I was deeply excited as I had always wished to build something. I was happy for Intan and Fendi (the home receivers) as they had been waiting for five years for a house to be built for them. I was truly touched and grateful to have joined this programme. I will recommend it and will do it again."

The project cost over RM110,000. Through a fundraising event that aimed to help build homes for the Orang Asli family, students of WMSPI successfully raised the much-needed funds by selling cookies, nuts, ice-creams, drinks, accessories, and t-shirts designed by them, providing car wash service, receiving donations from parents, family members, friends, and some corporate sponsorships.



Building in progress: ensuring the foundation of the house is built properly.



Students with happy faces while undergoing the construction- a meaningful experience for them.



WMSPI Students in Action

About Epic Homes

Epic Homes is a social enterprise that builds homes for the Orang Asli, of which the enterprise has grown to be known as a bridge for building relationships between urban and rural communities.

About Wesley Methodist School Penang (International)

Established in 2018, WMSPI offers Early Years, Primary (Key Stage 1 & 2), and Secondary (Key Stage 3 & 4) education. The school delivers the Cambridge International curriculum that is internationally recognised, enhanced with additional subjects such as Chinese, Bahasa Melayu (National Curriculum), and Music & Drama (Trinity College London).

WMSPI provides holistic learning in building up each child into a responsible, purposeful individual and

citizen equipped with the aptitudes to succeed and adapt in a rapidly changing world through Methodist Education:

- A - Academic excellence with affordability
- C - Character building with Christian values - God Centeredness; Respect for Life; Integrity; Excellence with Humility
- E - Extra-curricular achievements aiming to provide extensive exposure to arts, science, sports and team building; also, to develop the learners' leadership skills and to have the responsibilities for community services.



Scan here to find out more about our school.



Wesley Methodist School Penang (International) Clinch 64 Medals in Global Academic Competition



Participating students in the WSC Competition



Happy face with medals around her neck and trophies in hand.

Students from Wesley Methodist School Penang (International) secondary school made their school and country proud by winning 22 gold medals, 42 silver medals, and 3 trophies at the recently concluded Tournament of Champions of the World Scholar's Cup (WSC) competition at Yale University, USA.

The eight students who participated in the junior and senior divisions of the competition displayed remarkable performance and achieved great accomplishment on the international stage whilst competing against 350 teams from countries around the world.

In August, 29 students competed against more than 2,200 skilled and talented students at WSC's Bangkok Global Round obtaining 90 gold medals, 88 silver medals and 2 trophies earning all of them a place in the Tournament of Champions.

WSC is an international competition organised to motivate students from all backgrounds to discover new strengths, practice new skills, and inspire a global community of future scholars and leaders.

All the students participated in 4 academic events: the scholar's challenge, scholar's bowl, team debate and collaborative writing. Through such

great experience and exposure, our students have sharpened their essay writing skills, built courage to speak and debate, enhanced critical thinking skills, promoted the culture of reading and are ready for international competitions of higher levels.



Students with their Vice Principal - Academic who accompanied them to Yale University during the competition.



For more information about the school, scan here to find out more.



Wesley Methodist School Bandar Seri Coalfields (Private) Clinches Medal in the Malaysian Choir Competition Degree Programmes



The group of students who won the bronze medal, together with their instructor, Vice Principal - Academic, and Principal of the school at MCE held at the KLPAC.



Certificate and trophy received by the school's Principal and Vice Principal - Academic at the event.

Students from Wesley Methodist School Bandar Seri Coalfields (Private) secured a bronze medal at the Malaysian Choral Eisteddfod International Choral Festival (MCEICF).

Competing against many choir teams which hailed from other Asian countries, the students clinched the top three place with a score of 61.67. A remarkable achievement which testifies to their perseverance, patience, effort, and tireless practice for more than two months prior to the competition.

Following the announcement on 5 November 2023, Madam Rachel Wong, Principal of the school, expressed her gratitude and happiness in congratulating the winning students. The 33 students had a memorable experience in participating in the event and enjoyed the camaraderie without the pressure of winning. It turned out to be an unexpected win for the school and its students.

The Malaysian Choral Eisteddfod International Choral Festival (MCEICF) is an annual event, considered

as one of Malaysia's largest and most prestigious choral festivals. It serves as a platform for singers, choirs, conductors and teachers to work with a distinguished team of international choral clinicians through our series of symposiums, competitions and festival concerts.



WMSBSCP student choir team performance



For more information about the school, scan here to find out.



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