



**June 2018**

Dear friends,

We write this newsletter as we enter our fourth year in Singapore. Time flies by!

This year the focus of the Church within Singapore, including the Diocese of Singapore, is building towards what is called a year of "Celebration of Hope" - a nationwide mission initiative culminating in multi-language evangelistic events held in the National Stadium in May 2019. The British evangelist J. John will be the speaker for the English language rally. He recently visited to meet and share vision with the national church pastors, hosted by the Cathedral. It was good to catch up with him and we reminisced over some common past connections and especially our great friend, and my previous colleague in the UK, Bob Fuller. We miss Bob lots.

There is much anticipation in the churches of Singapore that the Celebration of Hope will usher in a new harvest of believers. The Cathedral is acting as the hub for many things. Of particular interest to us is that there will also be an outreach to foreign migrant workers here in the nation and the Cathedral is taking a lead in this initiative.

Peter is currently in the process of working out his role for the next year or so. He will be handing over leadership of the Cathedral Alpha Course having now developed it as a core part of the church life and built up new and younger leaders to take it on. He will also be handing over the overall leadership of the more traditional 8.00 service to the Vicar (but still assisting in the services and managing the pastoral staff). He will keep oversight of the 11.15 service and will concentrate on building up that team. These changes will allow more capacity to deepen his mentoring role with younger leaders.



**Prayer walking some land for a possible church**

Also Peter will take on a new role to develop the Cathedral mission connections in Thailand. Of particular potential and excitement is working alongside the church in Maesot near the Thai/Myanmar border. This will involve encouraging and supporting the small but flourishing Anglican fellowship as they seek to find land and to build a new church building to allow growth and ministry expansion, and to bring some training in leadership and development. Some of these leaders were born or raised in the refugee camps and Peter has known some since we were in Thailand. As they have gained Thai ID's they have settled in Thailand and their children are now in Thai schools. This represents a whole new generation establishing a church for their future. A significant time indeed!



We have just returned from the Alpha Leadership Conference, held at the Asia Alpha Hub in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, taking a number of our cathedral team. There were some inspiring moments and it was a reminder of the international communities we are a part of in the region.

In the very near future, from 3 to 6 June, we are looking forward to doing the teaching at Holy Trinity Singapore church conference. After preaching at the morning service a number of coaches will make the hour and a half or so drive to Johor, just across the Straights border into Malaysia. There will be five sessions of teaching and ministry based upon the letter to the church in Ephesus in Revelation chapter 2, the call to return to our first love and to serve others out of that love. This is an immense privilege for us to be a part of.

In regard to family news we continue to snatch time with Paul and Monique and grandchildren Finley and Marley whenever we can. Ineke has managed to snatch quite a few weeks already as she helps out with childminding when Monique studies and takes exams for her MA in pharmacology. The big trip this year will be to the UK in August and into September for our middle son David's wedding to Vicky. We are very excited about that indeed. It looks like all the family will be together for the big event including Ineke's parents and siblings from around the world. The first time for a very long time. We are looking forward to it very much.

## Prayer Points

Please join us in:

- Thanksgiving for all the connections we are able to have with family even though not for as long as we would like.
- Praying for Singapore in the preparations for the Celebration of Hope.
- Praying for Ineke as she helps to support the grandchildren in Perth and to integrate that with new job possibilities and her place in church life.
- Praying for clarity over Peter's role and responsibility within cathedral life and the 'mission field' in the deaneries, especially Thailand.

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