

# ECUMENICAL NEWS

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## Jurong Ground Breaking

**B**ISHOP Lundy, President of the Council of Churches, turns the first spadeful of earth at the Ground Breaking Service for the Jurong Christian Church, May 1.



He said: "The Jurong Christian Church is the first in Singapore that expresses the ecumenical spirit and reveals to us the future pattern of the church where Christians of one area unite in one church with the pastors of several churches ministering to these people."

Sponsored by the Lutheran

Church in Malaysia and Singapore, the Jurong Christian Church located in the fast growing industrial complex of the Council of Churches in its ministry.

Although the funds are completely subscribed by the Lutheran Church the word 'Lutheran' does not appear in the name. In an agreement with the Council of Churches, the Lutheran Church has stated that it is willing to pioneer in an ecumenical team ministry with the following proposals:

- 1) That though most of the time services would be conducted according to Lutheran rites, at such times as when non-Lutheran clergy officiate they would be free to use the rites of their own discipline.
- 2) The LCMH hopes there will eventually be created a single common form of worship for use by the Jurong congregation and its clergy and it asks that all churches who commit themselves to participate in the project agree from the beginning to plan for such a common order.
- 3) The LCMH, though it recognizes and accepts a peculiar relationship with the Jurong congregation, will not ask that these already members of other denominations transfer into the Lutheran Church.

It is hoped that future possible centres to be built by the Anglican Church in Sembawang and the Methodist Church in Toa

Payoh will be on the same basis of ecumenical team ministry.

### One of largest

The Jurong Church which is expected to be completed within a year, will be one of the largest churches in Singapore. The church building will not only provide a sanctuary for worship, but will also include a large parish hall to be used for a variety of programmes and meetings, facilities for home economics classes, kindergarten, childcare work, recreation, library, reading room and parish educational classes. In addition, office and living space for those in the ecumenical team ministry of the church will be provided.

Among those who took part in the ground breaking in addition to Bishop Lundy and Dr. Ray Neeve, President of the Lutheran Church, were the president of the YWCA and representatives from labour and management of Jurong factories.

Already at work in Jurong are Mr. Paul Chong, Miss Anita Ewing of the LCM and Rev. Daniel Nelsson, seconded by the Evangelical Lutheran Church. The refreshments following the ground breaking service were baked by members of Miss Ewing's classes.

**New films:** Mr. T. K. Lee announces that 45 educational films by Coronet and nine Moody Science Religious films have been recently received. The Coronet films are 10-15 minutes in length and Moody films 40-45 minutes. A new Japanese film, Days of our Youth (55 mins) with English subtitles is now available. There are also new filmstrips with English and Chinese tapes and scripts. For fuller details, contact Mr. Lee at 9-A Rosie Rd., Singapore 11, Tel: 56868.

## Billy Graham coming?

**I**N response to an official invitation by a responsible group of church leaders, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Organisation sent a representative to Singapore June 9 to discuss the possibility of Dr. Graham holding meetings in Singapore and finite answer is still not possible. Although a date might be found to fit in with the Australian Crusade in May, 1968.



Mr. Luke Hoy San of Queenstown Lutheran Church, Dr. Ray Neeve, President of Lutheran Church in Malaysia and Singapore, Bishop Lundy, Rev. James Wong of the Anglican Church, and Rev. John Nelson, LCMS, at ground breaking service.



## Queenstown Revisited

**A** YEAR ago Ecumenical News reported the dedication of the Queenstown Lutheran Church. What has taken place in the intervening year? How does a church make a witness when it is the focal point of hundreds of schoolboys in surrounding towns?

Rev. John Nelson reports:

A formally organised congregation of 35 adult members with an elected church council now assumes its full responsibilities and meets all its expenses except for a portion of Pastor Luke's salary.

Bill Bolm, short term missionary, is resident in the church and in charge of the English classes and director of youth activities.

With special training in oral and situational English at the University of Michigan, he has chosen as unorthodox means to meet different needs. Some are for non-English children in the Child Centre, others for students.

### Softball team

The recreational programme this is providing a needed service for the Queenstown community. A graduate of Western Michigan



In addition to the regular morning and evening services in English and Chinese, Sunday Schools, Bible study, catechism classes, choir practices, the church maintains a wide range of programmes. These have all been started to meet specific needs on requests and reflect the varied approach of a community church.

University, Mr. Bolm has had training and teaching experience in coaching athletics. At the church he has groups of different ages and abilities which compete in basketball and softball. Recently the Lutheran Youth Fellowship softball team took part in the Singapore Softball Jubilee and made a good showing. It was the first time a church sponsored team had taken part in the Jubilee.

### Child play centre

The Child Play Centre has over 200 children enrolled in a daily programme. The salaries of the 3 supervisors, cost of materials and daily refreshment are met by donations from the parents. Cooking classes, knitting classes, piano classes, an art club, chess club, recreation for adults, English classes, something for every age, draw people from the neighbourhood.

In view of the opportunities and responsibilities in such an area as Queenstown, it is evident that only a great degree of cooperation among the churches working there will be adequate to meet the challenges of the situation. We pray that out of these beginnings the work will continue to grow for the glory of God.