

PELITA METHODIST



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THE METHODIST CHURCH IN MALAYSIA VISION STATEMENT

GEREJA DIBAHARUI

- Memperkasa Gereja
- Memperkaya Keluarga
- Mempertingkatkan Pendidikan
- Memperlibatkan Bangsa

Ratapan 5:21 (AVB)

“.....Baharuilah hari-hari kami seperti zaman dahulu.”

A RENEWED CHURCH

- Empowering Churches
- Enriching Families
- Enhancing Education
- Engaging the Nation

Lamentations 5:21 (ESV)

“.....Renew our days as of old.”

GERIJA BIPERPAI

- Pekat Gerija
- Pekaya Keluarge
- Petingkat Pendidikan
- Pelibat Bangse

Ratapan 5:21

“... Perpaileh arik-arik jik bagei jaman entem.”

更新的教会

- 强化教会使命
- 丰化家庭生活
- 提升教育素质
- 参与国家建设

耶利米哀歌 5:21 (新译本)

.....求你更新我们的日子，
像古时一样

GEREJA TI DIKEMARUKA

- Ngenegapka Gereja
- Ngayaka Ruang Bilik
- Ngemanahka Pelaja
- Ngaul Raban Bangsa

Sabak Kenang 5: 21b

“Pulaika baru mulia kami ke suba”.

புதிப்பிக்கப்பட்ட திருச்சபை

- வல்லமை அதிகாரம்அளிக்கும் சபை
- குடும்பங்களை வளப்படுத்துதல்
- கல்வியை மேம்படுத்துதல்
- தேசத்தை இணைத்தல்

புலம்பல் 5:21

“...பூர்வகாலத்திலிருந்ததுபோல எங்கள் நாட்களை
ப்புதியவைகளாக்கும்.”

upcoming events

ALDERSGATE SUNDAY falls on 23 May 2021 which coincides with Pentecost Sunday. Two special events have been lined up:



PRE-RECORDED MESSAGE ON “RENEWAL”

by Bishop Emeritus Dr Robert Solomon

to be broadcast by all churches and which will also be interpreted in BM, Chinese and Tamil.

WEBINAR:

“ALDERSGATE AND RENEWAL IN METHODISM - ITS IMPLICATION TODAY.”

SATURDAY, 22 MAY 2021 AT 7:30PM

The panelists will be Bishop Emeritus Dr Hwa Yung and Bishop Emeritus Dr Robert Solomon.

Mark these dates and join us as we re-visit our roots and remind ourselves of our origin and identity of being a Methodist.



The Council of Churches of Malaysia issued a statement on 23 February 2021 called “National Covid-19 Vaccination Programme.” Below is an extract from that statement: “...CCM calls on all Christians to participate voluntarily in the national Covid-19 vaccination programme, to protect not just themselves but others from Covid-19. This is a simple expression of our Christian moral responsibility towards ourselves, our families, our communities and our country, in treating life as sacred.”

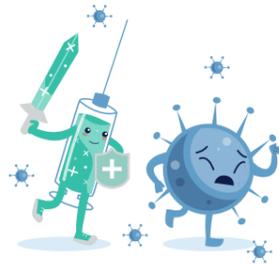
(Refer to article on page 14 for more information on Covid-19 and the vaccine. You can listen to the full talk at <https://youtu.be/nOH-1n5XsmU>)

Celebrate this Easter with a heart filled with love and peace. Have a blessed and wonderful Easter!



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Malaysian Methodists Need a Fresh Vision of God

By Rev Dr. T. Jeyakumar

Bishop of The Methodist Church in Malaysia

“ Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin, and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen; such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of heaven on earth. ”

John Wesley

All who look at Isaiah chapter 6:1-8 discuss whether this passage speaks of Isaiah's first calling or second calling. If you ask me, I will say it is neither. In the case of Isaiah, I propose that he did have a call earlier. As a result of that calling, he had visions (1:1) and spoke God's word to the people. But he did not identify with the people he spoke to and had no second thoughts about preaching "woe" to others (see 1:4; 5:20). He had been telling people that they were going to be ruined. The prophet needed a fresh vision of God. That was given to him in chapter six. With that vision, he was renewed, he rededicated his life to God, and gained a fresh vision for ministry.

Under king Uzziah, Judah prospered. A prosperous nation made the king proud, so much so he decided that he would offer incense in the Temple (2 Chron. 26). The Lord struck the king with leprosy for his disobedience. On the year that King Uzziah died, Isaiah had a vision of GOD. Isaiah must have come to the Temple umpteen times before. But he did not receive a vision of God. The socio-economic condition of Judah was good. Isaiah must have been quite somebody to be able to get in and out of the Palace as he pleased. Life was good for him and he told others how they must live. But when Uzziah was struck down by God and eventually died, Isaiah turned up in the Temple possibly wondering about the severity with which God had dealt with the king. That was when he lifted his eyes upward and had a life-changing vision.

Isaiah saw God seated on the throne. He saw God in His sovereignty. He saw God in His holiness. The temple was filled with smoke (a symbol of the presence of God). He heard the angelic beings call out "holy, holy, holy." Isaiah probably understood why God was severe with Uzziah. It was because HE was the thrice holy God. We need to remember that God is a very, very, very holy God who expects holiness of lives from us.

When Isaiah saw God in His holiness, he was convicted of his own sins. He realized that he was not any different from the people he spoke to. Then he said, "Woe is me. I am a man of unclean lips." Only when we feel the wretchedness of our sins, God's cleansing can come over us (vv. 6-7). It is only when we admit our sins that we become most useful to God.

Why did Isaiah need a vision of God and a conviction of sin? Was he not already doing ministry and giving prophetic word to the nation?

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!”

And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.”

Isaiah 6:1-8 (ESV)

It is possible to do ministry mechanically, routinely and unthinkingly. It is possible to lose the passion for the God-given task and lose the compassion for the people we minister to. If you and I are not careful, it can happen to us. We can come to a point where ministry is no more about God, or people, or gospel or missions.

Graham Scroggie was a famous Bible expositor/teacher in the 1900s in Britain. On one occasion while ministering he was taken ill. During the illness he had much time for self-reflection. After a period of prayer, he came to the conclusion that he was a preacher for his own sake. So in tears he rededicated his life to be God's man for the works of ministry. He recovered from his illness and served God for many more years. It is possible that after some time, ministry is not about God and people anymore. Ministry could unfortunately be for the sake of our own position, pleasure and power.

Then Isaiah heard God say, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" After the vision and after the cleansing, Isaiah was all ready to submit to the will of God. He was willing to go wherever and to whoever God would send Him.

John Wesley said, "Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin, and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen; such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of heaven on earth."

Thankfully there are still people who are experiencing renewal, responding to God and shaking up the gates of hell. About two decades ago I think, 100,000 Korean youths pledged to spend a year overseas sharing the word of God. In 1975 there were 300 Christians in all of Nepal. Today, it is estimated that there are 1 million Christians there. We, Malaysian Methodists, need a fresh vision of GOD in order to experience a renewal in our lives and a revival in the church.

Bishops of Our Annual Conferences



Rev Dr Wong Tik Wah
Bishop – Chinese Annual Conference (CAC)

Rev Dr Wong Tik Wah graduated from the University of Divinity, Australia with a PhD in 2009. He is a researcher at the Australasian Wesleyan Research Center and the Chairman of the Theological Commission of the World Federation of the Chinese Methodist Church.

He was the Director of CAC Tertiary Ministry (1994-2001), Dean of Isaiah School (1999-2004); a lecturer at Seminari Theoloji Malaysia (2002-2020), and the Dean of Students (2009-2020). He was also the registrar of CAC's Board of Ministry in 2017-2020.

His pastoral undertakings include Permai Methodist Church, Puchong (July 1999-2001), Uniting Church-Gospel Hall, Melbourne (2005-2008), Bountiful Grace Methodist Church, Seremban (2003-2004 July, 2009-2015) and Nilai Chinese Methodist Church (2020).

Bishop Wong married Ching Wee Ling in 2003.



Rev Dr Hii Kong Hock
Bishop – Sabah Annual Conference (SAC)

Rev Hii received his theological training at Alliance Bible Seminary, Hong Kong (BTh, 1992; MDiv 1994). After serving eight years (1994-2002) in pastoral ministries, he pursued further studies at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, USA, where he graduated with MTS (2003) and PhD (2007).

Rev Hii has served as a lecturer in New Testament Studies at Sabah Theological Seminary (STS) for five years before being elected as President of Sabah Provisional Annual Conference (SPAC) in 2012. Subsequently, Rev Hii was re-elected as Bishop of SPAC which in 2019, became a full-fledged conference known as the Sabah Annual Conference (SAC).

Bishop Hii is married to Ps Tsen Fui Tshin who serves as a lecturer at STS.



Rev Dr Lau Hui Ming
Bishop – Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference (SCAC)

Rev Lau graduated from Trinity Theological College (B.D.), Singapore in 1993 and later from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (DMin), USA. in 2007.

Rev Lau had served as the District Superintendent of Sarikei District (2004-2009) and Kuching West District (2014-2019). The local churches that he pastored before include Xin Fu Yuan Methodist Church (1993-1997), Wesley Methodist Church (1997-2003), Nyelong Park Methodist Church (2004-2009), and Trinity Methodist Church (2010-2020).

Bishop Lau and his wife, Hung Hung, have two daughters, Linda and Joanne and a son, Justin.

刘会明牧师 简介

刘牧师于1993年毕业于新加坡三一神学院荣获道学学士学位并于2007年毕业于美国迦勒特福音神学院荣获教牧博士学位。目前为古晋卫理公会三一堂主理牧师。

刘牧师曾于2004年至2009年及2014年至2009年分别任泗里街教区及古晋西教区之教区长。他牧养过的堂会包括：新福源堂(Dec 1993-May 1997), 卫斯理堂(June 1997-Dec 2003), 新怀仁堂(2004-2003), 以及三一堂(2010-2020)。

刘牧师与妻子谢云云共有二女(利伶, 恩伶)与一男(利艇)。

Bishops of Our Annual Conferences



Rev Bonnie Sedau
Bishop – Sarawak Iban Annual Conference (SIAC)

Rev Bonnie Sedau responded to God's call and completed his theological education at Seminari Theologi Malaysia (STM) in Sibul graduating in 1990 with a B.Th degree. Thereafter, he served in SIAC in both rural and urban Iban churches. From 1995, Rev Bonnie taught in Methodist Theological School as a lecturer and Dean of Iban Ministry. In 1999, he completed his Master of Ministry Degree and Master of Theology (SEAGST) in 2001.

He then went on to serve as a Deacon in 1994 and was ordained as Elder in 1996.

Bishop Bonnie is married to Rev Yan Foong Peng, who serves with him in SIAC. They have three sons, Timothy Sauh, Ezra Ujang and Nehemiah Ninting.



Rev Dr. Dennis Raj
Bishop – Tamil Annual Conference (TAC)

Rev Dennis Raj became a ministerial candidate of TAC in 1992 and graduated with Bachelor of Divinity from Seminari Theoloji Malaysia in 1997. Subsequently he completed his Master of Theology (full-time) at the London School of Theology in 2007. His research analysed the religious rights of non-Muslims in Malaysia with particular reference to the Islamic concept of 'Dhimma' which denotes a separate arrangement of citizenship for non-Muslims to exist peacefully within the ambit of an Islamic nation. He completed his PhD at the same institution. His dissertation looked at how three specific elements of Islamization have directly become causative factors for the emergence of three emergent solidarity initiatives among Christians in Malaysia.

He has served as pastor within TAC in various churches while holding different portfolios such as Youth Director and District Superintendent.

Bishop Dennis Raj is married to homemaker, Alice, and they have three teenage daughters: Christine, Chlarine and Catherine.



Rev Joshua Khong
Bishop – Trinity Annual Conference (TRAC)

Rev Joshua Khong graduated with a Master of Divinity from Seminari Theologi Malaysia. His first pastoral charge was Taman Ujong Methodist Church (2002-2003). Subsequently, he was posted to Perak District pastoring two churches, Bercham Methodist Church and Grace Methodist Church Ipoh (2004-2007). Both churches have English and Chinese congregations which was very challenging for Rev Joshua as he did not have any formal training in Chinese. It was thus a testimony of God's grace, sustenance and empowerment.

In 2008-2012, Rev Khong was posted to Wesley Methodist Church Kuantan in the Eastern District. As the only travelling elder in this district, he covered churches in Kuala Lipis, Raub, Bentong and Mentakab celebrating Holy Communion and visiting congregation members. Rev Khong's last pastoral posting was Wesley Methodist Church Taiping from 2013-2020.

Bishop Joshua is married to Elaine and they have two daughters, Ruth and Sarah.



Rev Yok Selan a/I Yok Beng
Superintendent - Persidangan Misi Sengoi Methodist (PMSM)

Rev Yok Selan a/I Yok Beng comes from the Semai Peninsula Indigenous tribe in Kampung Ulu Rasau, Slim River, Perak and was brought up in the Sengoi Methodist Mission Church in his village.

He answered the Lord's call to be a pastor and attended a course in the Sengoi Work Training Centre in Kampar, Perak, under the supervision of Rev Balahu from 1986 to 1988. He completed the course in 1990 and served as a pastor in Kampung Pos Tenau in Ulu Slim River, Perak. After serving for 3 years, in 1993 he was ordained as a Deacon. In 1997, he was ordained an Elder in the Sengoi Methodist Mission Conference. He then furthered his studies in Seminari Theologi Malaysia (STM) from 2002-2003. He has been serving in the Sengoi Methodist Mission Conference since.

Rev Yok Selan is married to Han Chengil and is blessed with five children, one boy and four girls.

Beyond The Broken Wall

By Rev. David Loo
18 Jan 2021



Look, perceive, beyond the broken Castle wall;
Life is more than bitter wormwood and the gall.
Brokenness is but a gateway to the sacred ground;
Woundedness, a waking to the holy prompt once drowned.

Breaches are where raiders storm and swarm;
Yet they grant a glimpse to quiet rest so warm.
No more bastion granting confidence in might;
Save for the Chapel, calling out to all in plight.

Come Home, Warrior, to the power of bended knees;
Grasp the altar horns with supplication pleas.
Call upon the might of One, the Lord of Hosts;
He slumbers not, but recompenses boasts.

Broken swords and piercé vests he knows too well;
He makes instruments of peace from souls destined for Hell.
If I should perish, I perish so in faith divine;
If I should live, my life is His and never mine.

Look no more upon the broken wall and ruin;
Rebuilding comes later when new things begin.
Retreat for now; find healing to your broken soul;
He Loves, He heals; he makes the wounded whole.

Wesleyan Community Methodist Church Petaling Jaya (WCMC) Constitution Service



Wesleyan Community Methodist Church Petaling Jaya (WCMC) was constituted on 10th January 2021 at 11am at WCMC premise (No.15, Jalan 21/37, Taman SEA, 46300 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan). It was indeed a highly anticipated event for both WCMC and TRAC community.

19 people gathered for the service due to the SOP for CMCO.

Rev. Joshua Khong, TRAC Bishop presided over the Constituting Service with Rev. Paul Christie, TRAC Central District 2 Superintendent, and Rev. Thomas Chin, Pastor in-Charge of WCMC. In attendance too are Mr Lim Chong Ho, TRAC Conference Lay Leader, Mr. Loi Kim Shung, CD2 District Lay Leader and Mrs Viji Lee, EMC Lay Leader.



42 members were accepted and commissioned as the founding members of WCMC. Mr. William Choy, Mr. Tony Chua, Puan Sri Loy nee Ling Mah Lee, Ms. Victoria Wong Tsae Ling and Mr. Tan Juat Khian were elected as Elective Stewards of the newly constituted church. A Local Conference was convened after the service to elect the church office-bearers for 2021.

Bishop Joshua Khong spoke God's word from 1 Peter 5: 2-4, entitled, "Not because we must, but because we are willing" as WCMC began a new chapter to be a church under the Great Shepherd in the task of God's vision to make disciples of all nations.

God Given Opportunity to Serve the Community in 2021

By Rev. Vijayadass



Monsoon season in the East Coast of Malaysia started at the end of December 2020 and into the beginning of January 2021. Continuous downpour started in the evening of 2nd January 2021 and continued the next day. Rivers burst their banks and overflowed to villages and the low-lying areas of Taman Bintang, Cheroh, Raub, Benta, Mentakab, Jerantut, Maran, Kuantan, Pekan and other rural areas. Many residents were caught unaware and had to evacuate their homes. Fire fighters came to rescue many flood victims from their homes.

When news of the flood and damage was received, Bishop Dr. Jeyakumar, together with a team from the Methodist Crisis Relief and Development (MCRD) and some volunteers from the Eastern district churches went to Benta on 10 January 2021 to help the flood victims there. Many people had lost everything as the water level had risen up to the roof tops of many houses.

To further help in the relief work, Cheroh Methodist Church also donated some provisions to families who sought shelter in a Hindu temple. MCRD also provided financial aid of RM300 to about 56 families comprising Indians, Chinese and Malays.

On 17th January 2021, a team from TMC Raub and Cheroh together with Rev Guok (Chinese Methodist Church Raub) distributed financial aid to all the families in Cheroh affected by the flood.

Truly it was a joy to be able to help the flood victims. Despite the risk of Covid-19, we trusted our Lord and went forth to help those in need.

On behalf of our Tamil Annual Conference (TAC) and our local churches, we want to thank MCRD for their volunteers and assistance in helping the people in Cheroh.



2021ல் சமூதாய சேவை செய்ய தேவன் அருளிய ஒரு வாய்ப்பு

மலேசியாவின் கிழக்கு கடற்கரையில் பருவமழை என்பது நம் நாட்டில் பொதுவான ஒன்று. பொதுவாக இந்த பருவ நிலை நவம்பர் அல்லது டிசம்பர் மாதங்களில் தொடங்கும். ஆனாலும் 2020ல் இது தாமதமானது. இந்த பருவ மழை 2020 டிசம்பர் மாத இறுதியில் மற்றும் ஜனவரி 2021 ஆரம்பத்தில் தொடங்கியது. 2021 ஜனவரி 2 மாஸையில் தொடங்கிய அடை மழை அடுத்த நாள் வரை தொடர்ந்து பெய்தது. மாலை வேளையில் ஆற்றில் நீர் மட்டம் பெருகத் தொடங்கியதும் நிலப் பகுதிகளுக்கு குறிப்பாக தோட்டப்புறங்களிலுள்ள தாழ்வான பகுதிகளுக்கு நீர் நிரம்பி வழியத் தொடங்கியது.

தாமான் பிந்தாங், செரோ, ரவலிப், பெந்தா, மெந்தகாப், ஜெராண்டுட், மரான், குவாந்தான், பெக்கான் மற்றும் இதர தோட்டப்புறங்களில் இந்த வெள்ளச் செய்தி பரவத் தொடங்கியது. நீர் மட்டம் திடீரென அதிகரிக்கத் தொடங்கியதால் மக்கள் தங்கள் உயிரை காப்பாற்றிக்கொள்ள வீட்டை விட்டு வெளியேற வேண்டியதாயிற்று. சில பகுதிகளில் தீயணைப்பு வீரர்கள் வந்து வெள்ளத்தால் பாதிக்கப்பட்டவர்களை காப்பாற்ற அவர்களை வீடுகளில் இருந்து வெளியேற்றினர்.

நமது மெதடிஸ்ட் திருச்சபையின் பொது மாநாட்டின் அத்தியட்சர், அருட்திரு. டாக்டர். டி. ஜெயகுமார் மற்றும் மெதடிஸ்ட் நெருக்கடி துயர்நீக்கம் மேம்பாட்டு குழுவினர்கள் வந்து, குவிந்த குப்பைகள், இடிபாடுகளை அகற்றும் புகைப்படங்கள் புலனம் (வாட்ஸ்ஸாப்) குழுவில் பகிரப்படும் வரையில் பெந்தாவில் வெள்ளத்தினால் ஏற்பட்டச் சேதங்கள் குறித்து எங்களுக்கு தெரியாது. இது எங்கள் அனைவரின் கவனத்தை ஈர்த்ததின் நிமித்தம் தொடர்ந்து நமது தமிழ் மெதடிஸ்ட் திருச்சபையின் அத்தியட்சர் டாக்டர் அருட்திரு. டெனிஸ் ராஜ் அவர்கள் பெந்தாவில் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட மக்களுக்கு உதவும்படியாக கிழக்கு மாகாண திருச்சபைகளுக்கு விடுத்த அழைப்புக்கு இணங்கி கடந்த 2021 ஜனவரி 10ஆம் தேதி கிழக்கு மாகாண திருச்சபைகளிலிருந்து தமிழ் மெதடிஸ்ட் திருச்சபை ரவலிப், செரோ மற்றும் பெந்தோக்கிலிருந்து ஒரு குழுவாக பெந்தா பகுதிக்கு சென்று அத்தியட்சரோடு இணைந்து வீடுகளை சுத்தம் செய்தோம். இந்த வெள்ளத்தால் ஏற்பட்ட பயங்கர சேதத்தை எங்களால் நம்ப முடியவில்லை. நீர் மட்டம் வீடுகளின் உட்கூரையின் உச்ச வரம்பு வரை எட்டிச் சென்றதால் மக்கள் எல்லாவற்றையும் இழந்து விட்டார்கள்.

இப்படிப்பட்ட நேரத்தில் திருச்சபையாக வெள்ளத்தால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட மக்களுக்கு ஏதாவது செய்ய வேண்டுமென உணர்ந்தேன். எனவே எங்கள் செரோ திருச்சபை அங்குள்ள இந்து கோவிலில் அடைக்கலம் புகுந்த மக்களுக்கு மளிகைப் பொருட்கள் கொடுத்து உதவ முடிவு செய்தது. அந்த ஆலயங்களின் நிர்வாகக் குழுவினர் எங்கள் பங்களிப்பை பெற்றுக்கொள்வதில் மகிழ்ச்சிக் கொண்டனர். இதனை குறித்து எனது மன பாரத்தை எங்கள் மாகாண குழுவில் பகிர்ந்துகொண்ட போது, நமது மெதடிஸ்ட் நெருக்கடி துயர்நீக்கம் மேம்பாட்டின் (எம்.சி.ஆர்.டி) சகோதர ஜேக்கப் அவர்களிடமிருந்து இந்த வெள்ளப் பேரிடரினால் இழப்பை சந்தித்த குடும்பங்களை நான் அடையாளம் காணும்படியாக எனக்கு அழைப்பு வந்தது. என் உள்ளம் மகிழ்சியால் கர்த்தரில் கனிகூர்ந்தது. செரோ சபைத் தலைவர்களிடம் கணக்கெடுப்பு செய்யும்படி கேட்டுக்கொண்டேன். இன வேறுபாடு இன்றி இந்தியர்கள், சீனர்கள் மற்றும் மலாய்க்காரர்கள் என 56 குடும்பங்களை அடையாளம் கண்டார்கள். ஒவ்வொரு குடும்பத்திற்கும் தலா ரி.ம.300.00 வழங்க மெதடிஸ்ட் நெருக்கடி துயர்நீக்கம் மேம்பாட்டு (எம்.சி.ஆர்.டி) ஒப்புக்கொண்டது.

17 ஜனவரி 2021 அன்று த.மெ.தி ரவலிப் மற்றும் செரோ ஒரு குழுவினர் அருட்திரு குவேக் (சீனர் மெதடிஸ்ட் திருச்சபை, ரவலிப்; போதகர்) செரோ சென்று அந்தப் பகுதிகளில் வெள்ளத்தால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட குடும்பங்களுக்கு நிதி உதவி வழங்கினோம்.

வெள்ளத்தால் பாதிக்கப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு உதவுவது ஒரு மகிழ்ச்சியான தருணம். கோவிட்-19ன் நெருங்கிய தொடர்புகள் இருந்த போதிலும், எங்கள் குழு தேவன் பேரில் விசுவாசம் வைத்து தைரியத்தோடு மக்களுக்கு உதவ முன் வந்தது. நமது தமிழ் வருடாந்திர மாநாட்டின் (த.வ.மா) சார்பில் எங்கள் ஸ்தல சபை செரோவில் மக்களுக்கு உதவ இந்த வாய்ப்பை வழங்கிய எம்.சி.ஆர்.டிக்கு எங்கள் நன்றியை தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறோம்.

அருட்திரு. விஜயதாஸ்

Playing Our Part in the Fight against Coronavirus

Methodist Centennial Park, SibU Serves as Quarantine Centre

By Rev Jonathan Wong • Translated by KT Chew



On January 11, 2021, the SibU Resident Office wrote to inform that the authority needed to commission the Methodist Centennial Park as a quarantine centre. All Board members were in agreement and felt that participating in such a major social service is our duty as a church as well as our responsibility to go through adversities with the people.

On the afternoon of January 15, we accompanied two young doctors to inspect the Park and we placed 3 Gideon bibles in each room: Chinese, English and BM.

After three days of cleaning and preparation, patients started coming in on January 19. Now there are 94 patients, all indigenous people with minor symptoms. The doctor in charge of the quarantine center is an indigenous brother-in-Christ. Other medical staff include doctors, nurses and supporting staff like chefs and cleaners.

The main building of Centennial Park is a five-storey building with the main entrance on the third floor where the nurses' station is set up. The room to the left of the office is the consultation room and the office for the quarantine centre is located at the front of the small auditorium. At the end of the walkway is the doctor's room. Health Department

chefs stay on the second floor where the kitchen is also located. Patients are all housed on the fourth and fifth floors. Each one is restricted to his/her own room and meals are delivered to the door.

Becoming the green pastures by quiet waters

As the pandemic rages on, we pray as a church for the flattening of the curve. As soon as we were ready, we handed Centennial Park over to the authorities in support of the fight against the virus.

We pray that Centennial Park will be a refuge to those who come through its doors and that healing of body, soul and mind will take place. Centennial Park is situated by a lake and we pray that the medical staff, patients and their families can experience "the green pastures by quiet waters" and encounter our living God.



General Conference Methodist Women Centre, Ulu Klang



GCMW gives thanks and glory to our Almighty God for the successful completion of the renovation on the Methodist Women's Centre. All physical work has been completed and we are now waiting for the Certificate of Completion and Compliance (CCC). Due to the MCO, this too has been delayed.

Our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all our donors -for your kind and generous giving towards the Project Fund that enabled us to start and complete the project on time. We truly appreciate your commitment to join the MW in carrying out our ministry. To our MW ladies also, our heartfelt thanks to you too, for the efforts put in to raise the monies for the project.

As we await the CCC, we would like to move ahead to plan for the fixtures and furnishings that would enable us to build a strong community outreach in that area. Some of the items required are:

1. Hostel Room -18 sets (super twin bed set; study table; chair; cupboard)
2. Kitchen cabinets - 3 sets - upper shelves and lower shelves / cupboard
3. Conference Room table and chairs for 22 pax
4. Banquet Chairs for Multi-purpose Hall (ideal for weddings / church services etc) - 120 pcs
5. PA & Sound system for the Multi-purpose Hall - 1 set
6. 3+2 Sofa Set - 2 sets
7. L-shaped table and chair and shelves - furnishings for GCMW HQ Office - 1 set

Donations by cheque or online transfer can be made to the following:

Account Name:
AEC OF THE METHODIST CHURCH IN MALAYSIA
 Bank Name & Account:
RHB 214-3890-0045-651

Cheque donations can be sent to:
 The Methodist Church in Malaysia
 69, Jalan 5/31, 46000 Petaling Jaya
 Selangor Darul Ehsan.

Please send a copy of the bank-in slip for us to issue a receipt. For cheque donations, please write "GCMW Centre" at the back.

If you have any queries on the MWC, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Evelyn Lim (GCMW President) or Ms. Esther Ching (GCMW Treasurer).



Awakka Pengarap Kitai Tetap Tegap — Penguji Maya Timpoh Pandemi

Ditulis oleh Jefri Ngalambai (SIAC)

Pandemik Covid-19 udah meri penguji ti cukup besai ngagai semua gereja ukai semina di menoa kitai ditu aja, tang mega di serata dunya. Sekumbang gereja ti ditutup alai besembang ngena chara datai batang tuboh (in-person services), dia meh kitai ukai semina ngasaika bisi penyelai laban enda ulih betemu tiap minggu, tang mega ba semua aktiviti gereja ti bukai ti bisi mega mai penyelai chara kitai besembang enggau besembah.

Dalam kitai ti napi penguji enggau pengemar ketegal pengerekai penyakit Covid-19, kitai sigi semapai bisi chara kena kitai betemu, ngemulia lalu ngemesaika nama Tuhan. Kitai ba SIAC pan sama sebaka enggau menyadi kitai ti bukai ti sama pengarap ngator sembiang ngena chara “virtual-service” tauka besembang nitihka “live-streaming” ti bisi diaduka sekeda ari gereja menoa dalam SIAC.



Gambar bala Multimedia Crew tengah ngator “Live-Streaming” ari Kuching.

Puji Tuhan, nengah Gereja Methodist Iban Bandaraya Kuching, Gereja Methodist Iban Miri, Gereja Methodist Iban Sibu Jaya enggau Gereja Methodist Iban Pasar Sarikei, kitai bisi ngator sembiang “online”, baik ka nya nengah Youtube Channel tauka facebook.

Sekumbang sembiang minggu ti bisi diator ngena “live-streaming” tu, dia sekeda gereja menoa ti nadai ulih ngator sembiang kediri empu ulih mega besembang nitihka siti ari empat iti gereja menoa ti bisi ngator sembiang nya. Leboh maya timpoh PKP



Live-Streaming ari GMI Sibu Jaya

tu mega, Sembiang Christmas enggau Sembiang Ash Wednesday bisi mega diator ngena chara online.

Kelimpah ari bala paderi enggau periman ari SIAC empu ti bisi bekunsi ka jaku Tuhan, kitai mega bisi bekunsika ajar ari paderi luar nyengkaum Bishop Emeritus Hwa Yung.



Live-Streaming ari GMI Pasar Sarikei

Kitai meri puji sereta enggau pengaga ati ketegal berkat Tuhan ti udah meri penau enggau penemu ngagai semua bala pengereja enggau pemela ti ransing ati enggau bebendar udah ngemujurka sembiang ngena chara ti baru tu. Kelimpah ari nya, sekeda gereja menoa mega bisi ngator “Bible Study” enggau “Prayer Meeting” ngena Zoom tauka Google Meet.

Kitai besampi awakka Allah Taala mengkang merekat lalu ngiring kitai sekumbang ti agi dalam timpoh pandemic tu, lalu awakka baka ti disebut dalam Masmur 46: 1-3 “Allah Taala endang pengelindung enggau pengering kitai, seruran sedia deka nulung leboh maya penusah. Nya alai kitai enda takut, enti sema tanah berenyang lalu bukit labuh ngagai buntut tasik enti sema tasik begelumbang lalu bukit berenyang”.

Awakka sekumbang ti ngator besembang chara baru tu, kitai sigi semapai nitihka SOP ti ditetapka perintah lalu sama-sama meh kitai bejagaka pengera enggau pengelikin semua kitai.



Gereja Methodist Iban Miri pan sama bisi ngator sembiang nengah Live-Streaming

Letter to Mrs Fowler

Rev Dr Andy Fowler went home to glory in early January 2021. The late Dr Fowler, together with his wife, served in Sarawak for 21 years, teaching in the theological and seminary schools and ministering amongst the Iban people.



THE METHODIST CHURCH IN MALAYSIA

69 Jalan 5/31, Seksyen 5, 46000 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia
Tel: (603) 79541811 Fax: (603) 79541788
Website: www.methodistchurch.org.my
E-mail: info@methodistchurch.org.my

7 January 2021

Mrs Nina Fowler
Wesleyan Home, Rm 201
09 Estrella Crossing
Georgetown TX 78628
UNITED STATES

Dear Mrs Fowler,

It is with deep regret that we learn of the passing of your beloved husband, the late Dr Andy Fowler. Please accept my deepest sympathies on behalf of The Methodist Church in Malaysia.

We remember and appreciate the good work of Dr Andy Fowler who taught at the Sibu Methodist Theological School and Seminari Theoloji Malaysia. You will be pleased to know that both the schools still thrive today with good intake of students and a wide variety of theological courses.

The work that both you and your late husband have done for The Methodist Church in Malaysia, especially for the indigenous Iban people in Sarawak over the years have been instrumental. The Sarawak Iban Annual Conference now have more than 40 pastors.

It would be difficult to measure the impact Dr Andy Fowler has had on the many people’s lives he had touched personally. His commitment to serving God, helping others and our community has left us with a wonderful legacy.

We are indeed saddened to lose him but we are also reassured and comforted that his task on earth has been completed and he has been faithful to our Lord. We pray that the Holy Spirit will comfort you and your family at this time.

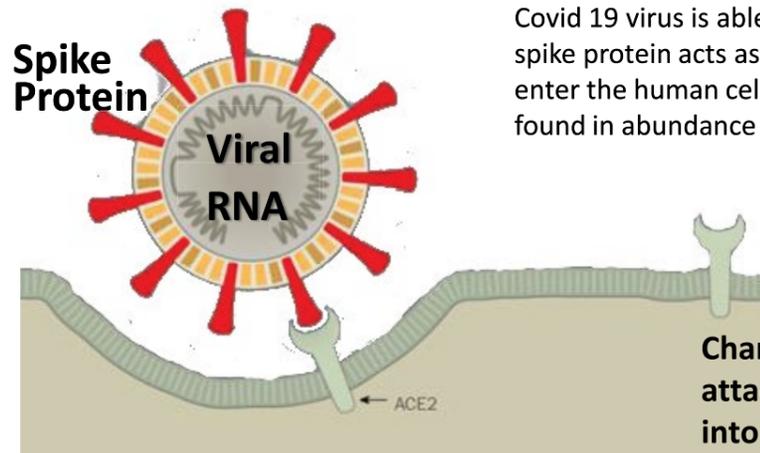
Blessings,

Revd. Dr. T. Jeyakumar
Bishop

SARS-COV2 : The Infection and the Vaccine.

The current **Covid-19 Pandemic** has truly turned the whole world upside down affecting every nation, people and strata of society – rich and poor alike. It has morphed from a health pandemic into an economic disaster with much wider and deeper implications, affecting everyone.

The **SARS-COV2 Virus** : It is a single stranded highly infectious RNA Coronavirus for human to human transmissibility via close contact and respiratory droplets from talking, coughing/sneezing and singing. Entry portals - the nose, mouth or eyes.

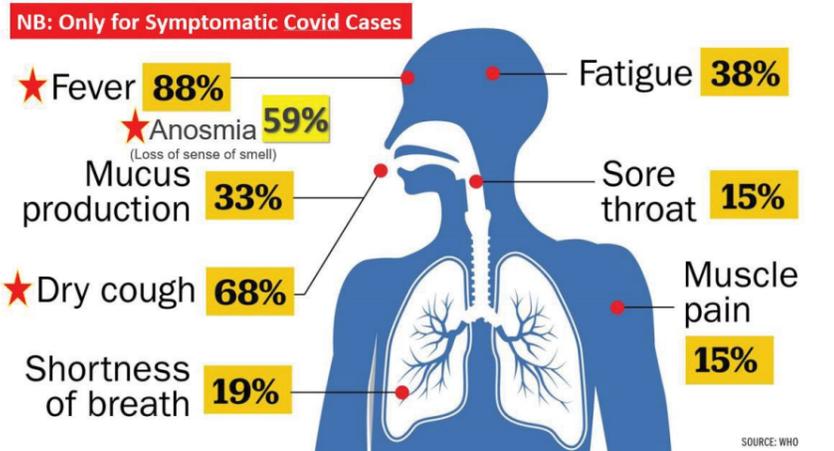


Covid 19 virus is able to enter a cell because the spike protein acts as a 'key' to open the door to enter the human cell via the ACE2 receptor that is found in abundance on our mucosal surfaces

Spike protein is the 'key' but also it's 'Achilles heel'

Chart 1: How the Covid Virus attaches to and gains entry into the human cell.

Chart 2: Common Symptoms of the Covid-19 infection. Please note that possibly up to 50% of infection maybe asymptomatic.



Case fatality rates for COVID-19

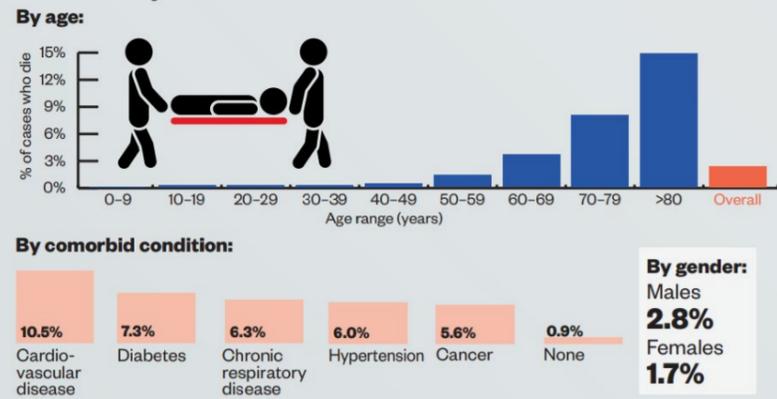


Chart 3: Covid-19 Infection Fatality Rate.

Mortality is affected by : Age, Gender and Co-Morbidities. List of common co-morbidities

- Hypertension
- Diabetes Mellitus
- Heart Disease
- Chronic Lung condition
- Kidney conditions
- Cancer
- BMI >30
- Smoking
- Pregnancy
- On immunosuppressives

Chart 4 : FOUR MODES of ACTION for COVID-19 VACCINE

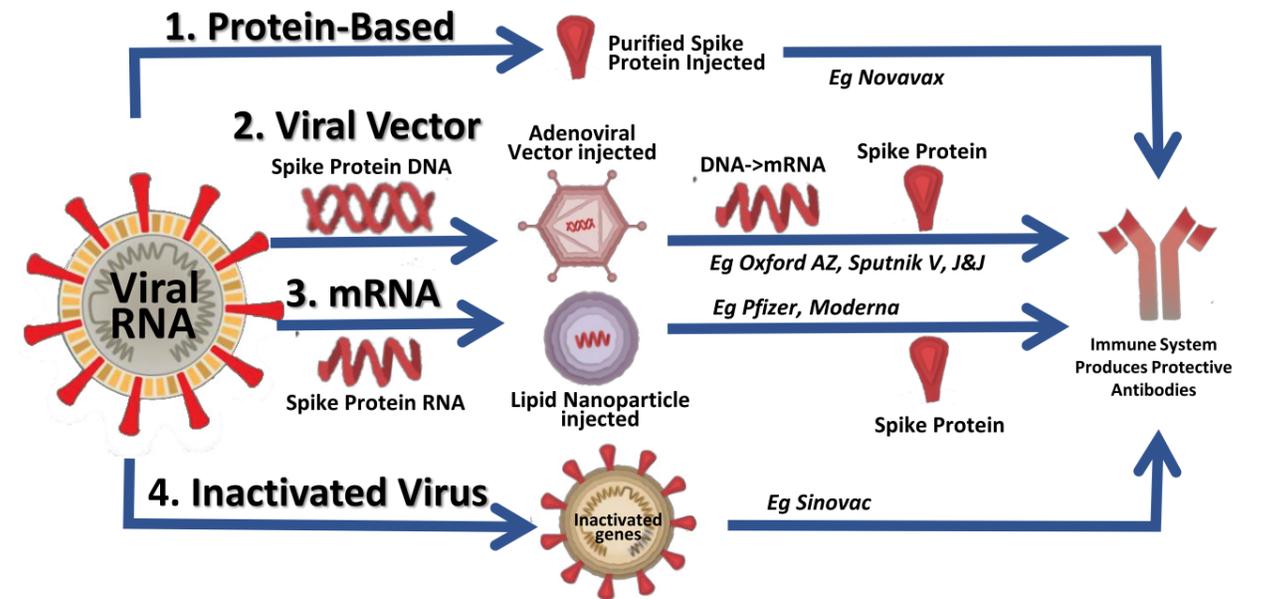


Chart 5: Common Side-Effects of Covid Vaccination.

NB: Will vary from vaccine to vaccine and also from 1st to 2nd dose.

REACTIONS	16-55yrs		>55yrs	
	Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 1	Dose 2
LOCAL REACTIONS				
INJECTION PAIN	83.1 %	77.8%	71.1 %	66.1%
Swelling	5.8%	6.3%	6.5%	7.5%
Redness	4.5%	5.9%	4.7%	7.2%
SYSTEMIC REACTIONS				
Fever (>38°)	3.7%	15.8%	1.4%	10.9%
Fatigue	47.4%	59.4%	34.1%	39%
Headache	41.9%	61.7%	25.2%	39%
Chills	14%	35.1%	6.3%	22.7%
Vomiting	1.2%	1.9%	0.5%	0.7%
Diarrhea	11.1%	10.4%	8.2%	8.3%
Muscle Pain	21.3%	37.3%	13.9%	28.7%
Joint Pain	11%	21.9%	8.6%	18.9%

Side Effects of Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine* Generally applicable to the other vaccines as well.

Chart 6: Efficacy Between The Different Covid Vaccines

Types of VACCINES ordered by Malaysian Government				
Vaccine	Mode of Action	Dosing Schedule	Efficacy*	Country
Pfizer-BioNTech	mRNA	TWO – 3wks apart	95%	USA/Germany
Sinovac	Inactivated Virus	TWO – 3wks apart	50.4%	China
Oxford - AZ	Viral Vector	TWO – 4 to 12wks apart	70.4%	UK/Sweden
Gamelaya (Sputnik V)	Viral Vector	TWO – 2wks apart	91.4%	Russia
CanSino	Viral Vector	ONE Dose only	65.7%	China

***Note : Thus far all the approved vaccines have shown near 100% ability to prevent severe Covid cases and deaths from Covid.**

Chart 7 : Points to Note...

Condition	What is It ?	Medical Facts	Covid - Vaccine Statistics	Precautions
Allergic Anaphylaxis Rxn	An acute reaction to the vaccine that can be life threatening. Most occur within 30 mins of the injection.	1/1,000,000 vaccination. Medically with prompt treatment, easily reversed.	0.22 to 1 / 100,000 vaccination (10 x more frequent than incidence from other vaccine injection)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People with h/o of anaphylactic reaction before to avoid vaccination for the moment 2. People with h/o of allergies to consult and inform their doctors before taking the vaccine in a properly equipped vaccination centre. 3. Stay at least 30mins after receiving the vaccine injection for observation.
Bell's Palsy	An idiopathic unilateral facial nerve palsy. 80-90% resolves within 6wks to 3mths with or without intervention.	Normal incidence is 15-30/100,000 popn.	Post Covid Vaccine incidence is 17.7/100,000 popn** (Combined Pfizer & Moderna stats)	Be aware Correlation ≠ Causation
Antibody-Dependent Enhancement (ADE)	"Inducing new antibodies that do not protect against the virus but which actually makes a future viral infection worse"	ADE is known and seen in research vaccine esp for Dengue.	Thus far have not been clinically proven in any Covid-19 Vaccine recipient.	Medical authorities and scientist are aware of this possibility and am keeping a look out for any "unusual side effects" including ADE.
Auto-Immune Condition	In response to an unknown trigger, the immune system may begin producing antibodies that instead of fighting infections, attack the body's own tissues.	There are anywhere from about 80 to 100 types of Auto-Immune conditions. US statistics : ≈7% of the popn suffer from Auto-Immune conditions.	Thus far no auto-immune conditions have been conclusively linked to any Covid vaccine. This is not surprising as Auto-immune conditions takes time to manifest.	Auto-Immune conditions remain a definite remote possibility and medical authorities and scientist are diligently on a look-out for such theoretical long-term side-effects of the Covid vaccines

Paving the way to Global Recognition

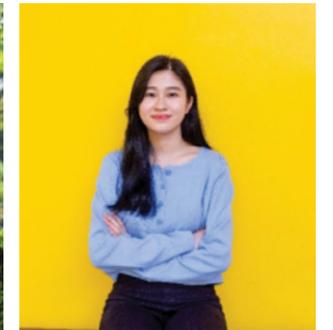
MCKL holds its first virtual Outstanding Achievers Awards Ceremony for Cambridge A Level and Australian Matriculation



CEO of MCKL: Ms Angela Pok, presenting her congratulatory message to graduands and parents virtually.



Eng Wai Lam Simpson, recipient of the Yin Kam Yoke Award



Mandy Lai Pun Mun, recipient of the Datuk F R Bhupalan Award 2020

The Methodist College Kuala Lumpur (MCKL) recently celebrated the Cambridge A Level (CAL) and Australian Matriculation (AUSMAT) students who achieved various awards for the CAL November 2020 exam series and AUSMAT November examinations with an inaugural virtual Awards Ceremony.

Students in the CAL November 2020 exam series achieved a 100% passing rate with 55% of students scoring 3As and above breaking all previous records. As for the AUSMAT programme, 33% of students obtained ATAR 80 & above with the highest score at 98.95, placing them among the top 20% of high scorers in Australia.

"Over the years, MCKL students has been no stranger to the Excellence Awards, Outstanding Scholars' Awards and being Subject Prize winners. Amidst the pandemic, and the swift implementation of hybrid learning, MCKL continues to succeed beyond our previous achievements making 2020 a year to remember" said Ms Angela Pok, CEO of MCKL.

This year, MCKL celebrated five (5) awardees - three (3) Overall Academic Excellence recipients for Cambridge A-Level; **Eng Wai Lam Simpson** (Combination of Science and Arts), **Low Swee Ling** (Pure Science), **Chia Zhi Ling** (Pure Arts) along with two (2) Excellence Awards for CGPA 3.70 and above recipients from AUSMAT; **Mandy Lai Pui Mun** and **Eunice Ling Sue Ann**.

Simpson Eng also received the prestigious Yin Kam Yoke Award while Mandy Lai was named the recipient of the Datuk F R Bhupalan Award 2020.

Reminiscing her good times in MCKL, Mandy Lai said "It has been an odd but amazing year at MCKL, the

end of this journey came faster than we expected. I would like to thank my lecturers for caring for us in and out of classrooms, my classmates, and my parents for giving me the freedom to make my own choices while fully supporting me throughout. Hats off to the class of 2020. We did it".

MCKL continues to provide globally recognised higher education while moulding youths into students of calibre. Parents have continued to attest to the education quality at MCKL.

"I believe MCKL was a suitable choice, made by my child to study her A-Levels programme which has been reflected through her achievements. I am both proud and thankful to MCKL for providing a holistic learning environment, coupled with the dedication of the staff and lecturers which were helpful throughout her studies" said Tan Paik Yong, mother to Chia Zhi Ling (Cambridge A Level, award recipient).

"MCKL boasts a variety of academic and extra-curricular activities which I found to have developed her character and interests throughout her A-Levels studies which can be helpful while furthering her studies into university" she continued.

For over 38 years, Methodist College Kuala Lumpur (MCKL) has been providing quality higher education in the best of Methodist tradition. **In August 2021, MCKL will launch its first branch campus - MCKL College (Penang, Pykett Campus).** Follow MCKL official Facebook and Instagram page for more updates.

For details, visit mckl.edu.my or call 03-2274 1851 (Monday - Saturday 8.30am-5.30pm)

Concluding remarks:

The Covid-19 Pandemic has to date (2nd March 2021) affected **114,428,987 people** resulting in at least **2,538,582 deaths**, an extremely high toll in human lives by any reckoning. We are thankful for the rapid development of the Covid vaccines within a very short span of about 9 months. To date **245 million doses** of the Covid vaccine have been administered in **107 countries** at a rate of about **6.79 million doses/day**.

Although the overall **infection fatality rate for covid-19 is ≈ 1.4%**, (crude mortality rate is ≈ 0.28%) depending on your age, gender, comorbidities it can fluctuate from ≈ **0.02% (0-9yrs) to ≈ 14.3% (≥75yrs)**.

Yes I would agree that the current Covid-19 Vaccines are all not perfect. If we want to wait until a perfect vaccine with only 'minimal' side effects, both immediate and/or long-term be tested, proven and certified which will possibly take 2 to 5 years minimal. How many more lives need to be sacrificed on the altar of theoretical side-effects & possibilities ? This is something for all of us to consider and answer.

Rev Dr Ng Swee Ming MBBS Mal, IDHA
Pastor,
Sungai Way-Subang Methodist Church
Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Listen to the full talk at
<https://youtu.be/nOH-1n5XsmU>

NB: Acknowledge that the graphics are adapted from the New York Times very graphical depiction of the Covid-19 virus and vaccine. All the other figures quoted are gleaned from the freely available internet sources.

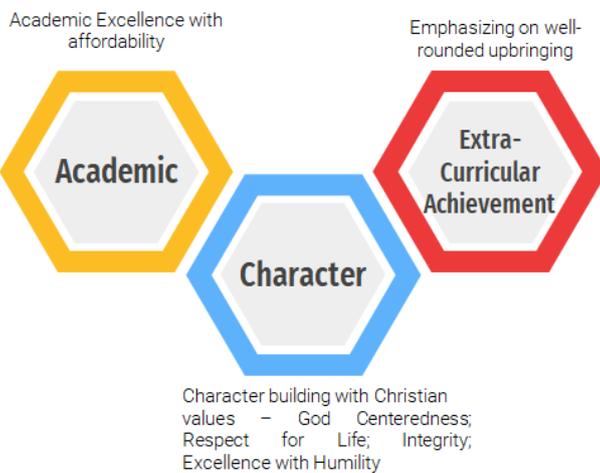
IMPACTING LIVES

VIA THE METHODIST EDUCATION SINCE 1891

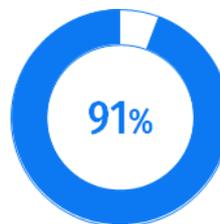
“We want to ensure that our educational facilities provide the best education at an affordable cost.”
Bishop Dr. T. Jeyakumar – The Methodist Church in Malaysia

WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT?

THE METHODIST EDUCATION



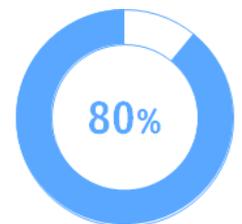
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