

DEDICATION
of
New Church-and-College
EXTENSION
and
Far-Eastern Kindergarten



Life Bible-Presbyterian Church
9 Gilstead Road
Singapore 11

Saturday, April 26, 1969, 4 p.m.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Chairman: Rev Timothy Tow

Organist: Mrs. Annie Tan
Bro. Koh Cheng Seong

1. Church Bell

2. Call to Worship
Psalm 24:1-6

Rev. Philip Heng

3. Presentation of Keys

Mr. W. K. Tham, contractor,
on behalf of Mr. Ang Kheng Leng,
Architect

Reception of Keys
4. Opening of Doors
Responsive Reading
Psalm 24:7-10

Elders Heng Mui Kiah and
Lim Khng Seng
Deacon William Seah
Congregation

Deacon: Lift up your heads, O ye gates
And be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors
And the King of glory shall come in.

Congregation: Who is this King of glory?

Deacon: The Lord strong and mighty
The Lord mighty in battle.

Congregation: Lift up your heads, O ye gates
Even lift them up, ye everlasting doors
And the King of glory shall come in

Deacon: Who is this King of glory?

Unison: The Lord of hosts,
He is the King of glory. Selah.

5. Hymn

Congregation

*1. Come, Thou Almighty King,
Help us Thy name to sing,
Help us to praise.
Father, all-glorious,
O'er all victorious,
Come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.*

*3. Come, Holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour:
Thou who almighty art,
Now rule in ev'ry heart,
And ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of pow'r.*

*2. Come, Thou Incarnate Word,
Gird on Thy mighty sword,
Our prayer attend:
Come, and Thy people bless,
And give Thy word success:
Spirit of holiness,
On us descend.*

*4. To the great One in Three
Eternal praises be
Hence evermore.
His sov'reign majesty,
May we in glory see,
And to eternity
Love and adore.*

6. Invocation
Gloria Patri

Elder Prof. Tow Siang Hwa

7. Scripture Reading

Luke 19:12-27

Deacon Joshua Lim

8. Dedicatory Responses

Rev. Timothy Tow
Congregation

Minister: Dearly beloved, we who are the people of God and the sheep of His pasture are gladly gathered here to offer special thanks and praise to Him Who has enabled the congregation and Sunday School of Life Bible-Presbyterian Church to build this new three-storey block for the extension of their witness to the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us, therefore, with devout hearts, dedicate this House in a solemn act of worship to the glory of the Almighty, and for an admonition to our posterity.

Minister: To the glory of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Congregation: We dedicate this House.

Minister: For the teaching of God's Word through the Far Eastern Bible College that students graduating from these halls might be able to preach and defend the Word in power.

Congregation: We dedicate this House.

Minister: For the nurture of students of the Far Eastern Bible College unto a godly and exemplary Christian life.

Congregation: We dedicate this House.

Minister: For the training of the young through the Far Eastern Kindergarten and Life Church Sunday School that they might know Jesus Christ as God and Saviour and grow up to be good citizens of the Republic.

Congregation: We dedicate this House.

Minister: For the opening of a Gospel Bookroom whereby the Truth might be more widely disseminated through literature.

Congregation: We dedicate this House.

Minister: For the housing of God's servants labouring in this Church or Bible College.

Congregation: We dedicate this House.

Minister: For the lodging and refreshing of missionaries and Christian workers passing through our fair City.

Congregation: We dedicate this House.

Minister: For the promotion of every aspect of the Twentieth Century Reformation Movement in this day of apostasy.

Congregation: We dedicate this House.

9. Hymn

Deacon Chia Hong Chek
Congregation

*I love Thy Kingdom, Lord, the house of Thine abode,
The Church our blest Redeemer saved with His own precious blood.*

*I love Thy Church, O God: Her walls before Thee stand,
Dear as the apple of Thine eye, And graven on Thy hand.*

*For her my tears shall fall, For her my prayers ascend;
To her my cares and toils be given, Till toils and cares shall end.*

*Sure as Thy truth shall last, To Zion shall be given
The brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heaven.*

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| 10. Word of Welcome and Acknowledgement | Rev. Timothy Tow |
| 11. Financial Report | Deacon Seow Chong Pin |
| 12. Fraternal Greetings | Rev. Quek Kiok Chiang
Hon. Pastor, Zion and Faith Bible-
Presbyterian Churches.
Rev. Peter Ng
Director, Jesus Saves Mission,
President, SMCCC. |
| 13. Sermon | Rev. Jason Linn, Evangelist from
Hong Kong. |
| 14. Offertory Prayer | Deacon Edmund Tay |
| 15. Hymn | Far Eastern Bible College,
directed by Dr. Synesio Lyra. |
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- | | |
|---|--|
| <i>1. My hope is built on nothing
less
Than Jesus blood and
righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest
frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus'
name.</i> | <i>2. When darkness seems to
hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging
grace;
In every high and stormy
gale,
My anchor holds within the
vale.</i> |
| Refrain:
<i>On Christ, the solid Rock I
stand,
All other ground is sinking
sand.
All other ground is sinking
sand.</i> | <i>3. His oath, His covenant, His
blood,
Support me in the whelming
flood;
When all around my soul
gives way,
He then is all my hope and
stay.</i> |
| | <i>4. When He shall come with
trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be
found;
Dressed in His righteousness
alone,
Faultless to stand before the
throne.</i> |
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- | | |
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| 16. Dedicatory Prayer and Benediction | Rev. Jason Linn |
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— Refreshments under the royal palms —

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Prov. 22:6.

Send your child to

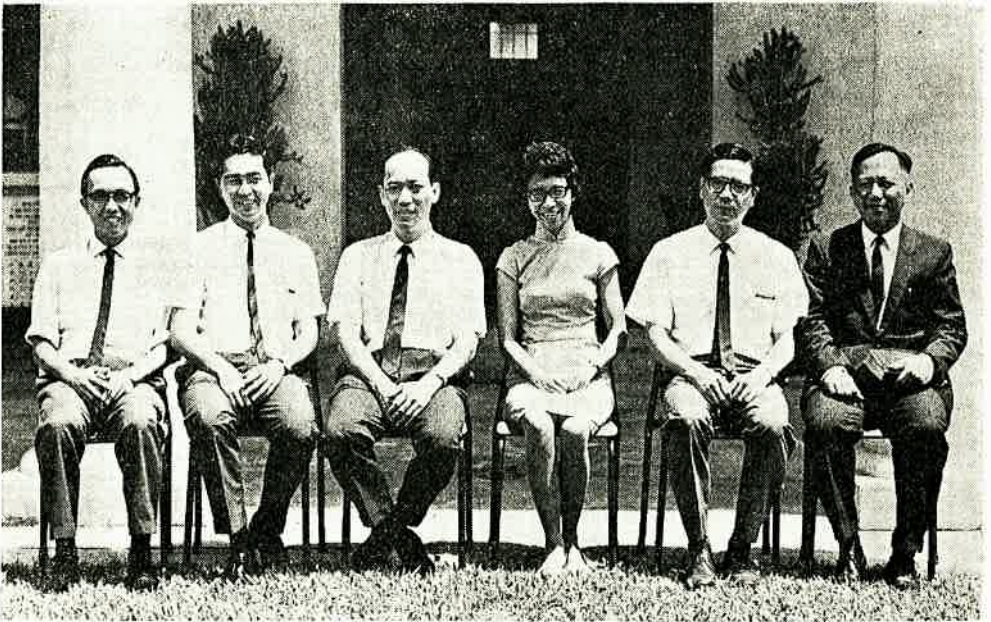
FAR EASTERN KINDERGARTEN

9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 11.

Opening April 28, 1968

Phone: 51-3676

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Left to Right: Mr. Phang Chin Yen; Mr. William Seah; Prof. Tow Siang Hwa (Chairman); Mrs. Seah Siew Yang (Principal); Mr. Joshua Lim; Dr. (Rev.) Timothy Tow.

GLIMPSES OF THE PAST

By Timothy Tow

Life Bible-Presbyterian Church was founded on October 20, 1950 as the English Service of Say Mia Tng, the Teochew-speaking Life Church, Prinsep Street. To its pulpit was called the Rev. Timothy Tow who had just then returned from theological training in the United States.

The congregation consisted of thirty English-speaking members transferred from the Mother Church together with their children. They were the Chans, Chias, Chuas, Hengs, Lims, Queks and Tows. They met in worship every Lord's Day 5.30 p.m. at Prinsep Street for full twelve years.

Two elders who served with the young church from its inception, now in glory, deserve special remembrance. Elder Tan Boo Chiang, octogenerian Chinese herb doctor, to whom English was "like thunder to a duckling", never missed a service. For several years, his personal attendance, with liberal weekly financial support, upheld the young pastor's hands. Elder Lim Hong Hock, ever zealous for the building of God's House at Gilstead Road, departed suddenly in September 1960. He saw the Promised Land and the first phase of earth-filling.

As to Life Church Sunday School, it was established in November 1950, one month after the Church's founding, with 27 members. These were divided into three classes with the pastor as superintendent.

From the outset the young Life Church did not content herself with worship and work within her four walls at Prinsep Street. Early 1951 saw Lifers, under Elder Quek Kiok Chiang, branching out to the old people of the State Welfare Home, Johore

Bahru. Through this ministry a Hope Church was founded. Deacons were ordained from among the first batches of sixty baptised. Today, the Hopefuls are dispersed to Serdang and Kota Bahru, and are under care of our sister church, Faith.

In March 1952 the Malaysia Christian Pioneer Mission was organised. Through this missionary society which now serves all our Bible-Presbyterian Churches, the Kelapa Sawit Mission Church in January 1954 came under our mandate, jointly with the Singapore Evangelistic League. Missionaries today to Kelapa Sawit (43 miles north of Singapore) are Brother and Mrs. James Chan Lay Seng, both Lifers and alumni of the Far Eastern Bible College.

The issue between our Reformed and Fundamental heritage and the inroads of Modernism and Ecumenism into the Chinese Presbyterian Synod, with which we were linked, came to a head in 1955. In order to bear a separated testimony for the Faith, we declared ourselves the Life Bible-Presbyterian Church. Though the name is new, our faith is old. We trace our lineage to the faith brought to South China, Swatow and Amoy, by the early English Presbyterian missionaries (1847).

In our struggle for the Faith, Deacon (now Rev.) Silas Hsu Chiang Tai who stood with us from the beginning and has remained loyal to this day deserves honourable mention. (Rev. and Mrs. Hsu are now settled in U.S.A.).

In August 1956, Life Church played host to the Third Assembly of the Far Eastern Council of Christian Churches. Dr. Carl

McIntire, president of the ICCA and Mrs. McIntire graced this Assembly with their personal attendance. From this Assembly was born the Singapore-Malaysia Council of Christian Churches.

It was soon after this Assembly that the Lord began to open doors of service that no man can shut. January 1957 saw the first branching out of Life Church to Sembawang Hills Estate to establish a Sunday School in a member's house. This was done with the cheerful reception by Deacon and Mrs. Seow Chong Pin. This work has now grown to maturity, short of organising itself into a church. The Sembawang Sunbeams, as they are affectionately called, today own a \$20,000 corner-house property.

No sooner had Sembawang been opened than Serangoon Gardens came into our purview. In April 1957 Lifers under Deacon Chia Kim Chwee started a Sunday School on the premises of Zion Kindergarten, then the property of the Christian Stewardship Foundation. Its president, Rev. Jason Linn of Indonesia, now of Hong Kong, is auspiciously with us today. This property was taken over by Life Church with the cooperation of Central Church, in June of the same year. A new Church called Zion, after the Kindergarten's name, was established. Rev. Quek Kiok Chiang was installed honorary pastor.

God blessed this undertaking and Zion, after one year, started a Chinese service. This Chinese service later amalgamated with Central Church to form the present Faith Bible - Presbyterian Church. As the daughter congregation grew to vigorous womanhood, Life Church relinquished her rights to the Zion property to encourage a faster, fuller development. The magnificent new Church built jointly by Zion and Faith in December 1967 is proof

of the genius of our Presbyterian form of church government.

After a reorganisation of the Sunday School in 1953 under the leadership of Dr. Tow Siang Hwa, the attendance reached 234 on Life Church's 7th Anniversary. As the Sunday School could not be contained in the little Prinsep Street Church, the drive for the Building Fund, spontaneously launched as early as October 1955, intensified. On Life Church's 7th Anniversary, the Fund had reached \$30,000.

It is true that when we seek God's Kingdom and spiritual things first, He will add to us the blessings of earth. When Life Church put missionary outreach first, God gave her a home base, the Gilstead Road property, which has become the cynosure of all eyes!

A land-claiming service was held on the then swampy land on July 20, 1957, though the title-deeds date the 99-year lease as from August 1, 1957!

From July 1958 to July 1959, the pastor took one year's leave to further study at Faith Seminary, USA. Rev. Quek Kiok Chiang, whilst pastoring at Zion, acted during his absence. In September 1958 Bro. Philip Heng also left for USA to study for the ministry.

The year 1960 saw yet another outburst of energy of the young church. In that year was seen the taking over of Tekong Gospel Centre by the MPM with the help of the Evangelistic League; the founding of Galilee Bible-Presbyterian Church, with the Pasir Panjang Young Christians Fellowship as a nucleus (June 1960), the opening of Jurong Sunday School by Miss Ivy Tan at the Chandra home (October 1960), and of Mt. Carmel Sunday School at the Redhill home of Deacon and Mrs. Robert Ong. (December 1960). The decision to found a Far East-

ern Bible College was taken by Presbytery action at Zion Kindergarten, after academic help, promised by the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions, was assured. (September 1960).

The greatest joy came upon the whole church when the Church-and-College plan for Gilstead Road became a reality, first in September 1962 when the Bible College was opened on the premises of the Annex, and second in February 1963 when the new Church auditorium was dedicated. Mr. Ang Kheng Leng our Hon. Architect is to be remembered for his ever kindly help and generosity. The whole property on the day of completion cost the Lord's people \$300,000. Of this sum, there still remains \$25,000 unpaid.

Through Bro. Moses Tan, a Hume Heights Gospel Centre at the house of the Lows, 8½ miles Bukit Timah Road, was founded in 1962. In 1964 was begun an open-air children's work with young Lifers at Kampong Chia Heng. In October 1965, the Life Church afternoon Mandarin Service was started, with the Tsaos taking a leading part. The Tsaos were united with our Church through the fatal Cameron Highlands accident. It was 3.30 p.m. Easter Monday, April 19, 1965 when Mrs. Tow Keng Chuan, my beloved aunt, Nancy and Annie, my beloved wife and daughter, were taken up in a flash at Bidor. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord . . . and their works do follow them." (Rev. 14:13.)

The greatest burden our Church has borne in the extension of God's Kingdom is undoubtedly the programme of the Far Eastern Bible College. By a slow-grinding, day-to-day process, are moulded within this institution, presently, fourteen fulltime students in a four-year theological curriculum. In this connection, the past help of Rev. Peter Ng of Jesus Saves

Mission, and of Rev. and Mrs. John E. Grauley of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions, deserves particular mention.

Mention must also be made of Rev. Philip Heng, a first-fruit offering to the Lord's service from amongst our own church. Rev. Heng who returned from USA in September 1963 is now pastor of Galilee Church, assistant pastor at Life and a member of the FEBC faculty. It is hoped that similarly Bro. Quek Swee Hwa's return will not only add to Zion's testimony but also contribute to the Bible College's training programme.

In 1965 the Session of Life Church saw the vision of what further development of its park could result. The Kingdom of God is likened to a wise investment, so invest we did. With the spontaneous offering of a sizeable tithe by a sister, it was felt that the Lord would want us to prosecute this extension project without delay.

Building plans were finally approved in February 1968. Ground was broken by Easter. Today, after exactly one year, there rises before us such a handsome three-storey building for the multi-uses of both Church and College, with a whole downstairs devoted to a Far Eastern Kindergarten. The total costs of \$130,000 are still short of \$25,000, but God is able.

As we humbly review the events in Life Church and the Bible-Presbyterian Church Movement as a whole during the last nineteen years, we cannot help but say with the Apostle Paul that it is God who has given the increase. Of ourselves we can do nothing. We have also sensed the relentless fleeting of the times. Hence the urgency, to press on with what is placed into our hands, that we should be busily occupied till He comes. Amen.

LIFE CHURCH BUILDING FUND

**Statement of Receipts & Payments for Period from September, 1965
up to 31st March, 1969.**

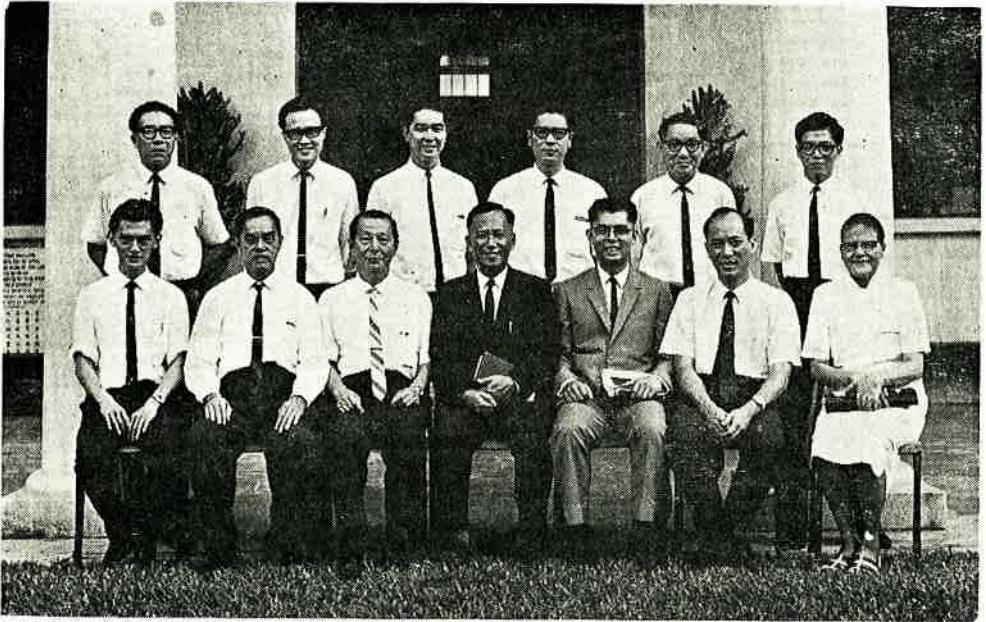
Receipts		Payments	
Pledges, offerings	\$ 84,418.12	Piling	\$ 9,100.00
Life Church Sunday School	4,093.84	W. K. Tham Const.	85,000.00
Donations from friends & other organisations	16,656.00	Chief Surveyor	681.00
Interest earned on deposits	1,810.92	Piling supervision	105.00
Loans created	11,000.00	Gas connexion	281.00
		Stone Laying expenses	20.00
		P.U.B. (U'ground cable)	643.00
		" (Water conn'n)	269.00
		Annual dinner	345.00
		Anniversary tea, drinks, Carol ref. transport, X'mas papers, etc.	391.99
		Various X'mas gifts	450.00
			<hr/>
			97,285.99
		Balance	20,692.89
			<hr/>
	<u>\$117,978.88</u>		<u>\$117,978.88</u>

Breakdown of the balance:

Cash	\$ 6,750.23
Loan to Rev. Tow for India trip	800.00
Amount held by Central Fund	13,142.66
	<hr/>
	<u>\$20,692.89</u>

Prepared by the Treasurer,
April, 1969.

Life B-P Church Session



Seated Left to Right: Deacon Chee Ah Chai (Clerk-of-Session); Elder Heng Mui Kiah; Elder Lim Khng Seng; Dr. (Rev.) Timothy Tow (Pastor); Rev. Philip Heng (Asst. Pastor); Elder Tow Siang Hwa; Deaconess Ong Soo Kheng.

Standing Left to Right: Deacon Edmund Tay; Deacon Paul Phua; Deacon William Seah; Deacon Joshua Lim, Deacon Seow Chong Pin; Deacon Chia Hong Chek.

Absent: Deaconess Yu Soon Kiang; Deacon Andrew Heng; Deacon Khoo Pheng Kiat; Deacon Cheng Wei Nien.

