

‘Rooted and built up in Christ and established in the faith’

Colossians 2:7



# mic erald

循道衛理聯合教會國際禮拜堂



## Methodist International Church, HK

### Rooted and Built Up in Christ

It was in torrential rain that on the 21st May 1893, Pentecost Sunday, that the Rev Charles Bone led the opening service for the new Wesleyan Methodist Chapel. The church was a garrison church serving both army and navy personnel, a few civilians and also missionaries on furlough travelling through China. On May 20th 2018, 125 years after the opening of the first church we shall with great rejoicing declare open the third church on the site, and we shall pray for fine sunny weather! The New Wesleyan House is ready, the waiting is over and the beautifully designed Church building looks magnificent standing proudly on the corner of Kennedy Road and Queen's Road East.

Today, the church originally named as The English Methodist Church, is known as the Methodist International Church or more affectionately MIC. Just as the building MIC occupies has expanded from a single story to a twenty-two-story structure, so the church congregation has expanded from one to eight congregations with five languages being spoken. Never a church to stand still, MIC exercises oversight over a new ministry amongst Filipino workers in Macau launched in June 2017.

These are such exciting times for MIC as we explore what God is calling us to be and do in our new home with so much wonderful space to expand into. 125 years after the opening of the first church we believe that God still has important work for us to do and we are keen to ensure that the new building is well utilized for serving the present community of Hong Kong. We, like our forebears, are committed to proclaim Christ and to spread God's love by working for Justice and serving the needs of the community.

This year we are reminding ourselves that we are rooted and built up in Christ. Our roots go deep into Hong Kong but more importantly into Christ and in Him we shall continue to flourish and blossom. The new logo for MIC is an adaption of The Methodist Church, Hong Kong cross and flame. We exchange the strong blue and red colours for the more muted hues of gold and green which for us represent the Tree of Life found in the book of Revelation. In this tree is life and abundance and healing, aspects of God's kingdom that we long to share with our neighbours.

The last words of this final Commemorative Herald are those of the Rev Charles Bone from 1899, words which he wrote for the Methodist Missionary Society:

'For all the signs of prosperity we thank God. Our Heart's desire is that the Holy Spirit may be abundantly outpoured upon European and Chinese staff, and upon all churches of this District, that converts shall be multiplied a thousandfold, and the church of Christ become a mighty regenerating power and a praise in this land of China.'

May God continue to bless this great and mighty work that he has called us to and may he pour out abundantly the gift of the Holy Spirit to empower us.

To God be all the Glory.



Revd Eden J. Fletcher

### May 2018 Calendar of Events

**3pm, May 13th (Sun)**  
 Mother's Day Concert  
 With dedication of piano and organ featuring musicians of MIC  
 1st Floor, The Sanctuary  
 Methodist International Church HK

**11am, May 19th – May 27th (Sat-Sun)**  
 Flower Festival  
 Wesleyan House

**6:30pm, May 19th (Sat)**  
 125th Anniversary Gala Dinner  
 Renaissance Harbour View Hotel HK

**3pm, May 20th (Sun)**  
 Grand Opening Service  
 1st Floor, The Sanctuary  
 Methodist International Church HK

**7pm, May 21st (Mon)**  
 BIG SING with Revd John Illsley  
 Preaching

**7pm, May 23rd (Wed)**  
 Open MIC Talk with Mr. Gary Liu,  
 CEO SCMP

**7pm, May 24th (Thu)**  
 Wesleyan Day Service with  
 Revd Eden Fletcher Preaching

**May 25th – May 26th (Fri-Sat)**  
 Representative Session of  
 The Conference  
 Wesleyan House

**2pm, May 26th (Sat)**  
 Laying of Time Capsule  
 Wesleyan House

“ Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and out-stretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.”

Jeremiah 32:17

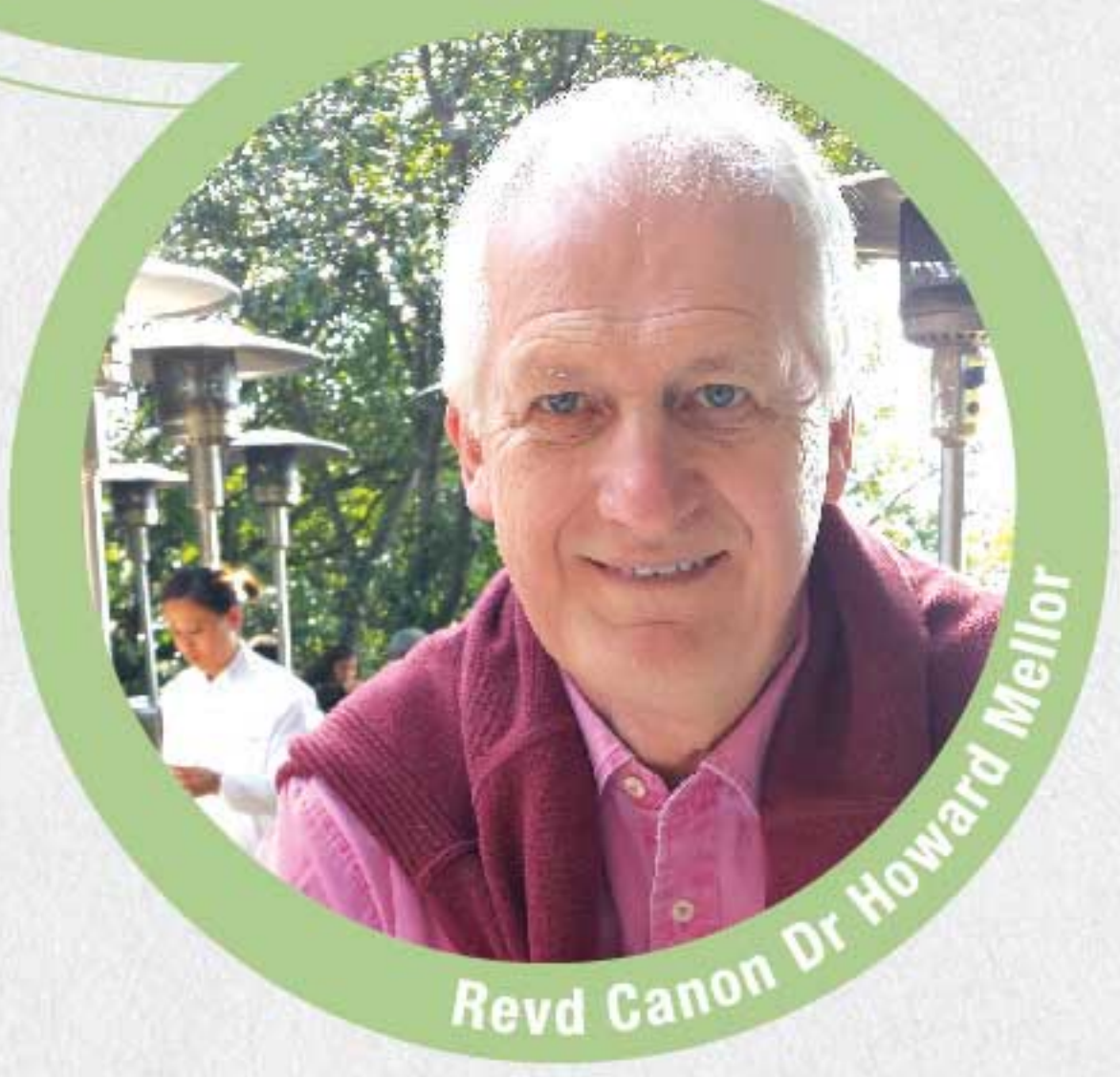


2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018



Let's look back to see God's work done in the past five years and the sharing from the Pastors.

Once in a while, you may say God surprises us with joy! I remember back in 2012 we crafted a paper identifying what we wanted the new building to deliver. How we dreamed of one that would speak of faith and hospitality, enabling worship and community; a centre for discipleship and training. We looked forward to a beacon church, shining out with a gospel of God's saving love, dignity and justice in the middle of Wan Chai. What a joy then to see this building take shape. May the God who inspired all this, equip you by his Holy Spirit for a fulfilling and exciting future.



Revd Canon Dr Howard Mellor

I stood in the Sky Chapel on the twenty-second floor of Wesleyan House, looking over Hong Kong. I am really pleased and grateful that, with the faith, courage and compassion of our 25 Methodist local churches, the redevelopment project is finally done. This is a great grace as well as a great responsibility. Let's accept the duties our Lord entrust us to equip His people likewise. By renewing our worship, mission and services, may we establish more disciples and be the living testimony of our God's presence in Hong Kong.



Revd Dr Sung-che Lam

I pray that the new Wesleyan House will be a Spirit-filled place where multitudes learn of God's love for them in Jesus Christ and also share that love with one another; a joy-filled destination for learning and laughter; and a haven of peace for those seeking shelter from the storms of life.

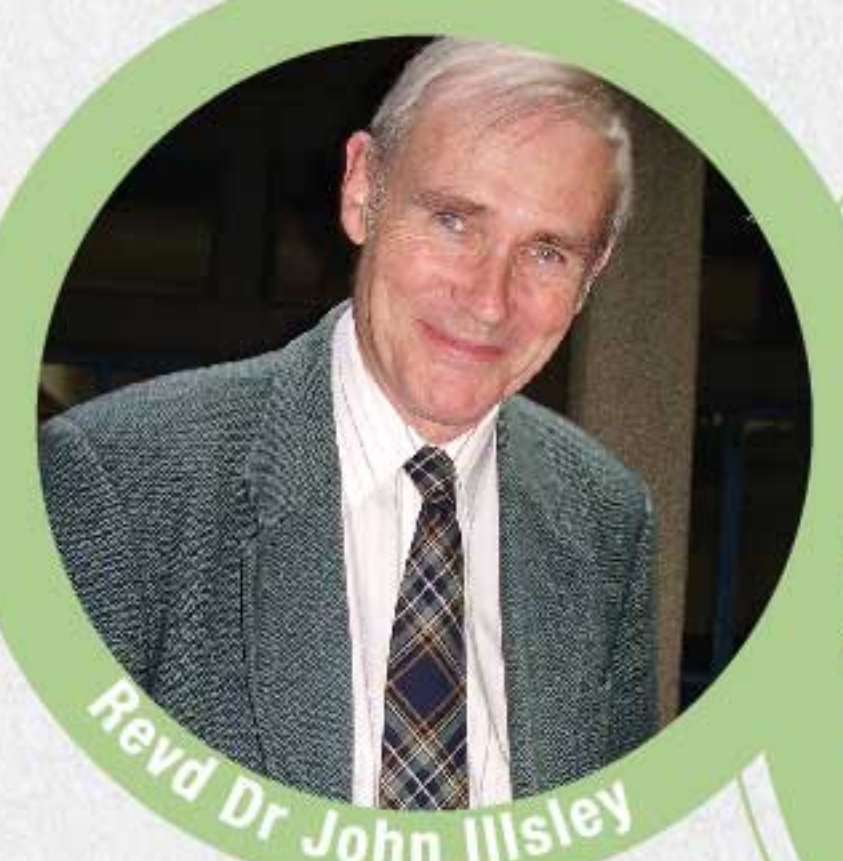


Revd Marybeth Asher-Lawson

It is finally completed! In February 2006, I visited MIC and heard Revd John Illsley, the Pastor-in-charge at that time, sharing his vision of rebuilding the chapel. That was 12 years ago! It sounded impossible at that time but now the new Wesleyan House is standing in front of us! If God were not helping us accomplish this great building, we could not do anything at all. In this period, we went through three important stages: discussing, confirming, and rebuilding. We also have the participation of three pastors-in-charge. Today, we have witnessed the zealous support of the brothers and sisters throughout the church. We know that the new building has a long way to go in the church development. But with God's grace and past blessings, we know that God will walk with us.



Revd Prof. Lung-kyung Lo



Revd Dr John Illsley

It was C.S. Lewis who said, "There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind." On this one piece of land in Wan Chai Christian worship has taken place for over 125 years. In that time lives have been transformed, God has been at work. But the best lies ahead. What a privilege for us to be sharing in this new opportunity to touch Hong Kong for Christ.