

**Pastoral Letter to the Ang Mo Kio Methodist Church Family (12 Sep 2021)**

Dear Family and Friends of AMKMC (TRAC),

Warmest greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

I hope that as many of you as possible have had the opportunity to worship at our onsite services since our church re-opened on 22 August. It gladdens my heart to be able to meet and greet so many of you once more, and I give thanks to our Heavenly Father for His help in the smooth running of onsite services, events, and activities so far.

As our nation moves cautiously ahead in its re-opening, we are also priming ourselves in taking calibrated and prayerful steps ahead as we seek to obey **Hebrews 10:25** not to give up meeting together and keep encouraging one another in our faith journey.

First up, we will be celebrating our Church's 43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary soon. **The 43<sup>rd</sup> Church anniversary celebration worship service will be held on 3 October 2021 at 10am.** The speaker is our TRAC President Rev Stanley Chua. As there will not be singing, food and fellowship onsite, you are highly **encouraged to gather with your friends and cell group members at each other's homes**, within government issued COVID-19 safety limits, and enjoy the anniversary celebration together as a church family. This allows the onsite service<sup>1</sup> to accommodate those who otherwise prefer to worship onsite. The service will be **livestreamed on Youtube** (link will be provided closer to the date). Registration will open on Mon 27 September 2021 for the onsite anniversary worship service. **Note: There will be no 8am and 5pm service that day.**

As part of our Church's anniversary programme, we will be running a series of events leading up to the anniversary celebration worship service. There will be a **special edition Prayer & Praise on 15 September 2021** held via Zoom (link will be provided separately) as well as a **12-Day Prayerthon** led by the various zone leaders. I hope that you will be able to participate wholeheartedly in these events as **Colossians 3:2** implores us to set our minds on things above and as **2 Corinthians 4:18** reminds to fix our eyes on what is unseen.

Moving forward, please be informed that **with effect from 10 October 2021, our onsite worship service timings will be at 8am, 10am and 5pm.** This helps our church to pivot towards the re-opening of worship service at AMK HUB in time to come as well as to deconflict rooming arrangements with our sister churches when more activities resume. Please note that **AMKids for children aged 4 to 10 years will run alongside the morning services.** Please register to attend onsite services here: <https://www.amkmc.org.sg/onsite-worship/>. You may also wish to know that there will also be special programmes lined up to celebrate Children's Day on 10 October 2021 at 8am and 10am. Spaces are limited so do sign up early (<https://www.amkmc.org.sg/events/childrens-day-celebration-2021/>)

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<sup>1</sup> The onsite service will be for fully-vaccinated, exempted, or pre-event tested individuals according to MOH guidelines.

I wish to specially mention two aspects of our worship services from 10 October 2021 onwards. First, as we have experienced since the start of the Covid pandemic, we have already erased the distinction between traditional and contemporary worship services. In its place is **a common worship order**, drawing on both the richness of historical liturgical worship as well as the spontaneity and vibrancy of Spirit-led worship. The pastors and I hope our worship services will bridge the generations and teach us all that worship is not about our preferences but that our worship can be broadened and enriched by following the global church's calendar with her different liturgical seasons (e.g. worship services will be more reflective during Lent, more exuberant during Pentecost).

Second, God-willing, we will **livestream our worship service at 10am from 3 October 2021 onwards**. This means we will stop our online pre-recorded services at 9am from 3 October 2021. Because there will now be a common worship order in which all the worship services will be identical in nature, and to optimise the deployment of limited human resources, we will only have one livestream service. The theological idea behind a livestream service is to facilitate a semblance of Christian gathering. Again, the livestream service is designed as a concession and should not replace worshipping together either in homes or in church. Let us strive to obey Hebrews 10:25 as far as possible.

Before I sign off this letter, let me enliven you with this verse from Romans 15:13:  
"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Like always, do continue to visit our website for our **Sunday Service Bulletin** ([www.amkmc.org.sg/bulletin](http://www.amkmc.org.sg/bulletin)) and **subscribe to our WhatsApp Broadcast** ([www.amkmc.org.sg/whatsapp](http://www.amkmc.org.sg/whatsapp)) for the latest news and updates.

Yours sincerely,



Rev Anthony Lee