



**45TH SESSION TRAC CONFERENCE
APPOINTED ELDER, DEACONS AND NEW PASTORS**



Rev Joshua Khong
President-Elect - 2021-2024



Rev Lester Lim
Elder



Ps Wong Chun Mun
Deacon



Ps William Kwong
Deacon



Ps. Jonathan Chan
Deacon



Ps Aaron Liu



Ps Edward Lee



Rev. Dr. T. Jeyakumar
TRAC President/Bishop-Elect

From This Day On

Haggai 2:10-19

There are 4 messages in the book of Haggai and within them can be found two purposes. They are:

1. The rebuilding of the Temple.
2. Giving priority to spiritual matters.

One of the unique features in the book of Haggai is that 29 times we come across the phrase (or its variations) "this is what the Lord Almighty says." This phrase shows the importance of heeding the word of the Lord. The plan to rebuild the Temple is not the prophet Haggai's, or the high priest Joshua's, or the Governor Zerubbabel's. It is God's. The people of Israel will do well to acknowledge and embrace the will of the Almighty.

In verses 10-14 Haggai is basically saying that holiness is not transferable but sin is transferable and the sins of the people have corrupted the whole nation. The question is directed at the priests, to say to the priests, that even they have not been good examples. Their slowness in lending support to the rebuilding of the Temple has been passed on to the rest of the people. I remember my Bible interpretation lecturer saying, "Delayed obedience is disobedience." The people disobeyed God and as a result, they suffered the consequences, one of which was that their land was unfruitful. If only they would reorder their priorities, and embraced God's priority as their own priority, God's presence would be with them and they would be blessed.

The book ends with a promise to the Governor Zerubbabel. Because of his resolve to stand on the side of God (for this project) in rebuilding the Temple and because of the burden he carried in ensuring that the plan succeeded, God honoured him. "I will make you like my signet ring."

Application

1. God's blessing will reach us only when we carry out God's will. On the very day the work started Haggai brought a message of encouragement from the Lord, saying that God would bless them from that very day.

They were not building the Temple anew and as such, the work was not all that difficult. The walls of the Temple must have been intact, for only the wooden areas were burnt down. The wooden beams and wooden columns needed to be replaced. As soon as they started the work the promise came.

Just hoping to do the will of God, just desiring to do it, just dreaming about it will not bring the blessings, even envisioning it will not do. There are blessings only when we actually carry out the will of God.

Of course, we don't do something expecting a blessing in return. But this passage is saying to us that it is in the nature of God to bless us in response to our obedience.

2. God will bless those who stand on His side to get the work done. "I will make you like my signet ring." It is as if God is saying, 'Zerubbabel I will wear you like a ring on my finger. I will honour you. I will shake the heavens and the earth but you Zerubbabel will be spared of it: I will treat you special.'

Leaders must be committed to fulfilling God's priorities. Leaders must discern together with others as to what God wants us to do and commit ourselves to doing the will of God.

God made a huge promise to Zerubbabel because he was a man whose ambition was to do the will

of God. (You might want to think about why there was no promise made to the high priest Joshua. I have given you a hint already earlier.) Zerubbabel was a civil servant. He was the king's appointee. He must not be seen to meddle with religious or private projects. But he took the risk because he believed that God was calling them to rebuild. He, as the Governor was the driving force behind the project. There was no way that project would have begun without the Governor throwing in his support onto it. Zerubbabel was not thinking about himself. He was thinking of God's priority. As a result God was thinking of Zerubbabel.

Bishop Stephen Neill in his book *On the Ministry* says, "Ambition (i.e. self-ambition) means the concentration of thought and attention on self." When you come into the ministry (as full-timers or volunteers) having self-ambitions – asking often "what can I get" or "what more can I get" - that will be tragic. It will be tragic because the blessings of God will not be on you.

How did God bless this leader whose ambition was to do the will of God? I don't know the immediate blessings that Zerubbabel received. But if you would turn to the Gospel of Matthew and trace the genealogy of Jesus Christ, you would find Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel mentioned as the ancestor of Jesus. You turn to the Gospel of Luke and you will see Jesus stated as the descendant of Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel. What a great blessing! What a great honour! Even as the passage assures us of God's blessings, we must not look for immediate blessings, or think only in material or monetary terms. But we can be sure God will reward us when God's priorities become our priorities.

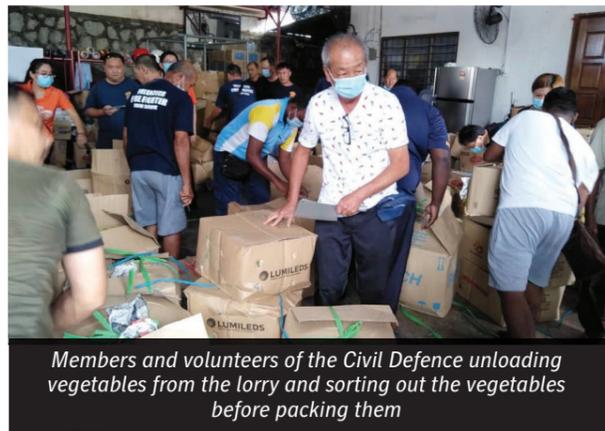
TRAC Vege Project Through Wesley Penang on 24-25 April 2020

By Tan Suan Lee

*“Know of any orphanages to which we could give some vegetables from Cameron Highlands?”
“Some of us are coming together to pack the vegetables on Friday/Saturday.
Interested to join us with social distancing observed”.
“Wanna come?”.*



4pm on 24 April Vegetables arrived from CH at Penang Civil Defence Hall, Fettes Park



Members and volunteers of the Civil Defence unloading vegetables from the lorry and sorting out the vegetables before packing them

Sounds simple. Make some phone calls; pack vegetables, I can do that. So, I accepted Pastor Ting’s invitation that evening, two days prior to the vegetables arriving in Penang. The next day I found myself in a meeting via the WhatsApp video conferencing with Pastor Ting, Aiching and Winnie to update the group on the number of orphanages/children’s homes I had managed to contact.

Pastor briefed me on the ‘Vegetable Project’ initiated by our TRAC President during the Covid-19 pandemic nationwide lockdown - to help the small farm-holders in Cameron Highlands find buyers for their fresh produce and to distribute them to the poor. Our church, Penang Wesley saw the need here in Penang and felt this was one of the ways we could contribute meaningfully.

The plan was that PWMC would partner with Caremongering Penang, an NGO, which have been working among the hardcore poor in Penang, providing food relief and other forms of assistance since the start of the MCO. I was told we only have a small window of time available once the lorry arrives to unload and apportion the various types of vegetables from the 4 tonnes.

For this we have to first obtain Police permits to meet in our Church premise as well as for going out from the 10 km radius should we need to do so. So the next two days Ai Ching and Winnie were tasked to make calls to various



Many and various kinds of vegetables weighing 4,027 tonnes



Vegetables received

government agencies and authorities for the permits. We prayed for the Lord’s favour to secure us the permits. We

knocked hard on a few high-level doors; none opened to us. Without the permits we would not be able to mobilise



Members of Wesley Penang sorting out the vegetables

the repacking and distribution work. This was the 3rd phase of the MCO, the restrictions were very tight and enforcements uncompromising as we read in the news of daily arrests.

By late Thursday 23, April morning as we met over WhatsApp video conferencing it was apparent to us we may have to abort this project. No one was willing to issue us the permit. Reluctantly we agreed that the project had to be shelved for now and consoled ourselves that this would give us more time to apply for the permits and wait for the next available consignment of vegetables.

Pastor Ting had to inform the TRAC President of our predicament and hoped that he could find at the eleventh hour a willing buyer to take up the produce. The four of us were disappointed we could not make good what we started. Neither one of us said very much. But I think it weighed heavily upon us that we would be letting many people down. Many who were eager, who were looking expectantly to a bit of assistance in such times as these.

A while later we again met up online - Winnie wanted to know from Pastor Ting if we could get back the consignment of vegetables. Winnie felt we should not call it quits just yet and she would discuss with Caremongering.

The Lord indeed knows what we need, our limited resources and inexperience in coordinating such a project



Vegetables packed and ready for distribution to orphanages and homes

under the constraints we were faced with. He places the cry in our hearts and He answers them. There was no longer any need for us to obtain the permits. Caremongering got us in touch with the Civil Defence Group. They had the authorisation, the manpower and experience to coordinate the logistics of packing and distribution.

At 4pm Friday the 25 April, 4,017 tonnes of vegetables arrived in multiple at the Penang Civil Defence hall. Boxes upon boxes of vegetables were being unloaded from the lorry, separated, then arranged each according to their types.

Then I was asked to estimate 1 tonne of the vegetables for us to take back to church. O dear. I, who seldom step foot into the market - what does 1 tonne of vegetables



Crystal Home for Children Manager collected the vegetables for the home from Wesley Penang premises



St Joseph Children's Home, Sister Jamal



Ramakrishna Orphanage Scotland Rd

look like? “Dear Lord, please show me how to go about this”, I breathed a frantic prayer to the Lord. I cannot say for certain we took 1 tonne, but the 20 or so big boxes of vegetables fitted just nicely into each of our cars. We could not have taken more even if we had wanted to. The remaining vegetables we left to Caremongering and the Civil Defence for their own packing and distribution.

It was close to 7pm when we unloaded the vegetables from our cars in church. It was too late to do anything further that evening. As the final box of vegetables was placed on the floor, relief and thankfulness came over me. The project has become a reality. Just then this thought came to me, “The Lord made it possible and He brought it to pass”. Yes, the Lord’s hand was on this project from start to finish. I felt blessed to have been a part of this work!

The following morning, we had help from Bella, Yit Wai, Lai Tick, Jocelyn and Pastor Luke to assist us in getting the vegetables packed and readied for collection and

delivery. We were able to supply ample portions to Salvation Army Home, Ramakrishnan Ashram Orphanage, St Joseph’s Children Home, Shan Children’s Home, Children Protection Society, Crystal Home, households in Nordin Street flats and Tenaganita.

Though we had wanted to mobilise as many members of PWMC as possible to participate in the Vegetable Project, it seemed that the Lord had other plans. His plans always proves better than ours. Through the project we were introduced to partners in the work of the Lord – the member from Canning Garden Methodist Church Ipoh who provided the transport for vegetables from Cameron Highlands. CareMongering, Penang Civil Defence’s much broader network with those in the B40 window ensured that many more received the vegetables. This is good as vegetables are best consumed fresh and not wasted. We thank TRAC President for giving us the opportunity to be part of the good work. All praise and glory be to God!



Ramakrishna’s Home for children received some vegetables



Steven Woo, Church member collecting at McDonalds, Green Lane

Meeting Churches’ Needs Through TRAC Webinars

By Pastor Robert Khaw, Subang Methodist Church

During the Covid-19 pandemic period, we have been hearing about “webinar”. It is a portmanteau word – a word that results from combining two or more words, or parts of words, into a new word. Web is blended with seminar, and so we have webinar – an online meeting via internet in real-time.

TRAC has organised two webinars so far. Both webinars were very well-attended.

During the first webinar (“The Church in a Socially-Distant Era”; 22 May 2020), participants gained insights into how the different Annual Conferences navigated in the challenging ‘new normal’ environment. Churches had to pivot fast in the way they worship, give, carry on with prayer, small group and leaders’ meetings, conduct training, and even celebrate Holy Communion online.

We were much encouraged to hear helpful insights from the five Presidents of our Annual Conferences, together with two fellow panelists. Here are some key highlights of what they shared.

- ▶ “People are important. So, connect them with God. Pray for them. Minister to them. Help people in need. Remember your Pastor too.” (Rev Dr T Jeyakumar, President, Trinity Annual Conference)
- ▶ “Churches are locked down, but not locked out.” (Rev Dennis Raj, President, Tamil Annual Conference)
- ▶ “When we find the vaccine for Covid-19, we will go back to normal. But please keep some of the good things we have learnt during the MCO.” (Rev Dr Tie King Tai, President, Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference)
- ▶ “I can see the enlarged territory for the gospel with the increased use of technology.” (Rev Dr Hii Kong Hock, President, Sabah Annual Conference)
- ▶ “I am concerned about the lack of technology in the rural churches.” (Rev Stewart Damat, President, Sarawak Iban Annual Conference)
- ▶ “Online church will be on, even after the Movement Control Order (MCO) is lifted.” (Senior Pastor Chris Kam, DUMC)
- ▶ “There is a great need for counseling in this pandemic crisis.” (Rev Dr Ezra Kok, STM)

Participants were also much encouraged to hear their encouraging reports. There were stories of how churches extended help to the needy. For example, the Methodist Crisis Relief and Development donated food and personal protective equipment (>RM1 million) to the needy locally, while the Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference aided the badly-stricken Wuhan with a RM300,000 love gift.

We praise God upon hearing that online Worship Service attendance grew with new people joining small groups, while seekers kept coming back and hungry for the Word.

Thanks be to God too for SCAC’s thoughtfulness in setting up the senior learning centre to reach out to the non-tech savvy senior citizens.

A month later, TRAC organised its 2nd webinar (“A Christian Response to Stress”; 25 June). It was a timely and relevant forum, given the adverse impact of the unprecedented coronavirus crisis.

We were privileged to have our Bishop Dr Ong Hwai Teik, Bishop Emeritus Dr Robert Solomon (Singapore) and Rev Dr Chew Tow Yow as panelists, with Rev Dr T Jeyakumar as host and Rev Yong Wai Yin as moderator.

The forum was most enlightening and engaging. We were told to be wary of ‘scorpions’ (Ezekiel 2:6) in the church! We were counseled to practise ‘serpenthoo’ (Mt 10:16), albeit cautioned not to misunderstand the usage of this term. We were urged to have a friend who can carry us during stressful times, and then this question suddenly popped up, “Is my spouse my friend?”. Did this question disturb anyone?

To gauge how the TRAC webinars had benefited participants, we were encouraged to receive these responses.

- ▶ “Rev Dr Chew reminded me that God will not let me be tempted beyond what I can bear. It’s true that I may be overwhelmed by the stresses as I took on a new role at work. But God promised to provide a way out. I was glad to have attended the forum.” (Ooi Vern Hau)
- ▶ “From the panelists of TRAC’s 2nd webinar, I learned that pastoral ministry is stressful not because of the workload as much as dealing with people, and I always have God to lean on. I also learned that as a Pastor, I would need to have friends who are like a shepherd, a resourceful person who can network well, a strong affirmer, and a trusted rebuker who can speak the truth in love.” (Rev Ashok Amarasingham)
- ▶ “A good reminder for me is that important as it is to be a ‘lover of God’, there is true freedom in knowing deeply and living as a ‘beloved of God’. In recent years, because of circumstances, the Lord has helped the sometimes ‘frantic’ me to learn to rest in Him. I don’t always have to be ‘doing’, especially not out of self-will or social compulsion. Stress often comes from leaving too little margin in a day doing the urgent to meet needs which are important. There is a place for self-care. Breathe and breathe deeply! Let God breathe new life in me daily.” (Lee Sok Yan)
- ▶ “All this while, because of my very tight schedule, there had been many seminars that I had wanted to attend but could not. However, webinars have made it possible for me to attend two webinars organised by TRAC. Physical distance was no longer an issue for both speakers and participants. TRAC has just saved thousands of ringgit and a few hundred hours in hosting these webinars, compared with organising a full-blown physical one. It can also be organised at a much shorter notice to meet an immediate need.” (Daniel Boey Fook Choy)

The forum was not just conceptual, although it was certainly helpful to understand the nature and causes of undue stress. It was also biblical and practical. Panelists offered helpful remedy to handle distress well. Here are some of the gems from the lips of the three wise men.

- ▶ “People cause stress. It is a relational issue. Paradoxically, relationships can help to cope with stress such as family members or mentors. And our relationship with God like Jesus with his Father. So learn to be still. Be with God. Allow God to love you. Know you are beloved of God. Honour God and we will be less stressful. Honour ourselves and we will be more stressful.” (Bishop Emeritus Dr Robert Solomon)

- ▶ “Intimacy, not activism or externalities. Keep the Sabbath. Lay down the tools of work. Be present with God. Offer a prayer of lament with honesty, yet affirming your hope in God. Be able to give thanks If you find it difficult to handle ‘impossible’ people and run out of love, ask God for love.” (Bishop Dr Ong Hwai Teik)
- ▶ “When stress becomes distress, it becomes a problem. Learn how to turn stress to become motivators, and not to allow it to become distress. Receive God’s grace. God is at work, even though we may not know or acknowledge it.” (Rev Dr Chew Tow Yow)

At the end of the forum, the panelists offered their final words of counsel: “Self-care is ok.” (Bishop Ong) “Learn how to breathe rightly.” (Rev Dr Chew) “Come to Jesus and he will give you rest. Jesus is the answer.” (Bishop Emeritus Robert Solomon)



Remembering 爷爷 – David Ho Lim Cheng (LPL Holder)

(17.03.1934–20.11.2020)

By Emily Ho

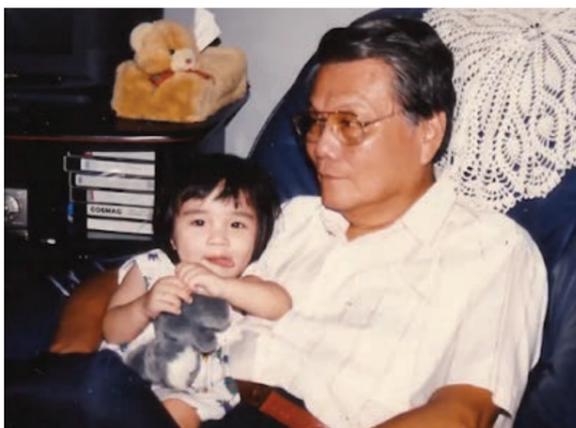
(Expanded from my eulogy at his funeral—celebrating the life of David Ho Lim Cheng and his return to his Maker)

My yea yea was nothing short of an excellent man. He was defined by a few unchanging values. Some of those values were all-important: for example, that all of life is lived to God's glory, that you use your might not to serve your own interests but to serve God and others, and finally, that you never stop serving, not even in old age. These were the values that yea yea held to strongly, and it determined how he spent his days.

There were also those values that yea yea held to quite strongly but which were perhaps less serious: for example, you never give up an opportunity to eat *oh chien*, however many there are in front of you, you always bring your granddaughters to KFC when your son drops them off at your house, and, as became evident in the last few weeks, you never decline *tau fu fah*, not even if you are semi-conscious and bedridden.

Yea yea lived by his values, and it was apparent to those around him: for example, those who listened to his preaching at Grace Methodist Church, those who sat under his and ma ma's Bible study every Tuesday, and those who ate the abundance of food from their table.

There were many things yea yea did which were less on display for everyone, but which I as his granddaughter was able to see and admire. And what a gift it has been to share in the life of such a remarkable man. These are three things I will remember him by.



First, yea yea loved tirelessly, through gifts and acts of service.

Every time we got exam results back, yea yea would trek around town, even in his old age, looking for a shop that would inscribe a pewter plate with **“Congratulations, from Grandpa David”** to celebrate our achievements. When I confirmed my plans to study law at uni, yea yea gave me some money to spend on whatever I wanted. I got a haul of books from Kinokuniya, and he signed the front pages of each one, his elegant script memorialising a message he never failed to live out: “Love, Grandpa David”.

Towards the end of his life when he was still able to cook, yea yea would make us dinner every Thursday. His signature dish was mamak mee goreng! Sometimes he would also prepare an elaborate steamboat meal, and he would scour Kampung Simee market to get only the best ingredients for us.

This is how yea yea loved—unrelenting, quiet service, that bared his tender heart without flamboyance.

Second, yea yea never forgot the stories of his past, and listening to them has taught me to fully live and value every single day.

Yea yea was born in Falim, Ipoh to parents who owned a tin mine during the British occupation, and he was a child when the Japanese took over in 1941 and then surrendered in 1945. His father died from a stabbing during a robbery when he was a teenager. He remembered it vividly.



Yea yea was a very good student and got to study at St Michael's Institution (indeed, there were so many candidates at the SMI entrance exam, that all he could think – in his words – was *sei fo*). He wanted to become a doctor but didn't have the funds to do so. Instead he got a scholarship to train as a teacher in the Kirkby Malayan Teachers' Training College in Merseyside, UK. He had plenty of stories to tell about how they would ditch the cafeteria whenever it served steak and kidney pie because it unbearably stank. He also had the most adorable impersonation of a Liverpool accent. But the most significant thing to happen during his time at Kirkby was meeting Judy Koh, my ma ma (嬷嬷).

After getting his teaching diploma, he studied for a year in Shoreditch College of Education London (which is now Brunel University London), specialising in woodwork. He would take weekends off to go to Staines and Egham for day trips. He also had funky stories by which he and his listeners were endlessly amused, no matter how many times he told them. He went to Wales once, hitchhiking with his friends. He ended up in the car of a Cadbury factory manager, and got plenty of free chocolate as well as a free stay in his house. Seeing the twinkle in his eye as he told these stories, I imagined that, in his mind, his memories were animated like comic strips, intricate, hilarious, precious pieces of a fun story.

When they returned to Malaysia, yea yea and ma ma married in Wesley Methodist Church Ipoh. They were both teachers. Yea yea was a founding teacher of Sekolah Tunku Abdul Rahman (STAR), which still stands today. He is still commemorated there. In fact, a teacher in my own school, decades later, was pleasantly surprised to find that two of his students were the granddaughters of the great Ho Lim Cheng.

Yea yea and ma ma started a family and lived in KL for most of their life. Ma ma was teacher and eventually headmistress of Methodist Girls' Primary School in Brickfields, and yea yea was a lecturer in the Teachers' Training College. He also visited schools in remote places to evaluate teachers.

Yea yea and ma ma were living in KL during 13 May 1969 when the racial riots broke out. Yea yea was always persuaded that God saved him and ma ma from certain death that day, when they found themselves in a traffic jam, crawling toward a site of extreme violence. Somehow their car crossed the divider to the other side of the road in escape. He said it was miraculous, and he never thought otherwise.



Several years later, yea yea had to suffer the death of his son Patrick, who drowned in a lake in Wisconsin while he was a student at University of Wisconsin Madison. I do not know how he and ma ma survived that devastation. I am sure yea yea still lived with splinters of that loss until the very end.

Then in 2007, he suffered the death of his wife, my ma ma, from pancreatic cancer. He has lived with that grief ever since then. He told me, a few months ago, that he would often dream of her. He would wake up with tears already in his eyes and then would look across the bed and find it empty. He is now, at last, with Uncle Patrick and ma ma, and I am sure it is nothing short of a blissful reunion.

There were many more stories in between these landmarks. Yea yea never forgot them, not even the most seemingly trivial details. This habit of recording and recalling continued to the invention of the mainstream digital camcorder! So when he went on holidays in the latter part of his life, he would film everything—yes, everything—because it was all precious to him.



I wonder how these memories played in his mind. Did he go through them continuously, so that the reels and reels of film would not fade? Did he select some to play at a time, whenever something in his day reminded him of something thirty years ago? I do not know. I only saw the outworking of it in his honest and grateful storytelling. That's something I'll certainly remember him for.

Third, yea yea was a man of unwavering faith, especially in the face of death.

This started from very young, growing up as a member of Wesley Methodist Church Ipoh in the 1940s. Later in life he hand-carried the whole series of hardback Matthew Henry Bible commentaries back from the UK. They still sit in his bookshelf now, next to a giant magnifying glass he used to read them when his eyesight had deteriorated. He also went on to be the longest-serving Methodist lay preacher in the state of Perak: he renewed his preacher's license so many times they had to start recording his



renewals on the back cover of his booklet beyond the printed lines.

All his life, yea yea heard the echoes of the perfect heaven he was made for. He enjoyed creation all around him, and was quietly fascinated—even captivated—by things that bored others. He kept arowana fish for a very long time. One of them lived for sixteen years. Every day he would feed them and watch them keenly, a faithful keeper. In his last house, he had a pond of koi fish, and up until he was too weak to do so, every day he would go out to buy fresh small fish for them to eat. He would drop them into the water and stand precariously over the pond to admire them. The slow, poised dignity of these beautiful fish were really what captured him. They captured him more—much more—than the yapping of a Labrador we once gave to him. I realise now how much this reflected his own quiet, contemplative nature, a man of few words. He didn't say much—he certainly rarely yapped on like a dog. But when he did speak, he offered pearls of wisdom, humour, recollections, and a heartfelt care.

He also loved plants. Once, he built from scratch a huge orchid stand that was the length of his garden. Pots of beautiful orchids hung from it, and he would take us to each one and explain how much he loved each colour. We would also pause briefly at the bougainvillea corner of his garden, when he would explain how he bred each one so that each flower would bloom with different-coloured petals.

These were some sweet echoes of God's character as a Creator, that he heeded throughout his life. They were



never short-lived obsessions. Yea yea was not one to pounce between different interests. Instead, he had a few steady passions and his devotion to them was lifelong.

But all of these were echoes of a truer, sweeter sound of heaven that he looked forward to. On the hospital bed as he recovered from the first surgery on his stomach, he told me he often dreamt of what heaven might be like.

"I saw a beautiful river, the water sparkling, the clearest I've ever seen. There were fish in the water of species that I never imagined could exist: much more beautiful than koi. And across the river I saw trees and flowers that I had never seen before, they were so interesting, very beautiful. It was really paradise."

There in the hospital room, within those bland walls, I saw the most beautiful scenery I'd seen in my life, painted by his hoarse old voice. I smile when I think how much yea yea is enjoying this now. At last, he has followed "an echo that did not die away but swelled into the sound itself",

the culmination of all the beauty he had steadily admired in his aquarium, in his flowerpots, and most of all in the face of Jesus, complete in the unhindered presence of his creator.

In my mind, yea yea has already been somewhat of a legend all along. If he wasn't already, he is now. He was a legendary man who was gentle, humble, and very much alive even in his final weeks. Eventually, tumours the size of tennis balls were lodged all over his torso, front and back. He couldn't even sit up without keeling over. So he just stayed in bed, peaceful and ready for whatever would come the next day. He would slurp his *wat tan hor* and *tau fu fah* every day, and my dad would take videos for us to see. In every video, my dad would say, "Is Jesus your Lord & Saviour?" The reply was a resolute, "yes", as confident in his faith as I have always known him to be.

Thank you, yea yea, for being a loving grandfather, a keen storyteller, and a brilliant shining light. We love you very much!

"But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds."
Psalm 73:28



Mr. Maha as I Know Him (17.01.1933 – 11.08.2020)

By by Chong Lap Ping (WMC Taiping, Church Archivist)

I came to know Mr. Maha in the early eighties when I was transferred to Taiping. The first thing that struck me was his expert usage of the English Language. He had the ability to express any idea without any hesitation, with good vocabulary and grammar. People understood him easily when he was speaking from the pulpit. He always minded his p's and q's. His sermons were clear, coherent and well-delivered. A good spiritual leader, he always relied on God's strength.



Mr. Maha had a busy schedule but he made time for God through praise and worship, bible study, prayer meetings, church meetings and church activities. It is encouraging to realize that there is no time spent with God that is wasted. He used to remind us to turn the 'idiot box' off and other distractions. Every now and then, he emphasized that our relationship with God is the most important relationship we will ever have as all relationships grow with time spent together. Spending "alone time" with God is crucial to our walk with God. Yes, Mr. Maha prioritize spending time with God even when his health was failing.

In his article to the Angelos (Wesley Taiping newsletter), entitled "Our unwavering commitment to the next decade of Wesley Taiping, he again reminded us to be a part of the church. Here is an excerpt.

"These days many folks are so focused on the difficulties in the world that they spend a lot of time and energy fretting about the future. But when I think about the days ahead for Wesley Taiping, I am filled with anticipation and excitement about what God is going to do. God willing, I certainly want to be a part of it."

Mr Mahaganesan Chinniah

by Dr. Lim Hock Ghee (WMC Taiping, Lay Leader)

I came to know Mr Maha and family over 40 years ago when he started to attend Taiping Wesley. After the late Rev. Hwa Chien had visited him in his home and ministered God's word to him. His children also joined us at Sunday School and MYF. And together with Aunty Bernice they all became a regular part of the church family.

He faithfully attended bible study, grew in maturity and became involved in church leadership and pulpit ministry. He was involved in many ministries, from the youth as MYF counsellor to the adults as CG leader. I can clearly remember his loud booming voice when we had congregational prayer, his prayers could be heard clearly by everyone in the sanctuary. He was a no nonsense teacher and preacher of God's word and occasionally would sprinkle his sermons with stories from his own life.

In the last decade of his life, Mr and Mrs Maha shuttled between Malaysia and USA where his children were based but he faithfully continued to be a part of the Care Group and pulpit ministry in Taiping Wesley. They would both faithfully come for prayer meeting on Wednesday nights whenever they were back here.

His children have inherited his legacy of Faith and Taiping Wesley has been blessed by his years in leadership and pulpit ministry.

Rest well in the Arms of Jesus, Mr Maha.

Mr. Maha – the Faithful Lay Preacher

by Rev. Joshua Khong (WMC Taiping's pastor)

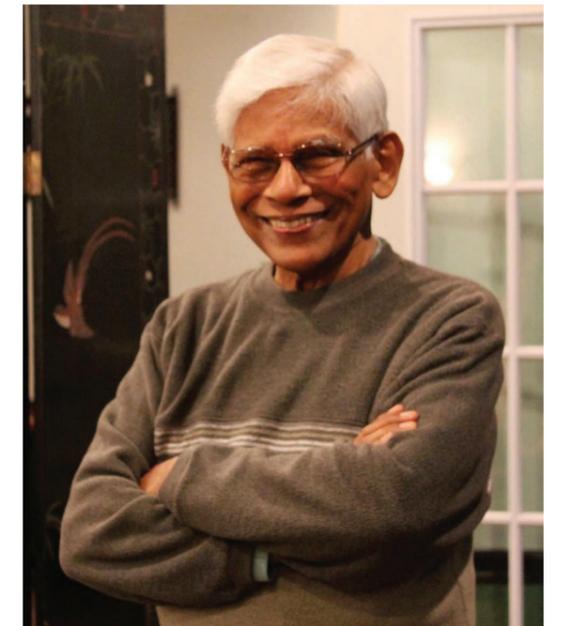
Mr. Maha served as a faithful Lay Preacher for more than two decades in Wesley Methodist Church Taiping. He renewed his LPL (Local Preacher's License) for 22 years. Mr. Maha is truly a Methodist Lay Preacher, in the vein and tradition, that John Wesley purposed and desired for his team of Lay Preachers. Mr. Maha's sermons are crafted with reverent care and diligence; and presented in

- clearness of style and language
- plainness and relevance

John Wesley desired clarity, clearness of style and language for his Lay Preachers. Wesley wrote to his friend, Samuel Furl, at Queen's College, Cambridge, "Clearness in particular is necessary for you and me, because we are to instruct people of the lowest understanding. We should constantly use the most common, little, easy word; so they are pure and proper; which our language affords."

Mr. Maha's sermons are articulated with clarity, in systematic logical presentations; with clearness of style and language. He employs his words wisely, carefully choosing words which the congregation understands. He does not feel the need to use big bombastic words to impress his listeners. God's truth is presented clearly with sincerity and a down to earth approach.

Wesley was opposed to the florid oratorical style so often heard in English pulpits; hence, a good and effective pulpit message ought to be plain and relevant. As Wesley said in the preface to his Sermons in 1746, "I design plain truth for plain people." Indeed, John Wesley puts his own advice into practice; his prose is generally clear and pointed, not florid and ornamented. This is another Methodist aspects of Mr. Maha's preaching. In the vein of John Wesley's instructions for plainness and relevance; Mr. Maha speaks plainly, connecting God's word with the congregation sincerely and truthfully.



TRAC Appointments For The Year 2021

EASTERN DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Revd Thomas Chin

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Wesley MC Kuantan | Revd Christopher Rao, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Wesley MC Kuala Lipis | No Conference Appointment |
| Wesley MC Raub | No Conference Appointment |
| Christ MC Bentong | No Conference Appointment |

NORTHERN DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Revd Ronald Yap

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Wesley MC Alor Star | Revd Aaron Ng, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Wesley MC Sg Petani | Pr Andrew Yeoh, Pastor-in-Charge (part-time) |
| Wesley MC Kulim | Revd Joshua Chia, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Wesley MC Butterworth | Pr Andrew Yeoh, Pastor-in-Charge (part-time) |
| Trinity MC Penang | Revd Shearn Sya, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Wesley MC Penang | Revd Ronald Yap, Pastor-in-Charge Pr Luke Ng, Assistant Pastor |
| Wesley MC Parit Buntar | Revd Joshua Chia, Pastor-in-Charge |

PERAK DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Revd Dr Andrew Tan

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Wesley MC Taiping | Pr Jonathan Chan, Pastor-in-Charge Revd John Baru, Associate Pastor |
| Wesley MC Ipoh | Revd Dr Timothy Ong, Pastor-in-Charge Pr Wong Chun Mun, Assistant Pastor |
| Wesley MC Sitiawan | Revd Lester Lim, Pastor-in-Charge Pr Edward Lee, Student Pastor |
| Wesley MC Teluk Intan | Revd Buell Abraham, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Wesley MC Kampar | Revd Elaine Low, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Grace MC Pasir Putih | Revd Lim Chaw Leong, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Bercham MC | Revd Anna Ng, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Living Faith MC | Revd Lim Chaw Leong, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Canning Garden MC Ipoh | Revd Dr Andrew Tan, Pastor-in-Charge Revd Yu Chiew Song, Associate Pastor Revd Richard Leow, Associate Pastor |

CENTRAL DISTRICT 1

District Superintendent: Revd Andrew Lim

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Wesley MC Kuala Lumpur | Revd Andrew Lim, Pastor-in-Charge Revd Ashok Amarasingham, Associate Pastor Pr Thomas Jie, Assistant Pastor |
| Whispering Hope MC | Revd James Ong, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Wesley MC Kepong | Revd Lucy Lee, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Living Stone MC | Revd Lucy Lee, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Faith MC Cheras | Pr William Kwong, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Christ MC Ampang | Revd Tan Chew Mae, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Grace MC Sentul | Revd Koe Swee Kee, Pastor-in-Charge |
| MC Sg Buloh | Pr William Kwong, Pastor-in-Charge |

CENTRAL DISTRICT 2

District Superintendent: Revd Paul S. Christie

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Wesley MC Klang | Revd Gaurri Maniam, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Living Hope MC | Pr Chris Manivannan, Pastor-in-Charge (Part-time) |
| SSMC | Revd Dr Ng Swee Ming, Pastor-in-Charge Revd Dr Ng Kok Moi, Associate Pastor |
| Trinity MC PJ | Revd Paul S. Christie, Pastor-in-Charge Revd Joshua Hong, Associate Pastor Pr Lewis Loke, Assistant Pastor |
| Subang MC | Pr Robert Khaw, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Life MC Puchong | Revd Eric Tan, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Emmanuel MC | Revd Thomas Chin, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Wesleyan Community MC | Revd Thomas Chin, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Damansara Utama MC | Pr Chris Kam, Pastor-in-Charge Pr Mike Ngui, Associate Pastor Pr Tan Moy How, Associate Pastor Pr Kelvin Yong, Associate Pastor Pr Jonathan Yeoh, Associate Pastor Pr Gilbert Tan, Associate Pastor Pr Cheah Seuk Poh, Assistant Pastor (part-time) Pr Eddy Marson, Associate Pastor Pr S. Ravindren, Associate Pastor |

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

District Superintendent: Revd Wong Mun Wah

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Wesley MC Seremban | Revd Yong Wai Yin, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Taman Ujong MC, Seremban | Revd Yong Wai Yin, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Wesley MC Melaka | Revd Teoh Lee Yng, Pastor-in-Charge Revd Danny Chiew, Assistant Pastor Pr Aaron Liu, Assistant Pastor |
| Taman Asean MC, Melaka | Revd Teoh Lee Yng, Pastor-in-Charge Revd Danny Chiew, Assistant Pastor Pr Aaron Liu, Assistant Pastor |
| Wesley MC Segamat | Revd Woo Kit Sang, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Wesley MC, Johor Baru | Revd Wong Mun Wah, Pastor-in-Charge |
| Nusajaya MC, Johor | Revd Chang Choy Quin, Pastor-in-Charge |

Special Appointments

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Seniors Ministry Director | Revd David Loo |
| PMSM Superintendent | Revd Yok Selan |
| Prayer Coordinator | Pr Robert Khaw |
| Part-Time Coordinator in PMSM | Revd Richard Leow |
| National Youth Director | Revd James Ong |

At the 45th Session of the Trinity Annual Conference held on the 15th of November the following took place:

1. The Revd Joshua Khong Chee Leong was elected as the Conference President on the 3rd ballot with two-thirds majority.
2. Mr Lim Chong Ho was elected the Conference Lay Leader.
Mr Yee Eh Horng and Mr Loi Kim Shung were elected Conference Associate Lay Leaders.
3. Mr Yap Koon Roy was elected the Conference Secretary.
4. The Executive Board was elected with the following members:

TRAC President – Revd Joshua Khong (Executive Board CHairman)

Ministers

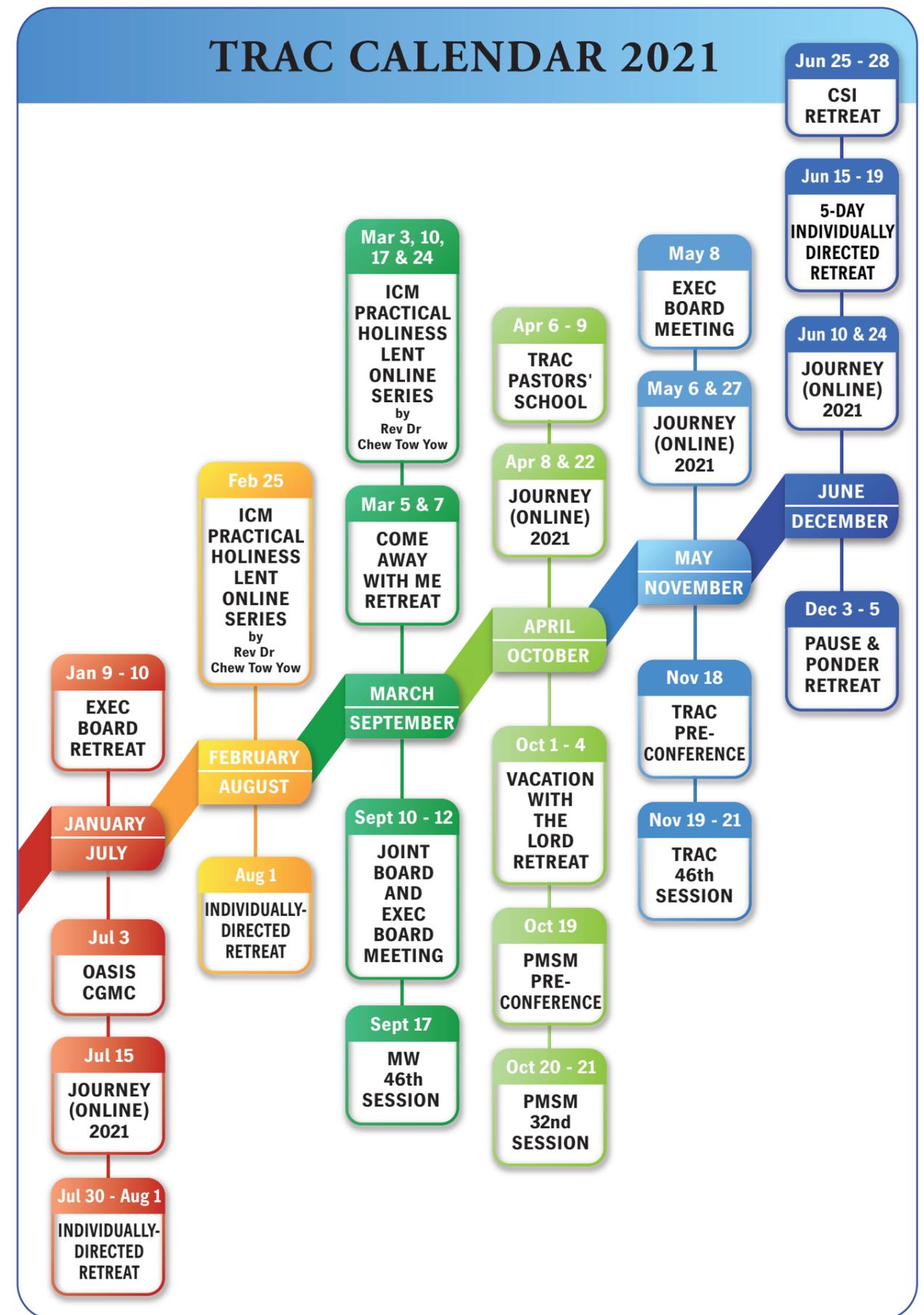
1. Revd Dr Andrew Tan
2. Revd Ashok Amarasingham
3. Revd Yong Wai Yin
4. Revd Ronald Yap
5. Revd Thomas Chin
6. Revd Paul Christie
7. Revd Andrew Lim

Lay Members

1. Mr Lim Chong Ho (Conference Lay Leader)
2. Mr Yap Koon Roy (Conference Secretary)
3. Mr William Phua (Conference Finance Chairman)
4. Mdm Theresa Yip (Methodist Women President)
5. Dr Samuel Ong Boon Leng
6. Mr Yee Eh Horng
7. Mdm Goh Kim Guat

5. The following persons were elected into various offices:

- Mr Jason Yap - Board of Archives
- Rev Lester Lim - Board of Chinese Ministry
- Mr William Lim - Board of Christian Education
- Rev Christopher Rao – Board of Evangelism
- Mr William Phua – Board of Finance
- Rev Yong Wai Yin - Board of Institute of Christian Ministry
- Rev Ashok Amarasingham - Board of Ministry
- Dr Lim Kean Ghee - Board of Missions
- Mr Daniel Khoo - Board of Nominations
- Dr SS Gill - Board of Presidency
- Mr Ngu Chie Kieng – Board of Property
- Mrs Roslind Yong – Board of Social Concerns
- Ms Juwita Suwito – Board of Worship and Music
- Rev Jonathan Chan - Board of Youth Work
- Mr Tan Chong Jin - Conference Statistician
- Ms Mable Chin - Conference Treasurer
- Rev Ronald Yap, Mr Daniel Ong - Members of the College of Judges
- Rev Teoh Lee Yng, Dato’ Jory Leong - Members of the College of Investigators



CONGRATULATIONS TO MCKL ALUMNI GAINING ADMISSION TO TOP UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE

2:1
RATIO OF SCIENCE STUDENTS VS ARTS STUDENTS

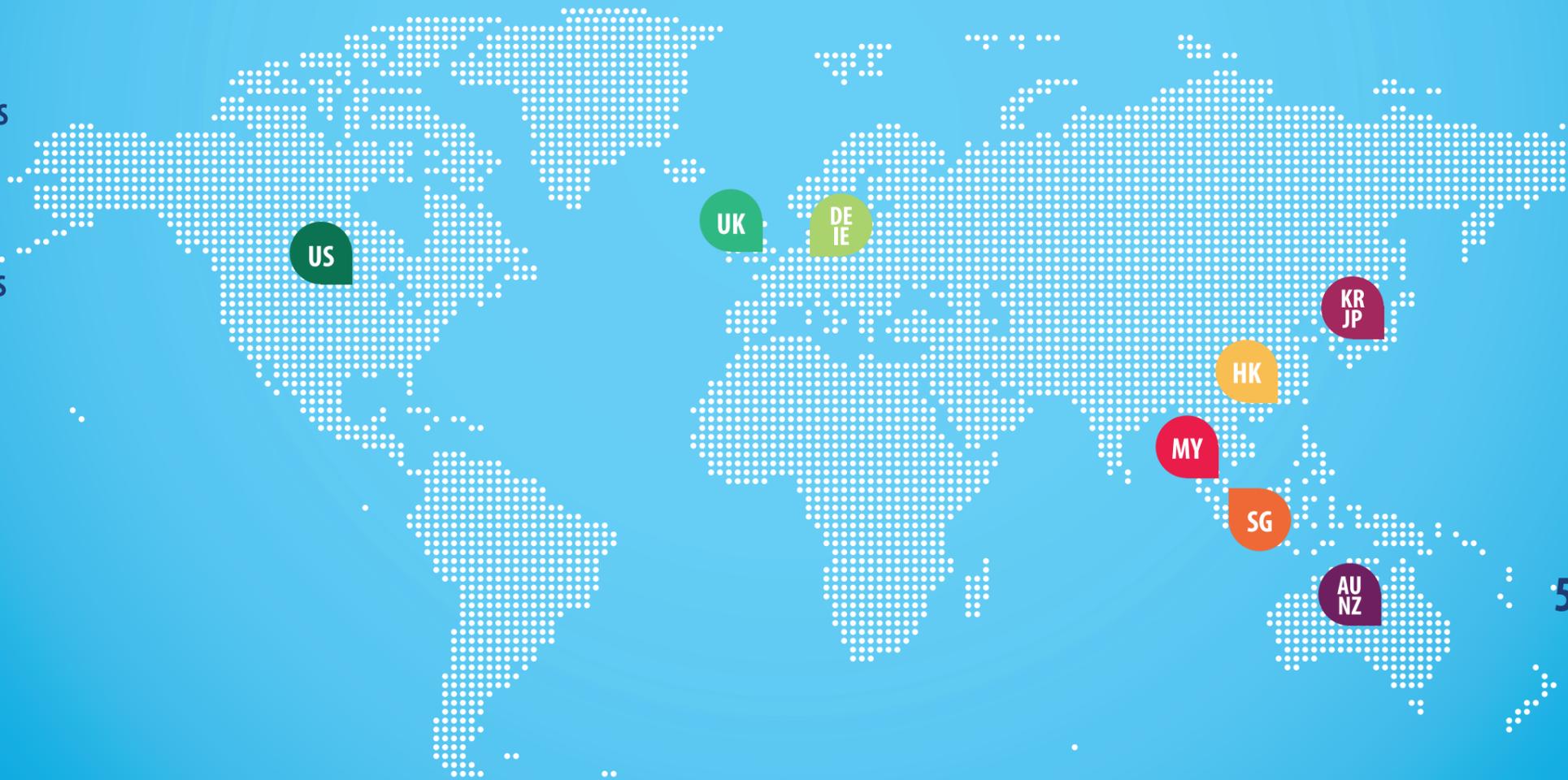
1 IN 6
MCKL-ANS PURSUE THEIR STUDIES IN MALAYSIAN PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

30%
STUDENTS CONTINUE THEIR STUDIES IN THE UK

28%
MCKL-ANS CHOOSE ENGINEERING

3 IN 20
SCIENCE STUDENTS PURSUE MEDICINE

1 IN 6
HUMANITIES STUDENTS PURSUE LAW



TOP 3 POPULAR SCIENCE DEGREES AMONG MCKL-ANS IN 2020
ENGINEERING
MEDICINE
COMPUTER SCIENCE

TOP 3 POPULAR HUMANITIES DEGREES AMONG MCKL-ANS IN 2020
FINANCE
ECONOMICS
LAW

5 UNCOMMON DEGREES AMONG MCKL-ANS IN 2020
ARTS & EDUCATION
INFORMATION SYSTEMS
LINGUISTICS
DATA SCIENCE
M.O.R.S.E.

US
Top universities in US attended by MCKL alumni of 2020:
Purdue University
University of Michigan
Wesleyan University

UK
Top universities in UK attended by MCKL alumni of 2020:
Imperial College London
University College London
London School of Economics and Political Science

DE IE
Top universities in Germany & Ireland attended by MCKL alumni of 2020:
RWTH Aachen University DE
Technical University of Berlin DE
University College Dublin IE

HK
Top universities in Hong Kong attended by MCKL alumni of 2020:
The University of Hong Kong
Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

SG
Top universities in Singapore attended by MCKL alumni of 2020:
National University of Singapore
Nanyang Technological University
Singapore Management University

MY
Top public universities in Malaysia attended by MCKL alumni of 2020:
Universiti Malaya
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
Universiti Sains Malaysia

KR JP
Top universities in Korea & Japan attended by MCKL alumni of 2020:
Waseda University JP
Hanyang University KR
Tokyo University of Foreign Studies JP

AU NZ
Top universities in Australia & New Zealand attended by MCKL alumni of 2020:
University of Melbourne AU
University of Sydney AU
University of Auckland NZ

MCKL ALUMNI
LAWRENCE LEROY CHIENG TZE YAO
ALI BIN AZMI
ONG RUJIE
KAZI FARDINUL HOQUE
TAN TAI LON
KENNY LOO KAH KIN
LIM ZI YANG
LYE JIAN YI
REBECCA CHUNG RU BYN
SIEW HUI ZHUAN
TANG YI QWAN
YEW JIA REN
BRANDON TAY JIAN WEI
CHIEW LIK SENG
CHO NA KYUNG
GIAM KUN YUE

SCHOLARSHIP
JPA SCHOLARSHIP
MARA WORLD'S TOP UNIVERSITIES LOAN
BANK NEGARA UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP
TUITION + ROOM & BOARD
FREEMAN ASIAN SCHOLARSHIP
ASEAN UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP
OCBC SCHOLARSHIP
HKU FULL ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP
HKU FULL ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP
HKU HALF ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP
BELT & ROAD SCHOLARSHIP

UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITI MALAYA
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
WABASH COLLEGE
WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
SINGAPORE MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY
NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

DEGREE
COMPUTER SCIENCE (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE)
PHILOSOPHY AND POLITICS
ECONOMICS AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION
PHYSICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
BIOLOGY
MATERIALS ENGINEERING
COMPUTER SCIENCE
COMPUTER SCIENCE
PHYSICS
COMPUTER SCIENCE
MATHEMATICAL AND COMPUTER SCIENCES
ECONOMICS
ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SCIENCE
QUANTITATIVE FINANCE

MCKL ALUMNI
GRACE YUJUN-KON
NG KAH HEE
TAN TECK KWANG
TEE CHEE HONG
YAW JALIK
YOO YUEN YAU
CHAN JIAN ZHE
SAMUEL LING ZHI YONG
CHIA JODEE
ELYSA LIM XIN YI
GEOFFREY CHANG WAI ONN
AGNES TOH JIA YUE
HONG YU HENG
NICHOLAS SEAH JUN WEI
KOH JING YAN
TOH PEI YI

SCHOLARSHIP
HKBU FULL ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP
HKU FULL ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP
BELT & ROAD SCHOLARSHIP
CUHK FULL ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP
HKU FULL ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP
HKU FULL ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP
MERIT SCHOLARSHIP
UWA GLOBAL EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP
MEXT JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP
MERIT SCHOLARSHIP
MCKL SCHOLAR
MCKL SCHOLAR
MCKL SCHOLAR
DATA FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP
TAN SRI YEONG TIONG LAY GLOBAL SCHOLARSHIP

UNIVERSITY
HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE, AU
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, AU
TOKYO UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES, JP
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN, IE
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN, IE
UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM MALAYSIA
UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM MALAYSIA
UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM MALAYSIA
HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA
HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

DEGREE
ACCOUNTING
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
GLOBAL ECONOMICS AND FINANCE
ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
COMPUTER SCIENCE
ENGINEERING SCIENCE
FINANCE
SCIENCE
MEDICINE
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING
CIVIL ENGINEERING
FINANCE, ACCOUNTING AND MANAGEMENT
STATISTICAL DATA SCIENCE
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

THIS LIST IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE AS THERE ARE MANY MORE EQUALLY EXCELLENT MCKL ALUMNI

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MY961

Wesley Methodist School Kuala Lumpur (International)

23 March 2020

Dear Colleague,

Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards, Malaysia

Cambridge Assessment International Education congratulates you on producing some of the best performing learners in Malaysia, and around the world, in the November 2019 examination series.

Details of the winning students and the awards achieved are in the table below.

| AWARD | QUALIFICATION | SYLLABUS | STUDENT NAME |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Top in Malaysia | Cambridge IGCSE | Accounting | Alvin Chan Zheng Jing |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Alison Lee Yoke San |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Alvin Chan Zheng Jing |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Alyssa Yip Zhixin |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Angelica Hii Wei Wen |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Hoo Chang Ru |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Lee Bing Zhe |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Lorraine Tan Yen Ee |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Lum Ting Fang |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Renee Foo Sheng Li |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | William Sit Hong Li |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Winnie Ooi Yun Ting |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Wong Peh Bie |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Additional Mathematics | Yap Zie Qi |
| Top in the World | Cambridge IGCSE | Mathematics (Without Coursework) | Phoon Kah Yi |

Congratulations

The General Conference of the Methodist Church in Malaysia at its quadrennial meeting held in September 2020, amongst other things, approved a change in our Constitution in the way we address Heads of our respective Annual Conferences. Since our inception we have referred to them as Annual Conference Presidents.

This was a historical act by the General Conference, when it approved the nomenclature change from, **Annual Conference President** to **Annual Conference Bishop**. This decision of the General Conference had to go through a process before it became law. The needed approvals had to be obtained from each of our Annual Conference's and this was recently achieved.

This is to inform you of the following, which comes into effect on 1st January 2021:

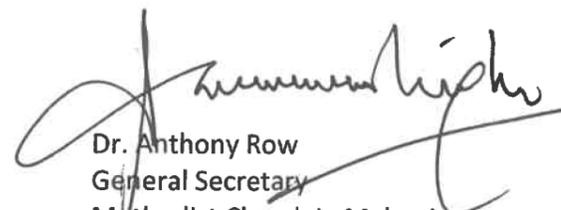
1. There shall be a **Bishop** of the Methodist Church in Malaysia.

Bishop Dr T. Jeyakumar was elected to lead the Methodist Church in Malaysia at the General Conference Meeting in September 2020. He will speak for and represent the Methodist Church in Malaysia on all matters. He will be referred to as :
"Bishop of the Methodist Church in Malaysia."

2. There shall be **Annual Conference Bishops**

Each Annual Conference, at their respective Annual Conference Sessions, which met recently, had elected their respective Annual Conference Presidents. They are to serve a period of four years. They will lead and speak on behalf of their respective Annual Conference. They will now be referred to as follows:

- a. Bishop of Trinity Annual Conference
- b. Bishop of Chinese Annual Conference
- c. Bishop of Tamil Annual Conference
- d. Bishop of Sabah Annual Conference
- e. Bishop of Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference
- f. Bishop of Sarawak Iban Annual Conference



Dr. Anthony Row
 General Secretary
 Methodist Church in Malaysia