

The theme of MTS in 2023 is “Renewal of the Spirit.” Many people may have the misconception that the spiritual atmosphere in a theological seminary is undoubtedly good and that everyone’s spiritual life is flourishing! In fact, it is not only the faculty and students of the seminary who need a renewal of the spirit, but every Christian community needs to constantly long for and pursue breakthroughs and renewal in their spiritual lives. The Bible is filled with examples of spiritual renewal, and John Wesley especially emphasized that the lifelong pursuit of a disciple of Jesus is to strive for a holy life. This is also the desire of MTS community.

Mark 5 records the story of a woman who suffered from a hemorrhage and was in extreme pain. The Bible describes how she had spent all her savings seeking healing from different doctors. In the end, she found herself with a weary and deteriorating body, living in poverty. At the moment when it seemed like her life had reached a dead end, she heard the good news of Jesus, and her life was filled with great hope and faith. She believed that if she could just touch the hem of Jesus’ garment, she would be healed. Jesus became her only refuge and source of healing. It was as simple as approaching Christ and drawing near to Him that her life received healing and her spirituality was revived.

Those who come to seek Jesus with humility and brokenness will not be disappointed. The Lord Jesus wants to renew their lives! Life in a theological seminary is not without challenges: studying the Bible, obeying the revealed truth, and practicing biblical teachings is a lifelong endeavors. There is certainly a great conflict between the flesh and the spiritual life as one seeks to live a disciplined

and holy life: sometimes there is victory and great rejoicing, but at other times there is brokenness, pride, self-indulgence, stumbling, discouragement, and disappointment. All these are nothing but realities on the journey of sanctification.

The story of the woman with the hemorrhage in the Bible serves to inspire you and me to humble ourselves, draw near Christ with faith and hope, touch Him, pour out our hearts before Him, and experience the wonderful works of God again and again, receiving renewal in our spirituality. In this way, our MTS community can constantly hear the testimony and praises of people who have experienced such renewal, witnessing that whoever returns to Christ, touches Him, calls unto Him, and is willing to humbly live out the truth, allowing the Holy Spirit to reign in their lives, will no longer be the same! As the Psalmist has proclaimed: Songs of joy and victory are sung in the camp of the godly. The strong right arm of the LORD has done glorious things! (Psalm 118:15. NLT) My prayer is that every disciple living in the MTS community, regardless of their age, culture or past, will experience a renewal of their spiritual life and become more like Christ, loving God and loving others.

The mid-semester break in May this

year is unlike previous years. The whole MTS is full of vitality and energy because more than eighty short-term missions school students are living with us. I earnestly pray to God to raise this group of energetic young lives, that they may become leaders and pastors for the new generation of churches that God wants to use, and that God may use them as mighty soldiers to expand His kingdom. The theological students have a period of rest to prepare for the continuation of the second semester. The lecturers have just returned from a retreat in Medan, where they had the opportunity to interact with various churches and experience the abundant grace of God. They have been inspired once again to shoulder the new task entrusted to them - to assist in nurturing a new generation of Chinese-speaking pastors in the Indonesian Methodist Church. MTS will soon present the architectural sketch for the extension of the administrative building and library to the Board of Management, and we look forward to starting construction next year during the 70th-anniversary celebration of MTS. Just like the woman who needed healing from her hemorrhage, we all need to reach out with a hand of faith, touch Christ, receive renewal and empowerment, and continue to serve and expand God’s kingdom.



# MTS EVENTS (Jan to May)



**04<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2023:** MTS 1<sup>st</sup> Semester 2023 Opening Service; 9.00am at MTS Chapel. Theme: "A Renewed Spiritual Life". Speaker: Rev Dr. Khoo Ho Peng (MTS Principal). 9 new theology students and 4 returning students.



**17<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2023:** A group of brothers and sisters from Cheng Uong Methodist Church treated MTS Community to have dinner to celebrate Chinese New Year together.

**19<sup>TH</sup> FEB 2023:** MTS community went to Permai Lake Garden for an outing to build mutual relationships and promote physical and mental health.





**18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023:** Methodist Short-term Mission School (MSTMS) and MTS Short-term Mission School (STMS) officially started a three-month study. There are 88 students, including 51 MSTMS, 24 STMS Music, 5 STMS English and 8 STMS BM.



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**24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023:** MSTMS & STMS students Fellowship Night



**9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023:** Forum organized by Wesley Centre: "More Calvinistic than Calvin? Hardline Reformed Theology and the Malaysian Church--- Review and Reflect". Speakers: Rev. Dr. Thomas Lau Sie Ngiu, Rev. Lee Tan Peng and Pastor Kwan Hock Long.





**11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023:** MTS 3-in-1 Celebration: Gawai Festival, Teacher's Day, and Birthday Celebration.



**12<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023:** MTS Night (Chinese) at Sing Ang Tong Methodist Church. Speaker: Rev. Dr. Thomas Lau Sie Ngiu.



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**13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023:** Dedication Camp (Chinese) at Wei Kuok Hall. Speaker: Rev Phoebe Kiu Siew Hua, Pastor Kelvin Lau Lee Long and Ms. Irene Lai Dhing Dhing.



**20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023:** BM Forum organized by Wesley Centre: "Methodist Tiada Doktrin? — Mengenal 'Pernyataan Doktrin Gereja Methodist' ". Speaker: Rev. Dr. Thomas Lau Sie Ngiu.



**13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023:** MTS Night (Iban) at Iban Methodist Church Sibu Jaya. Speaker: Rev. Jonathan Nora.

**MTS  
FINANCIAL  
SITUATION**

Income from October 2022 until April 2023 is RM 1,202,099.33.  
 Expenditure from October 2022 until April 2023 is RM 1,000,445.00.  
 The total expenditure of MTS for year 2023, estimated to be about RM 2,067,210.00.

Please pray for God's providence towards "MTS General Fund". Pray that more brothers and sisters are willing to give and support MTS ministry financially. We welcome brothers and sisters to participate in the work of God. Please specify your offering as "MTS General Fund".

***Our Public Bank Account is 3-1422081-12.***

Please email your bank-in slip to [accountclerk@mtssibu.edu.my](mailto:accountclerk@mtssibu.edu.my). Thank you. You may also participate in Friends of MTS ([www.mtssibu.edu.my/friends](http://www.mtssibu.edu.my/friends)).



# MTS Visitors

13<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023: Bishop Milton Nee, Bishop of Chinese Methodist Church in Australia Annual Conference visited us, accompanied by his wife.



14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023: Rev. David Doong Jia Hwa, general secretary of Chinese Coordination Centre of World Evangelism (CCOWE).



3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023: Rev. Andrew Lim, Deputy Academic Dean of Bible College of Malaysia (BCM)



17<sup>th</sup> April 2023: Visitors from Herald Presbyterian Church.







# MTS UPCOMING NEWS & PRAYER ITEMS

## 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester New Intake of Pre-Theo BM Students

A total of 6 new BM Pre-Theology program students.

|                    |                                |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Airrene Wilson     | Christina Nawi Anak Kantan     |
| Ben Aflick Francis | Jaqualine Yiong Jin Jin        |
| Chendan Ak Uju     | Valentine Numang Lyne Anak Iba |

> Pray for the new students. Pray that they are able to cope with the vigorous studies and activities in MTS.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2023 Intensive Courses offered for Master of Ministry Programme, TEE Family & Counseling Ministry Programme, and Missiology Programme

| Date   | Subject  | Lecturer             |
|--|--|----------------------|
| <b>Master of Ministry Courses</b>                    |  |                      |
| 03 - 07 July   | “Biblical Preaching in 21 <sup>st</sup> Century” | Rev. Dr. Poling Sun  |
| <b>TEE Family &amp; Counselling Ministry Courses</b> |  |                      |
| Jun 2023   | “Church Development & Family Ministry (Online)”  | Dr. Winnie Chan      |
| Sept 2023  | “Family Cycle & Adjustment”                      | Rev. Wong Choon Yien |
| <b>Missiology Elective Course</b>                    |  |                      |
| 26 – 30 Jun  | “Anthropology & Missions”                        | Rev. Kim Dong Jo     |

> Pray for the good health of the lecturers. Pray that God will grant them wisdom in their teaching.

> Pray for the students to have good health to study during the intensive course.

## MTS 2023 Upcoming Events

| Date, Time & Venue             | Event  | Speaker                                       |                                    |  |
|--------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|--|
| 06 - 09/07/2023                | Missions Awareness Week (MAW)  |   |                                    |  |
| 29/07/2023 (8.00am)<br>@Hybrid | “Seminar Pendidikan Kristen”   | Dr. Judy Berinai (STS Lecturer)               |                                    |  |
| 14/08/2023<br>@Online          | RCC Seminar  | TAC President Dr. Dennis Raj                  |                                    |  |
| 25-28/08/2023<br>@ Miri        | MTS Night & Dedication Camp<br>(Chinese, BM & Iban) and Theological Education Sunday |   |                                    |  |
|                                | Chinese  | MTS Night;<br>Dedication Camp                 | 26 Aug, 07:30pm<br>27 Aug, 02:00pm | Mei Ann Methodist Church<br>Hwai En Methodist Church |
|                                | Iban   | MTS Night +<br>Dedication Camp                | 26 Aug, 07:30PM                    | Iban Methodist Church Miri                           |
| 21/10/2023 (8.00am)<br>@Online | Seminar on<br>“Kaedah Berteologi Evangelikal”  | Dr. Wilson Jeremiah Lukito<br>(SAAT Lecturer) |                                    |  |

> Pray for the speaker, PA system, stable network connection, electricity supply for the event.

> Pray that the events will run smoothly, and more people are able to attend all the events.





## MTS 2024 NEW INTAKE

| Degree   | Qualification   | Duration     |
|--|---|--------------|
| <b>Theological Program [Mandarin/BM/Iban]</b>  |   |              |
| M. Ministry  | Possessed a first theological degree and involved in pastoral ministry for at least 5 years.  | 7 years      |
| M. Divinity  | Attained a bachelor degree from a recognized university.  | 3 years      |
| B. Divinity  | With HSC/STPM (minimum 2 Principal Passes & 2 Subsidiary Passes) or equivalent qualification.   | 4 years      |
| B. Theology  | With MCE/SPM (minimum Grade 2: Aggregate 1-34) or equivalent qualification.   | 4 years      |
| Dip. Theology  | With MCE/SPM (Grade 3) or equivalent qualification.   | 3 years      |
| L. Theology  | With full certificate in JC/SRP/PMR or equivalent qualification.  | 2 years      |
| <b>Theological Program – Missiology major [Mandarin]</b>                                       |   |              |
| M. Divinity  | Attained a bachelor degree from a recognized university.  | 3 years      |
| B. Divinity  | With HSC/STPM (minimum 2 Principal Passes & 2 Subsidiary Passes) or equivalent qualification.   | 4 years      |
| B. Theology  | With MCE/SPM (minimum Grade 2: Aggregate 1-34) or equivalent qualification.   | 4 years      |
| Dip. Theology  | With MCE/SPM (Grade 3) or equivalent qualification.   | 3 years      |
| L. Theology  | With full certificate in JC/SRP/PMR or equivalent qualification.  | 2 years      |
| <b>Worship &amp; Music Program [Mandarin]</b>  |   |              |
| M. Art   | 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 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. Art   | 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 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 Royal School of Music   | 3 years      |
| Certificate  | Completed SPM and obtained at least Grade 5 or above in instrumental / vocal / music and theory from Royal School of Music  | 2 years      |
| <b>Theological Program – Worship &amp; Music major [Mandarin]</b>                              |   |              |
| M. Divinity  | 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 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. Divinity  | 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 Royal School of Music   | 5 years      |
| B. Theology  | 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 Royal School of Music   | 5 years      |
| <b>Theological Education by Extension (TEE) Program [Mandarin]</b>                             |   |              |
| M. Christian Studies   | For university graduates (required to accumulate 60 credit hours); equivalent to two years of full-time study in Theological Program  | 7 years      |
| B. Christian Studies   | For non-graduates (required to accumulate 90 credit hours)  | 7.5-10 years |
| D. Christian Studies   | For non-graduates (required to accumulate 60 credit hours) and university graduates (completed 30 credit hours)   | 6 years      |
| C. Christian Studies   | 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    |

- You may obtain the application form from the MTS office or download from our website: [www.mts.sibu.edu.my/forms](http://www.mts.sibu.edu.my/forms)
- Completed Application Form should be sent to the Principal or Academic Dean at the following address:  
P.O.Box 78, 96007 Sibul, Sarawak, Malaysia.  
Contact No.: +6084-321409      Fax: +6084-341409      Email: [general@mts.sibu.edu.my](mailto:general@mts.sibu.edu.my)
- Application closing date for Malaysian students:
  - a) Theological Program/Theological Program major in Missiology: **15<sup>th</sup> September**
  - b) Worship & Music Program: **15<sup>th</sup> September**
  - c) TEE Program/TEE Family Ministry Program: **31<sup>st</sup> October**
- \*\* Application closing date for foreign students: 30<sup>th</sup> June \*\*