

# *~ TTMC e-Newsletter - March 2020 ~*



*Vision: A Growing Communal Church*  
*Mission: To be and make Disciples of Christ*

## *What's inside*

- *Pastor's Message*
- *Words of encouragement by Lay Leader*
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## *Message from the Editorial Committee*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

By faith and through faith we have witnessed the amazing grace of our Lord in planting TTMC in Tabuan area to cater to the spiritual needs of the English-speaking community in the surrounding areas. Praise the Lord.

This year 2020, we are equipping and discipling for the expansion of God's Kingdom especially through our BB Ministry, Student Ministry and English classes for Advorsys students. We are also focusing on Family Discipleship. This is out of love for our families. This includes the passing on of our faith to the next generation and generations to come. We pray that our Lord will build up our family in love and truth.

We are barely two months into this year and now we are confronted with the global crisis of Covid-19 outbreak and the Malaysian political turmoil. We, as Christians should not react in fear and anxiety. We should, instead rise up in humble-boldness and demonstrate our faith and confidence in our Lord by pressing on. This state of turbulence presents an opportunity for us as Christians to really examine and reflect upon ourselves. Are we truly living out lives that are pleasing to God? Let us search our hearts in the following areas: -

- Are we truly feeling joyful always, praying continually and giving thanks in all circumstances? (1 Thess. 5: 16 – 18)
- Are we really doing all things out of justice and kindness? (Micah 6:8)

Let us be truly transformed and be filled with the fruit of the Holy Spirit to be doers of the Great Commandments of our Lord (Matt 22: 37 – 39). We pray earnestly and seek our Lord to heal us and our land (2 Chron. 7:14).

Brothers and sisters, let's stand firm in our faith and stand on the promises of our Lord to make 2020 a year of discipleship. "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." (Mark 10:27).

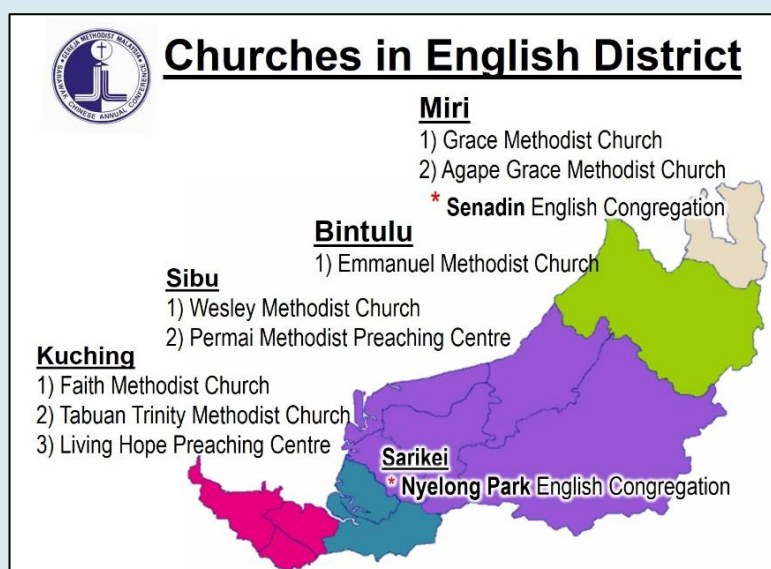
~ March 2020 ~

**\*\*\* This is our first e-newsletter as MCO was implemented while we were finalizing this newsletter. We hope that through this e-newsletter, we as a church family stay connected and continue to encourage one another. God Bless!**

# *“ONE Family in Christ”*

*Rev. Poh Chin Sing*

**Chinese New Year** was over less than two weeks ago; I thank God for having a wonderful family reunion with my children during this festive season. While we were enjoying our reunion and celebration, our hearts were burdened due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in the city of Wuhan in China; knowing that many doctors, nurses and medical staff had to sacrifice their reunion time with their loved ones to tend to the infected patients...May God have mercy on our Brothers and Sisters in Christ there.



state of Sarawak geographically, as shown in the map.

Being a member in the English District, Let us remember the teaching in **1 Corinthians Chapter 12**, “<sup>12</sup> *The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So, it is with Christ.* <sup>25</sup> *So that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.*” and care for the other churches in the English District under the leadership of Rev. Lenita Tiong, the District Superintendent.

Dear TTMC members and friends, may 2020 be a year that we look not only to our own interests but to the interests of the others (**Philippians 2:4**) in the English District so that *if one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it* (**1 Corinthians 12:26**).

Indeed **2020** is a challenging year globally and for TTMC as well. Starting from January, 2020 TTMC will be in the **English District** constituted in Nov 2019 under **Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference**. We are excited but also expecting lots of challenges ahead being in a new District, with 6 churches, 2 Preaching Centres and 2 English Congregations, spreading across the

17 February 2020

*Genesis 5:22b .....Enoch walked faithfully with God 300 years .....v. 24 Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.*

*Hebrews 11:5b.....For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.*

## **Let us all “Walk with Jesus faithfully”**

I took up the challenge of taking part in a 3-day Esther Fasting and Prayer in early December 2019. Though mine was not a perfect fast (I needed some sugared fluids, beyond just plain water, on the second night), I still completed the 3-day full fast. I have learnt through this fasting and prayer what it meant to “walk with God faithfully”.

- 1) I learned to rely on God for strength to ward off temptations and handle tough encounters
- 2) I learned to keep my focus on Jesus. I drew closer to Jesus. I start to understand more on what intimate fellowship with God is all about.
- 3) I learned to be more aware of my sins and pride. I needed Jesus to forgive me. He reminded me that He is my Saviour & Lord again & again.

Thus, “Walking with God” faithfully is more than just a relationship. It is about discipleship, following Christ and obedience. If I have problems I pray and seek His wisdom to find solutions. It is thus important we “ALL TOGETHER” walk with God like Enoch, faithfully.

When members within a church walk together, God will help us to love and encourage one another, for example, stronger ministries will help the weaker ones. Any issues, problems or “hurts” should be solved within the church. We should walk with God and solve issues with God’s help. There is no need to WhatsApp unnecessarily when issues arise. It may turn the issues into gossip materials. Satan may be setting traps for us to cause unnecessary unhappiness and division. Let us solve issues together with our God’s help and within our own church. Doing things this way will surely please God like what Enoch did.

As for the various component churches within the English District, we must walk together with God too. We should help each other when it comes to sharing resources in order to build up each other. Let us all walk together to serve Him.

It is the same for the Districts within the Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference (10 Chinese Districts and one English District now) that we should all also walk together with God faithfully. We help both the Chinese and English churches to care for one another, for example, sharing of physical facilities. All the churches should help to meet each other’s needs. This is how Chin Daw Church has been helping us TTMC since 2016.

Let us all in TTMC be like Enoch, who walked faithfully with God and pleased Him.

All for the glory of God.

# *Formation and Constitution of SCAC English District (ED) on 23 Nov 2019*

## *Chronology*

*by Dr. Simon Wong CK (Associate District Lay Leader)*

2006: Pastoral survey on issues and challenges amongst SCAC English Ministry Churches. Some major issues identified were the weak link with District and SCAC levels due to the language barrier and programs not tailor-made to our needs.

2008: Formation of English Ministry Committee (EMC)

2010: Formation of English District (ED) was mooted by the then Bishop, Bishop Hwa Yung.

2015: "EMC Refocus"

- EMC task force was set up.
- Twenty resolutions endorsed by President Su, SCAC Executive Board and Annual Conference.
- Formation of ED is Resolution No.10

2017 Sept: English District Task Force formed to prepare for the formation of ED

2019 May: Formation of ED was presented to SCAC Executive Board. Majority gave their blessings.

June: Worked out the final implications, solutions, implementation and time-line.

4 Sept: EMC met and finalized the presentations and petition for joining ED in the respective coming Local Conferences, District Conferences and Annual Conference. SCAC Executive Board also endorsed the ED Formation date.

20 Nov: At the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, the formation of English District was approved. The English District Superintendent is Rev. Lenita Tiong.

23 Nov: The English District was constituted.

English-Speaking Churches / Preaching Centres included:

**Kuching** – Faith Methodist Church (FMC), Tabuan Trinity Methodist Church, Living Hope Methodist Preaching Centre

**Sibu** – Wesley Methodist Church (WMC), Permai Methodist Preaching Centre

**Bintulu** – Emmanuel Methodist Church

**Miri** – Grace Methodist Church and Agape Grace Methodist Church

Nyelong Park Methodist Church (NPMC) and Senadin Methodist Centre (SMPC) remain as English Congregation and they are currently on board as observers.

*Total: 6 churches, 2 preaching centres and 2 churches with English service.*

*FMC and WMC started as English ministry Churches, and later added the Chinese service. FMC joins ED together with their Chinese congregation while WMC multiplied into two churches- WMC (Wesley Methodist Church for English congregation) and WCMC (Wesley Chinese Methodist Church for Chinese congregation)*

*NPMC and SMPC are Chinese Churches having English service. They will continue to be under their respective present District Conference but will join us as observers.*

## **District Commission of Ministries for 2020**

The initial formation of 7 District Commissions: District Commissions on Ministry, Laity, Christian Education, Worship & Music, Evangelism, Missions and Christian Social Concerns. The current pioneer office bearers and Commissioners for English District 2020 are:

**ED Office Bearers** – Dr. Wong Sung Ging, Dr. Simon Wong CK, Mary Tong, Janet Liu, Ps. Linberg Wong

**Chairpersons of District Commissions** – Dr. Wong Sung Ging (Lay Leader), Dr. Simon Wong CK (Associate Lay Leader) (Laity), Dr. Winnie Chan (Christian Education), Dato Dr. Yao Sik Chi (Evangelism), Chia Kah Pheng (Christian Social Concern), Aaron Hii (Mission), Lu Huang Ying (Worship & Music).

Summary:

We believe the English-speaking churches within the English District, headed by a District Superintendent will make better progress through the following:

- More effective channel of communication to the Executive Board and SCAC.
- Well focused ministries and services to the English-speaking congregations.
- Stronger bond among all English Local Conferences to enhance team empowerment and to facilitate mobilization and sharing of resources.

It's just the beginning. We are in uncharted waters but by God's will, we will grow and grow stronger. May we all continue to be and make disciples of Christ.



**EDC Constituting Conference 23 Nov 2019**

## *Student Ministry*

*Dr. Hwa Tee Yong*

In line with our church's vision to be a growing communal church, the student ministry was set up in mid-2019. This ministry serves as a means to reach out to the outstation Christian students within our community. We started with 6 students and the number has since increased to around 25. We provide transportation to this group of students to bring them to church on Sundays for Sunday worship service and student fellowship. In addition, we also work with another nearby college, SEITI to beautify a nearby school's compound. We welcome brothers and sisters to become volunteers in the various activities we organize for this group of students such as futsal competition and festive occasions to let the students feel welcomed.



**Gotong-royang at SMKTJ with SEITI**



**Praise & Worship in session**



**Attending the first Bi-lingual Sunday Service**

# *13<sup>th</sup> Kuching Company*

## *The Boys' Brigade in Malaysia*

*Capt. Bong Kui Chiew*

Entering the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of its formation, it is time to reflect upon what had been done for its further improvement. Our BB membership stood at an uncertain figure from SMKTJ as the boys had no meeting in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2019 whereas, we had 13 Boys from BIS (Borneo International School). Nonetheless, the program and budget for 2020 was set and we have to move on.

Recruitment was conducted in January 2020. A total of 21 new boys were recruited with 6 from BIS and 15 from SMKTJ. The needs of BB boys from of these 2 schools are totally different. Therefore, alternative approaches are needed to carry out the program. For SMKTJ, BM has to be used with a little mix of English when communicating with them. Materials in BM are limited and we don't have enough officers who are able to communicate in BM.

We saw an increase in the membership when we have 46 boys and 78 officers as of February 2020 (Figure inclusive of year 1 members). This gave us greater encouragement to move forward with the possibility of forming our BB BAND as initially planned.

In His strength and guidance, I pray that God will uplift our officers with confidence and hope to advance His Kingdom. In a timely mannar, God has opened a new way for us to minister at SMKTJ where most of the students are from the rural areas of our state.

*"Sure & Stedfast"*



**1<sup>st</sup> TTMC BB Enrolment – 27 Oct 2019**



**Chaplain Rev. Poh's session with BB Boys**



**BB Classes in session**



**SMKTJ Boys Brigade 2020**

## *Dedication Service ~ 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019*

**Rev. Dr. Tie King Tai** – “May TTMC inherit the DNA of church planting from the Lord through TMC to pass on the legacy for generations to come.”

**Rev. Dr. Lau Hui Ming** – “... let us be reminded again that we need to put our whole trust in the Mighty One who is the same yesterday, today and never changes.”

**Rev. Poh Chin Sing** – “I exalt God’s amazing grace and His mighty acts for TTMC’s new sanctuary with Psalm 20:7, “Some trust in chariots and others in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.”



**Unveiling the Plaque**



**Entering the Sanctuary – Rev. Tie KT, Rev. Lau HM and Rev. Poh CS leading the way!**



**Opening Prayer by Rev. Poh Chin Sing**



**Sermon by Rev. Tie King Tai**



**Act of dedication – Members of the Building and Renovation Committee**

<http://ttmc.org.my/dedication-service-for-ttmcs-new-building-4th-october-2019/>

## *Watchnight Service*

The final night of the year finds many Christians reflecting on the events of the past and looking ahead to the future. This is a night devoted to a new covenant with our Lord, to a new commitment to witness and service. The focus should be light and hopeful, not dwelling on the past, but acknowledging it and looking to the future with renewed hope and enthusiasm. The emotional tempo of the service should be relatively quiet and reflective in the beginning moving toward confident energy at the end.



Installation of TTMC LCEC 2020

<http://ttmc.org.my/watchnight-service-2019/>

## Christmas 2019



At Ah Liong Café, BDC



YS Food Court, Tabuan Laru



1<sup>st</sup> time Caroling at Tabuan Laru Heights Apartment



Christmas Service – Sunday School Presentation

<http://ttmc.org.my/christmas-service-2019-2/>