

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS 42ND SESSION TRINITY ANNUAL CONFERENCE THE METHODIST CHURCH IN MALAYSIA

25-27 November, 2017 (Port Dickson Methodist Centre) Rev. Dr. T. Jeyakumar

Contents

- Thanksgiving
 Statistics
- 3. Pastors
- 4. Highlights on Ministries
- 5. Vision 2018-2021
- 6. PMSM & OA Ministries
- 7. General Concerns
- 8. Personal Remarks

1. Thanksgiving

- 1.1 Thanks be to God for His grace that has sustained and strengthened me and brought me into a new quadrennium.
- 1.2 As in the past, I thank God especially for the following persons:
 - 1.2.1 Bishop Dr Ong Hwai Teik for his invaluable guidance.
 - 1.2.2 The Conference Officers, Executive Board members, and the members of the Administrative & Programme Boards, who carried out their duties with diligence to help our Annual Conference realize our vision.

2. Statistics

- 2.1 At this 42nd Session, I wish to highlight the following numbers:
 - 2.1.1 Pastors:

➤ In Active Ministry: 54

> Retired Pastors: 13

> Retired Diaconal Ministers: 2

2.1.2	General Stats	31st Dec 2016	30 th June 2017
	Membership	17056	17174
	Average Attendance	12889	13127
	Preparatory Roll	342	400
	Small Group Participants	7224	9191

- 2.1.3 We have 43 Local Conferences and 4 preaching points.
- 2.1.4 We have 86 worship services in different languages:
 - English 52
 - ➤ Chinese 13
 - ➤ Bahasa Malaysia 6
 - ➤ Nepalese 4
 - \triangleright Myanmarese 3
 - ightharpoonup Tamil 1
 - \triangleright Urdu 1
 - ➤ Telegu 1
 - ➤ Cambodian 1
 - ➤ Vietnamese 1
- 2.1.5 Baptisms:
 - > 353 baptisms in 2016
 - ➤ 132 baptisms in the first half of 2017
- 2.1.6 The children and youth ministry numbers are as follows:

	30 th June 2016	30 th June 2017
Children Ministry	1644	1582
Youth Ministry	1043	1089
Boys' Brigade	1533	1508
Girls' Brigade	1683	1745

3. Pastors

- 3.1 This year we have one person who graduated from STM with M.Div. We are glad that we have a number of Pastors enrolled in continuing theological education on a part-time basis.
- 3.2 I have written to STM to ask for a 10 credit hours exemption (not course exemption) to be given to Pastors who have LPL and who wish to further their studies in STM. The request has been received positively and is being considered, subject to me furnishing STM with further details with regards our LPL requirements.
- 3.3 I have repeatedly arranged LPL modules in the TRAC Office in the last few years. Yearly, we try to offer four courses. In this way, a person who takes these courses seriously will be able to complete the LPL academic requirements in two years. This effort does not stop courses from being organized at local churches. Next year another 4 courses will be offered in the TRAC Office (NT, Spirituality and Discipleship, Inductive Bible Study and one more elective).
- 3.4 We pray that some of the LPL holders will consider becoming part-time pastors (or bi-vocational pastors). There has always been a provision for such pastors in the MBOD. Pastors who are serving in this capacity are Ps Andrew Yeoh, Ps Soh Tian Soo, Ps Cheah Seuk Poh and Ps Chris Manivannan.
- 3.5 One way to encourage more people to consider the pastoral ministry is by encouraging them to work in the church for a period of six months to a year, to help further discover their calling.
- 3.6 I have invited the Board of Ministry members to go on a planning meeting with me. Amongst other things, we plan to look into the issue of raising more pastors for our AC.
- 3.7 It will also be helpful if our churches can set aside one Sunday in a year as a *Call to Ministry Sunday*. We can invite lecturers from the seminaries to preach and I hope this Sunday can also be treated as a *Pastor Appreciation Sunday*. Maybe, when we take time to appreciate the pastor on a Sunday, then someone in the congregation might be motivated to consider the fulltime ministry.

4. <u>Highlights on Ministries</u>

4.1 Children Ministry

4.1.1 The last few years' average attendance coupled with the fact that 9 of our churches are without children ministry show the need for greater focus on children ministry:

- **>** 2013 − 1962
- **>** 2014 − 1794
- \geq 2015 1760
- **>** 2016 − 1630
- ➤ June 2017 1582
- 4.1.2 Children ministry is a very important ministry for various reasons.
 - 4.1.2.1 Children need to know the love of God.
 - 4.1.2.2 Children need to have a spiritual base from an early age. Therefore, children ministry is not a baby-sitting ministry. Children need spiritual sustenance.
 - 4.1.2.3 From an early age children need godly influences as they learn to interact with those outside of their family.
 - 4.1.2.4 Children are more receptive to the work of God in their lives. It is generally said that 85% of people who come to Christ do so before the age of 18.
- 4.1.3 When children stay, their parents stay in church. Our sermons and worship services can be great, but if our children ministry is not effective or it is non-existent then parents may not stay long. In fact, I think this is the reason young adults with children leave some churches. I also believe that the most effective way to close down a church is by first closing down the children ministry.
- 4.1.4 Children ministry will grow only if the entire leadership of the church takes interest in it. It cannot grow if it remains a secondary ministry in the church and is given a leftover budget. It needs trained and committed personnel. The ministry needs many, many committed volunteers. The godly and the best amongst us must be set apart for this ministry.
- 4.1.5 I am thankful to the Board of ICM for organizing a Children Ministry Conference in the last two years. The Conference emphasised the importance of ministry to the children, caused the participants to rededicate their lives for this ministry and showed them that they were appreciated.
- 4.1.6 We have to continue to meet these needs as more Church Schools are seeking guidance and help with training of teachers, and sourcing for new materials. We can check with our churches what good materials are available to teach children and youths. Those who have found good materials should make it known to others.
- 4.1.7 Even if there are only a few children we should still go ahead to start children ministry sessions.

- 4.1.8 It is also my belief that if we are outwardly focused in order to connect with the community around us, we will then be able to bring children from the community into our children ministry.
- 4.1.9 Particular attention needs to be given to strengthen the children ministries in our churches even as we see the number of children in this ministry in TRAC is on the decrease whereas the total population of children in Malaysia from 0 -14 years of age is 24.5% of the population.
- 4.1.10 Socrates asked, "Fellow citizens, why do you turn and scrape every stone to gather wealth and take so little care of your children to whom one day you must relinquish it all?" For us in church let me paraphrase Socrates: Parents and church leaders, why do we build beautiful churches but neglect the lives of children to whom we must hand over our leadership and ministry?
- 4.1.11 One more thing about ministry to the younger ones. The safety of the children and youth must not be compromised. Churches need to be careful of sexual predators and paedophiles. We must be careful in choosing volunteers/staff for children and youth ministries.

4.2 Youth Ministry

4.2.1 Thirteen churches do not have any youth ministry and the following is the attendance in churches with youth groups:

Attendance		Dec 2016	June 2017
	MYF	1108	1089
	Boys' Brigade	1553	1508
	Girls' Brigade	1676	1745

- 4.2.2 Youth ministry like children ministry is an important ministry. Much of what was said about children ministry applies to youth ministry.
- 4.2.3 We need to ensure that the youths are actively engaged in Bible learning.
- 4.2.4 Those engaged in youth ministry must be people who have a passion to teach the Bible effectively.
- 4.2.5 Boys' and Girls' Brigades appeal to a group of young people who want more rigorous youth ministry and who may even not be interested in church. BB and GB create an opportunity for non-churched youths to find their way into church.
- 4.2.6 More church members with a passion for youth ministry need to be encouraged to serve in BB and GB and infuse Christian values into these two Christian uniform organizations. Again a vision of effective teaching of the Bible is needed.

4.3 Small Group Ministry

- 4.3.1 Whilst 4 churches are without small groups yet there are 9191 people in small groups this year, compared to 7224 in 2016. This growth is encouraging. If we could strengthen this ministry by emphasizing the study of the word and prayer to take place without neglecting time for praise and fellowship, we will see our members grow as true disciples of our Lord.
- 4.3.2 Take small group leaders' meetings seriously. This meeting should be held regularly.
- 4.3.3 Equip our leaders to lead well. Most people get bored with small groups and leave not because they are not interested in the study of the word of God. Often they leave because of ill-prepared sessions or because of leaders who cannot handle the group.
- 4.3.4 Study materials need to be chosen carefully. Since the people have made the effort to come we must teach them well in small groups. For most people in our churches the small group time is the only time they learn the word other than during church services. As such we must ensure that the study material is one that is edifying.
- 4.4 Three things to remember when doing small groups:
 - ➤ "Unless we have a clear understanding that making disciples is near the top of God's priority list, small-group ministry will be just another religious program." (Larry Kreider, What Every Small Group Leader Should Know)
 - > "Small groups are prayer centers!" (Larry Kreider)
 - ➤ "It's a major mistake to allow small groups to lose vision for outreach and evangelism and only concentrate on their own needs!" (Larry Kreider)

5. <u>Vision 2018-2021</u>

- 5.1 The Executive Board in January this year set up a Vision Task-Force to take a relook at Vision 2010-2017. With the input from the Executive Board retreat, the Vision Task-Force met repeatedly and birthed Vision 2018-2021.
- 5.2 'Come, Follow, Become like Jesus' is a vision and a clarion call to every member in TRAC to be intentional in their lifelong discipleship with Christ. The vision is three-fold.
 - ➤ Hear and recognize His invitation to COME to Him.
 - Respond to Him in obedience by FOLLOWING where He leads.
 - ➤ Allow Him to shape us in order that we BECOME LIKE HIM.
- 5.3 For this vision to be fulfilled, 4 Essentials were crafted to help us
 - grow deeper in our rootedness in Him,
 - re-centre our communal life following after Him in love and deeds and
 - ➤ live out and cooperate with His redemptive mission in our lives, communities, nation and the world.

4 ESSENTIALS	PERSONAL GROWTH	BUILDING COMMUNITY	A VOICE TO OUR NATION	A VISION FOR THE WORLD
SCRIPTURE	So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught and overflowing with thankfulness.	And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24-25	He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.	"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."
GOAL	To know Christ and to become like Christ	To build Christ-centered communities	To be salt and light in our society	To know Christ and to make Him known
STRATEGIES	1. To inculcate the importance of personal growth 2. To facilitate growth through cultivation of personal and communal spiritual disciplines 3. To facilitate growth through relationships eg. Mentoring/Small Groups/ Church/ Marketplace/ School	FAMILY as a Christ-centered community 1. To instill the value of growing wholesome families in the church 2. To help family members disciple one another 3. To develop facilitators for growing wholesome families in the church CHURCH as a Christ-centred community 1. To instill the importance of growing the church family as a community 2. To encourage and develop healthy interpersonal relationships 3. To challenge every member of the church to be a serving member	1. To inculcate a mindset of responsible citizenship 2. To create an understanding of and to actively engage in the socio-political issues of our nation 3. To challenge, in particular, the younger generation, to discern and to live out their Godgiven responsibilities in Malaysia	To instill a mindset that every disciple is a witness for Christ To equip and encourage every member to share Christ by word and life To engage in cross-cultural missions

4 ESSENTIALS	PERSONAL GROWIN	BOILDING COMMONLL Y	A VOICE TO OUR NATION	A VISION FOR THE WORLD
ACTION PLANS	1. Every local church to teach on personal growth from the pulpit	FAMILY as a Christ-centered community 1. Every local church to teach on wholesome families from the pulpit	1. Every local church to teach on Being Salt and Light in our nation from the pulpit	1. Every local church to teach on Every Disciple Being a Witness from the pulpit
	2. Every member to read through the Bible at least once through the quadrennium	2. Every local church to conduct training courses for facilitators for wholesome families	2. Every local church to be involved in at least one social concerns project	Every local church to conduct at least one training per year on Sharing Christ
	3. Every member to have a regular time of daily devotion (bible reading, reflection and prayer)	3. Every family to have a regular family devotions	3. Every local church to encourage her members to actively participate in projects concerning social justice	3. Every local church to encourage every member/family to participate in at least one short term missions in this quadrennium
	 Every member to be in a small group Every member to attend the weekly church service 	4. Every family to have regular family times together	4. Every local church to mobilize her members to pray for the nation	4. Every local church to be involved in at least one long term missions project
	6. Every member to befriend a fellow Christian where you are for mutual care and witness	CHURCH as a Christ-centered community 1. Every local church to teach on the church as a Christ-centered community from the pulpit		5. Every local church to support missions or missionaries financially
	7. Every local church to implement the TRAC Christian Growth Strategy	2. Every local church to care for her members in or through a small group		
	8. Every local church to implement a mentoring program	3. Every local church to help members identify their gifts and create opportunities for appropriate service		
		4. Every local church to help members to grow in awareness of self and others		

- 5.4 The Vision Task-Force (VTF) recognises that the 4 Essentials which we have adopted the last 8 years are still important and they need to be retained with some modification.
- 5.5 However, *discipleship* has now been made the goal; and the end-goal of discipleship is to become like Jesus. Hence, the theme, "Come, Follow, Become Like Jesus".
- 5.6 There are not too many strategies so that they are not complicated and that the document will be readable and the Vision achievable in both big and small churches in TRAC.
- 5.7 VTF is aware that each church is at different growth levels. Hence we are not asking every church to adopt everything that is here. If some churches are ahead in its growth level compared to what is stated here then we rejoice. However, what we have stated here is minimal, but that is what we would like to see achieved in our churches. For instance, we are proposing for an individual to read through the Bible for the first time at least in four years. Some churches are promoting reading through the Bible from cover to cover yearly. We have no issue with that. The important thing is that individuals in our churches are making attempts to read through the entire Bible.
- 5.8 We are thankful to the Board of Christian Education for coming up with a daily Bible reading plan for next four years. This will be printed and circulated to all churches.
- 5.9 You will find that across the board under 'Action Plans' everything begins at the pulpit. We are dependent on the emphasis for each Essential to come from the pulpit. If the pulpits fail, the Vision will fail. However, Pastors need not go away form here thinking that they are the only ones who need to bear the burden of communicating each Essential to the church. The strength of the Methodist Church is that we are a connectional church with various resources found in our churches and in the lay members that we have. If the spiritual gifts that everyone has been endowed with can be harnessed, then the task of promoting and achieving the Vision will become less burdensome.
- 5.10 The Vision document must go together with 4 other TRAC write-ups as those 4 write-ups help us better understand the Strategies and Action Plans found in the Vision and in achieving them. The write-ups are on Small Groups, Family Ministry, Wholesome Families, and Christian Growth Strategy (CGS).
- 5.11 At the local church and at the Annual Conference level all the 4 Essentials need to be worked at yearly. And the reports to Local Conference, District Conference and Annual Conference Session should follow the 4 Essentials. Of course at the local church level many more ministries and programmes do take place. But reports using the 4 Essentials' template help the Conference know if the Vision is achieved.
 - 5.11.1 The VTF has been retained to help monitor the impact of the Vision. They need to come up with some mechanism to guide us in our reporting.

- 5.12 One of the tasks of our Conference Boards is to come alongside our local churches in helping the churches achieve the Vision above. As such various Boards have been requested to help in various tasks.
 - 5.12.1 Under Personal Growth Action Plans' column, our Board of Christian Education (BCE) has to explore relevant projects for the Conference especially on items 2, 3 & 8.
 - 5.12.2 BCE should also revise and update CGS to align with the Vision document.
 - 5.12.3 Board of Ministry has been called upon to work out a series for pulpit teaching on a 'Voice to the Nations.'
 - 5.12.4 Board of Social Concerns has been requested to suggest a list of projects which the local churches can participate in under the column 'A Voice to Our Nation.'
 - 5.12.5 Still under 'A Voice to Our Nation' the question remains as to what we can do to respond to the question on emigration.
 - 5.12.6 Under the column 'A Vision for the World' Board of Missions is to suggest a list of possible missions that the local churches can embark on.
 - 5.12.7 Under the same column as above, the Board of Evangelism has been tasked to suggest a list of training resources on evangelism.
 - 5.12.8 Boards that have not been named should also look at the Vision document to see how they can aid the churches in achieving our Conference Vision.
- 5.13 It is our hope that every member and church in TRAC take ownership of and responsibility for the implementation and success of Vision 2018-2021.

6.0 PMSM & OA Ministries

6.1 We continue to strengthen the 10 Pillars (10 Tiang) in Persidangan Misi Sengoi Methodist (PMSM). The ten pillars are: Church Planting, Discipleship, Tithing, Children Education, Cooperative/ Entrepreneurship, Land Titles, Pastor's Image, Prayer Focus, Functional Church, Breaking Subsidy Mentality.

6.2 PMSM Statistics

- 6.2.1 As at 1st Jan 2017: 4869 members
- 6.2.2 Ministry in 59 villages
- 6.2.3 Baptisms from January to July 2017: 122
- 6.2.4 Vehicles provided: 6 vans, 1 four wheel-drive and 25 motorcycles
- 6.2.5 Two Hostels

Kampar: 15 studentsRaub: 10 students

- 6.2.6 PMSM has 7 districts: Kampar, Gopeng, Tapah, Parit, Slim River, Raub, and Kuala Lipis.
- 6.2.7 Number of kindergartens: 8. Slim River (Kg Tenau); Raub (Tidol, Cerong, Labu); Kampar (Tual/Jelengok, Kenip, Kabang, Kerayong 2).
- 6.2.8 Currently PMSM classifies her personnel into the following categories:

	➤ Elders	24
	> Deacons	2
	Bible Teachers	2
	Pemimpin Kampung / Leader	35
	Community Development Staff	3
	Kindergarten Teachers	14
	Admin / Support Staff	<u>13</u>
	Total	<u>93</u>
6.2.9	Qualification of Pastors:	
	Pursuing B.Th. in STM	6
	➤ Attending TEE (STM)	15
	Certificate from Sengoi Workers Training Centre	<u>19</u>
		<u>40</u>

- 6.3 More PMSM churches and pastors are using AVB Bibles for personal reading and for preaching. We are thankful to many generous donors who made it possible for the Bibles to be purchased and distributed.
 - 6.3.1 This year we conducted two trainings in partnership with Scripture Union on how to read the Bible. We trained the pastors and leaders to enable them to train their members to read and study the Bible effectively and daily.
 - 6.3.2 PMSM's financial commitment
 - ➤ To encourage tithing, members are requested to contribute RM36 per annum towards PMSM Fund. PMSM is proposing to increase the amount to RM50 in 2018.
 - ➤ PMSM proposes to the District to pay 5% of the bank balance to the General Fund managed by TRAC. Currently, the Districts have bank balances totalling RM 281,305.85. The money in the bank is used for PMSM's ministry and not for payment of salaries.
 - ➤ In addition, PMSM requires each of the 7 Districts to contribute RM2500.00 per annum to the General Fund.
- 6.4 I am very encouraged that many churches and individuals have come forward to help in the on-going and growing ministry of PMSM. Please note that if you would like to continue contributing financially or offer your services (i.e. training), please do so through the PMSM and TRAC offices. This is to ensure that all PMSM villages are blessed and not only the same few.

- 6.5 Many thanks to Korean Pastors and Korean churches who support our work. We look forward to continuous partnership with our Korean brothers and sisters.
- 6.6 We are in consultation with other denominations to ensure that in the future, we do not work in villages where there are already on-going ministries. This consultation is led by Bishop Emeritus Dr Hwa Yung.
- 6.7 Over and above the work of PMSM, TRAC has undertaken OA ministry in Grik and Tanjung Rambutan. Our ministry personnel is Mr Darrel Saba who was hired by TRAC in February this year. This work is growing steadily.

7. General Concerns

- 7.1 There are 99 prayer groups in our churches today with 922 people participating. Only one church does not have an intercessory prayer group.
- 7.2 Thanks to Methodist Women for organizing a Women's Convention in Shah Alam. Let me repeat here part of what I wrote in my message to the MW Convention:
 - 7.2.1 The motto of the MW is "To know Christ and to make Him known." I pray that you will focus on this holistic motto to do the two things that it spells out.
 - 7.2.2. You have to help our sisters first of all to 'know Christ' in a personal and intimate way, and come to love Him. I am glad that over the years MW has done many different ministries to help grow our sisters in their faith. I rejoice that for the same reason this year a Women's Convention has been organized by TRAC Methodist Women. In this respect MW is doing a splendid thing by continuing to meet the spiritual needs of women by organizing a Convention that can help our sisters know Christ more.
 - 7.2.3. Out of the overflow of that love and relationship, 'make Him known' through word and deed. It is my prayer for MW that you will focus equally on what we call social ministries. Such ministries have always been part of the ministries of the WSCS/MW for over a century in our country. I am happy to know that a Women's Centre is taking shape in Ulu Klang. May that premise become a place where the ministries of the women for the women can take shape without limitation and with a strong impetus to touch lives!
 - 7.2.4 I think that if we could do the former (to know Christ) the latter (to make Him known) may mostly take care of itself. We must do both. We must not neglect either. May the God of Heaven bless all your endeavours and fulfil your wishes during and through this Women's Conference, and especially through MW.

- 7.2.5 And one thing more: While our Annual Conference is encouraging intergenerational ministry, we must also take seriously ministry to different age groups and the two gender groups. There is an important place for such ministries in our churches. The reason being each age group and gender group has different and specific needs that should be met. So we should emphasise intergenerational ministry without neglecting specific groups in our churches. So keep up your good work.
- 7.3 The MSFers had their Annual Camp this year in Melaka attended by 225 seniors. They continue to raise funds for missions and other good causes.
- 7.4 I thank the churches who have repeatedly given generously to The Methodist Education Foundation fund so that we can offer scholarships to the needy students. The number of students applying to receive scholarship from us is steadily increasing. Next year MEF hopes to carry out two fund raising events a golf tournament (May 17) and a dinner event (October 6). Please support these two events and kindly continue to keep to the practice of allocating generously to the MEF.
- 7.5 Veterans of the Cross Fund (VCF) serves to give Christmas gifts to retired pastors and pastors' widows. Each year only at Christmas a sum of RM1000.00 is disbursed to each person. The Fund also helps to pay the insurance premium for retired pastors until they reach the age of 70. Currently there are 22 recipients. Continuous giving to this fund will help us attain our goals even though minimally. We need to remember that after the age of 70 Pastors are no more covered by insurance paid for by TRAC. Hence if we have more money in VCF we can probably increase the Christmas gifts for a start.
- 7.6 Next year the Methodist Prayer Convention will be held from 31st August to 2nd September in Sibu. It is my hope that we can send as many people as possible from TRAC churches. I pray every church will send at least 2 representatives.
- 7.7 By August next year the 14th General Election has to be carried out in our beloved nation. Therefore let us encourage and ensure that all our members who are eligible to vote at the next General Election are registered to do so and indeed set aside time to carry out their duties as citizens and as Christians.

8. Personal Remarks

- 8.1 I am concerned about the well-being and whereabouts of the abducted Pastor Raymond Koh and three missing persons namely Ps Joshua Hilmy, Mrs Ruth Sitepu, and Encik Amri Che Mat who were all social workers. The fact that no information is available with regards their whereabouts is inexplicable. We pray for their families and hope against all odds that they will be reunited with their families.
 - 8.1.1 I thank everyone who organized vigils and participated in them.

- 8.1.2 In view of the above abduction, CCM has come up with helpful procedures that need to be adhered to when a pastor is abducted or has gone missing. On top of that, TRAC has come up with a guideline on how to care for the pastor's family in the event such a tragedy befalls one of our Pastors.
- 8.2 Every AC Board has been working hard. We have good Board Chairs and members who have been working hard throughout this year. So much has been done in this one year. I thank all the Board Chairs and Board Members who have taken their tasks very seriously and met many times to plan and execute decisions.
- 8.3 Hearty thanks to the Vision Task-Force 2017 led very ably by its Chairman, Dr Samuel Ong. The task-force comprised the following members: Ms Goh Kim Guat, Ms Ng Wai Ling, Dr Herbert Tan, Rev Joshua Khong and Rev Dr. T. Jeyakumar.
 - 8.3.1 Many thanks to Rev Richard Leow for having translated the Vision document to BM and the Chinese Board under Rev Yu Chiew Song that has translated it into Chinese.
 - 8.3.2 Thanks to all those who gave their inputs when the Vision document was presented at various meetings.
- 8.4 The following churches' efforts caught my attention:

Wesley MC Kuala Lipis' 60th anniversary celebration

Wesley MC Alor Star's young adult ministry

Wesley MC Kulim's emphasis on John Wesley's General Rules

Wesley MC Butterworth's annual church camp to foster kinship

Wesley MC Parit Buntar's ability to manage the PBM Centre

Wesley MC Taiping's number of baptisms

Wesley MC Teluk Intan's testimony time

Wesley MC Sitiawan's growing youth ministry

Bercham MC's efforts to draw young adults into LCEC

Grace MC Ipoh's Parenting Course session in Chinese

Faith Cheras MC's university student ministry

Christ MC Ampang's ministry amongst the poor

Wesley MC Kuala Lumpur's evangelistic musical

Trinity Sg Buloh's financial support towards missions

Living Stone MC's mid-autumn evangelistic efforts

Living Streams MC's outreach efforts through sports

Living Word Preaching Point's efforts in helping migrant workers

SSMC's ecumenical prayer gathering

Emmanuel MC's missional efforts in Sarawak

Wesley MC Klang's Urdu ministry

DUMC's partnership with Board of ICM

Wesley MC Melaka's generosity with surplus income

- 8.5 As an Annual Conference we thank God for CFM, CCM (especially Rev Dr Hermen Shastri), NECF, and others who have stood up in these trying times and spoken up for the Church in Malaysia. Those involved in these ministries need our continuous prayer support.
- 8.6 I praise God for every sacrifice that everyone makes to ensure that TRAC churches and our ministries continue to flourish.
- 8.7 Heartfelt thanks to the Board of Presidency for walking alongside me, encouraging me and showing concern to my family.
- 8.8 I thank everyone who prayed for me, encouraged me and laboured with me. Please continue to pray for me.
- 8.9 May we together be on TRACk to "Come, Follow and Become Like Jesus."

Soli Deo Gloria!

John Wesley's 22 Questions

These are 22 questions the members of John Wesley's Holy Club asked themselves every day in their private devotions over 200 years ago.

- 1. Am I consciously or unconsciously creating the impression that I am better than I really am? In other words, am I a hypocrite?
- 2. Am I honest in all my acts and words, or do I exaggerate?
- 3. Do I confidentially pass on to another what was told to me in confidence?
- 4. Can I be trusted?
- 5. Am I a slave to dress, friends, work, or habits?
- 6. Am I self-conscious, self-pitying, or self-justifying?
- 7. Did the Bible live in me today?
- 8. Do I give it time to speak to me every day?
- 9. Am I enjoying prayer?
- 10. When did I last speak to someone else about my faith?
- 11. Do I pray about the money I spend?
- 12. Do I get to bed on time and get up on time?
- 13. Do I disobey God in anything?
- 14. Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?
- 15. Am I defeated in any part of my life?
- 16. Am I jealous, impure, critical, irritable, touchy, or distrustful?
- 17. How do I spend my spare time?
- 18. Am I proud?
- 19. Do I thank God that I am not as other people, especially as the Pharisees who despised the publican?
- 20. Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticize, hold a resentment toward or disregard? If so, what am I doing about it?
- 21. Do I grumble or complain constantly?
- 22. Is Christ real to me?



admin@trac.org.my

Trinity Annual Conference The Methodist Church in Malaysia