Jubilee Pears

No. 423

Monthly Notes

of Trinity Methodist Church

CHEAM ROAD, SUTTON

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The Minister's Letter

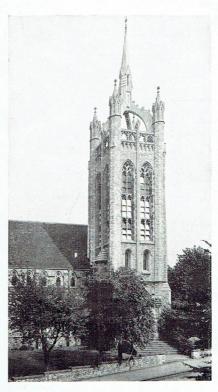
The Vestry, January, 1957.

My dear Friends,

I am indeed proud to be the Minister to send you greetings as we enter Trinity's Jubilee year.

Some lines of Shakespeare have been much in my mind as I have thought on what this year could mean to us.

"There is a tide in the affairs of men, Which taken at the flood leads on to fortune; Omitted, all the voyage of their life Is bound in shallows and miseries. On such full sea are we now afloat, And we must take the current when it serves, Or lose our ventures".



We have been brought to this time on a great tide of devotion. We hold in grateful remembrance those whose vision and sacrifice built our lovely Church and those who throughout the years have contributed to its worship, created its fellowship and rendered its service. It is for us to see that the full tide is a worthy one and that we shall do, not merely by planning and observing special celebrations, but by giving our best to the weekly worship, fellowship and service of our Church. The celebration will be as worthy as the worth of our Church. Nor must we forget, in this hour, the responsibility that is ours to pass on in yet fuller swell the heritage that others have given to us. Our gratitude for the past, and our experience of the present will be made perfect as they inspire a vision and provide an impetus for new endeavour in the service of our Lord and His Gospel. Thus by the Grace of God, the best is yet to be.

Yours very sincerely.

C. FERNLEY JONES.

A PRACTICAL THANKSGIVING

WHAT MUST WE DO TO MAINTAIN OUR CHURCH?

No buildings can stand up to wind, weather and hard use for fifty years without a major overhaul. Several Trinity people with specialised knowledge have given generously of their time and skill in examining the building. There are places out of sight on the roof, in the tower, around the boilers, which must be given urgent attention. Take a look at the Church Parlour, the Halls, the Vestries, the corridors, all of them dingy for the want of decorating. Look at the kitchen sink, the hot water supply, the shelf and cupboard space, all quite inadequate for the use that is made of them.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO TO IMPROVE OUR CHURCH?

We might alter and improve the Large Hall. A new ceiling of a modern insulating material would save light and heat and give the Hall a new look. The stage-platform, at present a headache to those who have to use it, and the seating accommodation could be completely replanned and greatly improved. We might also provide new storage space which is essential if we are to clear the premises of equipment which makes them look untidy. Rough plans and estimates have been prepared, but we can go no further until we know whether there is enough money in hand after the essential work has been provided for. The Sunday School, Drama Group and the Badminton Clubs will be fully consulted before we go ahead.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

The essential work, which must be done in the near future, will cost £3,000.

The improvements we would like to make would cost another £2,000.

We therefore make

A Jubilee Appeal for £5,000

DON'T TRINITY PEOPLE GIVE GENEROUSLY ALREADY?

Yes indeed, they do, to the tune of £3,000 a year, over half of which goes to lighting, heating, cleaning and maintaining the Church premises. Is there a debt? Not a penny—but there is no endowment either.

HOW CAN WE RAISE SO MUCH MONEY?

BY GIFTS. The Jubilee Gift Day on 4th May must set up new records.

BY PROMISES. We mean the payment over a period, perhaps of several years, of a total sum which you could not afford to pay at once. For example, sixpence a week for a year would come to £1 6s. 0d. A £1 a year for five years would produce . . . well work it out for yourself!

BY COVENANTS. Many people can multiply their gift at no extra cost to themselves by signing a Jubilee Covenant.

This only applies if you are liable to Income Tax at the full rate. If so, subject to certain conditions, the Church is legally allowed to recover the tax on the Covenanted Gift from the Inland Revenue. This has a startling effect on the amount given. For instance, at present tax rates, £1 a year produces £12 in 7 years, £10 a year produces over £120, and so on. By signing a Jubilee Covenant (which is quite separate from Covenants in connection with the Envelope Scheme), the FULL AMOUNT including the tax will be credited in your name to the Jubilee Fund.

BY EFFORTS. Efforts by individuals and organisations can be undertaken in addition to personal giving. It is surprising how much social functions in our homes, and group efforts at the Church can raise in twelve months.

OUGHT WE TO UNDERTAKE IT?

If Trinity is to go forward in doing God's work-YES.

If we are to serve the people living close around as well as further afield—YES.

If we are to widen the work among children and young people—YES.

If we are to be strong and ready for the next fifty years—YES.

ALL RIGHT! WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?

Come to the Jubilee Church Meeting on 26th January at 3 p.m., when the Appeal will be launched.

Watch for news in the Monthly Notes, and in the meantime, plan the utmost you can GIVE, RAISE AND PROMISE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR to the Glory of God, and in humble thanksgiving for the fifty years' witness of Trinity Church.

THE JUBILEE PROGRAMME

THE JUBILEE COVENANT SERVICE

January 6th 11 a.m.

THE JUBILEE CHURCH MEETING

January 26th 3 a.m.

THE JUBILEE GIFT AND PROMISE DAY

May 4th

THE JUBILEE CIVIC SERVICE

September 22nd

DR. H. CRAWFORD WALTERS

THE JUBILEE HARVEST FESTIVAL

September 29th

REV. W. RUSSELL SHEARER, M.A.

THE JUBILEE BIRTHDAY PARTY

October 5th

THE JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY

October 6th

DR. W. E. SANGSTER, M.A.

FROM AN OLDER MEMBER

How many of us as we enter our beautiful Church, look around and wonder how and why it came to be built. Do we think of the men and women whose devotion and sacrifice resulted in the erection of the Church in which we to-day are worshipping. They had a vision of the future, and a desire to build to the glory of God. They laboured and we have entered into their labours.

Fifty years have passed since they achieved the task to which they set themselves, and we who enjoy the result of their work intend to celebrate the Jubilee of Trinity, as all Jubilees should be celebrated, with much rejoicing, and by remembering those who made it possible.