

51, Jalan Tun Abang Haji Openg,
P.O.Box 78, 96007 Sibu, Sarawak.
Tel: +6084-321409 Fax: +6084-341409
website: www.mtssibu.edu.my
email: general@mtssibu.edu.my



Why Study at MTS?

By Rev Dr Tie King Tai, Principal

Sibu Methodist Theological School (MTS) has some unfavorable conditions that cause people to think twice before enrolling. What are the unfavorable conditions? 1. MTS is located at a relatively unknown small town (Sibu), not in the international metropolis. It is difficult to attract those yearning for city life; 2. MTS is a seminary with Methodist background, not from an inter-denominational or independent church background. This is more difficult to attract students from other denominations; 3. Although we have about 60 years of historical background, we are only having the 14th batch of graduates by this year since the reopening of our Degree Courses. This is difficult to attract those who aim for higher degree (like Master of Theology, or Doctoral study, etc.); 4. MTS is not well-known among the churches other than Methodist churches in East Malaysia. So most of our students are from the Methodist churches of East Malaysia.

However, all these unfavorable conditions can also become favorable, such as 1. Small town is the best place for study; 2. The strong points of the Methodist Church are its Revival history, Practical Divinity, Administrative Organization, etc can be the role model for other churches; 3. The degree courses offered are biblical, evangelical, contempo-

rary, and moving forward with plans; 4. Recent years, more people get to know MTS, now we have students from China, Taiwan, Australia, West Malaysia and others.

In addition to the turning of "unfavorable" to "favorable" conditions, MTS also has other attractive points:

1. Community Life: MTS students and Lecturers stay together in the campus as a community: dining, playing, chit-chatting, praying, evangelizing, worshiping, serving and others.
2. Spiritual Formation: Experience the Holy Spirit during the daily (Tuesday-Friday) morning chapel service, from 5:15am until 6:15am; Look up for God's mercy during the weekly fasting prayer, and save the money for Work of Mercy; To share and to be accountable to each other through weekly family group gathering.
3. Lecturers' qualification: Besides having academic credentials, our more than ten lecturers team also has experiences in pastoral or missions field, and actively involve in church ministries, which provide practical teaching.
4. Academic Requirements: MTS programs are not only recognized by the Association of Theological

Education in Southeast Asia (ATE-SEA), but are also integrated with other higher requirements, such as Bible, Orthodox Theology, Wesleyan Theology etc.

5. Evangelism & Missions: MTS has organized Missions Awareness Week yearly for more than ten years. We invite experienced missionaries for talks, and we also send family groups to many places around Sarawak to work with local parishes. Every week, our lecturers and students go out for evangelism. During year end, we send our students for overseas missions exposure. We have started Missiology program four years ago, with the purpose of training future missionaries.
6. Practical Divinity: Every Theological student is appointed to churches during weekend for fieldwork practical. They are assigned to participate in para-church organizations during their third year of study in MTS. Daily normal Christian life is counted as part of the training.
7. Worship & Music: MTS has started Worship & Music program about ten years ago, to train church musicians, which has upgraded the standard of worship & music in MTS and churches.
8. Support from Churches: MTS is

MTS Night at Bintangor

MTS held the second MTS Night of the year at Kai Nguong Methodist Church, Bintangor, on 28th July, 2012. All the lecturers and students (including Iban lecturers and students) took part in the event.



Dance performance by the students



Speaker: Rev. Francis Wong King Sing



Song presented by Iban Theological students

7th Wesleyan Seminar DVDs are ready!

- 1) Lecture 1: "Lord, He Whom You Love is Very Sick"
Lecture 2: Forgiving From The Heart
- 2) Lecture 3: Bringing our Hurts to the Cross
Lecture 4: How to Pray for the Healing of Others
- 3) Opening Service: Let the Healing Streams Abound
- 4) Extra Disc: Q&A, Responses, Testimonials

*For complete order form, please download from MTS website today!



The Principal Rev. Tie thanking Dr. Stephen Seamands, the speaker.

supported by three Annual Conferences of Sarawak and Sabah, to offer the lowest school fees, the best facilities, and the best team (all churches, board members, faculty, staff and students, etc).

9. International students: MTS has the permit from Sarawak Internal Affairs Department on recruiting international students.

10. Church Environment: MTS is located at a blessed place, a place where Methodist members from China migrated more than a hundred years ago. They started to build

churches and schools here. Today, there are more than 5 Methodist churches in Sibuan, with more than a thousand worshippers, besides other large or small churches around Sibuan area, which can be known as the Jerusalem of Malaysia. Students who are trained here will be able to see how God has blessed the churches in this place.

Praise the Lord that in recent years, church leaders from many places have come to know the advantages of MTS as mentioned above. They encourage their church members to study in MTS. We hope, by God's

grace and guidance, MTS is able to bless more churches and societies.



Rev Dr Tie King Tai

7th Wesleyan Seminar “The Theology and Ministry of Healing from the Wesleyan Perspective”

7th Wesleyan Seminar was held from 30th July to 1st August at Wesley Methodist Church, Sibü. This is a biennial event of the MTS Wesley Centre. The speaker was Dr. Stephen Seamands, who has served as a professor at Asbury Theological Seminary since 1983. The seminar started with a creatively designed Opening Worship in accordance with the Wesleyan tradition. Besides that, the participants were given the opportunity to seek God’s face and healing grace during the “Ministry Time”.



From Right: Dr. Stephen Seamands, the speaker;
Rev. Dr. Khoo Ho Peng, the translator.



The speaker and the Principal of
MTS pray for a participant



MTS Choir during the Opening Worship.



Speaker: Rev. Wong Hin Hung



There are 36 STMS College students graduated

7th Batch STMS College Graduation Service

Date: 17th August, 2012.

Venue: Wesley Methodist Church, Sibü

Visiting Lecturer

Dr. Andrew Teo

9-13/07/2012: taught an intensive course on “Pastoral Counseling” for students who are taking Master of Ministry program. Besides that, Dr. Andrew was also invited to speak in MTS morning chapel service on 11th July.



News from MTS

Visitors



19/05/2012 - A group of sisters from China



05/06/2012 - Brothers and sisters from Papua New Guinea. (From left: Mr. & Mrs. Frank Tsay, The Principal Rev. Dr. Tie King Tai, Mr. & Mrs. 许培新, Mr. & Mrs. Jacky Loh.



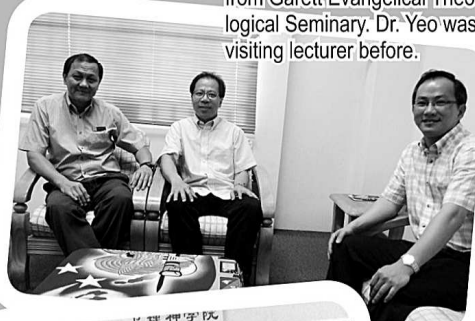
08/06/2012 - Brothers and sisters from Mega Methodist Church, Petaling Jaya.



17/08/2012 - Pastors, brothers and sisters from Pontianak, Indonesia.



15/08/2012 - Brothers and sisters from Senior Citizen Fellowship of Kuantan Chinese Methodist Church.



13/06/2012 - Dr. Yeo Khiok Khng from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary. Dr. Yeo was our visiting lecturer before.



30/07/2012 - Rev. Herb Ireland (second from right) from Chicago was a pastor for the Church of the Nazarene for 35 years. His son, Rev. Daryl Ireland (first from left), is currently undergoing his doctorate studies at Boston University.



15/06/2012 - From Left: The Principal Rev. Dr. Tie King Tai; Ms. Rebecca C. Asedillo, the Executive Secretary of General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church; Rev. Svay Yontheaorath, the former principal of Cambodian Methodist Bible School; Rev. Lenita Tiong, the pastor-in-charge of Wesley MC Sibu.



09/08/2012 - Brothers and sisters from Imanuel Methodist Church, Jakarta led by the Senior Pastor of the church - Rev. Bachtiar.

3 IN 1 CELEBRATION

MTS Student Body held a 3 in 1 Celebration (Teachers' Day, Birthday, Gawai Festival) on 23rd May, 2012. The whole MTS community including part time lecturers were invited to attend the celebration.



Teachers' Day



Birthday Celebration



Gawai Festival Celebration

PARENTS' DAY AND BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

On 12th July, MTS Student Body organized another celebration at the school campus, i.e. Parents' Day and birthday.



Danny Ting Hong Heng (Worship & Music program's student) and his parents



Ezra Kong Xin Hang (STMS College's student) and his parents

MTS COMMUNITY RETREAT

Before the mid term break, the whole MTS community took part in the Community Retreat on 20th – 21st August, which was held in the school campus. This was the first time for MTS to host a retreat involving the whole community, we shared, we meditated, we played game, we watched movie, and we exercised together. This was a wonderful experience for MTS community to get to know each other more.



Meditation and prayer



BLOOD DONATION

MTS Student Body held the 2nd blood donation campaign on 7th July, 2012.



Praise Dance at Lake garden, led by Rev. Dr. Angela Ting

Missions Exposure Trip (10-14 Aug) of the 7th Batch STMS College Students



At Jaya Methodist Church, Sibü

"I hope that my zeal to do evangelism will not die down. I pray that my friends and non-Christians around me are able to know God through me." ~ Roderick Wong

"This missions trip 'forced' me to face the things that I fear most: 1. Death; 2. Sharing the gospel." ~ Ivy Tong

"Prayer becomes the power for our team to do His missions." ~ Wong Seow Ping

"I enjoyed the sharing session together every time after the evangelism. I was motivated by the sharings, and see how God helped them solve their difficulties." ~ Winnie Lau

"I had overcome the 'hurdle' inside me, after taking part in this missions trip." ~ Kong Fung Siong

"I had accomplished one of my goals, that is to have the courage to do evangelism (door-to-door and in public)." ~ Ling Kie Yiik

"Thank God for giving me the opportunity to share His gospel in Bahasa Malaysia. Although it was not fluent, but through God's guidance and presence, I was able to finish the sharing and to help them know more about God." ~ Wong Poh Sing

At Julau Methodist Church

"We saw that people need the gospel, especially when we went for door-to-door evangelism. God gave us the courage to share His gospel." ~ Huong Guan Yeu

"I enjoyed the missions trip to Julau, enjoyed working together with other team members, and also in the relationship with the local residents." ~ Chew Yee Heng

"During the missions trip, I experienced that God is with me. God has given me courage and used me to share His gospel bravely. This is really the grace of God." ~ Yiek Ing Teck

"This is my first short term missions experience, and a lot of new challenges and attempts. I learned to work with other team members. I was spiritually transformed, been challenged, and also had the opportunity to work together with the young people in Julau Methodist Church. Although only five days, I began to realize the sovereignty of God. I experienced God's wonderful working in my life." ~ Roselyn Hii Ya Wen

"This was my first time joining a short term missions trip. I experienced the challenges that I have never encountered before. This was really a memorable and precious experience." ~ Yii Siew Chiang

"The short term missions at Julau gave me the opportunity to experience country life, and the hospitality of the local folks, which I never experienced it before." ~ Angela Tiong Ee Ling

"I thank God for what I learned during the short term missions trip." ~ Wong Swee Yin



Sharing by the 1st year students: WHY DO YOU CHOOSE MTS?

1. Lee Ling Wey

Program: Master of Divinity major in Missiology (First year)

From: Alor Setar Chinese Methodist Church, Kedah



While I was considering which seminary to choose, MTS, was not on my list. But, the pastor and missionaries keep on recommending MTS. They said MTS has qualified lecturers, good discipline, and those who are trained here are of high calibre. By God's grace, I was accepted by MTS. 'Military Camp' was my first impression towards MTS. After a few months of study, I realized that I have been trained, not only academically, but to put into practice what I have learnt. Besides that, the Foochow culture is strong here, which enables me to have my first cross-cultural experience. Thank God for His leading. I believe His leading is flawless.

2. Alan Lau Song Heng

Program: Master of Divinity (first year)

From: Camberwell Methodist Church, Melbourne



Since I was sure of my calling, I had been struggling and worried about which seminary I should choose. By the leading of the Holy Spirit, I came into contact with MTS in the beginning of year 2011. Through MTS website, I knew more about MTS policy. At last, I decided to come back from Australia, and entered MTS to be equipped here. The reasons are:

1. With excellent qualified lecturers
2. Strict Academic requirements
3. Emphasize Community life
4. Strong emphasis on Wesleyan Theology

After eight months of study, I thoroughly understand MTS's objective is to train pastors both academically and in the area of character building. I am not only equipped theologically, but also experienced transformation in my daily life. The lecturers always encourage us to live a balanced life in different aspects. Therefore, it's God who guides me to choose MTS.

"But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt."

(James 1:6) God has given me the best, and His will is higher than man's request. Hallelujah!

1. MTS MALE STUDENTS' AND LECTURER'S HOSTEL BUILDING FUND



We give thanks to God for the dedication of two new hostels of our Methodist Theological School (MTS) last November. Fourteen out of sixteen units of Lecturers' apartments have now been occupied while the Male Students' hostel has provided enough rooms to accommodate more theological and STMS students over the past two years.

Once again, our heartfelt thanks to all who have offered to support MTS hostel building project! Hopefully, this will be the final appeal for your additional offerings to pay up the remaining RM760,000 plus of building fund deficit. When you give, please write check payable to: Methodist Theological School, or do bank transfer to Public Bank Account number: 3142208112.

Total Project Cost	RM 7,449,424.96
- Donations received	RM 6,684,826.83
Shortfalls	RM 764,598.13

MTS Latest News & Prayer Items

2. PRE-THEOLOGICAL PROGRAM

This year, we have recruited 8 students in Pre-Theological Program. Pray that they will be well prepared and be ready to take up Theological program by next year.



First row (From Left): Huang Mi Kiong, Emily, Ting Yie Wei,
Second row (From Left): Ting Kin Hoo, Tiong Yih Pin, Wong Chong Biao, Wong Tuong Dian, Lau Sie Lung.

3. MTS INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR JAN – JULY 2012 (GENERAL FUND):

Income	Amount (RM)	Expenses	Amount (RM)
SPAC Contribution	5,000.00	2011 Deficit	140,323.75
Contribution from SCAC Boards	60,096.82	Salary & Allowance for Full time lecturers and Staff	440,725.74
Donation from Churches	62,310.40	Allowance for Part time Lecturers	41,017.85
Donation from Members	106,628.25	EPF & SOCSO Contribution	42,582.50
Salary for Full time Lecturers (Paid by SCAC)	202,595.15	Seminar allowance for Lecturers & staff	31,746.17
Tuition Fees	111,425.45	Assessment rate, Water & Elec., and Telecommunication Fees	78,136.80
Others	24,563.49	Facilities and Maintenance Fees	35,923.10
		MTS Night, Borneo Cultural Festival, & Missions Awareness Week	9,314.25
		Admin. Block & Hostels' Insurance Fee	10,112.70
		Library Books, Magazine, & Newspapers	44,408.75
		Transportation Fee	1,661.45
		Teaching Notes & Stationery	7,229.00
Deficit	315,824.17	Miscellaneous	5,261.67
	888,443.73		888,443.73

MTS is facing deficits for five months consecutively since March. We need your prayers urgently. 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".

4. THE 14TH GRADUATION SERVICE

(since the reopening of Degree Courses)

Please pray for the graduates this year:

There are 25 students graduating this year, including Theological degree, Missiological degree, Master of Ministry degree, TEE and Worship & Music Program by Extension degrees. Pray that God will continue to guide them in their future ministries.

Graduation Thanksgiving Dinner

Date: 2nd November, 2012 (Friday)

Time: 6:30p.m. (Dinner will start at 7:00p.m. sharp)

Venue: RH Hotel, Sibu

Graduation Service

Date: 3rd November, 2012 (Saturday)

Time: 9:00a.m.

Venue: Zion Methodist Church, Sibu

Speaker: Rev. Dato' Dr. Su Chii Ann (The President of Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference, The Chairman of MTS Board)

All brothers and sisters are welcome to attend the graduation service.

5. RECRUITMENT OF THE 7TH BATCH OF STMS ENGLISH

Duration:

January - February (5 weeks)

Purposes:

- (1) To equip Christians to become Christ's disciples for the advancement of the Gospel.
- (2) To provide in-depth study for young Christians who are involved in various ministries in the church, for the purpose of more effective ministry.
- (3) To help Christians who have dedicated their lives to be sure of God's calling.

Course Content:

Bible & Spiritual Formation, Evangelism Training, Introduction to Missions, Christian Living & Church Ministry, Choir, Short-term Missions exposure trip (31 Jan – 5 Feb 2013)

Applicants can get the application form from your church pastor or MTS or our website: www.mtssibu.edu.my.

Tel: 084-321409 Email: tee@mtssibu.edu.my

Closing date for application: 1st December 2012