

PELITA METHODIST

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REPENT RETURN RESTORE
REBUILD REJOICE

THE MALAYSIA DAY PRAYER CELEBRATION
2014

Moment

Launching of Book Sarawak Women in Volunteerism with Chief Minister's wife and YB Datuk Fatimah Abdullah and Toh Puan Norkiah.

Alice Jawan, the GCMW President was recently conferred the 'Panglima Setia Bintang Sarawak' (P.S.B.S.) which carries the title "Dato" at the 78th Birthday of the Tuan Yang Terutama Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak on the 13th September 2014. She is the first non-political Iban to be awarded or honored from the 3rd Division or Sibu area. Thus, it is a great honor for women specifically to be accorded this honor for contribution in a Non-Government Organization (NGO) or Christian women ministry. Beside this State award, she was also recognized by the State and featured in the coffee table book - "Sarawak Women in Volunteerism" which was launched at this year's State Women's Day celebration in September. The book was produced under the Ministry of Welfare, Women, & Family Development, Sarawak.

Dato Alice Jawan serves as the Deputy General Manager of Sibu Water Board, dealing with the development, production, and distribution of treated water to the communities of Sibu. Over the years, she has led the organization in many 'first'; notably the implementation of the Integrated Management System which have been recognized by the State and Nation, and currently is dealing with Non-Revenue Water (NRW) where she heads the State Working Group in reducing the non-revenue water or wastage in the State's organization. She has written and presented technical papers relating to NRW in international conferences in several countries. In the state, she is known for her contribution to the Dayak women



organization. The main organization that she worked with is the Sarakup Indu Dayak Sarawak based in Sibu.

List of NGOs that she is involved with:-

- Sarakup Indu Dayak Sarawak, Sibu of which she is the Chairperson;
- Persatuan Ibu Tunggal Sarawak, Sibu of which she is the Advisor; and
- Bala Indu Methodist-SIAC & GCMW.

She also serves the community in various ways, leading the community in organizing of the annual Gawai celebration and Borneo Dayak Cultural Festival, respectively.

Two guiding principles that has shaped her is to ask, seek and knock (Luke 11:9) and to be light of the world (Matthew 5:13-16).

While interviewing her, she has attributed a lot of her success to the kind advice and encouragement from President Rev. Steward Damat, Rev. Elizabeth Enjut, and the late Rev. Serani Pillai who always had faith in her capabilities to serve Him.

Congratulations again to our own Dato Alice Jawan.

By Michael William



Alice receiving award from TYT Di Pertua Negeri Sarawak on 13.9.2014.

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Pray, regardless!

“And do not lead us into temptation,
but deliver us from evil”

This is the final petition in the Lord’s prayer.

The word “temptation” here refers to afflictions in general sense. It also has the basic meaning of “test”. The big question would probably be “does God present us with temptation”? According to the Old Testament, God does put people to test to find out if they will obey him (e.g. book of Job); and according to 1 Cor 10:13, God creates both the source of testing and the strength to endure it. However, James says that God tempts no one (1:13), but that we must know our weakness and seek to be kept far from whatever that may bring us to sin.

Another debate would be on the word “evil”. Some say “evil” in this verse refers to an abstract idea or force, others argue that it refers to Satan, the Evil One.

We live in a world that continually bombards us with the reality of sin and its consequences, just as we are witnessing today. Daily we see, hear or read about, or even experience the darkest part of man being revealed in every sphere. Perhaps the question whether

God sends temptation is really not a concern, but that we pray. Whether “evil” or “the Evil one”, the power of evil is a reality, and therefore we must pray. For we have the assurance that God will rescue us from every evil work (2 Tim 4:18).

Paul encourages us to rejoice in hope, persevere in tribulation, and be devoted to prayer (Rom 12:12).

Let’s pray:

Father in heaven, we confess the weakness of our flesh and inadequacy to deal with sin, and we need You. Therefore we sincerely pray that You lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Help us to trust You more in the midst of trials, strengthen us in the face of temptation, that we may in turn encourage others, that all may see Your glory.

- Read Matthew 6:13; 1 Cor 10:12-13; 2 Tim 4:1-18

Grave concerns:

Father, You say in Your Word that You do not want any who are wicked to die, but You want them to stop doing evil and live. You want all people to be saved and to know the truth. Father, we pray for rulers and for all who have authority so that we can have quiet and peaceful lives full of worship and respect for You. We pray for those who reject You to repent and embrace the salvation offered to all.

ISSUES

- Malaysia:
 - There is always difference between saying and doing. There is great need for consistencies, justice and equality.
- PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia’s mission to become a developed nation is constantly guided by the approach of wasatiyyah (moderation) to ensure unity is preserved, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said. (<http://www.thestar.com.my/News/Nation/2014/10/26/Msia-guided-by-moderation-PM-Principle-is-important-in-preserving-unity-and-key-to-nations-success-s/>).
- The president of a Muslim NGO, Pertubuhan Ikram Malaysia (Ikram) has urged Malaysians to stop calling non-Malay or non-Muslim citizens as ‘pendatang’ (immigrants) or ‘penceroboh’ (intruders). (<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/enough-with-pendatang-penceroboh-name-calling-muslim-ngo-tells-malaysians#sthash.ZvmuleYA.dpuf>)
- Activist Ali Abd Jalil is the second Malaysian who ran away, citing oppressive laws and lacking faith in the system to protect his rights. (<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/when-malaysians-flee-to-get-justice#sthash.2o4j92GV.dpuf>)
 - Government continues to be weak in tackling corruption
- Most Malaysians immediately think of “corruption” the moment they are asked to talk about their government, while “profit” comes to mind when thinking about corporations, an international survey has revealed. - See more at: (<http://www.themalaymailonline.com/malaysia/article/corruption-is-first-word-on-malaysians-minds-when-thinking-of-government-su#sthash.WpVzI3qb.dpuf>)

The Malaysia Day Prayer Celebration 2014 Report

Introduction

This year's Malaysia Day Prayer Celebration was held on September 16, 2014 at the Calvary Convention Centre in Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur. This is the second time this event is being held, jointly organized by the National Evangelical Christian Fellowship (NECF) and the Council of Churches of Malaysia (CCM).

It was wonderful to see more than four thousand (4,000) Christians from all denominations filling up the cavernous hall in a charged atmosphere filled with awe and celebration.



Church Leaders and Politicians

Christian Federation of Malaysia (CFM) Chairman Rev Dr Eu Hong Seng and Executive Secretary, Tan Kong Beng and EXCO member, Canon Andrew Khoo graced the event.

Among the church leaders from CCM present were Bishop Dr Ong Hwai Teik of the Methodist Church in Malaysia, Bishop Aaron Yap of the Lutheran Church of Malaysia, Elder Mok Cheh Liang, the General Secretary of Gereja Presbyterian Malaysia, Rev Dr Jeyakumar, the President of Trinity Annual Conference of the Methodist Church in Malaysia, Archdeacon Eddie Ong of the Anglican Diocese of West Malaysia, and Rev Dr Hermen Shastri, General Secretary of CCM.

NECF Council members, Elder Kong Yeng Pooi, Dr Khoo Kay Hup, Rev Elisha Satvinder, Rev Dexter Low, Pastor Chomy Ching, and all the Commission heads and Secretariat staff were also present. Among NECF church leaders present included Rev Richard Toh, Chairman of the Malaysia Baptist Convention and Rev Danil Raut, the President of SIB Semenanjung.

Christian politicians who came included Deputy Minister in Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Paul Low, Members of Parliament YB Teresa Kok and YB Dato Tan Kee Kwong, together with State ADUNs, YB Hannah Yeoh, YB Yeo Bee Yin and YB Tiew Way Keng.



A Time of Praise and Worship

Josh Yeoh of PenHop and his team led praise and worship. The program kicked off with a flag parade, with flags held by the indigenous Christians of Malaysia – the Orang Asli of Semenanjung, the Sabahans and Sarawakians, displaying the beauty of their traditional costumes.

This was then followed by the honouring of the National Anthem. **Sandra Tagal** of DUMC led the prophetic dance team, **Hadassah**, which comprised of Sabah and Sarawak Bumiputera Christians from DUMC and SIB KL Central.

Key Addresses from NECF and CCM Leaders

CFM and NECF Chairman **Rev Dr Eu Hong Seng** delivered the NECF Address entitled, "Contending for the Soul of the Nation", based on 1 Kings chapter 18. In his address, he said now was the time for the following to be done:

- Prophets to be released;
- People to be revived;
- Promises to be claimed;
- Prayers to be prayed;
- Power to be obtained.

He also challenged churches to commit to 24-7 prayer, which was necessary for the nation – it was not an option, but mandatory, for such a time as this.

Bishop Dr Ong Hwai Teik then followed with his CCM address entitled, "A God Incomparable, A Role Remarkable." He shared from Isaiah chapter 46 and Ephesians chapter 3. In his message, he shared that God had a plan for His church from eternity, and in His manifold wisdom, he encouraged everyone that through the Malaysian Church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known in this land. He too, concurred that a nationwide 24-7 prayer for the next 2 years was necessary, so, as a united response called on everyone present to take up this call so that the church can be a blessing to Malaysia through sincerely "doing" 2 Chronicles 7:14.



A Time of Intercession

Right after the addresses came a time of intercession broken into 5 main themes:-

- **Pastor Edwin Agong** from SIB KL Metropolitan Community led the intercession by praying in Bahasa Malaysia on the theme of **Nation**: praying for national leaders, the people of Malaysia, the wealth of the nation and the next generation;
- **Rev Johnson Chua** from Beacon Presbyterian Church prayed in English, praying for the **Church**: focusing on unity, growth in spiritual maturity, and for the church to play a strategic role in nation building;
- **Pastor Chomy Ching** of Philadelphia Church then followed by praying in Chinese, and he focused on the theme of **Family**: praying for restoration of the family and for the setting up of family prayer altars;
- **Rev Justin Clarence** of Tamil Methodist Church prayed in Tamil, and led the intercession focusing on the theme of **Government**: praying for Christian politicians, for the judiciary system and for the civil service.
- **Chrisanne Chin**, coordinator for 24-7 Prayer Malaysia, then closed the intercession session by leading on the theme of **Migrants and Refugees**. The Malaysian Catholic Church had extended an invitation to join them, as a universal church, to celebrate the “100th World Day of Migrants and Refugees.” The theme of Pope Francis’ letter was “*Migrants and Refugees: Towards a Better World*,” and he reminded that “Each individual is a part of humanity and, with the entire family of peoples, shares the hope of a better future.”

There were almost 5.8 million foreign workers in the country but only 2.9 million were documented. These foreign workers form a critical employment force – and because they were undocumented, they were easily exploited and marginalized. Since non-Malaysians accounted for 8.6% of the total number of Christians in the country, she reminded all present to follow up prayer with action.

After a time of small group intercession, everyone read out the prayer for refugees together.

Launching of Nationwide 24-7 Prayer

Then came the time to launch the nationwide 24-7 Prayer initiative. Prayer United - a collaborative network of key umbrella bodies such

as CCM and NECF, denominations such as Methodist, Assemblies of God, SIB Sabah, SIB Sarawak and SIB Semenanjung, prayer networks such as MNPN and 24-7 Prayer Malaysia, and pastors fellowships such as the Kuching Ministers’ Fellowship and the Kota Kinabalu Pastors’ Fellowship – came together to moot this initiative to mobilize all Malaysian Christians to uphold the country in 24-7 prayer for 2 years commencing 16 September, 2014.

The Declaration

The climax of the prayer celebration was when Rev Danil Raut, President of SIB Semenanjung, led the declaration in Bahasa Malaysia. The call was made for everyone to read together the declaration. The framework of the declaration was based on the Prophet Daniel’s prayer in chapter 9.

It was a heartfelt and powerful moment when everyone came together with one voice to repent and renew our commitment to the Lord to obedience and holy living, and entrust ourselves to His will, and for His glory and fame. As many eyes welled up, and many more choking back tears, everyone raised their broken voices boldly with conviction, having a sense of God’s Spirit stirring deeply in our hearts and inspiring us as we all cried out to God for our people and our land.

Benediction

Finally, the prayer celebration came to an end. We began at 9:30am and now it was 12:30pm. Bishop Aaron Yap of the Lutheran Church of Malaysia blessed everyone, and commanded all to live out boldly for the Lord to be a blessing to the nation.

Conclusion

It was truly a time of rejoicing and celebration, being reminded of our Father’s love for us, and our destiny as children of the Lord living in this nation. Many came forward and shared with us how they were so blessed. It is good to see churches set aside their differences and come together in unity before the Lord, which is very edifying for the flock. It was indeed a joy to be able to work together and to encourage and inspire Malaysians to pray together. We thank God for the opportunity to declare His name over the nation, and to be reminded yet again this year: to be blessed and be a blessing.

Written by:

Chrisanne Chin

October 13, 2014



Reminiscences of TMGS, Taiping

Treacher Girls' School hail to thee
Thou art to our hearts most dear
In all our work and play
Thoughts of thee are ever near.
We will honour thee this hour
We would ever sing thy praise
For we know thy worth
Here good thoughts have birth
Thou has guided in right ways.

This is our school song imprinted in our minds and hearts, and we sang it with heartfelt pride and sweet remembrance of our school – Treacher Methodist Girls' School, Taiping. I thank the TMGS Old Girls' Association, the Wesley Methodist Church Taiping, and Mrs. Polly Tan for organizing this memorable thanksgiving service on 1st September 2014, celebrating 125 years of our school. I missed the anniversary dinner the previous night, but it was lovely to meet schoolmates (seniors as well as juniors) like Liew Siew Choo (Juliana) and her sister. They came all the way back from Australia. I had the pleasure of meeting my classmate, Tan Kooi Lean whom I have not seen after Form Six. She was also back from Australia. She was our head prefect in 1964, and we both celebrated our 50th anniversary of being “girls” of TMGS! It was also a happy occasion to meet some of our former teachers.

I have happy memories of my school life (1953-1964), beginning from kindergarten to Form 5. To our primary and secondary school teachers, I give thanks and much appreciation. They helped to shape not only my life, but also my love for subjects like English, literature, poetry, history, geography, art, reading and writing. I am most happy at the singing lessons, the P.E. and folk dancing sessions. And of course the picnics at the Lake Gardens which our teachers took us. I still have my Std. 3 picnic photos with Miss Ooi Guat Thoe. Although the teachers were firm and strict, they made learning interesting and fun too. They were caring and fair, though some do show favouritism to those who are top of the class. I am sure that is much so even till today.



I have vague and yet fond memories of my kindergarten teachers – the two Saw sisters, Miss Ooi, Mrs. Yeo Yeow Teck (our singing Mrs. Yeo), Mrs. Yeoh Keng Cheong (motherly and caring and whose husband is the author of our school song), Miss Phuah Saw Saik and dear Miss Fong Mee Keow whom I met at the service after so many years.

Going on to secondary school was no problem as both primary and secondary were in the same school grounds. We girls shared the same hall, the same tuckshop (with different recess time but having the same Mrs. Tan to cook the food), the same school field across the school, and even the same toilet block. We parked our bicycles behind the lower primary block nearest the church, and also behind the Std. 4-6 block which is nearer the library and science block.

When some of us get together, we still share fond memories of our secondary school teachers. Among them are Miss Kanesa-yeeswari (my favourite Mathematics teacher), Miss Choo Suat Loo (my beloved science teacher and aunt), Mr. Titus Jeyas-ker, Miss Khoo Liew Jong, Mrs. Radcliffe, Miss Louise Killingsworth, Miss Yeap Gaik Khoon, Miss Lily Pandian, Miss Lim Swee Keok, Che Mariah, Che Hamidah, Mrs. Choong Peng Seong (our art teacher), Miss Khoo Cheng Hiong, Mrs. Lim Chin Hun, Miss Betty Yap (librarian), Mr. Avtar

Singh (Mathematics and Physics teacher), Miss Liew Moh Kit and Mrs. Moneras-inghe (English and Geography teacher). I must not forget to mention Mrs. U Teck Huat (Headmistress of Primary TMGS) and Miss Flora Knight – our Principal and also our Form 4-5 history teacher. (She became a friend to my husband, Keat Seng, and I after she retired to Kuala Lumpur. Keat Seng was then the Secretary of the Methodist Council of Education.) There was a former principal whom I heard of – a Mrs. Glory Jeyamoney. There was a missionary principal – Miss Della Olsen (whose niece Keat Seng and I met in the 1990s in Kuala Lumpur). We used to see and meet an elderly missionary worker – Miss M.E. Poulier helping in the school, and living with Miss Knight and Miss Killingsworth in the Principal's quarters.

What else do I remember of my school life? FRIENDSHIPS – Being in different classes –A, B, or C, did not deter our friendships. Colour, race, religion, rich or poor did not matter to us. We were all friends; we helped each other, we ate together, we played together, we laughed together, we cried together, we bicycled to each other's homes, we cheered each other on, we “pulled each other's legs” and did many other things together. Our friendships were strong and close. We were really “GIRLS OF 1 MALAYSIA”, as one would describe us.



MONDAY MORNING ASSEMBLY – This assembly was a MUST for everyone. We would gather in our classes facing the school, under the watchful eyes of the prefects. As the flags were raised we stood at attention and sang the ‘Negara Ku’ followed by our School Song. And at the end of it, the prefects marched us back to our classes.

COMMISSIONING OF THE PREFECTS – Apart from the appointments of the Head Prefect and the Assistant Head, the other school prefects were elected by a democratic system. Those girls whom the teachers deemed worthy were nominated and were presented in the school hall for all to see. Elections were soon held and the popular girls usually have more advantage. Voting began as ballot papers were given to the classes. Results were later announced and on a special day the new prefects were commissioned on stage in the hall. There was a swearing-in, candles of the new prefects were lit by the seniors (kind of passing on the baton), a prayer was given and there were rejoicing and congratulations. It was an honour and responsibility for the new prefects. I still remember this beautiful and memorable experience when I was elected a prefect in my last year of school!

PARENTS AND PRIZE-GIVING DAY – On this important day, the school would have an exhibition of the girls’ arts and crafts. Parents were invited to attend to browse over their children’s work. Parents whose children achieved top positions were invited to attend the Prize-Giving. VIPs were invited. There were speeches. Prizes were given. There would be a choir presentation. Dances were performed and these would include a Malay candle dance or a joget, a Chinese fan dance, an Indian classical dance or a Scottish dance. Many of my

classmates performed in all throughout our years in TMGS. I remember being chosen to dance the candle dance. There was a year when my friends and I in the Violin and Recorder Group together with Miss Liew had the honour of giving a performance. That was the first time we performed for parents and guests.

SPORTS DAY – This was an unforgettable day each year. Taking part in the march-past, the class events, the 100 yards race, the 4 times 40 yards relay and even in the Scottish folk dances, were exciting and most enjoyable for us. I once ran in the 4 times 40 relay for our Red House and we won! One cannot forget the last event – the Inter-school Relay. How we cheered and jumped for our school team until we were hoarse in the throat. More so when our school won. It was a proud day for the “House” which won the Championship Cup for the year.

FUN-FAIRS – I remember that the school had fun-fairs selling food, had game stalls, a song request station, etc. They were held to raise funds, not understanding that mission schools really needed money to help run them. My classmates and I enjoyed helping even though it was not easy work. I remember that I was helping as a waitress once!

CHAPEL SERVICE – During my time, the hall was always almost full at chapel service. Most of the girls were there. Hymns were sung (many of which stayed in my mind even after I left school), the Lord’s Prayer was prayed (It remains in me), and other prayers were given. Someone (could be Miss Knight, Miss Poulter, Miss Killingsworth, Mrs. Polly Tan, Rev. Knutsen – then pastor of Wesley Methodist Church, or others) would share a message. Christmas at chapel service was popular and memorable. All these, and friends (very few were Christians) influenced me to join the church’s MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship) and Sunday School in my teenage years. (Those years stayed with me and I came back to Jesus Christ after many wandering years. Together with Keat Seng and our son, Chee Su, we got baptized in 1989. It was followed by our daughter, Choon Ean in 1990.)

LIVE WORTHILY – OUR SCHOOL MOTTO

The school with her many loyal, faithful and dedicated hardworking teachers, principals and missionaries, is a story of God’s love for His people, His will and His work. It is a story of how He raised education among thousands of girls (no colour, racial or religious barriers) that they be nurtured to live worthily – to be women of integrity, independence, knowledge and strength. He wants the women to be able to touch lives, make a difference, give better opportunities for women and build up the country. I thank God for “all our girls” among whom are Datuk Asiah Abu Samah, Miss Yeap Gaik Khoon, Puan Sri Rosemary Chong Hon Nyan, Mrs. Ruth Navaratnam, Che Faridah bte Ariffin, Dr. Tan Kooi Lean and many others who have made a difference in one way or another.

Let us all of TMGS “LIVE WORTHILY” for HIM! Thank You JESUS CHRIST!

By Goh-Tan Phing Choo



Dr. Hugh and Shirliann Johnson Named Recipients of 2014 World Methodist Peace Award

Dr. Hugh G. Johnson, a retired missionary, pastor and former Superintendent of the North African District of the United Methodist Church and his wife Shirliann have been named as co-recipients of the 2014 World Methodist Peace Award.

For more than forty years (1962 – 2005), Dr. and Mrs. Johnson operated under a simple motto: The church has to be where the needs are the greatest, and this philosophy carried his ministry. As missionaries in North Africa, the Johnsons served during times of great unrest. From their beginnings with the General Board of Global Ministries in Algeria, the couple served throughout the nation during the country's war of independence and the following turbulences.

Serving first in Laarba Nath Irathen in the Kabyla Mountains and later in Algiers, the couple's tirelessness and drive to connect the gospel with the lives of the people of the Maghreb region led them to become fluent in Arabic as well as in Kabyle (a Berber language) as well as preaching in French, Dr. Johnson wanted there to be no barriers between the Word and the people.

In 1972, the Algerian government closed orphanages, hospitals and other diaconal institutions of the church. In response Dr. Johnson helped establish an English-language library, which served as a meeting place for people in the region and an unofficial place for Christian fellowship.

Dr. Johnson also regularly appeared on Algerian Radio, often in dialogue with a Muslim representative. He was a mediator who crossed the lines for the cause of reconciliation and mutual understanding.

Shirliann Johnson often visited refugee camps in the desert, coordinating humanitarian aid and teaching young women to lead kindergarten classes in the camp in order to help children and families who were affected by the war.

As the region dealt with a rising tide of religious extremism, the couple's home and church were often attacked and targeted by



Hugh and Shirliann Johnson

militant groups. Serving a local church (The Protestant Church in Algeria) that was largely comprised of converted Muslims, Dr. Johnson faced restrictions limiting the church's ability to worship and evangelize. To combat these laws he held meetings in his home between various Christian denominations and worked together in the spirit of ecumenism. His outspokenness and clashes with local authorities over the import of Bibles in Arabic and the Berber languages displayed the courage and willingness to stand up for his faith and church family, often at great risk to himself. Dr. Johnson was stabbed in an attack during this time, but his faith and commitment to his ministry never wavered.

Through numerous disputes with the government and even expulsions from the country, Dr. Johnson always returned to Algeria to help the small Christian community that had formed there. His voice was one that served as a calming influence within the small community of believers in the country as well as an open ear and voice to Muslims in the area. Upon retirement Dr. and Mrs. Johnson left the nation, but their hearts and spirits are still with the people in North Africa.

For a life's work in ministry, and demonstrating courage, creativity and consistency in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ, Dr. Hugh and Mrs. Shirliann Johnson are awarded the 2014 World Methodist Peace Award.

About The World Methodist Council
The World Methodist Council finds its ori-

gins in a conference held in London, England at Wesley's Chapel in 1881 where some 400 delegates from 30 Methodist bodies around the world gathered in an Ecumenical Methodist Conference. The World Methodist Council is composed of between 250 to 528 delegates elected from its member churches. From 2001 onward, the Council has averaged at 400 members. Representation is determined by Church membership and financial contribution to the work of the Council. In 1956, the World Methodist Council established a permanent headquarters in the United States at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina.

About the World Methodist Peace Award
First awarded in 1977, the **World Methodist Peace Award** is given semi-annually to a person or persons who have displayed courage, creativity and consistency in pursuing peace and equal rights for individuals throughout the world. Nominations may be made by leaders of the World Methodist Council's Member Churches by submitting a letter highlighting the reason for the nomination and giving evidence of the fruit of the nominee's efforts toward peace, etc. Prior recipients of the award include former South African President Nelson Mandela, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. Other recipients are former President of Macedonia Boris Trajkovski, the compassionate community of Sant'Egidio in Rome, and the Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo in Argentina.

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Chinese Methodist Hokkien Church Kuala Lumpur has an immediate vacancy for the position of Assistant Administrator. If you are interested, please email your application and resume with a portrait photograph to mschua87@yahoo.com or by mail to "Associate Pastor, Chinese Methodist Hokkien Church, No. 1, Lorong Hang Jebat, 50150 Kuala Lumpur".

Salary will commensurate with qualification and experience

Educational and Skill Requirements

- Mature Christian who is hardworking, well organised and good interpersonal skills
- Computer literate (MS Office)
- SPM or Diploma level qualification. Any professional qualifications/IT skills would be an added advantage
- Preferably bilingual - English and Mandarin
- Minimum 2 years relevant working experience

Job Description

Provide administrative support to Associate Pastor, English - Mandarin worship congregation and office. To organise Sunday Bulletins and on special services, Power Point presentations, liaising with core leaders and committee members on all ministry related work. Updating of Church Membership and other duties as assigned by the Associate Pastor and Senior Pastor.

News

Chinese MBOD News

《2012年马来西亚卫理公会法规（华文译本）》终于出版了！

感谢主，等候将近18年的《马来西亚卫理公会法规》（华文译本）终于出版了。

《2012年马来西亚卫理公会法规（华文译本）》附送CD版将于各华人年议会会议间出售，每本售价为RM30.00。有意购买者，可联络以下办事处：

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A home in the hills for Methodists—and the Leo family

Generations of Methodists have enjoyed the cool air, the mountaintop views and the quiet retreat that Rumah Methodist in Fraser's Hill offers. But not all of us know the history of the Leo family, who have taken care of the bungalow and all its residents and visitors, keeping the place clean and comfortable and serving excellent local and Western dishes.

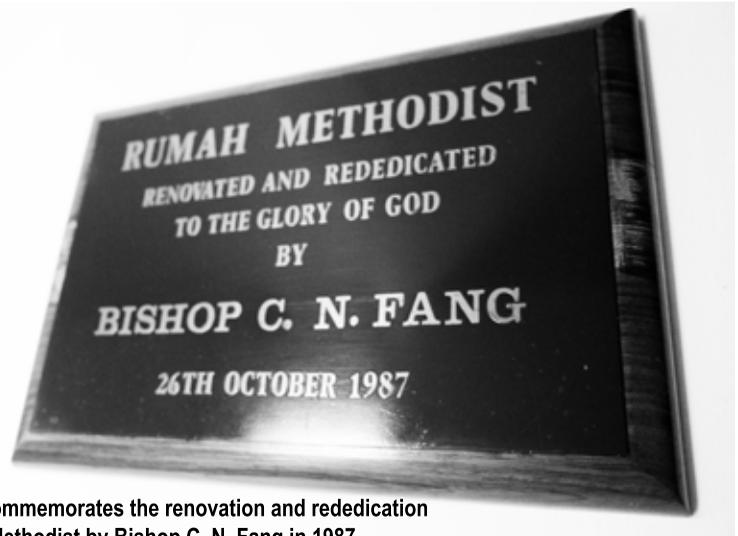
"My earliest memory of Fraser's Hill was in 1951", Bishop Emeritus Datuk Dr Denis C. Dutton recalls. "It was the year that I was baptised and confirmed as a member of Wesley Church, Kuala Lumpur. (The late) Reverend Gunnar Teilmann was the pastor and he took the confirmation class up there for a couple of days.

Until then, the bungalow had been used as a school for the children of missionaries. Leo Chin Wah came to what was then Malaya from China in the mid-1940s. He applied for his wife Nyam Tok Eng to come and she did, around 1953, along with their son Leo Aik Min, who had been born in 1947.

The rest of their children were born in Malaya: Leo Juat Wah in 1955, Leoh Juat Chin in 1956 and Leo Juat Tin in 1959. Aik Min began helping his parents in 1969 and his sister Juat Chin pitched in from 1973 until she got married in 1979, when Juat Tin took over. She is still managing the bungalow today, with her sister Juat Wah.

Dutton remembers that around the time of the assassination of British High Commissioner Sir Henry Gurney in 1951 on the road to Fraser's Hill (you can see a plaque at the spot where he was killed), the school was closed and the children moved to Singapore. "It then became a holiday place for American missionaries," he explains.

The classrooms were converted into additional bedrooms that could accommodate up to 24 people. Rooms 1 and 2 had outside bathrooms, while rooms 3 and 4 shared a common bathroom, as did rooms 5 and 6.



A plaque commemorates the renovation and rededication of Rumah Methodist by Bishop C. N. Fang in 1987

When the Methodist Church in Singapore and Malaysia became autonomous in 1968, the property was given to them, says Dutton. He was appointed to manage the place, and formed a small committee of three to help him--Toh Kheng Teik, Lim Ewe Hoe and Helen Tan. Later, Tony Chan took over from Kheng Teik. They arranged major renovations to the building and, he recalls, "none of them charged the bungalow account for anything, including their travel expenses whenever they went up there to make minor repairs and pay the salaries of the workers"

The architect who provided *pro bono* services was Fong Ying Hong and the whole team showed "extraordinary commitment and dedication to this project". For the first time all rooms had a private bath attached.

The road leading to the Bungalow was also repaved. "Before the road was repaired, there were a lot of holes," says Juat Tin. "Since it was redone, it has survived nicely until today."

Bishop C. N. Fang rededicated Rumah Methodist on October 26, 1987. There are now 10 rooms that can take 40 people. The Leo family's former quarters were converted

into what is now the dining hall, and a chalet was demolished to make way for their new quarters.

Over the years since then, there have been further renovations, such as in 2007, when the roof, wiring and water pipes were changed and a new pathway installed. New furnishing was also installed, including curtains and more comfortable beds.

Juat Tin remembers the generations of missionaries and church leaders and members who have stayed in Rumah Methodist. "When the missionaries were here, we were very young," she says. "They took us hiking, and took us to the town. We couldn't speak English but we could communicate. We played together with their children."

When there were celebrations, the Leo children joined in and the visitors gave them little gifts. "We have sweet memories," says Juat Tin.

Mrs. Wava Teilmann taught Juat Wah flower arrangement, and you can still see her legacy in the fresh bouquets in the dining hall and the lounge. "They taught me to make pies and desserts, which we still make today," adds Juat Tin.

Over the years, the Teilmann family continued to visit. Reverend Kjell Knutsen and his wife came on holiday a few years ago, while the late Reverend Denver Stone and the late Reverend Donald Haskell were also regular guests. The late Reverend Paul Castor's son and his wife came earlier this year, 46 years after their last visit.

"They were all very nice to us, very kind," says Juat Tin. "We are happy to work here. It is like my home."

On behalf of her family, she expresses her appreciation to all the bishops, those who have retired and those who are serving now, and the church leaders: "They have all been very good to us and we thank them."

By Santha Oorjitham



Rumah Methodist has been a school for missionary children, a holiday place for Methodist missionaries and is now described as "a retreat from the hustle and bustle of a hectic life"

Obituary

During the early morning of the Deepavali holiday, the staff of the Council of Education and the General Conference was saddened to hear of the death of one of our colleagues – Elizabeth Chako. Elizabeth has worked as an accounts staff with the COE for the past 11 years. She truly brightened up the office with laughter and joy. She was 55 years old and leaves behind three sons.

Thank you for your labor of love and partnership in education. Over 11 years of your service in the Methodist Council of Education, your warm, kindness and cheerfulness has impacted our lives and many others. That part of you has always stayed in our hearts.

God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them (Hebrews 6:10).

Mr. Khor Hong Yin
Executive Director
Methodist Council of Education



Miracles in the Estate

The Indians in Malaysia generally refer to the rubber and oil-palm plantations as estates. It was a word used by the British when huge tracts of land in then Malaya, was opened for the cultivation of rubber and later oil-palm. The British had brought in Indians from India to clear, cultivate and tap the trees for the latex which brought in much revenue. Generations of Indians had made the estates their homes and they have many stories to tell of their hardships, their tedious labour, their poverty, their lack of housing, medical, health and educational needs. Many of the estates still bear semblances of lack in various forms.

My grandparents and parents have their roots in estates in Johor, and though my parents later moved to Singapore, my early memories of visiting the estate, is still vivid in my mind. That is why after I had accepted Christ, the pull to do ministry in the estate was great.

Over the last 8 months, my husband and I have been ministering in Karak and Bentong in Pahang. We had visited 6 estates to share the love of Christ, to pray, and to provide foodstuff, clothes, toys, etc. It has stirred my heart with sadness at the plight of many families there without even bare necessities, it has brought tears to my eyes when I filled the children's hands with toys and see the awe, the surprise and the smile on their faces, and the tears of joy in the mothers as I handed needed foodstuffs for their family. Each time we leave from KL, our small Kelissa is packed tight with goods given with love by my many friends. Seeing this, some in Karak say they are praying that God will give us a bigger car to bring more things and bless the people. God knows!

Each visit has led us to many non-believers who welcome us warmly. We have heard many amazing testimonies that bear witness to our wonderful and loving Jesus. One day, just as we were about to return from Bentong to KL, we were taken to visit a mother and her daughter. The mother, Muniyamah, related that when she was young, she had slipped and skidded down a slope. As she slid down the slope, the wet laterite mud had gone into both her ears. She had gone to the estate clinic and was given some medicine to clean the ears. It did not help much and with the daily chores and life's burdens, life went on with occasional ear-ache. Over the years, she slowly lost her hearing. Life was tough and lonely and for



Lila (R) with Muniyamah (L) at her home in Bentong

eighteen years she had lived in a silent world. One day, her grown-up daughter accepted Christ. The mother came to know about Jesus but did not commit herself to accept Him. One afternoon, while waiting for her grand-daughter to return from school, she had fallen asleep. She did not hear the heavy rain nor the voice of her grand-daughter calling for nearly two hours from the gate. Her Chinese neighbour had to throw stones into the house to hit her and wake her up. She found her grand-daughter wet and shivering. Even after she had bathed and fed her, the shivering did not cease. She cried bitterly to Jesus about the consequence of her deaf problem on the child, and won't He please heal her. That night, while she was sleeping, she felt a hand stroking her ears gently and calling her name. She awoke with a start and saw Jesus in the form of a Good Shepherd with one lamb in His arms and one lamb on His shoulder, calling her name. It was an awesome moment, and He then vanished. In the stillness of the night she then fell asleep. The next morning she woke up to hear her grand-daughter saying good-bye as she left for school. She signalled the girl to repeat it. She could hear! She remembered how Jesus had come as a Good Shepherd and healed her. She said, "I am a poor lady in the estate, ignored by people, but Jesus came to me, touched my ears and healed me, how great is His love for me." She is so vibrant for the Lord now. As I prayed for her, the Lord reminded me to give her some money which I had kept to give someone, and to give her daughter a nice

blouse which I had brought with many other clothes to give away, but which had strangely been left behind. I saw such joy on their faces as they praised God for who He is.

Another miracle happened to a lady who was a clerical staff in the estate office. She is a faithful Christian and a person of high calibre. Because of her Christian faith and disciplined life, she faced many difficulties from the staff and management. One of her managers who opposed her suddenly became friendlier. One day, she had to leave the office earlier for some personal matters. It was then 3pm. When she asked permission, the manager said it was okay, just sign off as leaving at the usual 5pm. In her hurry and without thinking, she signed off as 5pm and as she rose from her chair, she heard a loud voice calling her name, "....., don't do it!" She knew it was God and was shaken. She realized that her action would have affected her Christian testimony. She then cancelled it, signed off as 3pm and went to see the Manager. She said that when he saw what she had written, his face turned dark and evil. She said, "I saw the devil's face." The Lord protected her testimony in the midst of those who would have wanted to smear it. It is a lesson for us all – to be people of integrity for we worship a righteous God.

God wants to do great things and miracles in the estate will continue

By Lila Chelliah

From Mission Church To Missionary Church

Moved by the Spirit . . .

- a superintendent of the Singapore Sailors' Home beseeched Thoburn to open up work in 1883;
- a Scots merchant persuaded Bishop Hurst on his way to the Hyderabad Conference to send a mission in 1884;
- Thoburn in India was challenged by Hurst: "What can you do for Singapore?";
- the Conference decided to appoint Oldham on his way back to India as missionary to cross over to Singapore;
- Thoburn and party including Oldham set sail in faith for Singapore via Rangoon without even obtaining the agreement of the General Missionary Society;
- the same superintendent Charles Phillips was warned in a dream of their arrival and met them as the boat sailed into Singapore harbour on Saturday, 7 February, 1885 and offered them his home as their headquarters;
- the next day evangelistic meetings began with Thoburn fittingly preaching on the text: 'Not by power or by might but by spirit, saith the Lord' in the Town Hall, on Sunday, 8 February and on 22 February, forming a Methodist Society and on Monday, 23 February organizing a one-man official board in the person of John Polglase, the assistant municipal secretary;
- by the end of the year the first church building was built at Coleman Street with local funds, the beginning of at least 200 to follow;
- Oldham who knew Tamil began work among Tamils, a catechist from Rangoon started a Tamil school and in 1887 G. W. Underwood started the first Tamil Methodist Society;
- West started medical work among the Chinese in Telok Ayer in August 1889 assisted by Lim Hoai Toh who gave the gospel message;
- Oldham the silver-tongued orator lectured on astronomy to the Chinese members

of the Celestial Reasoning Society and opened the ACS Singapore for their thirteen sons on 1 March, 1886;

- Sophia Blackmore opened the MGS with Tamil support on 15 August 1887 and the following year the Fairfield Girls' School in the Teluk Ayer area with Nonya Boon's help;
- the need for education was met by the Mission through the support of the governments, the generosity of the local people and the assistance of a host of early Eurasian teachers like Miss Hagedorn;
- education has been not only academic but also spiritual;
- Alexander Fox, a local preacher preached in Malay and distributed tracts in 1889;
- as a result of Shellabear's scholarship and interest a Straits Chinese Malay-speaking Church was formed in 1894.

Led by the Spirit . . .

- work was begun in Penang in 1891; and Pykett came in 1893 while Simon Peter opened work in Tamil in 1894 and Lau Seng Chong in Chinese in 1895; Simon Peter went later to Singapore and Lau Seng Chong to Malacca;
- work begun by W.E. Horley in Ipoh in 1894 extended far and wide up to Seremban and even Pahang;
- Kinsett in 1897 and later Samuel Abraham achieved great results in Kuala Lumpur, the Tamils having a brick church in 1899;
- the Methodist Publishing House (sold in 1920) was established in 1890 and the **Malaysia Message** (now **Methodist Message**) was started in 1891 to serve the religious interests of the people.

Driven by the Spirit . . .

- the Chinese Christian pilgrims led by Uong Nai Siong sought refuge in Sibul in 1901 and founded seven congregations by 1902 and were later guided into the abundant life by Jim Hoover from 1903

until 1936 supported by Lim Po Chin, Tai Poh Ting, Uong Ging Hua and Lau Kek Uong;

- the Chinese Christian pilgrims recruited by Luering in 1903 settled in Sitiawan;
- work was begun in Java, Sumatra and the Philippines by missionaries and two Asians; S.S. Pakianathan (to Sumatra) and Khoo Chiang Bee (to Java and Sumatra) between 1904-1912, when Oldham was Bishop of the area.

Nurtured by the Spirit . . .

- work was further consolidated between 1912 to 1928;
- the Epworth League begun in 1889 produced leaders and ministers and became a Conference organization;
- the theological school for men founded in 1898 and for women in 1928 produced full-time workers;
- schools especially smaller ones were manned by Asian headmasters with missionary supervisors;
- Samuel Abraham was appointed the first Asian district superintendent in 1913 in Kuala Lumpur.

Encouraged by the Spirit . . .

- the church had a resident episcopal leader in Bishop Edwin F Lee from 1928-1946 who had vision and action;
- local language magazines, the **Southern Bell** (Chinese) was started in 1928 by Andrew K.T. Chen and the **Light of Salvation** (Tamil) in 1934;
- Asian district superintendents were appointed: S.S. Pakianathan (1931); J.A. Supramaniam (1935), Lim Hong Ban (1934) and C.E. Fang (1935) achieved good results through constant visitation;
- the new Malaysia Chinese Annual Conference was formed with Lim Hong Ban, C.E. Fang and Yau Yee San as district superintendents and experienced steady growth, being now the largest conference;
- after Hoover's death in 1935 Sarawak

had two districts headed by Lee Hock Hiang and Wong King Huo;

- the Home Missionary Society headed by Asians in 1931 took charge of the Sengoi Work and Schmucker and Lucius Mamora were sent to open Iban work in 1939.

Sustained by the Spirit . . .

- the Methodist churches endured privations and deprivation of the Japanese Occupation but they had the refining baptism of fire;
- churches developed confidence (through schools did not function as before) and grew in mutual sharing of resources;
- S.M. Thevathasan the first Asian presiding officer (1942) helped by Goh Hood Keng, Ho Seng Ong, Lim Un Tien and Chen Su Lan tried to preserve as much mission property as possible and encouraged sharing of funds.
- some missionaries including H.B. Amstutz and Burr Baughman valiantly remained behind but were thrown into internment camps, where they grew in determination to build a bigger and better mission, and served thereafter in the work of rebuilding.

Restored by the Spirit . . .

- the schools were resuscitated in 1946 and church buildings some of which had been Japanese ammunition dumps were back in use within a year;
- Crusade for Christ funds helped in rebuilding institutions and began a scholarship programme that produced a long line of leaders for post-graduate training in the USA;
- responsible work went to Asians: E.S. Lau and Paul S.H. Hang in 1946 was Christian Education Secretary, T.R. Doraisamy was Secretary for MYF and Youth Work, Ho Seng Ong in 1952 was Educational Secretary, Kwee Thiam Sioe in 1955 became Treasurer of The Methodist Church in Malaya and Ee Soon Howe became Secretary of the Board of Trustees in 1955;
- with malayanization and nationalization bigger schools also had leaders like Ho Seng Ong, Thio Chan Bee, Ellice Handy, Mrs. Lim Bok Kee, T. Mori, Teerath Ram, D.R. Daniel, Loo Choo Keam, Daisy and Neliya Moreira and others;
- almost 100% of the responsible positions were held by Asians in 1964 according to Bishop Amstutz's report;
- youth work increased by leaps and bounds;
- the WSCS instead of being a ladies' aid society assumed a more responsible role

in administration and organization;

- Burr Baughman and Lucius Mamora started Iban work after the war which blossomed into a conference in 1962;
- our training institution emerged as an ecumenical theological college under H.B. Amstutz in 1948, a dream of church leaders in the internment camp come true;
- Sarawak had its own theological school in 1956 with Ivy Chou as principal.

Strengthened by the Spirit . . .

- the churches in this area became part of the South Eastern Central Conference (from 1956-1964 with Sumatra and Burma which became autonomous) with missionary Bishops R.L. Archer (1950), H.B. Amstutz (1956) and R.F. Lundy (1964-1968);
- the churches in the present-day Malaysia and Singapore became an affiliated autonomous Methodist Church and called Yap Kim Hao in 1968 as the first Asian bishop;
- from 1968 the five annual conferences experienced growth materially and spiritually under President Ong Chaik Ghee (SMAC) who was succeeded by D.C. Dutton in 1970, C.N. Fang (CAC), T.R. Doraisamy (TPAC) who on his election as bishop was succeeded by E.J. Thoraingam in 1974, Yu Teck Soi (SAC) who was succeeded by Eugene Teng in 1974, Joshua Bunsu (SIPAC) the first Iban minister who was succeeded in 1975 by Jerry Rabbu, the first Iban missionary to the Sengois;
- Asian women took a more leading part with persons like Mrs. M.T. Fang as area WSCS President and both Lim Swee Beng (CAC, 1961-66) and Ding Hie Huang (SAC, 1973) as district superintendents assuming administrative and spiritual responsibilities of the church;
- there have been rural health programmes in Kapit and Sitiawan, agricultural and community development service in Sarawak, counselling services for the public in Singapore and in Kuala Lumpur, participation in ecumenical life and social and political affairs by our churchmen and the dedicated prison work in Singapore by Khoo Siaw Hua, as new forms of mission;
- several church and school buildings have been made possible: some extensions of note are the Port Dickson camp site initiated by G.S. Arumugam, the two headquarters buildings of the SAC and SIPAC, the churches in housing and industrial estates in Queenstown and Toa Payoh under

T.C. Nga's leadership, and the currently rising multi-storey multi-purpose CAC building in Kuala Lumpur under the leadership of President C.N. Fang;

- lay participation in Conference appointment boards instead of the clerical cabinet, in Conference Executive Boards and General Conference Boards with Yao Ping Hua as the only layman to be vice-chairman of area councils;
- the Methodist Message and Southern Bell have laymen as editors in Peter Joe Chia and Chan Yik Keng;
- the richest resources have been in persons: the Church constituency in its 21st year included 3 Asian ministers, 2,000 church members and 5,000 students; in its 50th year it included about 50 Asian ministers, 14,000 church members and 18,000 students and in its 90th year about 160 ministers, 40,000 church members and 85,000 students.

Filled by the Spirit . . .

- as in the Acts of the Apostles we have the duty to preach the Gospel, to proclaim Jesus Christ and to witness on the spot, to go further afield in mission into the uttermost parts of the earth;
- we must accept the challenge to engage in the evangelization of the nations, in the life and work **in which** and **to which** we are called;
- every Christian, every church, every conference and the whole church should be committed to the Great Commission of the Risen to go out to preach, teach, heal and baptize;
- the Church that has been a mission church, then a church forced to build up self-support, must increasingly become a missionary church in spirit and in truth, in deeds and in obedience;
- the Celebrations Committee under Khoo Siaw Hua's leadership has proposed to launch a Missionary Fund and the Area Council on Missions under Khoo Oon Teik's chairmanship has suggested that we aim to send out 100 missionaries in the next ten years;
- we must follow where the Spirit leads us . . . into all the world.

A review of Methodism in Singapore and Malaysia, 1885-1975 by Bishop T.R. Doraisamy

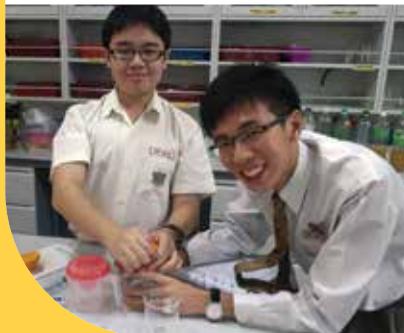
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