

michk erald



循道衛理聯合教會



Joy and Peace

Christmas, and indeed Chinese New Year, is a time to celebrate the joy of life, the presence of family and the desire for peace and wellbeing for all. With the joyful angels we proclaim the Glory of God and Peace on Earth, good will to all people. The Christian message is that the Prince of Peace has come, born as a baby in Bethlehem to bring peace and joy to all.

2015 also heralds in the Year of the Goat which is associated with gentleness and calm, relating to good things. People born in these years are reckoned to be compassionate, polite and wise with a special sensitivity to art, beauty and faith.

In a world torn apart by violence and dissent, people need peace. The heart of the Christian message is that Jesus offers Peace with God. The certainty of being loved by God, forgiven by God and being at peace with yourself. Such peace brings joy to every aspect of life.

Hong Kong is in need of Peace. All church leaders are calling Christians to pray for Hong Kong, a community which is ill at ease with itself. At present those who have responsibility for governance in Hong Kong seem incapable of decision making. People have little confidence in their leadership. Our streets are occupied by bright and committed young students and professionals facing a future in which housing is out of their reach, jobs, should they get one, are all consuming in a region struggling to make sense of democracy. The police and other authorities are, in the midst of this struggle, seeking to keep order and enable a strong community and business life. We pray that Methodist people may be peace makers reaching out to all sides of this argument. That peace will eventually come through face to face dialogue negotiation — now is the time to move the focus from the street to the negotiating table.



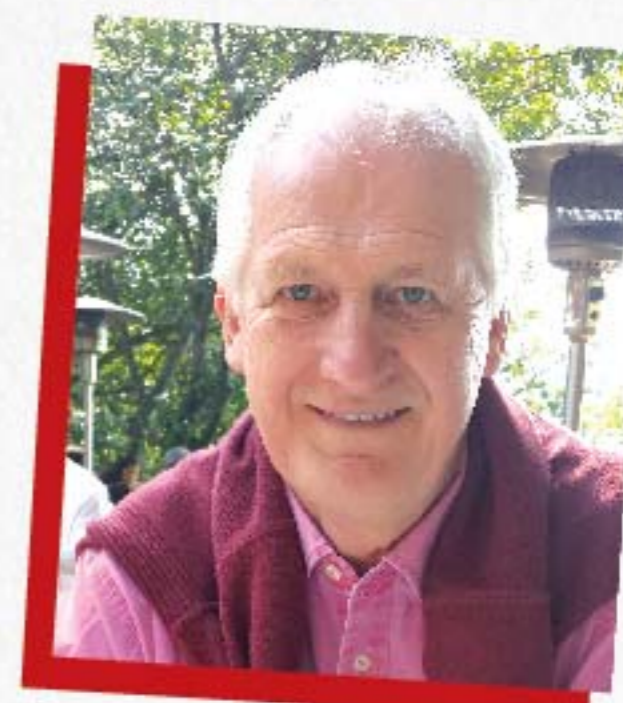
Our new church building will be a Place of Peace.

Peace is assumed to be a personal attribute – a quality experienced in relationships; however it is also about place as well as people. Buildings speak! Look around the city where many buildings speak of power and wealth. The new MIC and Conference building will be a place of prayer, of sanctuary where justice is at home and with an entrance which speaks of welcome. The project has a deliberate pastoral design. As the building opens up to meet the needs of the community, it declares the message of the cross. It is inclusive and welcoming.

The new MIC will be a place to learn of the Prince of Peace through shared faith, Christian nurture, bible study, worship, preaching, and additionally research and training. This Church of Peace will be place of action for good for the region and beyond.

John Wesley called us to three things in our lives as he summed up the commandments and the teaching of Christ: **Love God, Do Good, Do no Harm.** If we are a people that long for peace then we will embody these things and our church, will be Place of Peace inhabited by a community of Peace for the benefit of all the community of Hong Kong and in the name of the Prince of Peace.

We pray that all who enter will find that Peace and Joy dwell there. It will have an atmosphere of peace, in part because of its design, but certainly because of the prayers of God's people.



Howard Mellor
Senior Pastor





we build · we share · we are **ONE** Walkathon 2014



The Launching Ceremonies were carried out at a patch of green pasture inside the Peak Circle Walk. Members of the MIC deliberately arrived earlier to picnic on the grass and to enjoy the warm sun. Our President, the Rev. YUEN Tin-yau officiated at the ceremonies. We all sang out loudly 'The Bond of Love' and shouted the slogan of the Redevelopment Project 'We Build, We Share, We are ONE' to show solidarity in our fundraising efforts.

The largest fundraising activity of the Redevelopment Project this year - Walkathon, was successfully held on 19 October (Sunday) at the Peak. On that day, the weather was fine, with warm sunshine and a cool breeze. Over 1,600 brothers and sisters from different local churches, schools and social services agencies gathered on the Peak Circle Walk. Everyone was in high spirits and full of energy.



This was a rare opportunity for brothers and sisters from the different parts of our Church to gather together. Everybody responded to the appeal to wear bright-coloured clothes. Many were so well prepared that their outfits made their teams stand out to boost their morale. Examples were the Kowloon Methodist Church's orange T shirts matching with fishermen's hats; Asbury Methodist Church's bluish purple T shirts; Chinese Methodist Church, Wanchai wore reddish purple polo shirts with self-made little flags supporting the projects; and North Point Methodist Church even brought their large banner. Different groups came up with different ideas, filling the atmosphere with laughter and lots of fun!

The most attractive part of the Peak is the panoramic view of the beautiful Victoria Harbour. It is also refreshing to stroll in the midst of green mountains, far away from the busy crowd of the city. On that day, we set up prayer station on the way to encourage people to pray for themselves, for our church and our society. Brothers and sisters responded enthusiastically. Most of the prayer requests were about praying for peace of Hong Kong at this time of turmoil and God's guidance and deliverance from the present difficult situation. Every participant in the prayer station was given an attractive, limited edition 'Love · Church' badge as souvenir.



We are thankful for the support and assistance of all the volunteers from different subsidiaries who made this Walkathon such a success. Special thanks go to the Third Company of The Boys' Brigade, Hong Kong from Epworth Village Methodist Church and St. John Ambulance Brigade and also the staff of local churches who helped out in the registration and donation matters.

**Coming: Walkathon 2015,
See you again on November 8th!**

After moving to TSK, we feel...

At first it was a challenge to set up the new Sunday School at TSK, but like all challenges, they pay off! We manage to create some lovely environments to learn about Jesus. In fact the Sunday School has actually grown and made something positive from the move! The children are all very happy, and everyone is working so well together!



Annette and Ian Bengey

John Budge

Having attended our old church since 1980, I thought it would be quite a change to move to a school to worship. I was therefore pleasantly surprised to find on our first Sunday the TSK Chapel. Now after a few months of worship, it feels very comfortable.

Anne Chaplain

Almost 10 years ago, I was attending the alpha course at MIC and we had the combined Holy Spirit weekend with other churches at TSK hall. As we praised and worshiped God the Holy Spirit swept so powerfully across the hall and changed many lives including mine. I still associate TSK hall as one of the places that I encountered God's all-embracing love and grace.

Vincent Poon

When people led by the Holy Spirit gather together in Jesus's name, he promises to be there. When we worship and pray together in his name, when we recognise him and hear him and do what he wants us to do, then no matter where we worship, we have an authentic Church. This is what I feel after moving to TSK, I feel blessed.



Offerings can be made by:

Crossed Cheque payable to 'Methodist International Church, Hong Kong' and send to 271 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Direct Deposit to 'Methodist International Church, Hong Kong', HSBC HK A/C #048-054605-001. Please forward the bank pay-in slip for our records.

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.

JOHN WESLEY

