

# Essential or Non-essential?

## A Note from the Principal

**D**uring the recent pandemic, all works of life were suddenly divided into essential and non-essential! The categorization was clearly based on physical needs and economic purposes. We were caught in such dilemma as we were being “categorized” as non-essential. This unearths a number of questions related to our identity and calling to serve in full time ministry. Do we consider our calling and our services to God and others essential? What actually made them essential even though the world may classify our calling and services as “non-essential”? Our convictions:

**The calling.** In MTS, we still hold on to the biblical teaching that it is the calling from God (e.g. Ex. 28:1, Mk. 1:16 – 17, Acts 13:2) which makes our full time ministry an essential to all. This involves the individual subjective response to God’s calling (cf. 1 Tim. 3:1), and the objective decision, affirmation and guidance of the home church (cf. Acts 13: 1 – 4, Gal.2:9) and the familial support (cf. 1 Tim. 3:1 – 7).

**The person.** In the first place, the individual who is called by God to MTS has personally experienced God’s redemptive act through the acceptance of Jesus Christ as his/her personal Lord and Savior, and

continue to experience the act of life-transformation of the Holy Spirit (Jn. 1:12, Titus 3:4 – 7). The individual is called by God to continue bringing others to experience such new relationship with the living God.

**The ministry.** MTS motto is PROCLAIM CHRIST (Col. 1:28 – 29). This is both the goal and core for our theological education to prepare men and women for this lifelong full time ministry. In the words of John Wesley: “.....to save as many souls as you can; to bring as many sinners as you possibly can to repentance, and with all your power to build them up in that holiness and without which they cannot see the Lord.” Saving souls involved preaching the gospel, bringing God’s love and justice to the world and making disciples of Jesus Christ.

We believe these tripartite convictions continue to make our calling and ministry essential to the world that is seeking for fulness of life.

On 18 March, we are forced to send all the 120 short-term missions school students and about 20 of our theological students back home as the Movement Control Order began. Thank God that He has opened up new ways for us to continue to connect with and to shepherd these stu-

dents. Despite the many challenges of this period, God is faithfully at work. He is still calling men and women after His own heart to come to MTS and to get ready for His essential work in this fallen world. We are filled with joy as we welcome the first three Bahasa Malaysia Pre-Theological Programme students this June. They are preparing themselves for our Bahasa Malaysia theological programme which will commence in 2021. Besides, we also welcome two Iban Pre-Theological Programme students and eight Methodist Short Term Missions School College students to MTS.

Join me to offer our praise and thanksgiving to the God who continue to call people to participate in His essential work to the world!



By Rev. Dr. Khoo Ho Peng  
 Principal

# News from MTS



**1/ 06 JAN:** MTS First Semester Opening Service, 9:00am at Wesley Methodist Church.



**2/ 20 JAN:** CNY Celebration at MTS.



**3/ 04 FEB:** Visitation from Taiwan "Living Water" co-worker Rev. Wong.



**4/ 26 FEB:** Ash Wednesday Service, 5.15am at Wesley Methodist Church.

**5/ 10 MAR:** The Opening Ceremony of the 16th MTS Community Basketball Tournament but was cancelled due to the pandemic of COVID-19.

**6/ 20 MAY:** MTS Staff Farewell, thank you Sis. Winnie who served in the MTS for the past 5 years.



**7/ 13 MAR:** Malam MTS, 7.15pm at "Pusat Gembala Baik" Xin Fu Yuan Methodist Church, speaker: Rev. Chen Chi Fook.







**8/ 15 MAY:**  
ZOOM group photo with all MTS students in School SOP Briefing.

# MTS 2021 New Intake

Degree	Qualification	Duration
<b>Theological Program [Mandarin/BM/Iban]</b>		
M. Min.	Possessed a first theological degree and involved in pastoral ministry for at least 5 years.	7 years
M. Div.	Attained a bachelor degree from a recognized university.	3 years
B. D.	With HSC/STPM (minimum 2 Principal Passes & 2 Subsidiary Passes) or equivalent qualification.	4 years
B.Th.	With MCE/SPM (minimum Grade 2: Aggregate 1-34) or equivalent qualification.	4 years
Dip. Th.	With MCE/SPM (Grade 3) or equivalent qualification.	3 years
L. Th.	With full certificate in JC/SRP/PMR or equivalent qualification.	2 years
<b>Theological Program – Missiology major [Mandarin]</b>		
M. Div.	Attained a bachelor degree from a recognized university.	3 years
B. D.	With HSC/STPM (minimum 2 Principal Passes & 2 Subsidiary Passes) or equivalent qualification.	4 years
B.Th.	With MCE/SPM (minimum Grade 2: Aggregate 1-34) or equivalent qualification.	4 years
Dip. Th.	With MCE/SPM (Grade 3) or equivalent qualification.	3 years
L. Th.	With full certificate in JC/SRP/PMR or equivalent qualification.	2 years
<b>Worship &amp; Music Program [Mandarin]</b>		
M.A.	Attained a bachelor degree from a recognized university; non-music degree graduate must obtain Grade 6 in music theory and Grade 8 in voice or any musical instrument from the Royal School of Music or equivalents. Candidates are required to take pre-requisite courses in Music Theory (harmony and form analysis), SSET, Western Music History, and at least two semesters of choral conducting class.	2 years
B.A.	With MCE/SPM (minimum Grade 2: Aggregate 1-34) or equivalent qualification and obtained at least Grade 5 or above in instrumental/vocal/music and theory from the Royal School of Music.	4 years
Diploma	With MCE/SPM (Grade 3) or equivalent qualification and obtained at least Grade 5 or above in instrumental/vocal/music and theory from the Royal School of Music.	3 years
Certificate	Completed SPM and obtained at least Grade 5 or above in instrumental / vocal / music and theory from the Royal School of Music.	2 years

# MTS 2021 New Intake

Degree	Qualification	Duration
<b>Theological Program – Worship &amp; Music major [Mandarin]</b>		
M. Div.	Attained a bachelor degree from a recognized university; non-music degree graduate must obtain Grade 6 in music theory and Grade 8 in voice or any musical instrument from the Royal School of Music or equivalents. Candidates are required to take pre-requisite courses in Music Theory (harmony and form analysis), SSET, Western Music History, and at least two semesters of choral conducting class.	3 years
B. D.	With MCE/SPM (minimum Grade 2: Aggregate 1-34) or equivalent qualification and obtained at least Grade 5 or above in instrumental/vocal/music and theory from the Royal School of Music	5 years
B.Th.	With MCE/SPM (minimum Grade 2: Aggregate 1-34) or equivalent qualification and obtained at least Grade 5 or above in instrumental/vocal/music and theory from the Royal School of Music	5 years
<b>Theological Education by Extension (TEE) Program [Mandarin]</b>		
M.C.S.	For university graduates (required to accumulate 60 credit hours); equivalent to two years of full time study in Theological Program	7 years
D.C.S.	For non-graduates (required to accumulate 60 credit hours) and university graduates (completed 30 credit hours)	6 years
C.C.S.	For non-graduates (required to accumulate 30 credit hours)	5 years
<b>Theological Education by Extension (TEE) in Family &amp; Counseling Ministry [Mandarin]</b>		
M.A. in Family & Counseling Ministry	For theology graduates, requires 42 credit hours on Family Ministry courses and 360 hours of practicum.	5-8 years
Master in Family & Counseling Ministry	For university graduates, requires 69 credit hours on Biblical, Theological and Family Ministry courses, and 240 hours of practicum.	5-8 years
Diploma in Family & Counseling Ministry	For non-graduates, requires 69 credit hours on Biblical, Theological and Family Ministry courses, and 120 hours of practicum.	5-8 years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You may obtain the application form from the MTS office or download from our website: <a href="http://www.mtssibu.edu.my/forms">www.mtssibu.edu.my/forms</a></li> <li>• Completed Application Form should be sent to the Principal or Academic Dean at the following address: P.O.Box 78, 96007 Sibu, Sarawak, Malaysia. Contact No.: +6084-321409 Fax: +6084-341409 Email: <a href="mailto:general@mtssibu.edu.my">general@mtssibu.edu.my</a></li> <li>• Application closing date for Malaysian students: (a) Theological Program/Theological Program major in Missiology: 15th September (b) Worship &amp; Music Program: 15th September</li> </ul>		