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心灵相簿 The President's Gallery

基督必要再来 Christ Is Coming Again

圣诞是来自上帝意外的礼物！有谁会想到上帝竟成为婴孩诞生在马槽里？我们所信的上帝是一位行奇事的上帝，祂所行的超越我们所能测透的。我的心中响起以赛亚书55:8-9 “耶和華说：我的意念非同你们的意念；我的道路非同你们的道路。天怎样高过地，照样，我的道路高过你们的道路；我的意念高过你们的意念。”

上帝在疫情中的供应

这场疫情揭发了常被忽略的事实，那就是世界的短暂性、物质保障的脆弱性。这更凸显了教会作为世界的光和盐的重要性：要广传福音！

我们为所有堂会在这非常时期积极的应对，向上帝献上感恩。特别在第一和第二阶段的阻断措施期间，教会迅速做出调整，应付不同的条例。目前，所有的堂会都进行线上和实体崇拜。我们也在实体崇拜中施行圣餐。有些堂会甚至在这危机中成功转化事工。我要谢谢所有会众、堂会领袖们与教牧们的辛劳与合一，彼此支援克服困难。

卫理传统切合时宜

主耶稣拣选了十二个门徒跟随他，也花许多时间与他们共处。约翰卫斯理不是透过大型布道会或宏伟的教堂使英国的教会复兴，而是透过组织人群 - 成为社体、班会和小团来牧养信徒。履行大使命就是要在各地栽培门徒，“去使万民做我的门徒”是上帝对所有基督徒和教会的呼召。

约翰卫斯理组织门徒的运动和他所提倡的成圣观，为我们目前的处境提供新的看见。对于年议会未来四年，我的祷告是我们能够设计出栽培门徒的体系供所有堂会使用。我们要紧记我们所栽培的门徒是耶稣基督的门徒，是靠主所赐的新生命，借着他的恩典与圣灵的大能所转化的生命。

为属灵复兴祷告

教会是基督的身体，我们是基督身体的一份子。教会是以基督为中心，并由三位一体的上帝带领。教会是信心社体，在领受上帝的命令后愿意回应和采取行动。如约翰卫斯理的教导，教会是一个慎思明辨的社体，有信徒团契，同心顺服上帝的旨意。

我们生活在一个具有卓越管理能力的国家，这是好的，但我们不要忘记教会属灵的层面也是我们核心的身份。我们要聚焦于事工的重点，将事工的资源 and 精力投入在履行基督赋予我们的大使命。我们要坚固大家的属灵基础，操练卫斯理所说的敬虔事工 - 灵修与祷告生活、研读圣经、团契、禁食和圣餐。不然我们就只有组织架构却没有能力。

华人年议会的转化

我们务必要努力于华人年议会的转化工程。这几年转化小组的事工将融入年会不同的事工部，如信仰培育与门徒训练部、家庭事工部、牧职部、人力资源部等继续进行。

我期望华人年议会透过基督所设立的蒙恩途径，连于基督、忠于基督，并拥有以下四个特征：

1. 持有传福音的负担和热忱；
2. 栽培门徒；
3. 有坚固的联系，这不仅在牧者委派上，也在堂会的恩赐资源、策略上彼此乐意合作与支援；
4. 有创新和有效的布道与见证事工。

圣诞节不单是纪念耶稣两千多年前的诞生，也是等候祂的再来！

“这个世界的结局近了，基督必要再来” - 这是我们信心的宣言。让我们同心协力，为主发光。

祝大家圣诞快乐，喜乐平安。

Christmas is an unexpected gift from God! Who would have ever thought that God Himself would come on earth in the form of a baby and be born in a manger? Our God is amazing and works in ways man can never fathom. The words from Isaiah 55:8-9 ring in my mind "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts."

God's providence in a time of pandemic

The pandemic uncovers the much neglected truth of the temporal nature of this world and the fragility of man-made securities. It is precisely for these reasons that the Church exists to be the light and salt of the world.

We thank God that all our churches have managed to cope with the drastic measures of the Circuit Breaker and during Phase 1 and 2. Presently, all local churches have both online and on-site Holy Communion worship services. Many of our churches have risen up to the challenge and transformed their ministries to reach out to their members, and those in need. I want to thank all members, church leaders and pastors for your hard work and for supporting one another in coping with the challenges.

Timeliness of our Wesleyan Heritage

Jesus chose twelve disciples to follow Him and spent lots of His time with them. John Wesley brought revival to the Church in UK not by rallies or magnificent church buildings, but by organising the people into Societies, Classes and Bands, in order to disciple them to be like Christ. To "Go and make disciples" is the call to all Christians and Churches.

John Wesley's way of organising the movement (discipleship) and his theology of Sanctification can shed some light on our present circumstances.

For the coming quadrennial, my prayer is that we will be able to develop a disciple-making model/structure that will be adopted by all our churches.

Prayer for Spiritual Revival

The Church is the Body of Christ and we are part of this Body. The Church is Christ-centred and is led by the Triune God. The Church is a faith community who responds and takes action upon receiving God's commands. As John Wesley taught, the Church is a discerning community - a community in Christian conferencing, who listens to and obeys His commands.

We live in a country that boasts excellent governing capabilities, which I believe is good, but we must not forget the spiritual aspect of Church life which is at the core of who we are. We need to put more focus on and resources into saving souls and making disciples. We need to strengthen the spiritual foundation of our people, and practise what Wesley calls the Works of Piety - a life consisting of Devotion and Prayer, Bible studies, Christian fellowships, Fasting, and Holy Communion. If not, we will be a people with the form, but without the power.

Transformation of CAC

It is important for us to press on for transformation within CAC. The works of the Transformation Task Force over this Quadrennium will soon be integrated into various Boards (eg. BDN, BOFL, BOM, BOHR).

I hope to see a CAC that abides in Christ and remains faithful to Him through the means of grace He has established. This should manifest itself in the following four characteristics:

1. Burden and zeal for evangelism;
2. Disciple-making;
3. Strong Connectionism, expressed not only in the system of pastoral appointments, but also in the willingness to support one another with the gifts, resources and strategies of our ministries; and
4. Innovative and engaging ministries in witnessing for God.

Christmas is not solely for the remembrance of Jesus who came over 2000 years ago, but also a time of looking forward to His second coming.

"The end of the world is near and Christ is coming again" - this is the faith we declare. Let us work together to shine for our Lord Jesus.

Wishing all a Merry Christmas, Joy and Peace!

会长摄于2020年12月新加坡，滨海湾花园。
Photo taken by President at Gardens by the Bay, Singapore, December 2020.