



吴乃力牧师 (博士)

华人年议会会长

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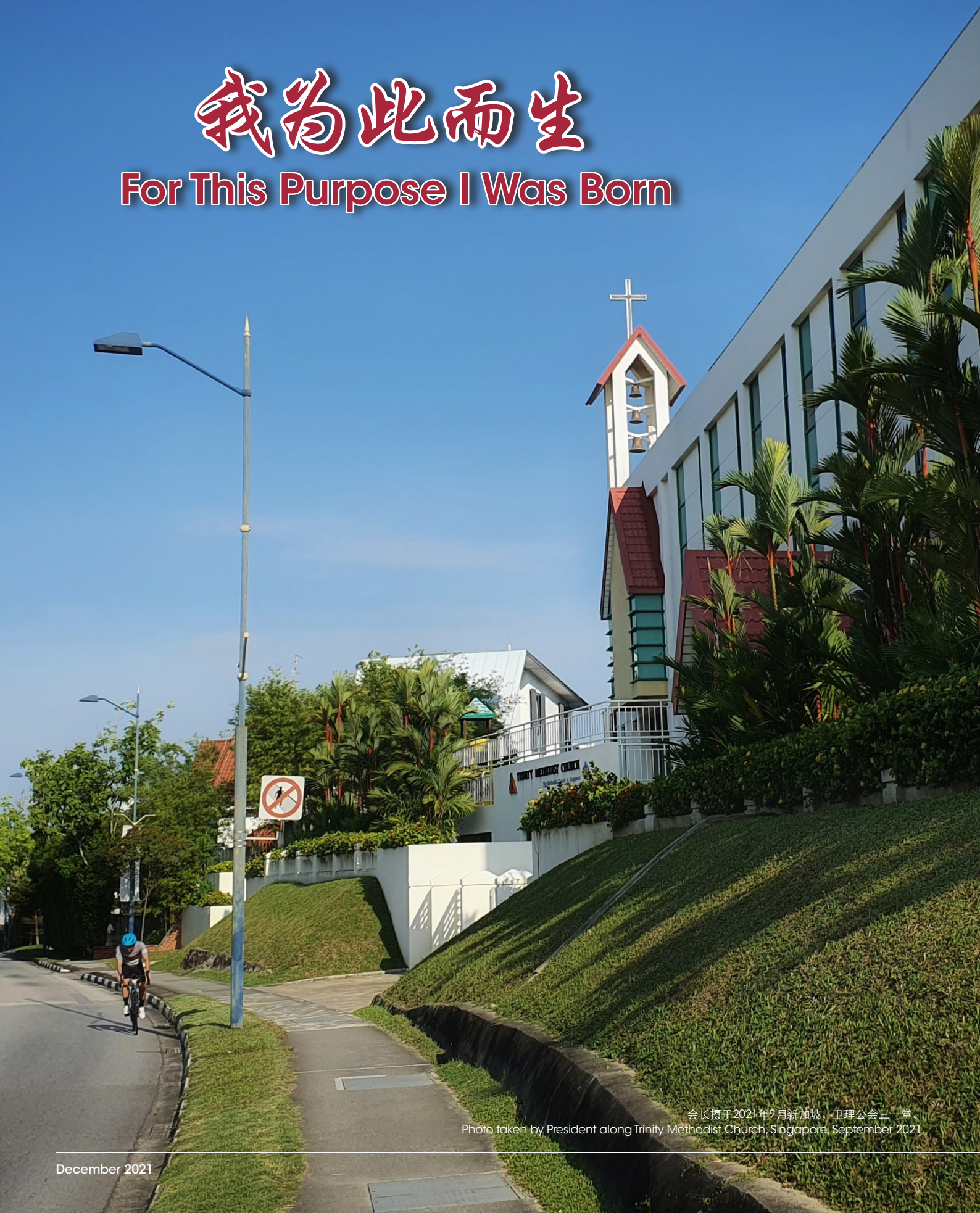
President, Chinese Annual Conference

心灵相簿

The President's Gallery

我为此而生

For This Purpose I Was Born



会长摄于2021年9月新加坡，卫理公会三一堂。

Photo taken by President along Trinity Methodist Church, Singapore, September 2021.

“我为此而生”

- “...我要为真理作见证，我为此而生，也为此来到世上。凡是属于真理的人，都听我的声音。”（约翰福音18:37）
- “因为人子来，不是要受人服事，而是要服事人，并且要舍命，作许多人的赎价。”（马可福音10:45）
- “因为人子来，是要寻找拯救丧失的人。”（路加福音19:10）

1. 塑造门徒的年议会专案小组

这两年的疫情带给我们哪些学习？它如何影响我们对事工的认识和进行的方式？我们是否会从这疫情中变得更坚韧？

当过去能在教会举行的许多事工和活动无法进行时，我们开始自问要如何继续活出信仰、与其他在基督里的肢体保持联系？我们要如何成长，并继续作耶稣的门徒？

我们的身份不在乎我们是哪一间堂会的会友，也不来自我们所事奉的岗位。我们是耶稣基督的门徒，这是我们竖立在我们主面前的身份。我们也蒙召去使人做主的门徒。这是教会存在的首要目的！

年会执行部今年十月设立了塑造门徒的年议会专案小组，为的是帮助我们更专注于塑造门徒的使命并设计一套塑造门徒的策略提供各堂会使用。这对于我们委派制度和联系关系是非常重要的。

成为塑造门徒的年议会需要不同层面的协调和不同部的交接和融合，同时，也有一些工作是不在任何部的范畴里。专案小组由会长担任主席，委员包括：副会长颜耀光先生、年会会友领袖梁绍雄医生、教区长 - 严家慧牧师（博士）、陆永德牧师、蔡伟山牧师、林建隆牧师、杨乾元博士、孔学仁先生、周美丽牧师、洪坤成博士、郭韵仪女士和吴玉秀女士。

塑造门徒的年议会专案小组将分成两个工作小组：

（一）塑造门徒的途径；（二）塑造门徒的教牧和领袖，分别由杨乾元博士和孔学仁先生带领。从2022年开始，专案小组将每四个月聚集一次。两个工作小组会在不同时期集合和商讨，然后再向专案小组汇报进度，促进协调和汇集策略。

我们欢迎不同的堂会提供专案小组建设性的见解和经验。小组也非常乐意与各堂会领袖面谈和分享。在11月6日，来自十七间堂会的67位牧者和领袖参加了华人年议会领袖团契的线上聚集。杨乾元博士也在这个聚会中分享了卫理公会武吉班让堂所采用的塑造门徒途径。大家在这次聚集中有美好的团契，也能感受到上帝恩典的同在。在上帝的恩典与怜悯中，我非常期待并向往和大家一起同奔这激励人心的旅程。

2. 《圣经天地》

四宗华文教会理事会在有关华文主日学的交流会举办后，开始推行设计《圣经天地》主日学教材的计划。中文教会的主日学事工常面对的一大挑战就是缺乏合适的中文

主日学教材。至今，我们还在采用来自香港和台湾出版社的教材。使用这些教材对以华文为二语的国家如新加坡和其他区域来说是充满挑战的，因为内容的编写方式是以华文为一语的程度来编写。在交流会上，大家一致认为编写一套华文为二语的圣经教材极为需要。这个呼吁也汇集了各教会积极的回应和投入开展新事工。

这突破性的开展事工目的是支持新加坡华文教会发展以华文为二语的圣经教学课程。此计划由三一神学院林德平牧师（博士）带领。这个计划已开始进行，课程内容将是为学前至中四的儿童和少年人所编写。他们也计划在2022年3月推出第一批的教材，供K1、小三以及中一这三个年级使用。

为协助老师和负责同工进行相关的准备工作，他们也在今年10月30日在线上举行了教材使用说明会。这个计划深受许多好评，其进展更是让许多教会感到鼓舞和兴奋。

目前，《圣经天地》出版印刷大部分的费用已得到了赞助，尚需筹集新币40万作为未来三年出版事工的运作、教师培训和教材推广之用。各宗派将负责筹集10万。我鼓励堂会慷慨奉献支持这个事工，并在来届新预算年度里，以年议会的名义，一起奉献。更重要的是，让我们为《圣经天地》的团队如教科内容设计小组、设计小组、培训小组等相关工作和参与者来代祷。愿上帝使用《圣经天地》事工，赐福我们的下一代。

3. “信仰与性向”论坛会——由家庭部与真爱机构协办（9月7、14、21、28日及10月5日）

我为由家庭部与真爱机构所协办的“信仰与性向”论坛会能圆满的进行和完成献上感恩。五周的论坛会上所分享的内容令人获益匪浅，感动人心。此论坛会报名参加者高达483人- 其中有382位来自华人年议会、50位来自三一一年议会、46位来自其他宗派的教会以及5位来自其他信仰群体。我们会继续与其他机构合作，进一步提供各堂会更多的装备，成为世界的盐和光。我们家庭部有一组核心团队，汇集了不同资料供年议会和堂会使用。我呼吁所有堂会重视此事工，并在教会牧养计划中作为必要落实的事工之一。

4. 卫理公会跨年议会圣诞节外展事工

会长理事会按照三个年议会属下堂会的地理位置划分为不同的教会区域。我们鼓励每个教会区域联合设计圣诞节布道外展计划并在这4年期间落实。希望不同堂会的维系和彼此的信任能透过一起服事社区而促进加强。

5. 第八届世界循道卫理宗华人教会联合宣教大会——传承生命，接棒前行

第八届宣教大会将由新加坡卫理公会华人年议会承办。大会将在明年6月9日至13日在线上举行。世界循道卫理宗华人教会联合宣教大会是每隔五年举办一次，并由不同国家的华人年议会轮流承办。我们是在25年前，即1997年承办第三届宣教大会，当时的聚会地点是卫理公会直落亚逸礼拜堂。明年，由于冠状病毒疫情的缘故，我们将全程在线上举行。若受邀的国家代表能前来我国参加聚会，我们可能会举行实体的会员大会，人数限五十人以内。

这次的宣教大会也是第一次以英语主讲大会主题（华语翻译）的大会，受邀分享的讲员是苏诺铭荣誉会督。大会期间也会有不同主题的工作坊和宣教士的分享。我们会陆续分享更多有关宣教大会的节目和报名详情。我鼓励各堂会将此第八届宣教大会纳入堂会的事工年历，并邀请会友报名参加。

“FOR THIS PURPOSE I WAS BORN”

- *“For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth.” (John 18:37);*
- *“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45);*
- *“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” (Luke 19:10).*

1. Disciple-Making Conference Task Force

What have we learnt from these two years of the pandemic? How has it impacted our understanding and running of ministries? Will we emerge stronger after the pandemic?

When many church ministries and activities that used to be held onsite were not permitted, we had to ask ourselves how we could continue to live out our faith, connect with the body of Christ, grow, and be Jesus’ disciples.

Our identity is not about our church membership, and neither is it about the ministry position in which we serve. We are the disciples of Jesus Christ. That is our identity when we stand before our Lord. We are also called to make disciples. The Church exists for this primary purpose!

The Conference Executive Board set up the Disciple-Making Conference Task Force (DMCTF) in October 2021, with the intention to sharpen the Conference’s focus and develop a disciple-making pathway that all churches can take reference from and follow. This is crucial for our itinerary appointment system and our connectional relationship.

Becoming a Disciple-Making Conference would require much coordination, and the coming together of several Boards; there will also be assignments that do not fall under the scope of any existing Boards.

来届的宣教大会将作为我们年会牧者的退修会。所有华人年议会的教牧都必全时间出席。我请教会在安排事工或活动时多加留意，避免与宣教大会进行的日期冲突。青年部也将在明年停办卫理青年领袖特会，并鼓励青少年报名参加宣教大会。

总结

根据世界卫生组织网站有关新冠病毒的全球数据显示——已有 5,070,244 世人死于病毒、以及 251,266,207 确诊患者。你觉得世界卫生组织会在何时正式公布疫情结束？重要吗？我自问。

让我们在这世上尚存的年日活得有目标，如约翰卫斯理所教导：“除了拯救灵魂之外你无需忙于其他事务。为此，要全心全意关注这事工。不单去需要你的人那里，更当去那些最需要你的人那儿。”

愿上帝赐给我们智慧和勇气在这世上活出不一样的生命。

DMCTF was formed under the President’s office and its members include Vice-President, Mr Guan Yeow Kwang; Conference Lay Leader, Dr Benjamin Leong; District Superintendents, Rev Dr Niam Kai Huey, Rev Lek Yong Teck, Rev Chua Ooi Suah, and Rev Philip Lim; Dr Stephen Yeo, Mr Khoo Hock Yuan, Rev Cynthia Choo, Dr David Ang, Ms Kwok Wan Yee, and Ms Amy Goh.

DMCTF has two workgroups – Disciple-Making Pathway (DMP) and Disciple-Making Pastors and Leaders (DMP/L), headed by Dr Stephen Yeo and Mr Khoo Hock Yun respectively. The Taskforce will meet quarterly starting 2022. The two workgroups will meet separately and report back to DMCTF for synergism.

Churches are welcome to contribute their constructive insights and experiences with us; we will be happy to hear more from our local church leaders. 67 pastors-in-charge and leaders from 17 churches gathered online on 6 November 2021 for CAC’s Leaders Fellowship, where we got to hear about Bukit Panjang MC’s disciple-making model from Dr Stephen Yeo. We enjoyed a good Christian conferencing and could feel the grace of God dwelling among us. In God’s grace and mercy, I look forward to running this exciting journey together with all.

2. Explore the Bible in Chinese (EBIC)

The Four Denominations Council of Chinese Churches initiated the EBIC project after they organised

a forum to discuss the needs of Chinese Sunday schools. One of the main challenges identified was the lack of suitable Chinese Sunday school materials. Till today, we have been using materials from Hong Kong and Taiwan publishers, where contents were written to cater to those with Mandarin as their first language. This poses a great challenge for Singapore and other regions where Mandarin is not our first language. The need to develop Sunday School materials suitable for our local context was mooted at the forum. It was a clarion call that activated churches to collaborate and mobilise efforts to begin the EBIC project.

This ground-breaking initiative headed by Rev Dr Lim Teck Peng from the Trinity Theological College aims to support Chinese churches with a set of Sunday School materials for children who take Chinese as a Second Language (CSL). The project has begun and the curriculum will cover classes from Pre-school to Secondary 4. The first launching, projected to be in March 2022, will consist of teaching materials for Kindergarten 1, Primary 3, and Secondary 1.

An online introductory session was also organised on 30 Oct 2021 to (a) explain EBIC's features, teaching resources, and support system for teachers and leaders in charge, and (b) discuss the curriculum implementation process. This initiative has received many positive remarks and churches are excited to see it introduced.

The bulk of the project's publication cost has been raised, and the plan is to raise another S\$400,000 from churches to cover the operations and teachers' training costs over the next three years. Each denomination has been entrusted with raising \$100K. I encourage churches to donate generously towards this project; and as a Conference, we can make our contribution in the next budget year. More importantly, let us pray for the EBIC teams as they explore the pedagogy, content, design, editorial, training, and many other work aspects of this project. May God use this project to bless our future generations.

3. Faith and Sexuality Forum by BoFL and TrueLove. is (7,14,21,28 Sep, 5 Oct)

I thank God for the successful running of this 5-session forum by the Board of Family Life (BoFL) and TrueLove.is. The sessions were very beneficial and touching. A total of 483 participants signed up for the forum - 382 from CAC, 50 from TRAC, 46 from non-Methodist churches, and 5 observers from another faith. We will continue to partner with different organizations to further equip our churches to be the salt and light of Christ in our world through this ministry. We have a dedicated team in BoFL who have put together various resources to help the Conference and local churches. I urge all churches to take this ministry seriously and make it one of your church's "must-do" pastoral ministries.

4. One MCS Cross Conferences Christmas Outreach

The Council of Presidents has divided the churches from all 3 Conferences into clusters, according to the geographical location of each church. Cluster churches are encouraged to undertake a joint Christmas outreach project together within this quadrennium. The hope is to promote relationships and trust between churches as we serve the community together.

5. World Federation of Chinese Methodist Churches (WFCMC) 8th Missions Conference - Living A Missional Legacy

We are the organisers of the 8th Missions Conference, which will be held online from 9 - 13 June 2022. This conference is held once every 5 years, where each Conference member takes turns in organising each time. We hosted the 3rd Missions Conference 25 years ago, in 1997, at Telok Ayer Chinese Methodist Church. Due to the pandemic, programmes will be conducted online this time. If the invited representatives of various countries can travel to Singapore, we may have the AGM on-site, limited to about 50 people.

For the first time, the WFCMC Missions Conference keynote speeches will be given in English, coupled with Chinese interpretation. We will be hearing from the invited keynote speaker, Bishop Emeritus Dr Robert Solomon. There will also be many workshops and sharing by missionaries. We will soon release the details of programmes and registration. I encourage churches to add the 8th Missions Conference into your church calendars and invite your members to register.

This upcoming conference will replace CAC's annual Pastors Retreat as full-time attendance is expected of all CAC Pastors. The BoYM Methodist Young Leaders' Conference will also be suspended for the year as we encourage our youths to partake in this conference. I seek that churches take note in ensuring that no other church activities will be arranged during the conference period.

Conclusion

According to the WHO Coronavirus statistics, the world has now over 5 million deaths, and more than 251 million confirmed cases. When do you think we will hear WHO's official declaration that the Covid-19 pandemic has ended? Does it matter?

Let us live our days with purpose on this earth like what John Wesley has taught us: *"You have nothing to do but to save souls. Therefore, spend and be spent in this work. And go always, not only to those that want you but to those that want you most."*

May God grant us wisdom and courage to live out a life of difference on this earth.