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Newsletter MTS

JUNE 2017



HIM WE PROCLAIM!

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Rev. Dr. Khoo Ho Peng

During the recent ATESEA General Assembly held in Iloilo, Philippines, the outgoing chairperson Rev. Dr. Ngoei Foong Nghian cautioned the member schools: "...we need to have our priorities in the right place. I believe theological schools must develop strong partnerships with churches, for as long as the church is vibrant, our seminaries will continue to thrive." I strongly echoed those words as I ponder upon the departing words of Paul with Ephesian elders in Acts 20 in the context of theological education.

Members of most local churches tend to associate theological education with special groups of people such as pastors, missionaries, music directors and church leaders. In reality, theological education begins in the local churches and every member is a recipient through the nurturing process in the local churches. Each local church should

be the most conducive place (I called it the "womb" for theological education) where individuals are nurtured, shaped and modeled and eventually called by God and commissioned by the local churches to come to MTS. MTS partners with the local churches to continue that journey of theological education and in turn, commissions them back to accomplish God's calling for the local churches to fulfill both the Great Commission (Matt. 28: 19 – 20) and the Great Commandments (Matt. 22: 37 – 39). Seen in this light, Apostle Paul's words to the elders of Ephesus provided us with key direction for both MTS and the local churches to:

1. Nurture people of integrity (vv. 18–20): people who 'walk the talk'.
2. Spread the gospel of transformation (vv.20–21): motivated by love to spread the gospel.
3. Raise people faithful to serve (vv. 22–27): humility and servant-leadership.
4. Care for continuity of God's community (vv. 28–32): refuse the trap of self-gain and the building of personal enterprise but moving God's people into God's future.
5. Serve as role model for God's kingdom (vv. 33–37): free from

covetousness (vv. 33–34), care for weaker members (v. 35), develop healthy relationship (v.37).

A constant focus and refocus of our theological education both within the local churches and the theological institution will prevent us from focusing narrowly on cognitive attainments, while we hope for members or theological students' growth in other dimensions but leave it largely to chance. Since MTS resume to offer theological education training (degree programs) locally here in Sarawak in 1996, she continues to uphold and put into practice these noble goals, particularly to combine spiritual and practical with academic objectives in a wholistic integrated approach, be it our full degree or TEE courses.

I sincerely urge you to work with us for an integrated wholistic approach to train future pastors and leaders in local churches for the extension of God's kingdom, so that truly live the motto of MTS as found in Colossians 1:28 (NIV): "We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me."

By Rev. Dr. Khoo Ho Peng
Principal

MISSIONS AWARENESS WEEK (20-26/02/2017)

This year, MTS annual event – Missions Awareness Week was held from February 20th to 26th, 2017. All the lecturers and students gathered at Wesley Methodist Church for a 3-day training before going out to different places for field work. The theme for this year is “The Local Challenge”. We invited 3 speakers from The Global Hakka Evangelism Association to share with us the challenge of the Hakka ministry, so that all the participants are better equipped before they go for field work. We thank all the pastors, leaders and church members for their hospitality and loving care during our stay with them.

Family Groups

Rev. Dr. Khoo Ho Peng's Family Group
 Rev. Dr. Angela Ting's Family Group
 Pastor Ling Tiong Cheng's Family Group
 Rev. Paul Ting's Family Group
 Rev. Thomas Lau's Family Group
 Rev. Dr. Lu Chen Tiong's Family Group
 Miss Irene Lai's Family Group
 Rev. Dr. Ling Tung Kiing's Family Group
 Miss Cecilia Ting's Family Group
 Rev. Dr. Francis Wong's Family Group
 Rev. Hoo Sing Hang's Family Group
 Rev. Lembai's Family Group
 Rev. Enjut & Rev. Ningkan's Family Groups
 Rev. Ningkan's Family Groups

Local Churches

Tien En Methodist Church
 Cho Fu Methodist Church & Fu Ling Methodist Church
 Sing Kwong Methodist Church
 Chin Seng Methodist Church
 Gereja Methodist Siburan
 Asajaya Preaching Centre
 Tarat Methodist Church
 Matang Methodist Church & Malihah Methodist Church
 Petra Methodist Church & Siniawan Methodist Church
 Zhu En Methodist Church
 Siong Tau MC & Lundu Methodist Preaching Centre
 Pakan Area, Sarikei District
 Song Area, Kapit District
 Tada, Nanga Dap & Rantau Dilang Area



NEWS FROM MTS

>23/01/2017: MTS community was invited to a Chinese New Year Celebration Dinner hosted by some members of Cheng Uong Methodist Church at Kingwood Hotel. Besides that, they also gave us ang paus. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to them for their loving care every year.



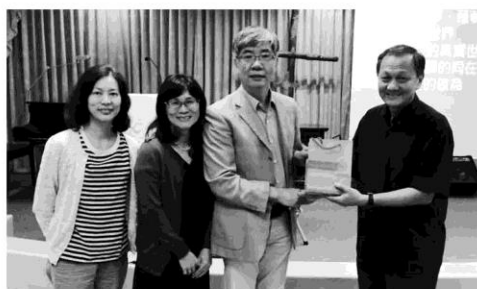
<90/02/2017: MTS Wesley Centre held a public interaction forum with the topic "Iban miring--- culture or religion? " Speaker: Rev. Elizabeth Enjut (MTS lecturer, SIAC elder).

>03/03/2017: 12th Batch STMS English Graduation Service. Venue: Wesley Methodist Church, Sibü. There were 11 of them. Speaker: Rev. Candy Liong.



<24/03/2017: MTS Night at En Tao Methodist Church. Speaker: Rev. Ting Diu Kiong

>25/03/2017: MTS Dedication Camp Sibü, Venue: Wesley Methodist Church, Sibü . Sharing by (Form left): Pastor Yeu Chin Thai, Miss Lybia Su Hie Chiat, Rev. Sia Pik Hao. First from right: Rev. Dr. Francis Wong King Sing who moderated the sharing.



<24/04/2017: Co-organized a talk with The Board of Family Wellness & Counselling SCAC: "Dream & True Self", 2:00-4:00pm, Venue: MTS. Speaker: Rev. Wang Jun Yi (presently the director of university ministry for the Taiwan Presbyterian Church).



<27/04/2017: Wesley Centre organized an Interactive Forum at Zion Methodist Church. The key speaker was Dr. Nehemiah Lee (Managing Director of the NEHEMIAH Reinforced Soil Sdn. Bhd).

>17/05/2017: An open seminar entitled: "Orality Workshop and Faith Listening Groups" conducted by Rev. Dr. Romerlito C. Macalinao (South East Asia Regional Director of ION), Rev. Chanthiran Velaiutham and Mr. Mark Foster.



<2017 MTS First Semester Opening Service

Date: 3rd January, 2017

Venue: Wesley Methodist Church, Sibui.

Theme for 2017: Servants After God's Own Heart
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Tie King Tai, Translator: Rev. Thomas Lau Sie Ngiu.

The 25th Batch of STMS Chinese, the 12th Batch of STMS Iban, the 8th Batch of STMS Music and 1st Batch of STMS BM Graduation Service

Date: 31st March 2017 Time: 3:00pm Venue: Xin Fu Yuan Methodist Church, Sibui



From right: Rev. Joseph Jaie (Speaker), Pastor Lau Lee Lam (Translator)



< The 25th Batch of STMS Chinese students – Class of Aaron (35 students)

>The 25th Batch of STMS Chinese students – Class of Moses (42 students)

>> The 12th Batch of Iban STMS students (8 students)



<< The 8th Batch of STMS Music students (21 students)

< The 1st Batch of BM STMS students (8 students)





3 in 1 Celebration (Birthday, Teachers' Day & Gawai Celebrations)

Date: 18th May 2017

Venue: MTS Dining Hall

1. Gawai Celebration

2. Teachers' Day Celebration

3. Birthday celebration (pray for those whose birthday
fall within first half of the year.

VISITING LECTURERS

Rev. Dr. Hii Kong Hock: 13-17th March, 2017:
taught a modular course on "Preaching from the New Testament" for Master of Ministry students.



VISITORS



17/01/2017: Brothers and sisters from Grace Methodist Church, Perth, Australia West District.



20/02/2017: Board Chairman of Taetea Group Wu Yuan Zhi and his Assistant visited us; accompanied by a senior management staff of Rimbunan Hijau Group and Rev. Wong Koi Fo.



17/02/2017: CEO, Puan Zabariah Haji Matali and Head Programme Management Division, Tuan Muhamad Zakaria Bin Haji Ashmat from Islamic Information Centre.



03/05/2017: Pastors from Miri Gospel Chapel; led by Rev. Dr. Caleb Chian.

08/05/2017: Rev. Dr. Mark S. Bollwinkel, former MTS lecturer (1979-1980) and Mrs. Elizabeth Bollwinkel from California Nevada Annual Conference visited us.



MTS UPCOMING NEWS & PRAYER ITEMS

1. Courses offered for Master of Ministry Program and Missiology Program

1.1 Master of Ministry Program

Date	Subject	Lecturer
03-07/07/2017	Pastoral Counselling	Rev. Dr. Khoo Ho Peng
10-14/07/2017	Missionary Message of Acts	Dr. Frank Schattner

Prayer items:

- 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.

2. 2017 Pre-Theo New Students

Total 8 new students: Donnison Raza Ak Jack, Famey Nary Ak Belawan, Boon Sze Kai, Kiing Nga Hwong, Teo Siew Yin, Jacky Ting, Chai Xiao Kun and Agustina.

Prayer items:

- Pray that God will help the new students to adapt to the community life in MTS as soon as possible.
- Pray that God will grant new students good health and strong spiritual life.

3. MTS 2018 Intake

Theological Program, Missiological Program, Worship & Music Program and TEE Program

Theological Program (Language: Mandarin / Iban)		
Degree	Qualification	Duration
M. Min.	Possessed a first theological degree and involved in pastoral ministry for at least 5 years	5 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
Theological Program – Missiology major (Language: Mandarin)		
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
Worship & Music Program (Language: Mandarin)		
M.Div. in Worship & Music	Attained a bachelor degree from a recognized university; non-music degree graduate must obtain LTCL/LRSM or other equivalents	3 years
B.Th. in Worship & Music	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
M.A. in Worship & Music	Attained a bachelor degree from a recognized university; non-music degree graduate must obtain LTCL/LRSM or other equivalents	2 years
B.A. in Worship & Music	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 in Worship & Music	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 in Worship & Music	Completed SPM and obtained at least Grade 5 or above in instrumental/vocal/ music and theory from Royal School of Music	2 years
Certificate	Completed SPM	3-5 years
Theological Education by Extension (TEE) Program (Language: Mandarin)		
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
Theological Education by Extension (TEE) in Family & Counseling Ministry (Language: Mandarin)		
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 66 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 66 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.mtssibu.edu.my
- Completed Application Form should be sent to the Principal or Academic Dean at the following address:
P.O.Box 78, 96007 Sibü, Sarawak, Malaysia.
Contact No.: +6084-321409 Fax: +6084-341409 Email: general@mtssibu.edu.my

- Application closing date for Malaysian students:
 - (a) Theological Program/Theological Program major in Missiology: 15th September
 - (b) Worship & Music Program: 15th September
 - (c) TEE Program/TEE Family Ministry Program: 31st October
- ** Application closing date for foreign students: 30th June **

Prayer Items:

- Pray for the new intake next year. Pray that more brothers and sisters will response to God's calling
- Pray that more church members are willing to equip themselves and come to MTS for TEE program

4. MTS Night, Dedication Camp, MTS Sunday in Sabah

4.1. MTS Night

Date: 11th August 2017, 7:30 pm
 Theme: "Servants after God's Own Heart"
 Speaker: Rev. Thomas Lau Sie Ngiu
 Venue: Shern En Methodist Church, KK, Sabah

4.2. Dedication Camp

Date: 13th August 2017, 2:00-4:00pm
 Speakers: Rev. Ling Heu Uh, Rev. Chin En Ping and Rev. Esther Lu
 Venue: Shern En Methodist Church, KK, Sabah

4.3. Theological Education Sunday

Date: 13th August 2017
 Speaker: MTS Lecturers
 Churches: Shern En MC, Kingfisher MC, Inanam MC, Song En MC, Wesley Methodist Chapel, Tuaran Methodist Preaching Point, KK Methodist Preaching Point Menggatal.

Prayer items:

- Please pray for the speakers, special items, PA system, weather etc.
- Please pray for the participants. Pray that more brothers and sisters are willing to respond to God's calling.

5. Wesley Centre Upcoming Events

5.1 Interaction Forum on Contemporary Issues

MTS Wesley Centre takes up the challenge to organize interaction forums on contemporary issues from time to time, in order for the church to play a prophetic and missional role in the society. The Centre is going to host one more interaction forum in 2017:

Date & venue: 12th October 2017 (Thursday 8:30-9:30 pm) Wei Kuok Hall

Theme: LGBTQI

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Khoo Ho Peng
 (Principal of MTS)

(All are welcome to attend the above forum. Admission is free.)

Prayer items:

- Please pray for the speaker, venue, PA system, electricity supply for the interaction forum.
- Pray that the interaction forum will run smoothly and more people are able to attend the forum.

6. MTS Financial Situation

6.1. To Pray for our needs and to support our General Fund

Total income for January till April 2017: about RM758,000
 Total expenses for January till April 2017: about RM857,000

Currently we don't have many regular donors for MTS General Fund. That is why sometimes we are facing deficits. The total expenditure of MTS for year 2017, estimated to be about RM2,142,100. 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".

6.2. To become "Friends of MTS"

There are some students from the Iban churches and foreign nations such as China who need committed churches and church members to support them. Besides the needy students, we also have lecturers who need constant upgrading to provide better training for our students. Such upgrading also needs funding. We are inviting you to prayerfully consider supporting them.

We thank the Lord for the responses from some churches and members in becoming the "Friends of MTS". Since we started "Friends of MTS" in January 2015, we have received a total amount of RM533,881.84 from 95 members/churches who become "Friends of MTS". These donations had been allocated to support 7 students from China, 12 Iban Theological students and 10 Iban STMS students.

For 2017 second semester, MTS is having some new Iban students and some foreign students from china joining us for the Pre-Theological program. By then, we will have 17 Iban students (include 2 Pre-Theo students) and 9 students from China (include 1 Pre-Theo student) who need financial support. For year 2017, total amount needed to support Iban students is RM101,620, whereas for students from China is RM51,440.

If the Lord leads you to support our needy students and lecturers, we will acknowledge you as "Friends of MTS". Please fill up a "Friends of MTS" Sponsorship form and submit to MTS. You may pledge to sponsor one or more students until graduation. You may also choose to donate a sum of money on a regular or irregular basis. Please refer to our website (www.mtssibu.edu.my) or come to MTS for details. May the Lord bless you as you give.