

Sixth Pastoral Letter to the Ang Mo Kio Methodist Church Family on the Covid-19 Situation (17 Apr 2020)

Dear Family and Friends of AMKMC (TRAC),

When God first laid upon my heart our church theme for 2020 would be “Home with a Heart” as early as July 2019, I did not anticipate the journey the LORD would bring us through in fulfilling this theme. I did not anticipate the halting of Sunday worship services; I did not anticipate the end of face-to-face meetings; I certainly did not anticipate the closure of our church premises altogether.

Little did I expect we were taught to usher God’s presence into our own homes instead as we took both worship services and cell groups online. Even more significantly, little did I expect we would eventually **provide temporary shelter to the homeless during this circuit-breaker period**. To cut the long story short, thanks to a contact from a fellow Methodist pastor, I got in touch with Homeless Hearts of Singapore (HHOS) and subsequently got connected with Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) to provide a safe, sound, sleeping place (S3P) for the homeless (please note: the preferred term is rough sleepers).

By God’s grace, the joint leadership of all three Ang Mo Kio Methodist churches unanimously and quickly approved the proposal to house the rough sleepers on Easter Sunday itself. By late 16 April evening, we received official approval from government authorities to run S3P@AMKMC, and I am thankful to those of you who have voluntarily contributed logistical support in just under 24 hours. We are now ready to receive our first batch of rough sleepers.

Through this Covid-19 crisis, God has completely re-defined our understanding of “Church” in terms of place, time, and purpose: Church is no longer contained to one physical location; Church is no longer constrained to Sundays; and Church is no longer confined to services to our own church members. I truly see how God is transforming us to be a Home with a Heart.

The road ahead is likely to be long. Amongst many things, we still have lots of work to do in engaging and protecting seniors, work at reclaiming discipleship through class meetings whilst juggling work and home-based learning at home. Yet, I remain confident that God’s plans are larger than all we could ever imagine or anticipate. More importantly, God’s purposes are always good. The best of all is, **God is building AMKMC to be His Home**.

Yours sincerely,


Rev Anthony Lee