



Lutheran Theological Seminary News

President: Simon S.C. Chow Editor: Dieter Mitternacht Assistant Editor: Queenie P.Y. Wong Proofreader: Rebecca Lee Publisher: Lutheran Theological Seminary
Mailing Address: 50 To Fung Shan Road, Shatin, Hong Kong Tel.: (852) 2691-1520 Fax: (852) 2691-8458 E-mail: info@lts.edu Website: www.lts.edu

Changes and Challenges

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Changes and Challenges

“Nothing is permanent except change,” as the saying goes. This is especially true for a place like LTS, a multinational, multicultural and multid denominational environment. Changes and challenges, variations and transitions are built into the system and create a fascinating dynamic.

Each year many of our students graduate and leave the community while others come to join us. This academic year we have an all time high enrollment of 596 students, most of them from Hong Kong, a substantial number from other countries in South East Asia, and some from Europe, Africa and America. The members of our faculty have their origin, training and cultural heritage from many different parts of the world. From having been a locally focused school, LTS has developed into a regional seminary.

Each person who joins the LTS community has their own experiences, memories, expectations, resources and needs, cultural particularity and proficiency. Some come from well off communities, while others come from upsetting political and social environments. All share a desire for religious purpose, faith, hope and love. As students and professors interact in classrooms and at social occasions, as they meet in personal conversations and chapel services, learn to respect each other, to be aware of differences, and to be tolerant. Just being part of the LTS community is an educational

experience for both teachers and students. The variety of Christian identities and cultural configuration make for enrichment and maturation on both the communal and the personal level.

As the spring semester comes to its close, we are especially aware of changes and challenges and we experience both joy and sadness. Joy, as graduation connotes academic accomplishment and reward, sadness, as relationships and friendships are interrupted and as many are faced with an uncertain future. Some of our students enter into ministries in countries where Christianity is restrained, even suppressed. They will face hardships and challenges beyond our imagination. All that is bearable only because of a strong sense of calling, a wholehearted commitment to service in the Kingdom of Heaven and an assurance of the presence of the Lord. The report in this issue about last summer’s mission trip to Pakistan gives but one glimpse of how training at LTS does not only concern academic excellence but also the experience of walking in the footsteps of Him who has gone before.

The academic year 2009-10 brought more than the usual share of changes to LTS. After 15 years of successful dedication, President Dr. Lam Tak Ho resigned from his presidency and we look back with thankfulness on his impressive contribution to the development of LTS. Our new president, Dr. Simon

Chow, has accepted the calling and will share with us in this issue of *LTS News* his views and ideas for the years to come. *LTS News* congratulates and extends its heartfelt thanks to President Lam and President Chow!

Endings lead to new beginnings that make us look forward with curiosity and vigor to what is to come, or to put it in the German poet Hermann Hesse’s words, “A magic dwells in each beginning, that protects us and helps us to live.” We also heed the admonition of our new president, “Do not be self-satisfied and complacent, but rather give glory to God. Those who are complacent cease to pursue the goal that has been set before them. In their personal dictionary there is no longer a definition for the word “hunger.”

As the new editor of *LTS News*, and one of the professors at LTS, I wish to thank you, our readers, for your contributions to a thriving and continuously growing LTS. It is a true delight to interact with students from so many countries, in discussions concerning the meaning and relevance of biblical texts and Christian life, learning about the intermingling of culture and faith, and being challenged to rethink and re-evaluate ideas and practices that had seemed self-evident and obvious. With your continued support the mission of LTS for the advancement of the Kingdom of Heaven in South Asia and around the world can come true.

Dieter Mitternacht

*LTS News Editor
Professor for Early Church History
and New Testament at LTS*

Let the One who Boasts, Boast in the Lord

Interview with Dr. Simon Chow, the New President of Lutheran Theological Seminary

In November 2009 Dr. Simon Chow became the new president of Lutheran Theological Seminary in Hong Kong. The installation service was held at Truth Lutheran Church. President Chow has been on the faculty of LTS for 14 years, 8 of those years as Dean of Studies. *LTS News'* editor had the opportunity to ask President Chow a few questions.

Editor: President Chow, what comes to your mind as you enter the office of president at LTS?

President Chow (Chow): Many memories flash through my mind and it is as Psalm 126 says: "I feel like I'm dreaming." I was 25 years old when Mr. Pasi Kilpi, the Hong Kong Area Director of the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission, and Rev. Wu Ming-chieh provided an opportunity for me to study at Lutheran Theological Seminary. Now, 32 years later, I have been entrusted to serve as the new president of the seminary. All sorts of emotions are stirred up in my heart as I think about my life journey. Most importantly there is thankfulness for my youth and the events that formed me into an adult; my conversion to Christ and the call to ministry; my student days at LTS; seven years of church

planting on Tsing Yi Island and seven years of study at the University of Uppsala in Sweden.

Editor: When you look back on the history of LTS, what comes to your mind?

Chow: LTS is a testimony to the fact that God has a purpose and that the grace of God is working through us in amazing ways. LTS has been celebrating its 96th anniversary. We went from the magnificent campus in Hubei Province, near the town of Shekou, to the mountain of To Fung Shan in Hong Kong in 1948. We were welcomed as guests to the valley below in Pak Tin Village in 1956 and then up onto the mountain in 1992. So many difficulties and so much sorrow were experienced during those years. In 1971, the most compelling reason for Dr. Andrew Hsiao to become the first Chinese president of the seminary was that the international mission representatives had told him: "If you aren't willing to take on this responsibility, we're going to close the doors of LTS." God did not forget us, and therefore, today we are able boldly and with grateful hearts to continue to walk upon the path that God has chosen for us, to complete

the work that is not yet completed. Because this is true, today we are able with joyfulness to count the blessings of God. Because this is true, we are able to give thanks to those who have gone before us who have laid the foundations of our school through pain and hard work. God is doing great things among us, and we are called never to forget that this is true.

Editor: What is your vision for LTS?

Chow: Rather than simply carrying on as before, I want to focus on innovation and creativity. LTS began in Hubei 96 years ago. In these 96 years we have never ceased to have new beginnings. President Hsiao, President Lam and now my installation as president today, may be said to be new beginnings. This reminds us not to be idle, not to come to a halt, not to stand on the sidelines, but to go forward, alive in faith; to go forward like the people of Israel who crossed the Red Sea, entering daringly into the water as the sea parted before them. In the 1980's, LTS carried on the plan to build a new campus in the face of immense difficulties. At that time, the motto of the building campaign was "Pilgrimage of Faith." How true!

Since its founding LTS has been on a journey, a journey that resembles a dream. The journey is not yet finished, the dream is not yet fully dreamed; we will continue.

Editor: *Just as there have been difficulties in the past, there will be difficulties and obstacles during your time as president. What is your recipe for success for LTS?*

Chow: Those who sow with tears will reap with shouts of joy. "Sowing" and "reaping" are both activities that God entrusts into our care. Does the farmer store the seed in a jar for long periods and leave it there? Does the financial manager take the silver that should be invested and bury it in the ground? The Bible calls this kind of farmer, and this kind of manager, wicked servants. They are wicked servants not only because they have shirked their responsibility, but also because they have not clearly understood the task that has been entrusted to them. I clearly understand how much God has entrusted to me, and how much God has entrusted to Lutheran Theological Seminary. God wants us to acknowledge unambiguously the task, the mission that has been entrusted to us, and with all of our energy and resources, even through tears and suffering and pain, to complete this mission.

Editor: *You seem to be very task oriented and committed to making LTS a superbly qualified school.*

Chow: Our goal in expending all this energy and effort is not to be better than others or to maintain a high position or status; it is not to curry the favor of others or to seek our own benefit in any way. Our goal is to complete the task that God has entrusted to us. It is said that a

seminary exists for the needs of the church, and that without the church the seminary has no reason to exist. The quality of the seminary reflects the quality of the church; and vice versa, the quality of the church reflects the quality of the seminary.

Editor: *President Chow, you are a well educated man and you have many years of experience. Everybody seems to be in accord that you are the man for the job. Does this make you confident that you will achieve your goals?*

Chow: Our Lord Jesus says, "Apart from me you can do nothing." For this reason, the Book of First Corinthians teaches us, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." This reminds us that our calling comes not because of our wisdom or knowledge, nor does it come because of our abilities or because we can claim some sort of status. Our calling comes because God has chosen us. God makes use of those who are lowly and ordinary, those who are despised by others, and this is done so that not a single person who has lifeblood running through their veins will be able to stand before God and boast of their own accomplishments. Be not self-satisfied and complacent, but rather give glory to God. Those who are complacent cease to pursue the goal that has been set before them. In their personal dictionary there is no longer a definition for the word "hunger." Self-satisfaction and complacency lead to conceit and arrogance, and because of this the self-satisfied person can expect to encounter tremendous turmoil on the road ahead. Thus, I challenge myself and my coworkers to watch out for each other lest we lose our bearings and become an offense to God. May all glory be to the God who is doing great things among us!

Editor: *Finally, how do you view your role as president in relation to others who serve at LTS?*

Chow: Lutheran Theological Seminary is run by a team, and this team includes not only the president, the faculty, the staff, students, board members and alumni, but also those who will receive the baton from us in the future. The team also includes local congregations, and each person who cares for LTS, each person who contributes in any way to LTS. Most importantly, it includes those believers who keep LTS in their prayers. I sincerely hope and expect that we will go forward from this day, sowing and harvesting together. "Sowing," and "harvesting" are different tasks, and we who have been entrusted with the life and work of LTS will assume different roles. We can be assured that we will rejoice together in our service, that we will weep together, we will smile and laugh together, give thanks together, be renewed together, take up our responsibilities together, glorify God together, endure hardship together, go forward together, dream dreams together. Behold! This is a marvelously beautiful picture (see Psalms 133). Let us wait expectantly together as God goes before us, opening for us a new and living road, a road upon which we will commit ourselves to the mission and task of theological education, a road upon which we will be blessed.

Editor: *Thank you President Chow for answering our questions.*



President Simon Chow

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周兆真博士
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Installation Service of the President

The LTS Installation Service of the President took place on November 27, 2009, at Truth Lutheran Church. There were about 800 people who attended the installation service. Under the guidance of God and the witnesses of brothers and sisters, Dr. Simon Chow formally received the responsibility as the president of Lutheran Theological Seminary. We would like to share with you these joyful and meaningful moments.



LTS Choir singing praises



Preacher: Director Rev. Wu Chi-long



Laying on of hands by representatives of the founding member churches



Presenting the Seal by Rev. Lo Cho-ching, chairperson of LTS Board of Directors



Hymn by International Students' Choir



Service leader: Director Rev. Chan Kin-lai



President Chow with directors and faculty



Greetings and Congratulations

The installation service was full of God's grace from the start. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the LTS Board of Directors, church leaders, representatives of Christian organizations, alumni, faculty, staff and those who support and pray for the seminary, who gathered at the installation service to celebrate God's grace over 96 years.

PAKISTAN MISSION EXPERIENCE

LTS Summer Cross-cultural Exploration Trip 2009



Two days before departure, there was news coming from far away: a high-class hotel was under a suicide bomb attack on the evening of June 9, 2009 in Peshawar, a city in the northwestern part of Pakistan. A total of 18 people were killed and there were several dozen casualties. Apart from that, another suicide bomber dashed into the office of the person in charge of a Muslim mosque in Lahore, the capital of the Punjab Province, resulting in the death of six people, including the person in charge and ten other casualties. Later the Taliban claimed responsibility for two of these incidents. The Hong Kong Government immediately issued “Travel Advice” that Hong Kong citizens should not visit Pakistan unless it was due to pressing necessity.

However, our faculty Dr. Sarah Yuen and five of our students formed the LTS missionary team took the risk and started their 26-day missionary trip to Pakistan as scheduled on June 13, 2009. They called themselves “PIP”, which is an acronym for “Peace in Pakistan” wishing that Pakistan would be able to enjoy real peace as soon as possible. PIP also means “seed” and symbolizes that the seed of the Gospel could be sowed in the hearts of the Pakistani people. Jesus said: *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid”* (John 14:27).

Important Discovery in Pakistan

by Sarah Wai-man Yuen

I met God in Pakistan

If missionaries are incarnations of Jesus Christ, they had extended the myth of incarnation. In Pakistan, I met Jesus Christ, I met God. There were hundreds of missionaries, mostly Koreans, several ladies from Japan, but only one family from Hong Kong. Every day they were venturing out under the attitude of “incarnation”. They experienced life and death and

shared difficulties with the Pakistanis. While it was well known that there was great danger in Pakistan, the local life in Pakistan added to the strain. The daytime temperature in Pakistan was about 40 to 50 degrees Celsius. The weather was so dry that the skin would crack. The wind appeared to have come from a dryer and made life seem like the inside of an oven. In addition, one had to be very careful in opening the doors of a car in the afternoon before driving the car, otherwise the hands would be burnt. Never enter the car just after opening the door, or else you would get a heat stroke easily. Apart from the weather, the

frequent power failures also made life helpless. What could we do without power and in high temperature? For food and beverages the hygiene conditions were very bad. They had a very strong smell. For example, we had to drink sweet or very sweet tea, or to take roasted food, curry, hot or spicy food. It would be acceptable for just one week, but how could we stand it for a month? How could we adapt to that in one year's time, or five years or ten years? This is the myth of "incarnation". I believe apart from the Gospel, there is no other attraction for missionaries to live a long time in Pakistan. The missionaries are working consistently and quietly, without fear of life or death. In the days of staying with them in Pakistan, I saw the "footprints on the beach".

I gained blessings in Pakistan

If serving Jesus is a blessing, I gained the blessing in Pakistan of serving the Lord. That the social status of Pakistani or Muslim women is abject and under oppression is not found in the Quran but expressed in their life practices. For example, the law allows a man to marry four wives. The strong but stubborn concept of family that man must take care of all matters outside the family and women only takes care of matters within the family incurs a despising attitude against women taking up jobs. All women must wear a veil and they do not have the rights to say their prayers inside the main area of the mosque.

As a woman living in a male dominant society, I can teach in the church even when more than 80% of the participants are male pastors. I can share the word of God in churches with the size of the congregation ranging between a hundred and a thousand members. All these services make me aware of the value of being a



professor and a teacher. Here I experience that social status is more important than my sex identity. If a higher social status or special identity brings along more chances to serve the Lord and to experience the power of the Gospel than the pride out of superiority or desire for power addiction, or chase for vanity, the social status represents opportunity which makes you experience the joy of working with God and the blessing of being used by the Lord.

I experienced peace in Pakistan

The US magazine *Foreign Policy* recently listed the most dangerous countries and areas in the world. Among it, Pakistan comes in the third position. The Indo-Pakistan war, influenced by the Taliban, and fights between different races turn Pakistan into a state of turmoil. In Pakistan, there are full armored guards around in the family and even in the churches. On one occasion, we hired a mini-bus belonging to a hospital for the purpose of paying visits and there was a police officer sitting next to the driver that accompanied us during the whole journey for the purpose of protecting our safety.

What is peace? During our days in Pakistan, I experienced more of the meaning of peace while in the most dangerous areas. Peace is a state of heart. Only when one has full trust in God, this state of heart will be produced. I remember in the city of Multan, we met a couple of missionaries coming from the States for medical services. When we talked about peace, they said that because of the danger we were forced to trust God for His protection and care in our daily life. That would be peace. The "feeling of absolute dependence" is not just theological terminology, but rather our feeling everyday when living in Pakistan. This feeling is real because there are gunshots everyday, curfews every week and explosions every month in Pakistan. We all prayed together and had full trust in God in our living. So we were not bringing peace to Pakistan, instead we found peace in Pakistan.

I wish that the people of Pakistan would be able to find real peace in the Lord who created the world and saved us by fully trusting Him.

Dr. Yuen is the Director of the Institute for Mission and Intercultural Studies, Reichelt Professor of Mission and Culture at LTS.

Sharing on the Trip to Pakistan

by Kelvin Ying-kwok Chan

During this trip to Pakistan, we spent a month without cutting edge technology. We didn't see people on the street using Bluetooth or a hands free ear device. We couldn't find anyone using portable computers and would not be able to find anyone playing video games. It was impossible to find any Wi-Fi facilities. Instead we saw people in direct dialogue, which is very rarely seen in Hong Kong. As we wish to do a number of things simultaneously, are we willing to offer a little bit more for others rather than just concentrating on our own concerns?

When we visited a village one of the families gave me a deep impression. This family of 8 was living together under the same roof. The father has been working in the army for a very long time on the border and he seldomly returned home. This family used to attend the meetings, Sunday school, worship and service in the church in the village. I was very impressed by their free supply of electricity to the church by connecting the electricity wire from their home to the church. Before we calculate on the level of electricity charges or their wealth status, the simple connection of the family with the church by a piece of electric wire reflects on their hearts being in connection with the Lord. They were not offering what was left behind but they offered what they owned to those in need.



When Jesus called His disciples together, He said, *“Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”* (Mark 12:43-44)

I believe this is a lesson that we have to learn for our whole lives. Are we able to make offerings by noticing the real necessities of others?

Kelvin is a final year Bachelor of Theology student at LTS.



The Trip to Pakistan as A Reflection on Inter-cultural Challenges and Confrontations

by Mona Chiu-ming Lau

Pakistan is one of the heartlands of the Islamic faith. Many of the local traditions and practices are built on this faith and have become part of the local Muslim life. Taking the example of the woman, the local women enjoy an abject social status. Their daily life is being completely dominated by man, whether they go out for work or go shopping. Furthermore, when women go out or when there are visitors, they have to wear a headband in order to show respect to guests, as this is also the required moral standard of being a woman. It is so understandable that as a grown-up in the city of Hong Kong where women enjoy a very high social

status, I really could not accept this traditional idea and concept originated from inequalities between man and woman. At the same time, when I met them I felt their stress and lack of alternatives stemming from discrimination and from society and the family. This intermingled feeling is probably the feeling of most of the women in Pakistan. Of course, it takes a long time to change all this, yet I am willing to learn “taking the heart of Jesus as my heart” and start praying for Pakistani women so that the Lord would give them real freedom. It is because that by believing in Jesus Christ, they would not be tied up by the sufferings in this world anymore. As it is written in the Bible, “So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed”. (John 8:36)

I wish that more Pakistani people, especially groups of women, can hear the Gospel and learn of the love of Christ so that when they face the challenges in their life, they would be able to face them with a “really free” heart, and overcome the hurdles in their life. It is because in the eyes of God, every one of them is so valuable. They are precious creations of God and there would not be any inequalities.

Mona is a Master of Divinity student at LTS.



(Articles were translated by Jonathan Lee and edited by LTS News.)

Publication News

LTS Annual Journal *Theology & Life*

The theme of the 32nd issue of the LTS Annual Journal *Theology & Life* is **Ecology and Theology**. Four contributions address the theme:

Abraham H.T. Chan: Christian Ecological Ethics (*Abstract*), **Keith K.F. Chan:** A Process Ecological Theology of Paul Tillich with special reference to the doctrine of creation-eschatology (*Abstract*), **Jing Cao:** Reflection on the Ecological Crisis from An Eschatological Perspective: An Ecological View of Christianity (*Abstract*), **Gabriele**

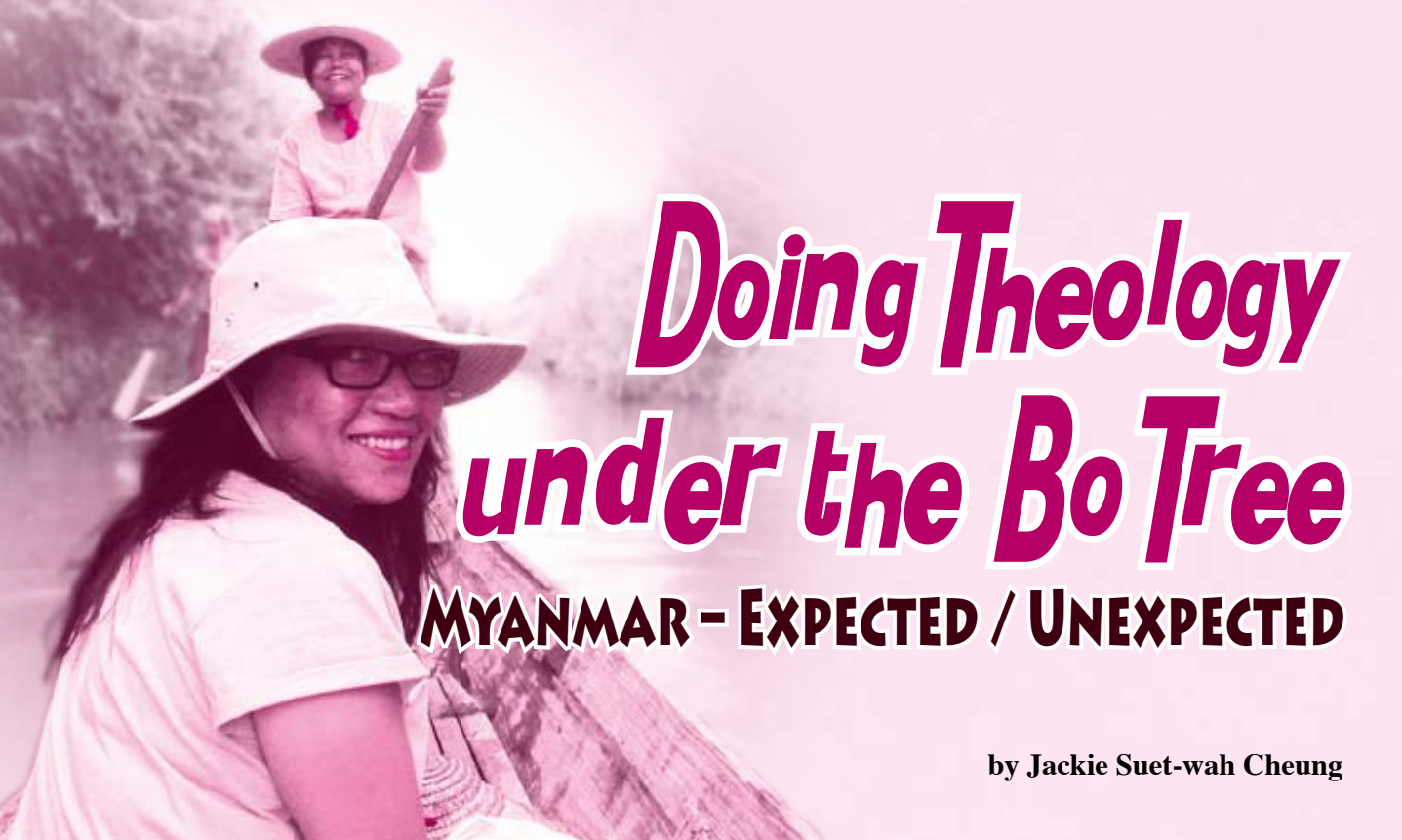
Hoerschelmann: Ecological Learning-Teaching for the Future. **Two additional articles:** **Frank K.P. Chan:** Chinese Christianity and Women’s Movement in the 1920s to 1930s (*Abstract*), **K.P. Tang:** On Augustine’s Notion of Faith and Good Works: An Introspection of a Protestant (*Abstract*), **Solomon H.F. Wong:** Paul Revisited: New Perspective on Paul. **Forum for Luther Studies:** **Robert Kolb:** Christian Without Denomination? Reflection on the Asian Situation from the Perspective of Martin Luther, **Pilgrim W.K. Lo:** God created Man and Woman – Problem of Luther’s Understanding of Gender Relations (*Abstract*). **Forum for Contextual Theology:** **Karl-Hermann Mühlhaus:** Witness to Christ in the India National Awakening: Paul David Devanandan, **Peter K.H. Lee:** Stanley J. Samartha: Interfaith Dialogue and Christological Thinking in a Multi-Religious World, **Kaisa Nikkilä:** Toivo Koskikallio’s Conception about Love in Chinese Philosophic and Religious Traditions and Christian Love in Chinese context. All articles are either written in English or have an English abstract if written in Chinese. **To place an order, please email to info@lts.edu**



Mekong Mission Forum Publication

The Third Mekong Mission Forum publication *Mission and Identity* has been published in the year 2009. It contains papers and presentations from a consultation on mission and identity crisis in a globalized Mekong region. The consultation was initiated by the Mekong Mission Forum and jointly organized by LTS, Association for Theological Education in Myanmar (ATEM) and Judson Research Center of Myanmar Institute of Theology (MIT). **To order a Free copy, please email intlstu@lts.edu**





Doing Theology under the Bo Tree

MYANMAR - EXPECTED / UNEXPECTED

by Jackie Suet-wah Cheung

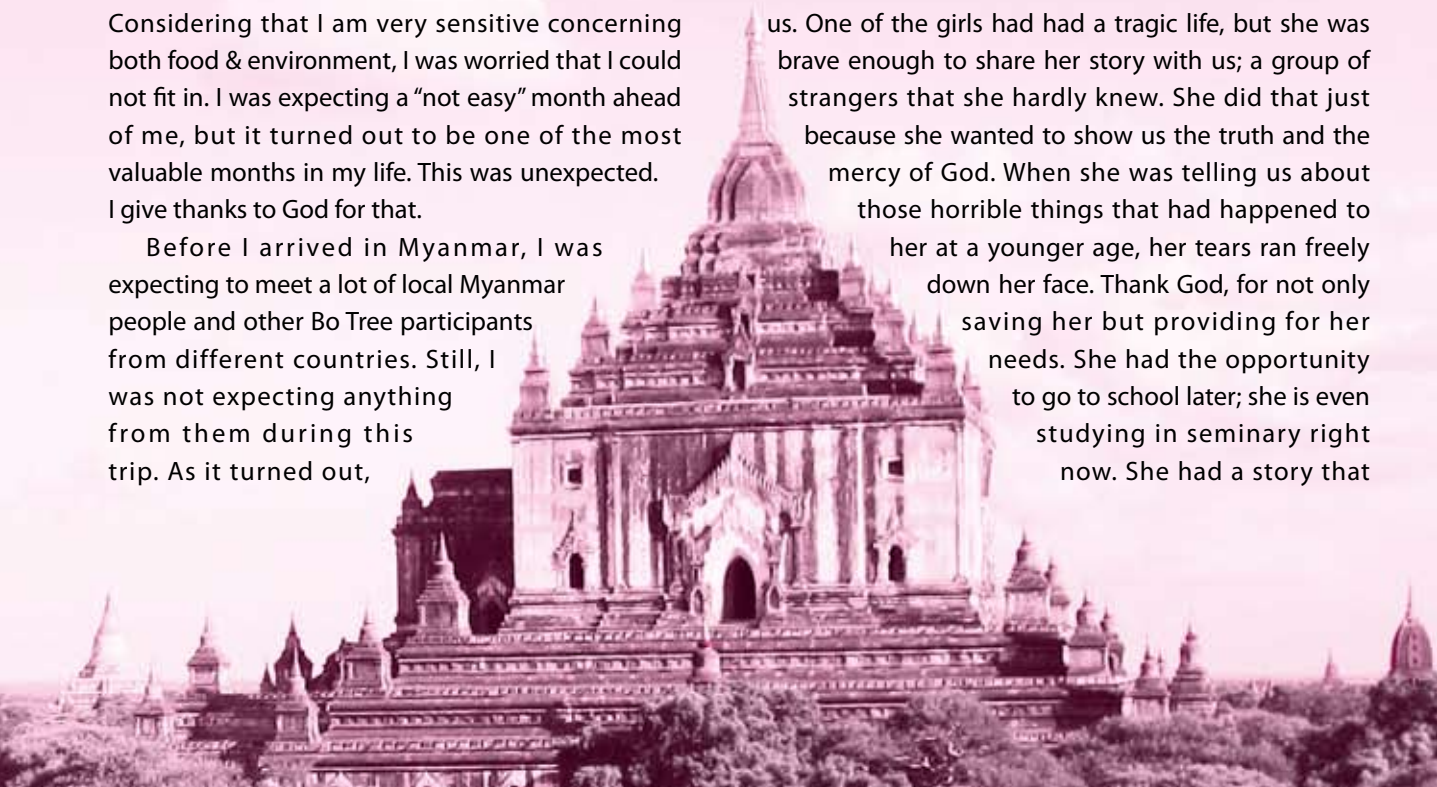
When I look back to the beginning of my trip to Myanmar, it didn't start from the day I flew to Yangon. I look back to mid March 2009 when I first noticed that God gave me this opportunity to explore Myanmar for a month from July 5 to August 1, 2009. I was grateful and worried at the same time. Considering that I am very sensitive concerning both food & environment, I was worried that I could not fit in. I was expecting a "not easy" month ahead of me, but it turned out to be one of the most valuable months in my life. This was unexpected. I give thanks to God for that.

Before I arrived in Myanmar, I was expecting to meet a lot of local Myanmar people and other Bo Tree participants from different countries. Still, I was not expecting anything from them during this trip. As it turned out,

I was inspired by them, both local people and Bo Tree participants from other countries.

In the seminar, I was expecting the usual everyday lectures by professors from particular fields, but there was a time when a few local students came to our lecture room and shared their life experiences with us. One of the girls had had a tragic life, but she was brave enough to share her story with us; a group of strangers that she hardly knew. She did that just because she wanted to show us the truth and the mercy of God. When she was telling us about those horrible things that had happened to

her at a younger age, her tears ran freely down her face. Thank God, for not only saving her but providing for her needs. She had the opportunity to go to school later; she is even studying in seminary right now. She had a story that





Bo Tree group 2009

Life in Myanmar



Dormitory

she probably did not want to mention to anyone anymore. The story would bring her sorrow every time she recalled it, but she was willing to share it with us because she is called to be a witness to what she believes. We were all moved by her courage and her story. Her testimony not only showed us her life, but reminded us that when God has done so much for us in our lives, we should not hide it, but we ought to share with others and be a witness of God. I was encouraged by this unexpected sharing.

I was not expecting to preach on this trip nor to share my very personal experience publicly. But by the grace of God, in His time, in His place, I received an unexpected invitation to preach at Tedim Christian College (TCC) and the Myanmar Institute of Theology (MIT) on the last day of our trip. In the sermon, I decided to open up myself to share my very personal experience. I was hoping my tragic experience would encourage and comfort our brothers and sisters in Myanmar. My preaching and sharing led to an unexpected response; they were feeling comforted and encouraged. Glory be to God.

All these experiences have made a remarkable impression on my life, which I will never forget.

Jackie is a final year Bachelor of Theology student at LTS.



Meals

Visit LTS alumni at Myanmar



M. Khaw Thein
(2008 Doctor of Theology Graduate)



Suan Khan Lian
(2008 Master of Theology Graduate)

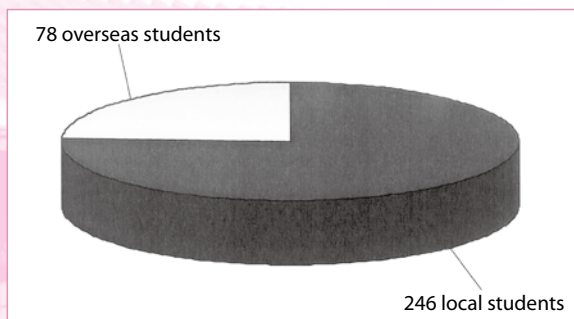
Registrar Reports

2009 – 2010

The academic year 2009-2010 reached another record in terms of enrollment. Currently 596 students (day school and evening school) are studying at LTS, a rise of 3.5% compared to the last academic year. The Day School currently records a total of 324 students, the student body includes 116 and 26 new students in the Fall and Spring semesters respectively. In addition, the Evening Theological Education by Extension Program (TEE) has 136 new students, adding up its number to a total of 272 students. This means more local lay leaders take the opportunity to equip themselves for their service in the church.

Besides the local students, 24% of the student body comes from overseas countries. In this academic year, 17 students from Mainland China are studying at LTS, 5 of them in the Master Degree Program and 4 in the Advanced Studies Program. The other 8 are exchange students (postgraduate students and doctoral degree candidate) from Lanzhou University, Minzu University of China, Shandong University, Sichuan University, Sun Yat-sen University, Tsinghua University, Wuhan University and Xiamen University in Mainland China. 29 students come from the Mekong River Region: Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. In addition, overseas students from Macau, Taiwan, Korea, Philippines, Nepal, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Indonesia, Germany, Sweden, United State, Canada, France, England, Denmark, Pakistan, Cameroon and Samoa joined our seminary. LTS welcomes all students to the growing and colorful LTS family!

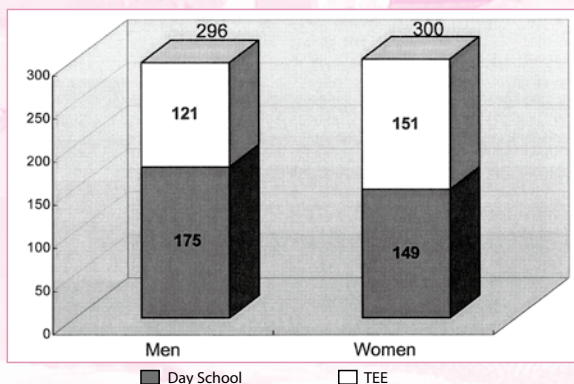
Distribution of Students at LTS



Number of Students as Candidates in Various Degree Programs

Bachelor of Christian Education (B.C.E)	2
Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.)	53
Master of Divinity (M.Div.)	85
Master of Art (Theology) (M.A.)	30
Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.)	15
Master of Theology (M.Th.)	12
Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.)	48
Doctor of Theology (D.Th.)	25
Graduate Diploma (Grad. Dip.) & Diploma in Theological Studies (Dip.T.S.)	6
Diploma of Theological Librarianship	4
English Diploma	4
Non-degree	40

Total Number of Students in Day School and TEE at LTS



2010-2011 Full-time & Part-time Programs

Training Servants of God's Word for Asia

Ministerial Leadership Programs

(a) The basic programs are to prepare persons for ordained ministry and for general pastoral and Christian leadership responsibilities in congregations and other settings.

Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.)

Bachelor of Christian Education (B.C.E.)

Applicants should have completed six years of secondary school studies or equivalent.

Three-year Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

Applicants should hold a baccalaureate degree or equivalent.

(b) The advanced ministerial programs are to equip persons for competent pastoral leadership. Learners can have an emphasis on some form of ministry or on a particular context, interest, or discipline area.

Two-year Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

Applicants should have a B.Th. or B.C.E. degree or equivalent.

Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.)

Applicants should have an M.Div. degree or equivalent and at least three years of ministerial experience.

One-year Master of Arts (Theology)

Master of Arts in Mission (M.A. Mission)

Master of Arts in Pastoral Counseling (M.A. Pastoral Counseling)

Master of Arts in Spirituality (M.A. Spirituality)

Applicants should hold a baccalaureate / master degree major in Christianity or equivalent.

Academic Theological Leaderships Programs

The academic programs aim at developing persons who are committed to theological education and scholarly research.

Master of Theology (M.Th.)

Applicants should have an M.Div. degree or equivalent.

Doctor of Theology (D.Th.)

Applicants should have a S.T.M., M.Th. degree or equivalent.

Lay and Special Ministry Leadership Programs

The preliminary theological study program helps learners to clarify their calling for ordained ministry.

Diploma of Theological Studies (Dip. T.S.)

Applicants should have completed at least six years of secondary school.

The program prepares learners for leadership in a wide range of vocations by providing a broad theological education as well as a focus on one area of research.

Two-year Master of Arts (Theology) (M.A.)

Applicants should hold a baccalaureate degree or higher.

Graduate Diploma (Grad. Dip.)

Applicants should hold a baccalaureate degree / M.A. / M.C.S. or higher.

Entrance Examination Dates	Application Deadlines
9:00am-4:00pm, April 24, 2010 (Sat)	April 14, 2010
9:00am-4:00pm, June 19, 2010 (Sat)	June 9, 2010
9:00am-4:00pm, August 7, 2010 (Sat)	July 28, 2010
9:00am-4:00pm, December 4, 2010 (Sat)	November 24, 2010

For Application Form and Prospectus, please contact us.

• Tel: 2691 1520 • Fax: 2691 8458 • Email: info@lts.edu • Website: www.lts.edu • Address: 50, To Fung Shan Road, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong

Degrees offered by LTS are accredited by the Association for Theological Education in South East Asia (ATESEA).

News and Dates

Faculty News

- **Dr. Jan Martin Depner**, Professor for Systematic and Practical Theology since the Fall of 2009, was sent to LTS by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria, Germany. During his first year at LTS he has taught the courses "Paths of Prayer", "Introduction to Christian Theology", "Doctrine of the Triune God" and "Introduction to Spiritual Formation".
- **Dr. Terrence Fretheim**, Visiting Professor for Old Testament at LTS in the Fall semester. His publications include *God and World in the Old Testament: A Relational Theology of Creation* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2005). At LTS he gave two public lectures: "Genesis and the Pentateuch" and "God, Evil and Suffering".
- **Rev. Joas Bainornugisha Kahesi**, Visiting Professor for Mission and Culture and a professional in Muslim studies from Tanzania was sent to LTS by the United Evangelical Mission in Wuppertal, from August 2009. At LTS he has taught the courses "Christian and Muslim: What we can learn from each other", "Understanding Islam", "Christian-Muslim Relations: The Theological Dimension" and "Major Themes in the Bible and the Quran".
- **Ms. Rebecca Lee**, full time English Lecturer at LTS started from the Fall semester of 2009, was sent to LTS by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America .
- **Dr. Jack Lundbom**, Visiting Professor for Old Testament has come back to LTS for the Spring and Fall semesters of 2010. He is teaching two courses: "Jeremiah" and "Old Testament Rhetorical Criticism". He recently published "Delimitation of Units in the Book of Jeremiah" in *The Impact of Unit Delimitation on Exegesis*, Pericope 7 (eds. Raymond de Hoop et al; Leiden: Brill, 2009), 146-174; "At What Elevation Is Jesus' Sermon on the Mount?" in *Currents in Theology and Mission*, 36 (2009), 440-454; and "I Brought You into a Garden Land (Jer 2:7)" in *Seminary Ridge Review*, 12/1 (2009), 6-10.

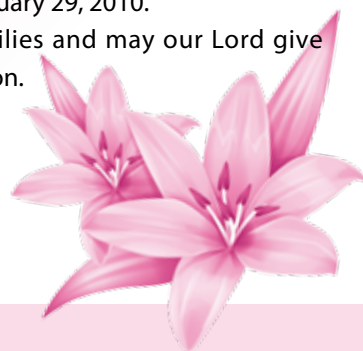
Acknowledgement

- **Prof. Dr. Hans Schwarz** (Professor emeritus of Systematic Theology at the University of Regensburg, Germany) has given a public lecture on "Luther's Central Insights for Today" on January 15, 2010.
- **Mr. Ng Nai-kwong** (Senior Clinical Psychologist) gave a lecture titled "How to get along with Asperger's Sufferers" on January 20, 2010.
- **Dr. Li Qiuling**, (Professor of the Department of Philosophy in the Renmen University, China; Guest Professor of the Institute of Sino-Christian Studies, Hong Kong) has given a public lecture on "From Deism to Kant: Inspiration for Sino-Theology" on January 29, 2010.

Thinking of You

- **Faculty Dr. John LeMond's father** passed away on December 17, 2009.
- **Faculty Dr. Charlene Chang's brother Rev. Paul Chang (1984 Alumni)** passed away on December 18, 2009.
- **Lecturer Ms. Rose Chue's brother** passed away on December 20, 2009.
- **Alumni Chan Sau-wah's mother** passed away on December 31, 2009.
- **Secretary Miss Lau Chung-shan's grandmother** passed away on January 5, 2010.
- **Former Danish faculty Dr. Filip Riisager** passed away on January 8, 2010.
- **Worker Mrs. Cheung-Tsui Yuk Chun's mother-in-law** passed away on January 18, 2010.
- **Vietnamese student Sengone Vongdeuane's father** passed away on January 21, 2010.
- **Student Maria Mak's mother** passed away, the funeral was held on January 29, 2010.

Please pray for their families and may our Lord give them peace and consolation.



Courses for Lutheran Churches in Hong Kong

93 pastors and ministers from 4 Lutheran denominations in Hong Kong were registered for 2 courses in the Theological Education by Extension Program during this academic year. Course titles **“Understanding the Lutheran Churches”** and **“Essense of Lutheran Doctrines.”** Both courses were given by the Dean of Studies, Dr. Peter Li, and held at Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong and Lutheran House in Yaumatei respectively.

Enjoy the Friday Feast

The **Friday Feast** is an important education program for all students at LTS. It includes the **Academic Feast** (Public Lecture), **Spiritual Feast** (Holy Communion) and **Fellowship Feast** (Family Gathering for LTS faculty and students only). We welcome all church members and other seminaries' professors and students to join our **Friday Feast** at Ming Chieh Chapel of LTS. (Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.)

Spiritual Feast – Holy Communion

March 31 (Wed, 4:00pm): Maundy Thursday

April 23 (Fri, 10:30am): On the Road to Emmaus

May 14 (Fri, 10:30am): Commissioning Service
for Graduates

Academic Feast – Public Lectures

April 30 (Fri, 10:30am):

Peace with God or Peace with Man? Struggle and Conflict in Galatia, by Dr. Dieter Mitternacht (Associate Professor, LTS)

31st Christopher Tang Christian Literature Award Ceremony

Six scholars from the Chinese Christian literature area received the Christopher Tang Christian Literature Award in the year of 2009 from the Christopher Tang Christian Literature Fund of LTS. The ceremony was held on **March 12, 2010, 10:30am, at the Ming Chieh Chapel of LTS.**

Annual Sacred Music Worship

The LTS Annual Sacred Music Worship will be held on **Friday, April 16, 2010, 8:00pm, at the Shamshuipo Tsung Tsin Church** (58 Tai Po Road, Shamshuipo, Kowloon). The theme of the worship is **“The Love of**

God is Priceless”. The LTS Choir, under the direction of our faculty Ms. Mabel Wu, will perform different musical interpretations of “Love”. The preacher will be the LTS Chaplain Dr. Patrick Chan. All friends of LTS and interested persons are welcome to join this special evening in the LTS yearly calendar.

Graduation Service

The LTS Board of Directors and Faculty invite family and friends to its **33rd Graduation Service**. It will be held on **Sunday, June 6, 2010 at the Shamshuipo Tsung Tsin Church** (58 Tai Po Road, Shamshuipo, Kowloon). Due to the high number of students, there will be two separate services. For the Theological Education by Extension Program (Evening School) graduates from 2:30pm to 3:30pm and for the Day School graduates from 4:30pm to 6:00pm. It is a great occasion to join the students in their joy of achieving academic excellence.

Register for E-News

LTS's E-News is available on the website at www.lts.edu. From now on if you would like to receive an electronic instead of a printed version of our quarterly newsletter, **please email your NAME, CONTACT and EMAIL ADDRESS to development@lts.edu with the title as “Register for E-News” for registration.**

Come and Visit LTS

You are always welcome on the campus of Lutheran Theological Seminary. Visit the campus, meet students and faculty, and participate in campus life. If you or a group from your congregation wishes to see LTS, please contact us. We especially welcome friends to come to our daily chapel at 10:00am. We would like you to stay for a tour of the campus and then lunch at 12:30pm. Let us know what date works best for you.

Scholarship Support Needed

LTS will be able to welcome more students as financial resources become available. If you are interested in supporting a student, contact Rev. Hanns Hoerschelmann at LTS (intlstuco@lts.edu) or LTS, 50 To Fung Shan Road, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong (info@lts.edu). You may also contribute through “Friends of LTS – USA and Canada” by contacting Dr. Jerry Schmalenberger (JLSchmalen@aol.com) 162 Pelican Loop, Pittsburgh, CA 94565 USA.

“FACULTY DEVELOPMENT” FUNDRAISING PLAN 2010

With a Goal of HK\$1,200,000

(In training one faculty candidate, counting on four to five years' time)

What is the “Faculty Development” Plan?

The “Faculty Development” plan is to support an appropriate candidate to study at a local or overseas seminary/university by the selection of LTS or member churches. The purpose of the plan is to prepare new local faculty for teaching at the seminary and also to benefit the long-term development of local theological education.

Why we need to support the “Faculty Development” Plan of LTS?

In the last decade, LTS has invested many resources in training theological teachers in Mainland China and countries along the Mekong River Region, which include seminary presidents, academic deans and professors. Now the time has come to focus on the needs of LTS. Today, the seminary has only 10 local faculty members with doctoral degrees and half of those will retire within the coming decade. As the Chinese saying goes, “It takes ten years to grow a tree; it takes a hundred years to grow a person”, this means that to build up the reserve of prospective local faculty members, as one of the most pressing tasks, it has to begin right now.

The “Faculty Development” plan is a part of our ministry for the Kingdom of Heaven and we pray that our seminary will continue to participate in the theological education under God's grace. We hope that every church leader, brother and sister will work with us in order to achieve this heavenly mission.

How to support the “Faculty Development” Fundraising Plan?

A) Kind Donation

You can pay through the following method for donation:

1. Check (payable to “Lutheran Theological Seminary”)
2. Bank Deposit (Dah Sing Bank 040-645-701-23889)
3. Autopay (download the Autopay Form at www.lts.edu)

Please put the Check / Deposit Slip / Autopay Form into the donation envelope and send it to the Development Department of LTS (50 To Fung Shan, Shatin, NT, Hong Kong). Please clearly state “Faculty Development” on the envelope.

For U.S. Tax deduction, you may pay to “Friends of LTS – USA” by check and send to Dr. Jerry Schmalenberger, 162 Pelican Loop, Pittsburg, CA 94565, USA, or email to jlchmalen@aol.com for details.

B) Walk-a-Thon

Reserve your time for October 31, 2010. The details will be announced later.

C) Your Commitment

Faithfully and kindly make a certain amount of donation commitment for the “Faculty Development” Plan.

D) Prayer

Please continue to pray for the “Faculty Development” Plan and remember Paul's words to the church in Philippi, “*I am confident that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.*” (Philippians 1:6)

May God bless your work!

Enquiry: 2684 3207 / 2691 1520 Mr. Samson Tang