

BERITA STM

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THE QUEST FOR CHRISTMAS JOY

LETTER TO JESUS

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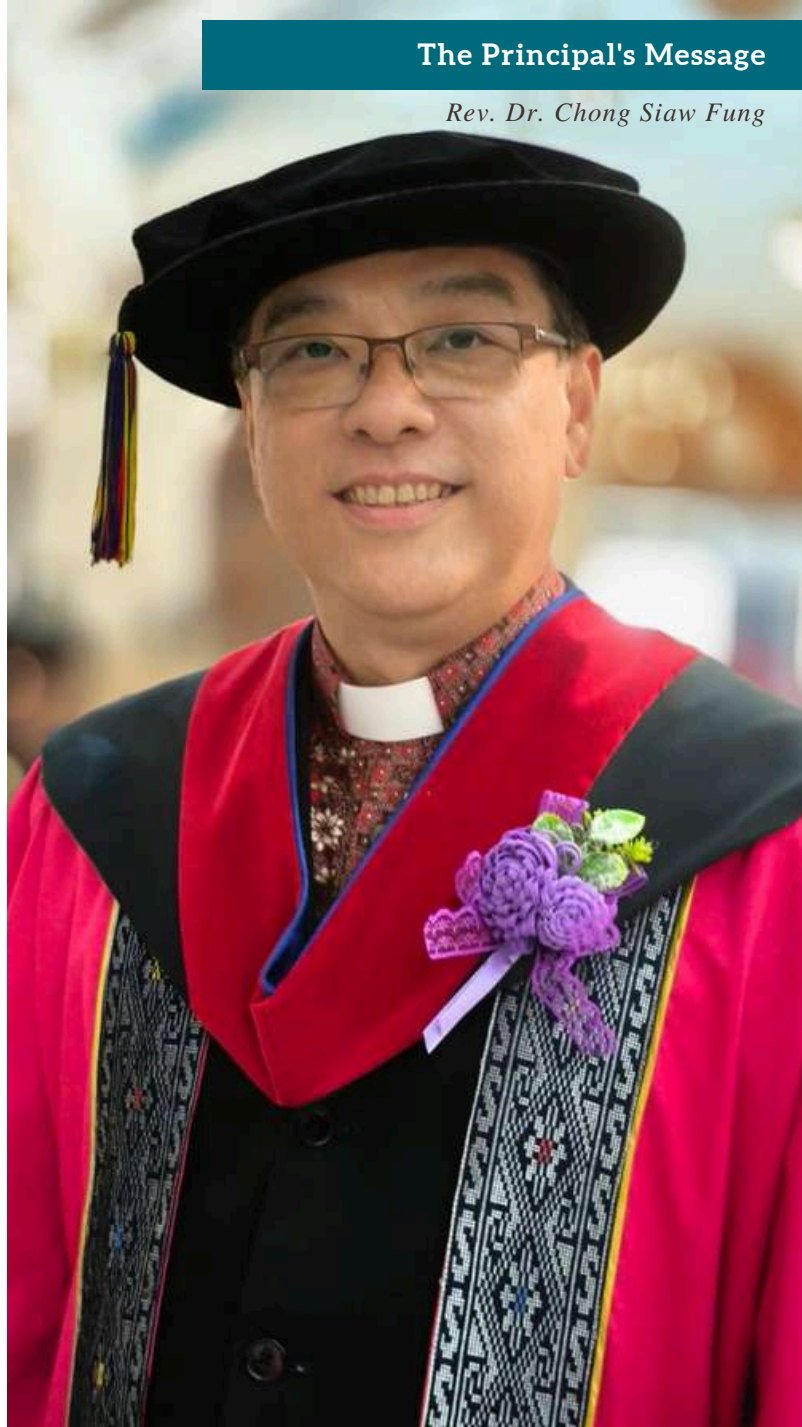


THE QUEST FOR CHRISTMAS JOY

It is easy to associate joy with pleasurable feelings, smiling faces, clapping hands, and swaying bodies. Yet, joy in the context of the first Christmas has an adventurous tone. Speaking of adventure, it reminds me of the stories I read in my younger days—from Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* to Enid Blyton's *Famous Five*, from Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* to Alexandre Dumas's *The Count of Monte Cristo*. Good adventure stories never lack elements of suspense and thrills, enriched with titillating plots and intriguing characters. There are always treasures to be discovered, mysteries to be solved, and evil to be diminished.

On the night of the first Christmas, the shepherds had their share of the adventure of fathoming Christmas joy. It was fearsome, as they were frightened by the angel who announced the “good news of great joy.” It was mysterious, as the angel appeared to them of all peoples, and all of a sudden. The suspense was so great, that they had to go to Bethlehem and check it out. But, the motif of the angelic announcement that “salvation is finally here” is undoubtedly joyous.

The significance of the genuine joy of Christmas is in the fact that Christ, the saviour of the world, was born. We are not sure whether the shepherds continued their quest to discover true Christmas joy in Jesus Christ in their lives, but we can certainly commit ourselves to a lifetime of adventure to explore Jesus Christ, expanding the quest for Christmas joy in Christ beyond the night of that first Christmas.



And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” . . . When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

(Luke 2:10-11. 15)



探寻圣诞之喜乐

那天使对他们说：“不要惧怕！看哪！因为我报给你们大喜的信息，是关乎万民的：因今天在大卫的城里，为你们生了救主，就是主基督。”...众天使离开他们，升天去了。牧羊人彼此说：“我们往伯利恒去，看看所成的事，就是主所告诉我们的。”（路加福音 2:10-11, 15）

说到喜乐，我们很容易将愉悦的感受、微笑的脸庞、拍手的动作和摇摆的身体联想一起。然而，第一个圣诞节的喜乐带有一种冒险的色彩。说到冒险，使我想起年轻时曾经读过的一些故事——从马克·吐温的《汤姆历险记》到伊妮德·布莱顿的《五小冒险系列》，从罗伯特·路易斯·史蒂文森的《金银岛》到大仲马的《基督山恩仇记》。好的冒险故事从不缺乏悬念和惊险的元素，充满扣人心弦的情节和引人入胜的人物。总会有需要被发掘的宝藏、有待解开的谜题、必须对付的邪恶。

在那第一个圣诞的夜晚，牧羊人经历了一场探索圣诞之喜乐的冒险。对他们而言，这经历是可怕的。他们被那位宣布“大喜的信息”的天使吓坏了。这个经历是神秘的，因为天使竟然毫无预兆地在众人中选择向他们显现。悬念太大，他们不得不动身到伯利恒去一探究竟。然而，毫无疑问的，天使宣告“救恩终于来到”的主题是绝对令人喜悦的。

圣诞的喜乐真正的意义在于世界的救世主基督的降生。我们不确定牧羊人在他们生命以后的日子是否继续探寻在耶稣基督里的圣诞喜乐，但我们绝对可以选择投入我们的一生去探寻耶稣基督，在那第一个圣诞的夜晚之后，继续不断地在基督里探寻圣诞的喜乐。

MENCARI SUKACITA KRISMAS

Sukacita selalu dikaitkan dengan perasaan seronok dan berasa riang, wajah dengan senyuman, bertepuk tangan, dan badan yang menari-nari. Namun, sukacita dalam konteks Krismas pertama adalah seperti satu pengembaraan. Saya teringat kisah-kisah pengembaraan yang telah saya baca pada zaman kanak-kanak dahulu, seperti *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* oleh Mark Twain, *Famous Five* oleh Enid Blyton, *Treasure Island* oleh Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Count of Monte Cristo* oleh Alexandre Dumas dan sebagainya. Kisah pengembaraan yang baik tidak kurang unsur-unsur saspens dan keseronokan, dan diperkayakan dengan plot yang memikat dan watak yang menarik. Selalu sahaja ada harta karun yang perlu ditemui, misteri yang perlu diselesaikan, dan kejahatan yang perlu ditewaskan.

Pada malam Krismas pertama itu, para gembala mengalami pengembaraan untuk memahami sukacita Krismas. Pengalaman itu agak menakutkan, kerana malaikat yang mengumumkan "berita baik yang membawa sukacita besar" telah memeranjatkan mereka. Pengalaman itu penuh misteri, kerana malaikat menampakkan diri kepada mereka secara tiba-tiba sahaja. Pengumuman malaikat itu menimbulkan saspens yang begitu serius, sehingga mereka terdorong untuk pergi membuat siasatan di Betlehem. Bagaimanapun, motif pengumuman malaikat bahawa "akhirnya, penyelamatan sudah tiba" pasti sesuatu yang menyumbang kepada sukacita.

Maksud sukacita Krismas yang sejati, berkait rapat dengan hakikat bahawa Kristus, penyelamat dunia, telah lahir. Kita tidak pasti sama ada para gembala meneruskan usaha mereka dalam hidup kemudiannya untuk mencari sukacita Krismas yang sejati dalam Yesus Kristus. Tetapi sudah pastilah kita boleh bertekad meneruskan pengembaraan seumur hidup untuk menerokai Yesus Kristus, dan memperluaskan pencarian sukacita Krismas dalam Kristus selepas malam Krismas pertama itu.

Tetapi malaikat itu berkata kepada mereka, "Jangan takut! Aku membawa kepadamu berita baik yang akan memberikan sukacita besar kepada seluruh umat. Pada malam ini di kota Daud telah lahir seorang Penyelamat bagimu, iaitu Kristus, Tuhan. . . . Setelah malaikat-malaikat itu meninggalkan mereka untuk kembali ke syurga, gembala-gembala itu berkata sesama sendiri, "Marilah kita pergi ke Betlehem untuk melihat kejadian yang telah berlaku itu seperti yang diberitahu Tuhan kepada kita."

(Lukas 2:10-11, 15)



致给耶稣的信

张永孝

2024年12月25日

亲爱的天父，

在我十二岁那一年，我很喜乐地接受洗礼，归向主耶稣，并且开始在少年团契中服事。

然而，在成长的过程中，骄傲、自满、埋怨、贪婪、虚荣心、自义、嫉妒、假冒为善等行为，不断显露在我的生活中，虽然明知这些行为是天父上帝所不喜悦的。若不是天父上帝的慈爱和怜悯，我的生命仍然不会有任何改变。

感谢天父上帝的爱，祢赐给我一颗爱慕永生、愿意顺服的心，使我确知并接受主耶稣就是那位“道成肉身”为寻找像我这样一个活在堕落世界里的人的那位救主。

主耶稣啊！我爱祢！

我恳求祢帮助我终生爱主、尊主为大，并带领我的家庭和后代来归向主，直到见主面。阿们！



LETTER TO JESUS

Dear Jesus,

You are hope, peace, joy and love. Let your light shine in the darkness this Christmas.

For those whose world is marked by chaos, for the millions displaced and separated from loved ones, for those who grieve, for those who are ill, for those who cannot rejoice this Christmas season.

Dr. Tan Ee Yan (STM Lecturer)

Dear Jesus,

You are an indescribable gift that is to be celebrated during this season of joy.

You are the reason I have made it this year, with breakthroughs to celebrate.

Your faithfulness and unconditional love fuels me daily.

Your mercy and grace are bountiful beyond measure.

You came to give us love, hope and joy.

In this season of giving, I have nothing fit for a King except for a heart full of gratitude and praise for you.

With Love,

Ms. Shireen (STM Staff)

இயேசுவே உமக்கு ஒரு அன்புக் கடிதம்

அன்பு இயேசுவே, என்னில் வாரும். என் உள்ளத்தில் இல்லத்தில் வாரும். உம்முடைய பிறந்தநாளாகக் கொண்டாடும் இந்தக் காலத்திலே, நீர் செய்த அனைத்து நன்மைகளுக்காகவும் என் உள்ளத்தின் ஆழத்திலிருந்து நன்றி கூறுகிறேன்.

நீர் என்னோடு இருந்தால், என் வீட்டிற்கு மீட்பு உண்டாகும். என் கவலைகள் பறந்தோடும். உள்ளமும் இல்லமும் அமைதி பெறும். இயேசுவே, உம் பிறப்பின்போது வானதூதர் பாடியதுபோல இந்த உலகில் உள்ள மக்களுக்கு அமைதியும் மகிழ்ச்சியும், கிடைத்திடச் செய்யும். அனைத்தும் உம் கரங்களிலிருந்தே வருவதால், விண்ணையும், மண்ணையும் காற்றையும் நாங்கள் நலமோடு வாழும் வகையில் நீரே கட்டுப்படுத்தும்.

எங்கள் தேவைகள் அனைத்தையும் உம்முடைய நேரத்தில், உம் திட்டத்தின்படி நிறைவாய்த் தருபவரே, உம்மோடு என்னை எப்போதும் நெருக்கமாக வைத்துக்கொள்ளும்.

எப்போதும் என் சொல், சிந்தனை, செயல்களால் உம்மைப் பிறருக்கு எடுத்துக்காட்டும் கலங்கரை விளக்காக என்னை மாற்றியருளும்.

அன்பு இயேசுவேஎன் நம்பிக்கையை உம்மீது வைக்கிறேன்.

அன்புடன் ஜோசப்பின்

God
Redeemer
Alpha and Omega
Truth
Everlasting
Faithful
Unblemished Lamb of God
Light of the world



Dear Jesus,
Words cannot express how You have been my Sole Provider and Protector throughout these years. You have shown me that You will "never leave me nor forsake me", Heb. 13:5. Thank You, Jesus!

Ms. Leong Tzu Hsing (STM Staff)

SURAT KEPADA YESUS

Tuhan Yesus Kristus penyelamat dan penebus kami. Nyatakanlah kepada kami pada zaman kini apakah tujuan, sasaran, serta cara-cara yang benar dan asli ketika kami melakukan kegiatan mengingati hari kelahiran-Mu ke dunia, supaya apa sahaja perkara dan kegiatan yang kami lakukan termasuklah perkataan-perkataan yang keluar dari mulut kami sentiasa menjadi berkat yang mengeratkan kasih sesama manusia, mendatangkan shalom, dan juga mengajak manusia mengenal dan datang kepada Engkau yang merupakan Juruselamat manusia agar setiap kegiatan kami tidak tersasar dari firman-Mu.

Rev. Jensey Mojuin (STM Lecturer)

Saya bersyukur dan berterima kasih kerana...

Engkau Yesus, lahir ke dunia memberi keselamatan dan kehidupan kekal. Engkau Anak tunggal Allah yang setia tidak pernah meninggalkan dan selalu berbelas kasihan.

Engkau Tuhan yang selamanya kami puja dan yang kami sembah.

Engkaulah Juruselamat kami,

Putera damai dan

Raja di atas segala raja.

Ms. Delaila Singa (STM Staff)



HYMNS AND CAROLS - ORIGINS AND MEANINGS

Darren Tham | Media Staff

Understanding the origins of Christmas hymns reflects not only devotion but also the historical contexts that shaped it. When we learn about the stories and faith of the composers, we connect more deeply with the spirit of worship that inspired these works.

Knowing the background can also enhance the worship experience. These hymns weren't just written to be sung; they were composed to invite us into a shared experience of celebration. For instance, understanding that "Silent Night" was first played on a guitar in a small Austrian church gives us insight into how God used simple, faithful people to create lasting works of praise.

Silent Night



The Nativity

Photo credit: Fr. Shenan J. Boquet

Silent Night, or otherwise known as Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht, is one of the world's most popular Christmas carols, with a homophonic (accompanied by simple harmonic chords), conjunct (moves in stepwise motion, creating a calm and soothing effect), and lyrical (song-like and expressive) melody that evokes the splendour of the Nativity.



Fr. Joseph Mohr

Photo credit: Salzburger Land

The lyrics to the song were written in 1818 by a young priest named Joseph Mohr in the little hamlet of Oberndorf, Austria. According to legend, the church organ broke soon before Christmas Eve, so Mohr requested his composer friend, Franz Xaver Gruber, to arrange the poem to music with guitar accompaniment. That Christmas Eve, Mohr sang the tune for the first time at St. Nicholas Church, while Gruber played the guitar.



The 1918 Christmas truce between the British and German soldiers. Photo credit: Alamy

The song's lyrics reflect on the peace and wonder of the night Jesus was born. It quickly swept throughout Europe and gained popularity after wandering folk singers sang it in Germany, eventually becoming a symbol of Christmas peace. Its calming effect has also been noted in history, where British and German soldiers on the front lines of World War I sang Silent Night together during the 1914 Christmas truce, pausing the combat to celebrate a moment of unity.

Christian Reflections

Silent Night reflects the peace, joy, and hope brought by the birth of Jesus Christ. It encapsulates the mystery and majesty of the incarnation, inviting quiet reflection on the wonder of Christmas. Each time it is sung, it calls believers to worship and celebrate the miracle of Emmanuel (God with us).



Placide Cappeau
Photo credit: Midi Libre

O Holy Night

O Holy Night is an emotional Christmas classic that originated in 19th-century France. It began in 1843, when a parish priest in the small French village of Roquemaure requested local poet Placide Cappeau to write a Christmas poem to commemorate their church's refurbishment. Cappeau wrote the poem "Minuit, Chrétiens" (Midnight, Christians), inspired by the Gospel of Luke's Nativity account. Recognising the poem's potential, he asked composer Adolphe Adam, renowned for his operatic songs, to produce a tune. The end product was a song that became a popular feature of Christmas Eve Mass in France.



Fr. John Sullivan Dwight
Photo credit: John Uebersax

The carol, however, sparked controversy when Cappeau separated himself from the church, and Adam's Jewish heritage caused certain religious authorities to reject the song. Despite this, the carol's popularity grew, reaching a wider audience beyond France. By 1855, American preacher John Sullivan Dwight translated "Minuit, Chrétiens" into English as O Holy Night. He was powerfully moved by its message of hope and social justice at a time when the fight against slavery in the United States was at its peak.

Christian Reflections

O Holy Night reflects the holiness of Jesus' birth that inspires reverence and redemption, affirming the hope Christ brings to every soul, assuring believers of Christ's ultimate triumph. This timeless hymn reminds Christians of the mystery of the incarnation, inspiring worship and love.



The Revd. Charles Wesley
Photo credit: The Museum of Methodism & John Wesley's House

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

The Christmas hymn, "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," was originally a somber composition by English hymn writer and preacher Charles Wesley. Wesley was inspired to write the lyrics in 1739 by the proclamation of Christ's birth in Luke's Gospel. With a reference to the heavens, it began with the line, "Hark, How All the Welkin Rings." George Whitefield, both a preacher and also Wesley's friend, eventually changed the lyrics to the now-familiar "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing."



William H. Cummings
Photo credit: Discogs

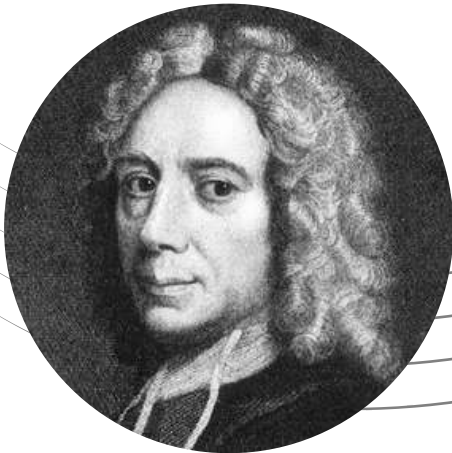
Wesley had a vision of the hymn being performed to a mellow tune. But in 1855, English musician William H. Cummings gave it a fresh lease on life by transforming it into a more joyous melody.

Christian Reflections

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing reflects the joyful proclamation celebrating God's salvation. It is more than a festive carol, as it is also a declaration of God's love and redemptive plan, inviting believers to reflect on Christ's birth and respond in joyful worship.

Joy to the World

Joy to the World wasn't initially written as a Christmas song. In 1719, English hymn writer Isaac Watts penned the lyrics as a reflection on Psalm 98, noting God's sovereignty and the joy that comes when God rules over the earth. Unlike other carols focusing directly on the Nativity, "Joy to the World" celebrates Christ's coming as a triumphant King.



Ps. Isaac Watts
Photo credit: Banner of Truth

The tune we now associate with "Joy to the World" was arranged in 1836 by American composer Lowell Mason, who drew inspiration from the melodies of Handel's Messiah. Mason's uplifting tune perfectly matched the hymn's spirit, transforming it into the song we know today.



Lowell Mason
Photo credit: Hymnology Archive

Christian Reflections

Joy to the World symbolises worship, celebrating Christ's birth and reign as ruler of all creation.

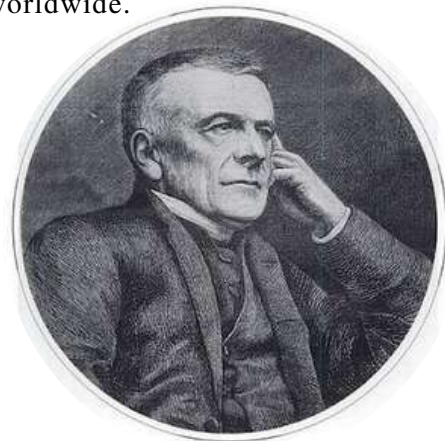
O Come, All Ye Faithful

O Come, All Ye Faithful, otherwise known as Adeste Fideles in Latin, is a Christmas hymn that calls worshippers to gather in joyful reverence at the birth of Christ. The hymn's exact origins are unknown, but it's believed to have been written in the 18th century, often attributed to John Francis Wade, an English Catholic hymn writer and music copyist. Wade is thought to have written both the Latin lyrics and music around 1744.



John Francis Wade
Photo credit: Work Out Your Faith

Originally sung in Latin, the hymn grew popular in Catholic churches before spreading across Christian denominations and countries. In the 19th century, English priest Frederick Oakeley translated it into English as "O Come, All Ye Faithful," which became the most commonly sung version worldwide.



The Revd. Frederick Oakeley
Photo credit: Work Out Your Faith

Christian Reflections

O Come, All Ye Faithful, celebrates Christ's birth with themes of adoration and the mystery of the incarnation, highlighting God's glory. It prioritises unity in worship and the faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises.

CHRISTMAS FUN FACTS

Darren Tham | Media Staff

Knowing how Christmas is celebrated worldwide opens our eyes to the diversity of the global Christian community, showing us that, despite cultural differences, God brings hope and salvation to everyone. Each tradition reflects a unique expression of faith. Recognising these differences deepens our appreciation for how God's love transcends languages, customs, and nations.

Each country's traditions remind us that the miracle of Christ's birth has inspired countless expressions of joy. These variations do not dilute the meaning of Christmas, rather, they highlight its universality for all people to come together in gratitude for the gift of Jesus.

Philippines - Simbang Gabi



*One of the churches in the Philippines during Christmas
Photo Credit: Traveler on Foot & LARAWAN ATBP & Behold Philippines*

Simbang Gabi is a devotional, nine-day series of Masses attended by Filipino Catholics in anticipation of Christmas. Simbang Gabi began in 1669 during the Spanish rule as a way for farmers, who worked before sunrise, to attend Mass. Held at dawn instead of evening, the timing allowed them to worship before heading to the fields, eventually becoming a beloved Christmas tradition.



*Bibingka
Photo Credit: Nestlé*



*Puto bumbong
Photo Credit: Roselle Miranda*

After Mass, people would gather to enjoy festive treats sold in the churchyard. Traditional foods like bibingka (rice cakes) and puto bumbong (steamed purple rice cakes) became part of the celebration, often paired with tsokolate (hot chocolate) or salabat (ginger tea), creating a cherished holiday breakfast for early-morning churchgoers.

Germany - Christmas Markets

Christmas markets, known as Weihnachtsmarkt, typically open the Friday before the first Advent and close just before Christmas Eve.



*One of the Christmas markets in Germany during Christmas
Photo Credit: Simply Munich*



Dating back to the 14th and 15th centuries, these markets originally helped people prepare for winter and brighten the dark months. Over time, they evolved into enchanting holiday markets where locals could buy Christmas gifts and local artisans could sell their handmade creations.



Lebkuchen
Photo Credit: Marti Cuatt

Lebkuchen is a traditional German gingerbread made with honey, spices like cinnamon and cloves, and often glazed or coated with chocolate. Originating in Nuremberg in the 14th century, it's a popular treat at Christmas markets.



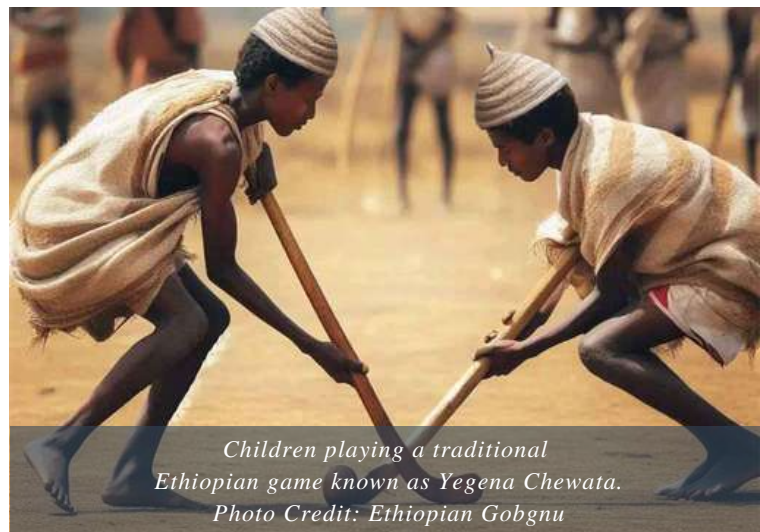
Glühwein
Photo Credit: Cavit Collection

Glühwein on the other hand is a hot, spiced wine made by heating red wine with cloves, cinnamon, and orange zest, sometimes with added rum or brandy. Served in mugs, it's a warm, festive drink enjoyed at Christmas markets throughout Germany and Europe, perfect for adding holiday cheer.



Church goers dressed in Natela, a traditional garment from Ethiopia.
Photo Credit: Andrea Kirkby

Ethiopia, celebrates Christmas on January 7, known as Ganna or Genna. Following the Ethiopian calendar, it falls on the 29th of Tahsas. Most people attend church dressed in white, often wearing a traditional garment called a netela—a thin white cloth with colorful stripes at the ends.



Children playing a traditional Ethiopian game known as Yegena Chewata.
Photo Credit: Ethiopian Gobgnu

Around the time of Ganna, men and boys play a game with a curved stick and wooden ball, similar to hockey. This game, known as Yegena Chewata (የገና ጭታ), is believed to have evolved from the shepherds who tended their flocks on the night Jesus was born.



Ethiopian flatbread with wat.
Photo Credit: Miriam Garron

The festive meal includes wat, a spicy meat stew served on injera, a flatbread that doubles as an edible spoon.

CHEESE CRACKER

Cathy Phang | STM Academic Staff



INGREDIENTS:

Cream cheese 500g
Condensed milk 3/4 tin
Hup Seng Crackers 1 pack

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Line the bottom of a square mold of any size with baking paper. Arrange a layer of biscuits on top and set aside.
2. Combine condensed milk and cheese in a blender. Blend until the mixture is fluffy and smooth. Pour the mixture into the mold over the biscuits and cover it with layer of crackers.
3. Wrap the mold with plastic wrap and store it in the freezer overnight, until firm.
4. Remove the mold and keep the baking paper. Cut into pieces, store them in a container, and keep them in the freezer until ready to eat. Serve cold.

DARREN'S CHOCOLATE BANANA BROWNIES

Darren Tham | Media Staff

INGREDIENTS:

4 medium bananas (mashed)
1 cup salted butter
2 cups dark chocolate chips (or your own preference)
1 1/4 cups brown sugar (or granulated sugar)
4 large eggs room temperature (or refrigerated ones – read note below)
2 tsp vanilla extract
2/3 cup cocoa powder
2 cups all-purpose flour
1 tsp fine sea salt
1 cup chocolate chips (or your own preference) – To be added at the end

NOTES (PRE-BAKING)

1. You can substitute sugar with natural stevia – for Keto diets
2. Eggs at room temperature helps you get a crackly top.
3. You can substitute baking spray with either cold or melted butter.
 - a. For cold butter, slice a small piece and place it on a piece of serviette (or piece of tissue paper), and wipe it across the baking pan, ensure all area is covered,
 - b. For melted butter, you can use a baking brush or pour some of it on the baking pan, using a serviette (or piece of tissue paper) to wipe it across the baking pan, ensure all area is covered.
4. This recipe is a less-sweet version, you can either add more sugar or substitute the dark chocolate chips with sweeter ones to suit your taste.
 1. There are many factors that will affect the sweetness of the brownie, including the bananas, sugar, and the type of chocolate chips used.



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 150C – 155C. Grease and line an 8×8-inch pan with baking spray and parchment paper. (You can substitute baking spray with butter – Refer to NOTE on PRE-BAKING)
2. Peel bananas and mash them until they look like banana puree.
3. Place the butter and chocolate chips in a heat-proof bowl and microwave for 1 minute (or until fully melted), and stir until the chocolate and butter is fully combined. (Refer to NOTE on PRE-BAKING)
4. In a large bowl, place the granulated sugar, cocoa powder, vanilla and eggs. Whisk them together for 2 – 3 minutes, or until the mixture is completely smooth. (Can use an electric whisk)
5. Add in the melted chocolate and butter and whisk until the mixture is fully combined.
6. Add in the mashed bananas and whisk until completely combined.
7. Add in the flour and salt and whisk just until there's only a few streaks of flour left.
8. Fold in the rest of the chocolate chips and spread into the prepared pan.
9. Bake for 40 – 45 minutes. The top should be crackly and puffed in the center.
10. Tap it against the counter a couple of times. When you press on it, it should feel soft underneath.
11. Allow to cool in the pan for 30 – 60 minutes.

NOTES (POST-BAKING)

1. It is important to let the brownies cool as they are still baking inside – it is alright if it feels a little gooey (Continue to bake for a little longer if it is still very gooey)
2. You can top the brownies with a pinch of salt flakes or with whipped cream and banana slices.
3. You can freeze the brownies for about 20 minutes after they've cooled to perfectly slice them afterwards (So they don't look like a mess).
4. The brownies can be stored in an airtight container, and can stay at room temperature for a few days and in the refrigerator for about 10 days or so.
5. The brownies are best eaten at room temperature.

CELEBRATING GOD'S GREATNESS

Rev. Dr. Vijendra Daniel | STM Council Member

What a wonderful theme for STM's 45th Anniversary! The current campus, the student enrollment numbers, the calibre of our present lecturers and the numerous faithful and anointed men and women alumni who have passed through its doors truly bear testimony of God's goodness and greatness.

I myself am a member of the Graduating Class of 1997 – the last batch of students at the Jalan Gasing, St. Francis Xavier Campus. I have fond memories of playing football almost every evening in the field adjacent to St. Francis Xavier, packing my old Honda Accord with 6-7 students for durians at SS2 and taking a group swimming at a nearby church member's home. Till today, I would consider my time at STM as one of the most treasured parts of my life. It was not just the academic benefits for me, but it was more of the friendships and relationships that moulded and shaped my life.

I had struggled with a personal issue for most of my life, but it came to a head just a few months before graduation because of an unhealthy and co-dependent relationship with a fellow student. Through the non-judgmental support and counsel of my dear friends and faculty, and with God's magnificent grace, I managed to overcome this very difficult situation and found my true bearing once again.

Likewise, I saw this transformational, inner healing and moulding in so many of my other peers at STM as we learnt to humble ourselves and submit to the Potter's hands. My greatest achievement at STM would not be becoming the Student Exco President or the STM Alumni Association President or even my Master of Divinity degree. It would be the realisation that God was ever willing to use a messed up, miserable, repentant sinner such as myself for his service and ministry. To God alone be the glory!

Thank you, STM. Thank you, Lord!



A WAKE-UP CALL – WITH BISHOP EMERITUS HWA YUNG

Interviewer: Darren Tham | Media Staff

Rev. Dr. Hwa Yung, now Bishop Emeritus, was known for his vision and leadership when he served as STM's second principal from 1986 to 2001. He first started teaching part-time in 1981 after theological studies in the UK, before transitioning to full-time teaching the following year. He was appointed STM Principal in July 1986, a post he held until he stepped down in July 2001.

Issues STM faced during his tenure

When asked about the most significant challenges faced during his tenure as principal, Bishop Hwa Yung highlighted two things.

“First, our national faculty was quite small then. We needed to develop a strong local team of adequately trained lecturers,” he said.

The second major challenge was that STM needed a permanent home. “We moved from Brickfields to Sentul, then to PJ,” he said, describing STM's nomadic early days. The space limitations at each location were a constant struggle. However, in the late 1980s, while speaking at a church in Seremban, he was informed by Rev. Yip Kwak Hoong, then pastor of the Seremban Chinese Methodist Church, that the Holy Infant Jesus (IJ) Sisters were planning to close their Convent in Rahang.

Bishop Hwa Yung visited the school and was immediately struck by its potential. “It was one of the most beautiful school sites I had ever seen, tucked away in a quiet corner which few knew about,” he recalls. Upon learning that STM was looking for a permanent site, the IJ Sisters offered the land almost immediately at a very reasonable price. “They just told me, ‘If you want the land, you can have it.’” But completing the project wasn't easy. “We had to raise RM10 million to build the campus – a huge sum at the time,” smiling at the memory of that ambitious goal. But by God's grace, STM's permanent home was completed by the end of 1997.



STM at Sentul (1983-1991).



STM at Xavier Hall, Jalan Gasing, PJ (1991 - 1997).



Rahang Convent

“STM – I don't think ‘memorable experiences’ is what best describes my time there”

“It was my first time working interdenominationally at an institutional level,” he explained. Bringing together church leaders from different denominations proved to be more challenging than he had anticipated. “Most church leaders' primary concern is with their own denominations, and it's not always easy to get them to work together.”



STM at Zion Cathedral, Brickfields (1979 -1982).

He also had to navigate STM's cultural diversity. "I was used to English-speaking churches, but we had students from Chinese, Tamil, and Bahasa-speaking backgrounds," he said. This cultural mix sometimes led to misunderstandings. "You think you're being clear, but different languages and cultural backgrounds can easily lead to miscommunication."

The biggest awakening for Bishop Hwa Yung was the approach to theological education itself. "STM, like many seminaries, followed a Western model, which focuses heavily on academics. It became clear to me that something was wrong," he said. While intellectual development is important, Bishop Hwa Yung believes that, at the very least, equal emphasis should be on nurturing the heart and spiritual life of the students.

Challenges faced by the institution and faculty

Over the years, STM has expanded its academic programmes and facilities. "When I was principal, we only had programmes up to the master's level. Now, they offer doctoral programmes as well," he said, a clear indication of STM's progress. Furthermore, the seminary has added Tamil and Bahasa Malaysia language tracks, in addition to English and Chinese ones.

Bishop Hwa Yung however raised some concerns about the institution's ability to handle programmes in all four languages. "My fear is whether STM has enough faculty members to support all these programmes. Would not such a rapid expansion put undue pressure on both the institution and its lecturers? Are we giving the students a fair deal? Clearly, we need more multilingual lecturers to come on board."

Rethinking theological education in the Malaysian Church

Looking ahead, Bishop Hwa Yung urges a fundamental rethink about theological education. "STM, like many non-Western seminaries, has been following a Western academic model all this time. But the Western churches are in serious decline. Why then are we still using a model that is not working?"

"As a former principal of STM, I acknowledge that I too am partly responsible for adopting the Western model of theological training." The problem however is that it is possible in the West for students to graduate knowing more about the theories concerning the Bible's formation and origins than about the Bible itself. "When I was teaching theology, I used to tell my students, 'I don't care what you believe at the end of this course. But if you say that you believe something, you must be able to show that that is what the Bible really teaches.'" Is it too much to require our graduates to have such a rigorous grasp of Scripture?

"Another problem faced is that almost all our textbooks are written in the West and largely addressing Western questions. For example, proving the existence of God is a key question in Western philosophy. But in Asia, that is a non-question because most people believe in God in some form or other. Rather, the question for us is how can we know who is the true God? So, are our students taught to answer the actual questions asked within our sociopolitical and cultural context?"

"Furthermore, too much emphasis today is placed on the leadership idea. Despite all the talk about the need to train leaders for the church, you do not find a single verse teaching that in the Scriptures! Rather, the New Testament repeatedly focused on discipleship and character formation, urging us in the strongest possible manner to live and function as servants in the church. Thus, in Mark 10:45, Jesus reminded his disciples to follow his example, 'For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.' Great leadership is of course needed in the church but it is always the fruit of genuine servanthood. Any wonder why both Jesus and his Apostles used the Greek word *doulos* (slave) in referring to themselves?" But how much of this spirit of servanthood is seen in our graduates after their years of training?





Rahang Convent



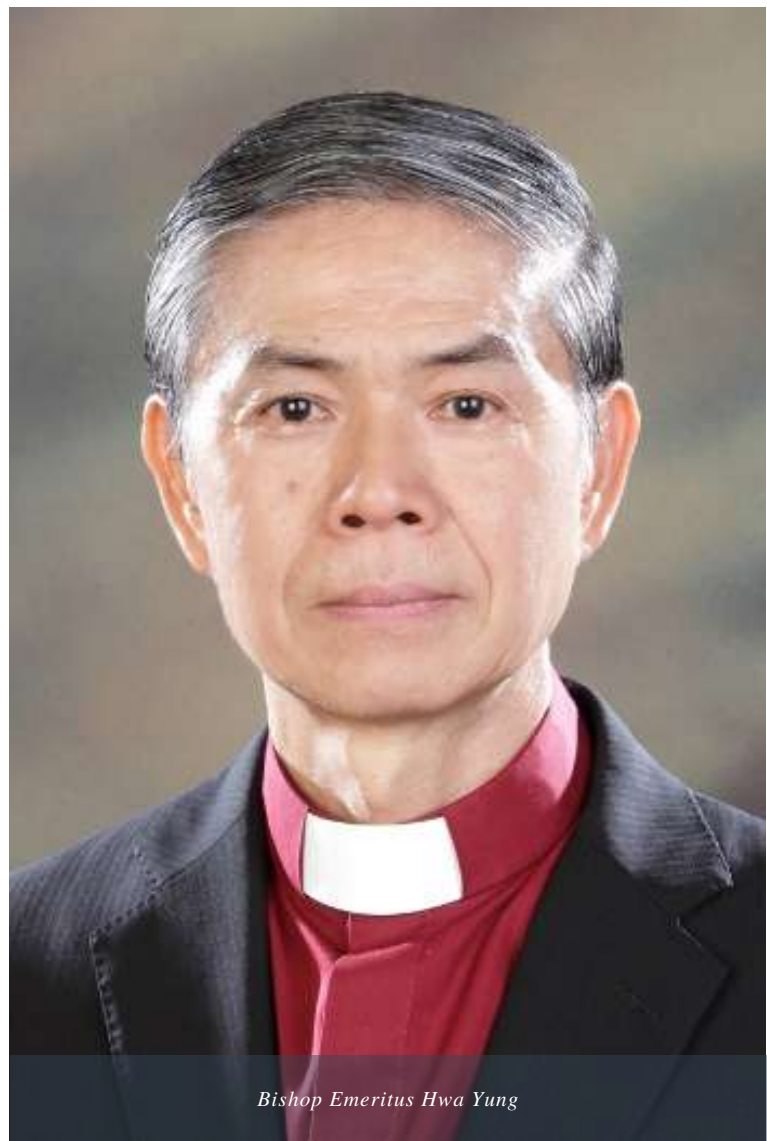
Rahang Convent

A life of prayer

Is our primary goal to train scholars or pastors? Good academic training in theology is certainly necessary for the pastoral ministry. But, as Bishop Hwa Yung notes, “It is interesting that St Francis Assisi, the medieval monk who founded the Franciscan Order, allowed his monks to undergo theological training on one condition – as long as it did not ‘extinguish the habit of prayer.’” Down the ages, wherever the Kingdom is advancing and the church growing, the training of God’s ministers has always given priority to their grounding in Scripture and the development of their prayer life. But in modern theological education, these emphases have often taken a back seat.”

Bishop Hwa Yung goes on to argue that if we want our students to become people of prayer and truly know the Bible, then the faculty themselves must model these qualities. It’s not enough to teach about prayer or Scripture; students need to see these qualities lived out by their mentors. “If a student does not see their lecturer as a person of prayer, they won’t take the spiritual life seriously. Likewise, if the lecturer doesn’t show a deep grasp of Scripture, students won’t feel compelled to immerse themselves in it.”

“The Christian life and the health of the church ultimately depend on building them upon the solid rock of God’s Word and its authority on the one hand and on our daily communion with God through prayer on the other. Take these twin pillars away, the church begins to die.” If this is true, how can STM position itself to help build a strong and prayerful Malaysian church in the years ahead?



Bishop Emeritus Hwa Yung

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:45

STM GRADUATION DINNER 2024

Noel Nickson A/L George | 2024 STM Graduate

Success comes from hard work, and the 42nd Graduation Service held at One Destiny Restaurant, Seremban, was a magnificent event to catch sight of. Graduands, guests, alumni and well-wishers came together for a spectacular and well-planned dinner the night before the Graduation Service, marking the start of the celebration with a night of appreciation and fellowship. The evening started with gentle evening lights that created a cosy and inviting setting. The music also contributed to the event's elegance. Students performed various performances in a variety of languages, showcasing STM's rich, colourful, diverse, and vibrant community. To further recognise the graduands' success, they received gifts and complimentary tokens. The well-planned evening brought everyone together in singing and praising, celebrating God's greatness towards the graduands. It was a very emotional time for them as they look back at the years of perseverance and hard work that brought them to this important accomplishment with God's help.



STM GRADUATION SERVICE 2024

Noel Nickson A/L George | 2024 STM Graduate

The 42nd Graduation Service was a memorable event that was full of gladness, thankfulness and a sense of achievement. A day after an evening of fellowship, the celebration continued with a service that celebrated the greatness of God and the dedication of the seminarians who successfully completed their theological training. The 78 graduands from various programmes represented an important turning point in their academic and spiritual lives. Praise God!

In an effort to create a warm and inviting environment, light refreshments were offered to the graduands' families and guests prior to the service. When the service began, it became evident that God's blessings filled every aspect of the event. The graduands looked back on their journey of ups and downs and, above all, how God steadfastly blessed them during their studies and time at STM.

One of the highlights of the event was Bishop Steven Abbarow's inspiring sermon, which he delivered from Psalm 95. The graduands, whom will soon be entrusted with the care of God's flock, were encouraged by his sermon of the value of listening to God. In addition to the encouragement, they were advised to worship humbly, and to serve God's people with wisdom and grace.

After the service, the air was filled with laughter and happiness as family members and guests got together to have their pictures taken with the graduates. They were celebrating God's grace in the graduates' life throughout their journey in

STM. It was a touching sight to behold. Undoubtedly, the day came to an end when the graduates left the seminary to prepare for the next phase of their lives with faith and God's guidance going forward.

*"I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth."
Psalm 121: 1-2*



FACULTY AND STAFF OUTING

Darren Tham | Media Staff



Faculty and staff at the Perak Museum, Taiping.

From the 28th to 30th of October, more than 30 faculty and staff members, as well as some family members enjoyed memorable trip to Taiping, Perak. This was a time where we could grow closer and create memories together.

We started early on Monday morning, gathering at STM grounds by 7:45 AM. After loading up, we were off to Ipoh for a delicious Indian lunch at Tandoor Grill.

From there, we headed to the Church of the Holy Spirit to join in an ordination service. We celebrated this joyful occasion with our alumni, Rev. Samuel Das A/L Mahendiran, Rev. Allen Selvadas, Rev. Juriel bin Juns, Rev. Vincent Appadurai, Rev. Bah Rino, Rev. Bah Pian, Rev. Bah Pani, and Rev. Jason Song Wei Kiat, who were ordained priests. Apart from that, Ev. Lee Soo Tian, Ev. Emmanuel Nickson A/L George, Ev. Paul Muthukrishnan, Ev. Joshua Manogaran, and Ev. Davina David, were ordained Deacons and Deaconess. Afterward, we enjoyed dinner at the church hall before leaving for Taiping, checking into Hotel Taiping Perdana at about 10 PM.



The ordination service at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Ipoh.



Ms. Vernie and Rev. Sophia holding a birthday cake at the lobby of Hotel Taiping Perdana.

Upon reaching the hotel, we celebrated both Rev. Sophia and Ms. Vernie's birthday, which was only a day apart, the 28th and 29th of October.



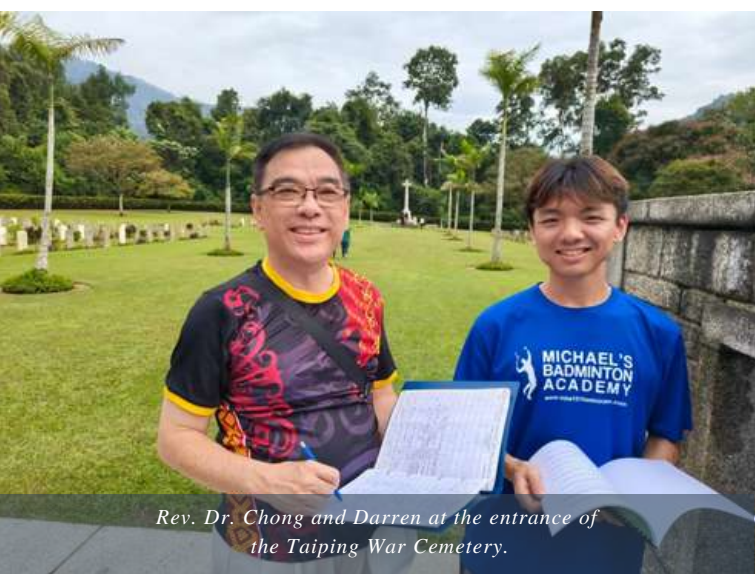
A roastmaster manning a station at the An Tong coffee mill.

Tuesday was a day packed with adventure, as we started with a hearty breakfast at the hotel, where options ranged from traditional Malaysian cuisine like Nasi Lemak to Western treats like sausages and cereals. From there, we visited the Perak Museum, marveling at artifacts such as the Sundang. Our next stop was An Tong Coffee, where we got to know their coffee-making process and savoured fresh brews before embarking on a boat ride at Kuala Sepetang.



Faculty and staff on the boat cruising along the Sepetang River (Sungai Sepetang).

As we cruised along the river, watching fish being raised and eagles diving gracefully for food, we were reminded of God's creation in all its beauty. Lunch that day was a seafood feast that showcased the area's fresh catch.



Rev. Dr. Chong and Darren at the entrance of the Taiping War Cemetery.

Later in the afternoon, we visited the Taiping War Cemetery, a tranquil resting place that honours those who gave their lives during World War II.

Our final stop was All Saints' Church, Malaysia's oldest Anglican church, built in 1886. With its peaceful atmosphere, it felt like a step back in time. We took a tour of the church and received a briefing on its history by the Vicar's Warden of the church, Mr. Steven Ong.



The All Saints' Church, Taiping.



Faculty and staff inside All Saints' Church, along with Mr. Steven Ong who briefed us about the church's history.

After a tea break there, we wrapped up the day with dinner at a local food court, and some of us even ventured out to explore Taiping Mall.

On our last day, after breakfast and check-out, we made a few final stops—a charcoal stall, a biscuit factory, and Kampung Kacang Putih in Ipoh, famous for its local snacks. After one last tea break at an RnR, we headed home to STM with full hearts, thankful for each moment that God had given to each of us throughout this trip to Taiping.

参加美国圣经文学协会（SBL）2024年度会议

温碧琴传道 | 中文部讲师



摄影于SBL Annual Business Meeting中的颁奖仪式上，（从左到右）与Steed Vernyl Davidson（执行主任）、Tamara Cohn Eskenazi（会长）和Hugh Rowland Page, Jr.（理事会主席）合影留念。



在小休期间，与具代表性的女性学者郭佩兰(Kwok Pui Lan)（左一）和余莲秀(Gale A. Yee)（左二）相识并合影留念。



摄影于SBL赞助的住宿酒店顶楼，窗外可俯瞰圣地亚哥美丽的港湾。

2024年11月，我有机会前往美国加利福尼亚州圣地亚哥，参加由美国圣经文学协会（Society of Biblical Literature, SBL）举办的年度会议。SBL是全球最古老且最大的圣经学术组织，现有超过7000名会员，致力于从多学科的角度进行圣经的批判性研究。通过其举办的各类学术活动，SBL不仅支持学术研究，也促进公众对圣经及其影响力的深入理解。此次会议吸引了来自世界各地四千多位学者、教授、博士等，大家共同分享最新的研究成果和学术思潮。此次会议我有机会与吴慧芬博士一同前行，携手参与这场学术盛会。在会议期间，慧芬博士也发表了关于《雅歌》的研究文章，展示她在该领域的深厚造诣。我们相互交流学术观点，共同探讨许多圣经研究的前沿问题，使这次经历更加充实与难忘。对于我而言，这是一次无与伦比的学习与成长机会。

我对SBL的认识始于攻读神学硕士学位。由于SBL年度会议的举办地远在美国，而且相关费用不菲，因此过去我只能通过间接性途径了解这一学术盛会。然而，2020年疫情爆发后，SBL首次开启线上会议模式，使我得以在2021和2022年以虚拟身份参与其中。两次线上会议让我接触到一些前沿的学术研究与思考，并从中获益良多。2023年，SBL年度会议恢复线下举行，同时也推出全球虚拟会议（Global Virtual Meeting, GVM）。我有机会在该会议上发表我的学术文章——《叙事艺术解读：约拿书的讽刺手法》。连续几次的参与让我深刻感受到SBL浓厚的学术氛围。今年，我非常感恩获得SBL颁发国际旅游奖（SBL International Travel Award），该奖项为我提供了大部分所需的经费，使我能够实现首次亲自赴美参加SBL年度会议的梦想。此次会议不仅是一次重要的学术盛会，也成为我个人神学研究旅程中的一段宝贵经历。

在圣地亚哥的SBL会议期间，我聆听了来自不同领域学者研究的发表、透过小组讨论以及多场学术交流活动，大大开阔我的视野。其一令我印象深刻的是“SBL女会员早餐”（SBL Women Members Breakfast）。这是SBL专为女性学者提供的一个社交平台，不仅展现了SBL对女性在圣经学术领域贡献的关注，也促进了跨学科的对话与合作。在这活动中，我结识了来自世界各地的学者，大家分享各自的研究经验和学术方向，拓宽了我的学术视野。

此外，SBL会议期间还举办了多个由学术出版社主办的聚餐与社交平台。这些活动不仅让我了解到圣经学术出版的最新动态，也提供我与一些曾在我的毕业论文中引用过的学者面对面交流的机会。在与他们的讨论中，我获得了不少新的学术启发，尤其是在圣经叙事与解读方面。这种深入的学术互动，不仅让我获益匪浅，也激发我欲进一步研究的热情和动力。最令我难忘的是，与前辈学者们的讨论让我从不同的角度重新审视圣经研究课题，深化我对某些问题的理解，并拓展我对神学问题的思考视野。

总体而言，亲身参与SBL年度会议让我深切感受到学术研究的全球化和多样性。通过与世界各地学者的交流，不仅拓宽了我的视野，也提升了我在圣经学术领域的研究水平。我特别感激马来西亚神学院给予的支持以及对师资的栽培，使我能够获得这次宝贵的机会，也感谢上帝的引领，让我在学术道路上不断前行。此次会议的经历无疑将在我未来的研究中产生深远影响，激励我继续探索和进步，致力于在圣经学术领域做出更多贡献。



有机会认识并聆听J. Richard Middleton教授分享其学术研究，仿佛一见如故。在书展中，再度与教授相遇，并获赠其著作，抓紧时间合影留念。



吴慧芬博士发表她研究关于《雅歌》的学术文章。



SBL会议结束后，有机会前往富勒神学院与谢挺博士会面交流（右一）。

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE



会议期间认识了一群女性拉比。

CHRISTMAS POTBLESS

Darren Tham | Media Staff

On December 9 2024, the STM community gathered for a heartwarming Christmas potbless lunch that saw joy and plenty of good food! Over 30 faculty and staff, and some family members joined this occasion, making it a truly special day as it was the first time an event like this was held.

The event was headed by Noel and Darren from the admin office, with help from Monica, Amos, Nelson, and a fantastic team of supporters. Rev. Daniel Ng began the event with a prayer, and soon after, the room was filled with cheerful melodies of Christmas carols.

But the real highlight? Food! From Chinese Loh Mai Gai (steamed glutinous rice with chicken) to rich Indian vegetable curries, traditional Malay roti jala, and classic Western cordon bleu, the varieties were evident that most of us at STM have what it takes to cook good food. It's safe to say we might have a few hidden 'future restaurant owners' among us!

After the feast, the fun continued with a lively game where everyone had to guess the titles of Christmas hymns from a series of illustrations. As the day drew to a close, Dr. Chong shared a speech, and we ended with one final carol.

This lunch wasn't just about food or games—it was about coming together as a family, sharing laughter, and celebrating the true meaning of Christmas.

Here's to many more celebrations like this in the years to come!



October to December - Our Guests



7 Oct - A visit by the former editor of Christianity Today, Rev. Sean Cheng.



17 Oct - STM Principal, Rev. Dr. Chong with representatives from the Yayasan Cipta Generasi Baru, Makassar who visited STM for signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).



25 Oct - Faculty from the Aglipay Central Theological Seminary (ACTS), Philippines visited for benchmarking.



27 Oct - A visit by Dr. Jason Lam from Melbourne School of Theology.



5 Nov - Mr. Jacob Lee Chor Kok, the STM Council Member visited STM with overseas friends.

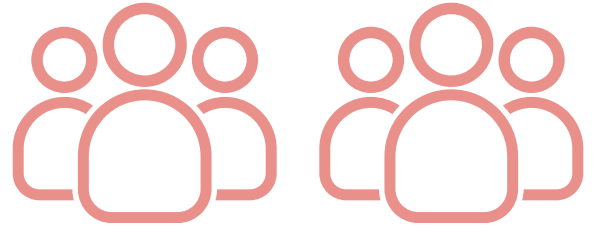


6 Nov - Representatives from The Southern Institute of Theology, Johor Bahru visited STM for signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

October to December - Our Guests



8 Nov - Rev. Philip Lok, CCM General Secretary and wife, Mrs. Ong Jin Ai visited STM.



25 Nov - Dr. Kelvin Chong from Singapore Bible College and 10 seminarians visited STM. Together with Ps. Yew Kuan Yee, Rev. Dr. Jimmy Chong, Dr. Law Choong Sii, and two students from STM welcomed them.

6 Dec - Faculty members from the Theology Faculty of Satya Wacana Christian University, Indonesia visited STM to explore potential collaborative opportunities.

From L-R: Rev. Dr. Gunawan Y. A. Suprabowo, D.Th. (Coordinator for Student Affairs, Alumni Relations, and Collaboration), Mrs. Liana Gunawati, A.Md. (Faculty of Theology Administration), Rev. Dr. Mariska Lauterboom, Ph.D. (Head of the Bachelor's Program of Theology), Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung (STM Principal), Rev. Dr. Jimmy Chong (STM Dean of Students) and Rev. Daniel Ng (STM Dean of Studies).



23 Dec - The Director of Soaring Eagle International Ms. Eunice Yeo Mee Eng (R2) visited STM.



October to December - Visits & Collaborations



13 Oct - Rev. Dr. Jimmy Chong preached on STM Sunday at Kuantan CMC.



13-16 Oct - STM Librarian, Ms. Christabel Wong participated in the ATESEA accreditation visit to Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Gereja Methodist Indonesia Bandar Baru (STT GMI).



16-19 Oct - STM Librarian, Ms. Christabel Wong participated in the ATESEA accreditation visit to Sekolah Tinggi Teologia Abdi Sabda, Medan (STT Abdi Sabda).



21-22 Oct - STM faculty member, Dss. Dr. Tan Swee Bee participated in the ATESEA accreditation visit to Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Huria Kristen Batak Protestan (STT HKBP), Indonesia.



23-26 Oct - STM faculty member, Rev. Dr. Jimmy Chong with the following accreditation team conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the degree programmes of the Faculty of Theology at Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga, Indonesia:

- From L-R:*
- Dr. Limuel Equina, ATESEA Executive Director
 - Ms. Ma. Cynthia Peleña, Director of Libraries, Central Philippine University, Iloilo City, Philippines
 - Dr. Dewi Sri Sinaga, Lecturer, STT HKBP, Sumatera Utara, Indonesia
 - Rev. Dr. Jimmy Chong Chuin Min, Lecturer, Seminari Teoloji Malaysia, Seremban, Malaysia.



26 Oct - Ps. Kelly Oon representing STM attended the Methodist Theological School (MTS)'s 70th Anniversary Dinner.



October to December - Visits & Collaborations



3 Nov - Ps. Dr. Elaine Goh preached on STM Sunday at Erntian Presbyterian Church Batu Pahat.



8 Nov - Dss. Dr. Tan Swee Bee attended the Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary (MBTS)'s 70th Anniversary Dinner.



12 Nov - STM Principal, Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung presented the STM Annual Report at the Methodist Chinese Annual Conference in Penang.



16 Nov - Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung presented the STM Annual Report at the Methodist Trinity Annual Conference at Methodist Centre Port Dickson.



17 Nov - Mr. Adam Sathiya Jeevan (Assistant Manager) shared on STM Sunday at Ignite Community Church.



21 Nov - Ps. Dr. Elaine Goh attended the Evangelical Theological Society (ETS) annual meeting at San Diego, US and presented a paper on Song of Songs in Conversation with Ezekiel 16.

October to December - Visits & Collaborations



24 Nov - Ps. Dr. Elaine Goh and Ps. Kelly Oon attended the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) at San Diego, California.



Ps. Dr. Elaine Goh presented a paper on Song of Songs in Asian and Asian American Hermeneutics session during the SBL 2024.



30 Nov - Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung attended the Bible Society Malaysia, BM Bible book launching.



30 Nov - Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung attended the ELCM 100th Year Centenary Service at Zion Lutheran Church Brickfields.



2-3 Dec - STM Faculty Rev. Dr. Lee Soo Tian presented a paper at the 10th South and Southeast Asian Association for the Study of Culture and Religion (SSEASR Conference) held at University Malaya.



2-5 Dec - Rev. Dr. Joseph Komar (Tamil TEE Director), Rev. Joseph Yesupatham (Tamil TEE Programme Coordinator) and Mr. Adam Sathiya Jeevan (Assistant Manager) visited India for future development of Tamil TEE Networking & Resources Planning.

At the Evangelical Literature Service at Bangalore, India, had a meeting with Mr. Ramesh on future Tamil TEE resources planning.

October to December - Visits & Collaborations



At The United Theological College (UTC) with the new Principal, Rev. Dr. Prof. A. Israel David (L3) and their faculty members.



At the New Life Theological School with the Principal, Rev. Dr. Abraham Matthews (R2) and the faculty, Rev. Dr. Muthu Kumar (R1).



At the Southern Asia Bible College (SABC), with the Principal, Rev. Dr. Renny (R1) and the faculty member, Rev. Dr. Francis (L1).



11 Dec - The STM Communications and Media team visited Holy Trinity Bukit Bintang (HTBB) Communications and Media Department for ideas and insights to improve the media work at STM.



15 Dec - Rev. Dr. Jimmy Chong preached at the Mentakab CMC at their first STM Sunday service.



Heartiest Congratulations



Pr. Benjamin Ang Weng Peng (2024 alumnus) and Ms. Naries Leong Win Yan were married on 1 November 2024.



Mr. Yagavan a/l Seeni Vasan (STM final year BTh student in 2025) and Ms. Christina Joana were married on 9 November 2024.



Pr. Sharvin Stephen Michel (2024 alumnus) and Dr. Joanne Grace James were married on 16 November 2024.



Pr. Benjamin Tiong Ing Soong (2024 alumnus) and Ms. Phua Yong Xin were married on 7 December 2024.



Pr. Cheng Lei Yoon (2024 alumnus) and Ms. Lo Khai Yin were married on 14 December 2024.



CONGRATULATIONS



Compliments to the following pastors from the Diocese of West Malaysia who were ordained on 28 October 2024 at the Church of The Holy Spirit, Ipoh as:

Deaconesses, Deacons and Priests

- Dss. Davina A/P David (2023 STM Alumna)*
- Dss. Sharon Suganthi*
- Dss. Eunice Ong Wei Szu*
- Rev. Emmanuel Nickson A/L George (2023 STM Alumnus)*
- Rev. Dr. Lee Soo Tian (STM Faculty)*
- Rev. Dinesh Natorajan*
- Rev. Timothy Cheang*
- Rev. Samuel Das A/L Mahendiran (2022 STM Alumnus)*
- Rev. Allan Selvadas (2022 STM Alumnus)*
- Rev. Juriel bin Junis (2021 STM Alumnus)*
- Rev. Jason Song Wei Kiat (2021 STM Alumnus)*
- Rev. Bah Rino bin Bah Aew (2013 STM Alumnus)*
- Rev. Bah Pian A/L Bah Haron (2014 STM Alumnus)*
- Rev. Bah Pani A/L Bah Harun (2023 STM Alumnus)*
- Rev. James Chung Jeng Shian*
- Rev. Vincent Appadurai (2021 STM Alumnus)*
- Rev. Paul Muthukrisnan A/L Samuel (2023 STM Alumnus)*
- Rev. Joshua Manogaran (2022 STM Alumnus)*
- Rev. David Dass A/L Pandey*



CONGRATULATIONS

Compliments to the following pastors from the Methodist Church in Malaysia who were elected as:

Rev. Sia Howe Ding (STM DMin Student) elected Sabah Annual Conference President for 2025-2028.

Rev. Lau Hui Ming re-elected Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference President for 2025-2028.

Rev. Joshua Khong (STM Alumnus) re-elected Trinity Annual Conference President for 2025-2028.

Rev. Liew Kek Ming (STM Alumnus) re-elected Chinese Annual Conference President for 2025-2028.

Rev. Dennis Raj s/o Manica Davaraj (STM Alumnus) re-elected Tamil Annual Conference President for 2025-2028.

Chinese Annual Conference on 14 November 2024

STM alumni ordained as:

Elders



Front row, from left to right: Rev. Ang Yeaw Meng (2019 STM alumnus), Rev. Seah Wen Jin, Rev. Ting Ming Wen (2019 STM alumnus), Rev. Yeat Ling Kiang (2017 STM alumna), Rev. Yip Kwai Ping (2018 STM alumna), Rev. Pang Hui Ling (2018 STM alumna), Rev. Chew Jing En (2019 STM alumnus), Rev. Huong Haw Lien (2020 STM alumnus), Rev. Samuel Lee Jin Min, Rev. Christopher Toh Ban Wai (2021 STM alumnus), Rev. Pan Wah (2020 STM alumnus).

Deacons



Front row, from left to right: Rev. Daniel Lim Kien Kiet (2021 STM alumnus), Rev. Leong Dai Mun (2020 STM alumnus), and Rev. Chew Ping Kwong (2022 STM alumnus).

Trinity Annual Conference on 17 November 2024



Rev. Aaron Liu Teck Wei (2020 STM alumnus) was ordained as Elder.

CONGRATULATIONS



Mr. Patrick in celebration of his graduation from STM's Diploma in Christian Ministry (TEE) this year. Mr. Patrick, who also serves as our Assistant Warden for Student & Chapel Affairs, is a valued member of the STM staff. Congratulations, Mr. Patrick, on this significant achievement!

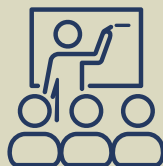


Mr. Chan Eik Kent earned his Master in Library and Information Science from Central Philippine University on June 26, 2024. In 2025, he will take on a new role as STM's Acting Librarian.



Ps. Kelly Oon graduated from STM with a Master of Theology and continues to serve as a full-time faculty member, contributing significantly to our community.

NEW FACULTY



Rev. Dr. Lee Soo Tian is an ordained minister in the Anglican Diocese of West Malaysia and a dedicated scholar specialising in Church History and Christian Spirituality. His academic achievements include a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Reading (2009), a PhD in History and Philosophy from Birkbeck, University of London (2017), a Bachelor of Arts in Theology, Mission, and Ministry from St. Paul's Theological College, Kuala Lumpur (2023), and a Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry from Cranmer Hall, Durham University (2024).

Beginning in 2025, Rev. Dr. Lee will serve in the English and Bahasa Malaysia Departments, combining his expertise with a passion for theological education and ministry. He is committed to equipping seminarians with a deeper understanding of Church History and Christian Spirituality, preparing them for faithful discipleship and ministry.



HONOURING THE 2024 GRADUATES: EMPOWERED TO SERVE, EQUIPPED TO SHINE

No.	Name	Programme	Denomination	No.	Name	Programme	Denomination
1	Chin Foong Yee 陈凤仪	CertCM (TEE)	Methodist (CAC)	41	Immanuel Tharumakan A/L David Tharmakan	BD	Methodist (TAC)
2	Felicio Binti Bulahung	CertCM (TEE)	SIB	42	Noel Nickson A/L George	BD	Anglican (DWM)
3	Jausaine Binti Julian	CertCM (TEE)	SIB	43	Paul Davison A/L Robert Vincent	BD	Methodist (TAC)
4	Joviana Binti Johin	CertCM (TEE)	SIB	44	Sharvin Stephen A/L Michel	BD	Methodist (TAC)
5	Bah Hashim Bin Bah Hindan	DipCM (TEE)	Methodist (SMC)	45	Sivanesan A/L Santhiran	BD	Presbyterian (GPM)
6	Bah Uda A/L Ngah Hari	DipCM (TEE)	Methodist (SMC)	46	Chee Siew Hoong	GradDipCM (TEE)	Methodist (TRAC)
7	Bah Uda Aman A/L Bah Dipei	DipCM (TEE)	Methodist (SMC)	47	John Musong Tusang	GradDipCM (TEE)	SIB
8	Darrez Dyaz Anak Charlie	DipCM (TEE)	Anglican(DK)	48	Khoo Ker Lee 邱可丽	GradDipCM (TEE)	Methodist (CAC)
9	Hemanathan A/L Subramaniam	DipCM (TEE)	Independent	49	Loh Khar Theng 罗嘉庭	GradDipCM (TEE)	Methodist (CAC)
10	Joham Ali	DipCM (TEE)	Independent	50	Sarah Lim Zhi Min	GradDipCM (TEE)	FGA
11	Koo Yoke Foong 古豫莘	DipCM (TEE)	Methodist (TRAC)	51	Chin Chu Yee	MCM (TEE)	Anglican (DWM)
12	Nathanael Anak Ugil	DipCM (TEE)	Anglican(DK)	52	Choong Wen Kang Iain 锺文康	MCM (TEE)	Presbyterian (GPM)
13	Nelson Anak Andam	DipCM (TEE)	Anglican (DWM)	53	Harrison Lau Lik Nang 刘利南	MCM (TEE)	Methodist (CAC)
14	Ong Weng Bing 王伟彬	DipCM (TEE)	Independent	54	Kon Hui Min 官慧敏	MCM (TEE)	Independent
15	Prakas Rao A/L Subramaniam	DipCM (TEE)	Anglican (DWM)	55	Kunalan A/L Krishnan	MCM (TEE)	Independent
16	Rajkumar A/L Sukumaran	DipCM (TEE)	Independent	56	Lim Eng Hwa	MCM (TEE)	SIB
17	Roynie Anak Handary Ngunbang	DipCM (TEE)	Anglican(DK)	57	Lim Khwang Thong	MCM (TEE)	SIB
18	Saminathan A/L Raman	DipCM (TEE)	Methodist (TAC)	58	Loh Yuin Mei	MCM (TEE)	Methodist (TRAC)
19	Sargunawaran A/L Manickam	DipCM (TEE)	Methodist (TAC)	59	Ng Kwek Foong 吴国锋	MCM (TEE)	Methodist (TRAC)
20	Sundar A/L Krishnamoorthy	DipCM (TEE)	Anglican (DWM)	60	Ruth Vinoth Amarasuriya	MCM (TEE)	Methodist (TAC)
21	Wak Gelok A/P Ngah	DipCM (TEE)	Methodist (SMC)	61	Shai Chin Lan 蔡劲岚	MCM (TEE)	Anglican (DWM)
22	Wong Kit Jing 黄洁君	DipCM (TEE)	Methodist (CAC)	62	Tan Ann Peng	MCM (TEE)	SIBKL
23	Cheng Lei Yoon 詹礼永	DipCM	Methodist (CAC)	63	Tan Tat Ui David	MCM (TEE)	Methodist (TRAC)
24	Patricia Pengiran	DipCM	SIB	64	Yap Kuan Har 叶君霞	MCM (TEE)	AG
25	Thomas A/L Margayah	DipCM	Methodist (TAC)	65	Thangaraju Naidu A/L Suppayah	MCS (TEE)	Independent
26	Chong Soon Khin 张顺贤	BCM (TEE)	AG	66	Benjamin Tiong Ing Soong 张永颂	MDiv	Methodist (CAC)
27	Chung Chow Keng 曾秋萍	BCM (TEE)	Methodist (CAC)	67	Chaw Ooi Cheng Shireen	MDiv (TEE)	Independent
28	Esther A/P Rasiah	BCM (TEE)	Anglican (DWM)	68	Eddryll Teo Leong Heng	MDiv (TEE)	Presbyterian (GPM)
29	Kumar A/L Arokiam	BCM (TEE)	Anglican (DWM)	69	Edwin Kee Kah Wee	MDiv	Independent
30	Ang Weng Peng	BTh	Methodist (CAC)	70	Esmond Khoo Yu Shen	MDiv	Brethren
31	Benny Chiew Gim Cyan 周锦泉	BTh	Presbyterian (GPM)	71	Jason Teong Jia Xin	MDiv	Methodist (CAC)
32	Ebenezer Muniswaran A/L Nagarajan	BTh	Methodist (TAC)	72	Nelson Raimon	MDiv	SIB
33	Embuyang Anak Tindin	BTh	Methodist (TRAC)	73	Nicholas Chan Choon Yeh 詹尊岳	MDiv	Methodist (CAC)
34	Esther Chan Kooi Yan 曾凯恩	BTh	Independent	74	Wilson Prakasam A/L William James	MDiv	ELCM
35	Liew Fatt Yong 刘筱蓉	BTh	Presbyterian (GPM)	75	Mao Yufen	MMin	OCRPL
36	Sarib Taimoor Ashiq	BTh	Methodist (TAC)	76	Pan Shao Teng	MMin	Anglican (DWM)
37	Sie Shaw Kuang 施绍观	BTh	Methodist (CAC)	77	Tiong Lee Chiong	MMin	Methodist (SAC)
38	Vongco Eriano Mison	BTh	SIB	78	Oon Pek Kim	MTh	Methodist (CAC)
39	Yap Zhen Yiong 叶谦勇	BTh	Methodist (CAC)				
40	Aaron George A/L Anthony	BD	Anglican (DWM)				



WELCOMING OUR NEW FULL-TIME SEMINARIANS TO STM 2025

No.	Name	Programme	Medium	Denomination
1	Ching Xiao Qian 钟晓倩	MDiv	Chinese	Methodist, CAC
2	Daniel Tam Juin 陈隽	DipCM	Chinese	Lutheran, LCM
3	Darrez Dyaz Anak Charlie	BTh	BM	Anglican, DK
4	Elijah Victor Anak Doding	BTh	BM	Anglican, DWM
5	Eusebia Clement	MDiv	English	Independent
6	Ho Chien Lik 何建立	MDiv	Chinese	Methodist, CAC
7	Hung Yin Wai	BTh	BM	Methodist, CAC
8	Jeremy Jeyaraj Christopher	BD	English	Methodist, TAC
9	Joannajothy A/P Paranjothy	MDiv	English	Methodist, TAC
10	Joshua A/L Dason David	BD	English	Methodist, TAC
11	Lily Koh 辜薇莉	MDiv	Chinese	Methodist, CAC
12	Ling Cheng Yao 林成耀	BTh	Chinese	Methodist, CAC
13	Nathanael Anak Ugil	BTh	BM	Anglican, DK
14	Neoh Hui Qin 梁卉芹	MDiv	Chinese	Methodist, CAC
15	Nesamalar A/P Govindarajoo	BD	English	Methodist, TAC
16	Ngui Yeu Yuan 魏有源	MDiv	Chinese	Methodist, CAC
17	Pang Seng Woon 彭圣文	BD	Chinese	Methodist, CAC
18	Steffi Ann Tabari	MCS	English	Methodist, TRAC
19	Tan Ling Feng 陈凌峰	BD	Chinese	Methodist, CAC
20	Then Chee Kong	BTh	English	Independent
21	Thomas A/L Margayah	BTh	English	Methodist, TAC
22	Tian Kok Chon 程国冲	MDiv	Chinese	Presbyterian, GPM
23	Yeo Zhu Ern Isaac	MDiv	English	Methodist, Korea
24	Yong Mu-Yi 杨慕义	MDiv	Chinese	Independent



研究院课程



要注册, 请扫描二维码或浏览
<https://bit.ly/stmpg-reg25>

当代教会崇拜议题的探索与反思
 Exploring and Reflecting Worship
 Issues in the Contemporary Church
 (选修)

日期: 1月13-17日; 2月5-7日
 时间: 8.00am-12.00pm
 (线上课程)

讲师
 林汶娟博士 Dr. Lin Wen-Chuan

属灵导引与属灵同行
 Spiritual Direction and Spiritual Companion
 (选修)
 课程将以广东话进行 (Lectures will be in Cantonese)

日期: 3月10-14日
 时间: 8.00am-1.00pm & 2.00pm-5.00pm
 (实体授课 @ STM, Seremban)

讲师
 黄月英牧师博士 Rev. Dr. Joanne Wong

研究方法论: 数据收集与分析
 Research Methodology:
 Data Collection & Analysis
 (DMin 必修)

日期: 6月2-6日; 9月29-30日 & 10月1-3日
 时间: 9.00am-1.00pm
 (线上课程)

讲师
 张晓枫牧师博士 Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung

进深释经与讲道 (旧约)
 Advanced Hermeneutics & Homiletics (OT)
 (必修)

日期: 6月30日-7月4日; 7月7-11日
 时间: 9.00am-1.00pm
 (线上课程)

讲师
 吴慧芬传道博士 Pr. Dr. Elaine Goh

PostGrad English courses

Perspective of James (Elective)

DATE : FEB 6-8, 13-15 & 20-22
 TIME : THU-SAT 7.30PM - 10.30PM

Lecturer : Prof. Dr. Karl Wilhelm Niebuhr

Advanced Hermeneutic and Homiletics (OT) - Core

DATE : MAY 5-9 & 12-16
 TIME : MON-FRI 9AM-1PM

Lecturer :Ps. Dr. Elaine Goh

Pastoral Care in Mental Health (Elective)

MAY 8-10, 15-17 & 22-24
 TIME : THU & FRI 7.30PM - 10.30PM; SAT 9.00AM-12.00PM

Lecturer : The Rt. Rev. Dr. Steven D Abbarow

Ageing Positively, Biblical Perspectives and Practice (Elective)

DATE : SEPT 2, 9, 23, 30; OCT 7, 14, 21, 28; NOV 4, 11
 TIME : THU 7.00PM - 10.00PM

Lecturer : Dr. Susan Chan & Dr. Wong Moi Lee

Postgrad Kursus BM

Teologi Pelayanan
 Pengembalaan
 (Teras)

Tarikh: 10-14 Mac 2025

Pensyarah
 Bishop Ng Moon Hing

Budaya dan Gereja
 (Eleklif)

Tarikh: 30 Jun-4 Jul 2025

Pensyarah
 Dr. Paul Porodong &
 DSS. Dr. Tan Swee Bee



Untuk mendaftar, imbas kod QR atau layari <https://bit.ly/stmpg-reg25>



To register, scan the QR code or go to <https://bit.ly/stmpg-reg25>



JABATAN BM

Master of Ministry (BM)



Sedang mencari seminari untuk melanjutkan pengajian anda?



PROGRAM LEPASAN IJAZAH

Ingin menyambung pengajian MMin dalam BM? Mohon dan mendaftarkan sekarang.

Kursus akan bermula pada tahun depan 2025.

*Untuk kalangan Kristian sahaja



PENDAFTARAN DIBUKA SEKARANG!



Link untuk mendaftar:

<https://form.jotform.com/postgrad/mission-application>



Link untuk rekomendasi:

<https://form.jotform.com/postgrad/Recommendation>



Untuk pertanyaan, sila hubungi:

Ms. Yap Hai Yen & Ms. Le Qiu Yi

(Emel: postgrad@stm2.edu.my | Tel: +60 012 777 2368)



MY JOY OF BLESSINGS

Patrick Rao A/L Subramaniam | Tamil TEE DipCM Graduate (2024)

My name is Patrick Rao, and I am privileged to have the opportunity to share about God's goodness in my life. Throughout my journey of faith, I have witnessed and experienced God's care, concern, and love for me and my family.

After longing for a child for many years, on July 10, 2020, God blessed us with a son, Samuel Asher Rao, allowing us to experience the joy of parenthood. What a blessing it was after waiting for 20 years to finally be called parents!

In 2021, we applied for a house under Rumah Mampu Milik Negeri Sembilan, and in December 2023, God gave us a brand-new home. Out of 121 applications, only 19 houses were available, yet our faithful God granted us one. We were overjoyed! My long-held dream of owning a house was finally fulfilled. In August 2024, we received the keys to our home. Truly, in His perfect timing, God made everything beautiful.

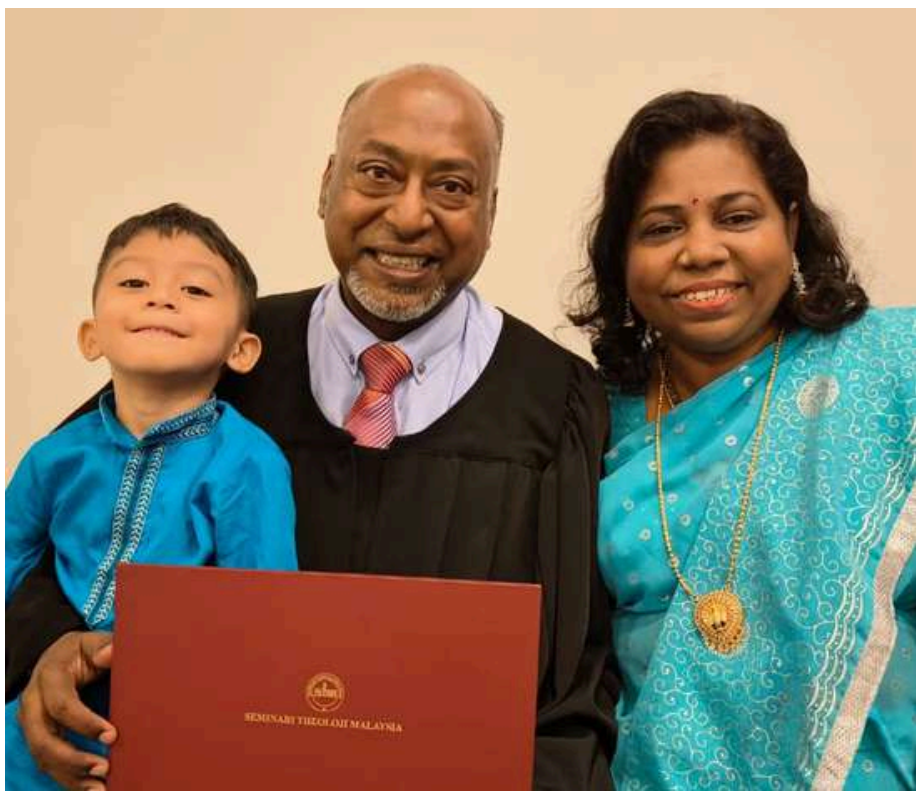
The blessings did not stop there. On October 19, 2024, I graduated from STM with a Diploma in Christian Ministry. Completing higher studies and graduating had been a lifelong dream of mine for 37 years, and God made it a reality.

God has always been faithful, loving, and caring to me and my family. I thank Him wholeheartedly and extend my gratitude to everyone who has journeyed alongside me, supporting me in all aspects of life.

என் ஆசீர்வாதத்தின் மகிழ்ச்சி

நான் பேட்ரிக் ராவ். எனது வாழ்க்கையில் கடவுளின் நன்மைகளைப் பற்றியும் அதனால் நான் பெற்ற ஆசீர்வாதத்தின் மகிழ்ச்சியையும் உங்களோடு பகிர்ந்துகொள்ள ஒரு வாய்ப்பு கிடைத்தமைக்கு தேவனுக்கு நான் நன்றியைக் கூறிக்கொள்கிறேன். எனது விசுவாசப்பயணத்தில் என் குடும்பத்தின்மீது அவர் காட்டிய அக்கறை மற்றும் அன்பை நான் அனுபவித்திருக்கிறேன்.

நாங்கள் குழந்தைக்காக ஏங்கிக்கொண்டிருந்தபோது, 10-07-2020 அன்று தேவன் சாமுவேல் ஆஷர் ராவை எங்களுக்குத் தந்து பெற்றோராக மகிழ்ச்சியடையும்படி ஒரு பெரிய ஆசீர்வாதத்தை எங்களுக்குத் தந்தார். 20 ஆண்டுகளாக ஏங்கித் தவித்த எங்களுக்கு அளவுகடந்த மகிழ்ச்சி!



STM English TEE Courses 2025

Weekly Classes - Assignment Due Date: about a month after the End of Course

Hebrews I – (Core for MDiv) (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Jan 6, 20; Feb 3,10,17, 24 & Mar 3,10,17, 24, 31 Mon 8.00pm-10.30pm	Dss. Charlotte Ng
Greek I (Core for MDiv) (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	May 6,13,20,27; Jun 3,10,17, 24 & July 1, 8 Tue 8.00pm-10.30pm	Rev. Simon Kang
Church and Personal Financial Literacy (Elective) (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Jun - Sept (incampus)	Rev. Christopher Toh
CT2 - Christology & Soteriology (Core) (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Jun - Sept (incampus)	Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung
Ageing Positively, Biblical Perspectives and Practice (Elective) (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Sep 2,9,16,23,30, Oct 7,14,21,28 & Nov 4 Time : 7.00 pm to 10.00pm	Dr. Susan Lee & Dr. Wong Moi Lee

TEE Modular Classes

Assignment Due Date, unless otherwise stated, 5 months after the last day of class

Church History I (Core for MDiv) (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Jan 9-11, 16-18 & 23-25 Thu & Fri 7.30-10.30pm Sat 9.00am – 1.00pm	Rev. Dr. Tan Jin Huat
Perspective of James (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Feb 6-8, 13-15, and 20-22 Thu - Sat 7.30pm-10.30pm	Prof. Dr. Karl Wilhelm Niebuhr
Majority Religion & Gender (Elective) (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Mar 6-8, 13-15 & 20-22 Thu – Sat 7.30pm-10.30pm	Ms. Jacqueline Hoover
Pastoral Leadership & Ministry (Core) (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Apr 2-4, 9-11 & 16-18 Wed - Fri 7.30pm-10.30pm	Rev. Dr. Siew Woh
Pastoral Care in Mental Health (Elective) (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	May 8-10, 15-17 & 22-24 Thu & Fri 7.30pm-10.30pm Sat 9.00am-12.00pm	The Rt. Rev. Dr. Steven Abbarow
NT Exegesis - Book of Romans (Core) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) <i>Pre-requisite : Exegetical Methods</i>	Jun 5-7 & 19-21 Thu & Fri 7.30pm-10.30pm Sat 9.00am – 5.00pm	Rev. Dr. Lim Kar Yong
Church History 2 (Core for MDiv) (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Jun 26-28; & July 3-5 & 10-12 Thu & Fri 7.30pm-10.30pm Sat 9.00am – 1.00pm	Rev. Dr. Tan Jin Huat
OT Exegesis – Minor Exegesis (Online Class: Zoom Platform) <i>Pre-requisite : Exegetical Methods</i>	Oct 11-12, 18-19, 25-26 Sat 9.00am-12.00pm Sun 2.00pm-5.00pm	Dr. Peter Lau

Collaboration with Other Schools

Assignment Due Date: Please refer to the respective schools' deadlines.

Marketplace Ethics for Asia (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Jan 13,20, Feb 3,10,24, Mar 3, 17, 24, Apr 7,14,21, May 19 Mon 7.15pm-10.00pm	Dr. Lai Pak Wah, Dr. Jeremy Gwee & Dr. Jasmine Foo
Crucial Issues in Asian Leadership & Missions (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	From Jan 16 – Apr/May Thu 7.30pm – 10.30pm	Dr. Tan Kang San & Dr. Loun ling lee
Ministry in Honor and Shame Cultures (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Mar 19-20 (Wed-Thu) & Mar 25-27 (Tue-Thu) 8.00pm – 10.30pm	Dr. Joseph Raj
Introduction to Professional Social Work (Online Class: Zoom Platform)	Jan 21 – Apr 29 Tue 7.00pm-10.00pm	Nur Atikah Izzati & Rajani KMK

To register : Scan the QR code or go to <https://bit.ly/stm-reg25>.

For enquiries, please email to engtee@stm2.edu.my



The Epistle of James: The Voice of the Lord's Brother? *3 cr hours*

Online Class : Zoom Platform

Date : Feb 6-8, 13-15 & 20-22

Time : Thu-Sat 7.30pm - 10.30pm

Course Description

The course will deal with historical and theological problems related to the letter of James that leads the collection of non-Pauline letters ("Catholic Epistles") in the New Testament canon. As a letter sent from Jerusalem to the "Twelve tribes in dispersion", the short text enables us to get a glimpse of the vitality and the challenges of groups of adherents of Jesus Christ in the earliest period of emerging Christianity. Living in the diaspora, they count themselves to be part of the people of Israel and seek to follow the will of God as expressed in the Jewish law. At the same time, they found their faith, as does the letter writer, in "God and the Lord Jesus Christ" (see Jas 1:1; 2:1). The aim of the letter is to strengthen the addressees in their faith, to counsel them in their hardships and to correct them in their way of life, in particular with regard to their dealing with the poor and helpless among them.

The Lecturer

- Prof. Dr. Karl Willheim Niebuhr

Born in Neuruppin, Germany, Prof. Dr. Karl Willheim Niebuhr is married with four children. He studied theology at Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, earning his Doctor of Theology in 1986 and being ordained in the Lutheran Church the same year. He served as a research assistant and later as an Assistant Professor for New Testament at Halle University from 1981 to 1994. Dr. Niebuhr then became Professor of Biblical Theology at Technische Universität Dresden (1994-1996) and later held a long-term position as Professor of New Testament at Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena from 1997 to 2022. He received a Medal of Honor from Comenius University and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Sofia. Since 2022, he has been a Senior Professor of New Testament at Jena, a role he will hold until 2027.



Scan the QR code or go to <https://bit.ly/stm-reg25> before the closing date for each course.

CLOSING DATE : Jan 28, 2025



Majority Religion & Gender *3 cr hours*

Online Class : Zoom Platform

Date : Mar 6-8, 13-15 & 20-22

Time : Thu-Sat 7.30pm - 10.30pm

Course Description

This module examines different approaches to the study of the Majority Religion and Gender. We will look at texts on women and gender relations from their scripture and law. We will also consider the lived experience of gender and women's piety, including the development of feminist theology and critique, especially in the 20th and 21st century. Case studies and examples are drawn from different contexts, especially Egypt, Iran, and Malaysia. The readings will mainly focus on gender relations in Malaysia. Topics will include marriage and family, women's rights and culture, the gendering of space, sexuality and veiling, and historical and contemporary perspectives on LGBT+ issues.

The Lecturer

- Rev. Jacqueline Hoover

Rev. Jacqueline Hoover is a freelance lecturer in Islamic Studies, Muslim-Christian Relations and Islam and Gender. She teaches regularly in Germany, Egypt and the United States. She has also taught courses for theological seminaries and church groups in Ethiopia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Lebanon, Sudan, Nigeria, Tanzania, Kenya, the Gambia and Switzerland.



Scan the QR code or go to <https://bit.ly/stm-reg25> before the closing date for each course.

CLOSING DATE : Feb 27, 2025



马来西亚神学院

中文延伸课程 2025 科目



新约导论

刘聪赐博士
叶谦恩牧师

二月14-16, 21-23 (线上)



灵修操练的节奏 与属灵生命的塑造

黄月英博士

三月3-7 (实体)



体育事工

邱君尔传道
LifeSOAR

五月20-24 (实体)



释经方法

刘聪赐博士
吴慧芬博士

四月25-27(新约) 线上
五月23-25(旧约) 线上



圣经之旅：土耳其+希腊

郭汉成博士
刘聪赐博士

五月25 - 六月7 (实体)



基督教神学 圣灵论与人论

张俊明博士

六月6-8, 13-15 (线上)



约翰福音

曾思瀚博士

七月9-11, 14-15 (实体)



旧约研究：出埃及记

吴慧芬博士

七月18-20, 25-27 (线上)



宣教学

邱君尔传道

八月22-24, 29-31 (线上)

报名程序

- 1.) 扫描二维码填写谷歌表格 <https://bit.ly/2025CTcnf> 务必清楚注明
报名修学分或旁听。
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chintee@stm2.edu.my
- 3.) 报名后请等待STM电邮回复。
- 4.) 任何询问可电邮联络: chintee@stm2.edu.my, 或WhatsApp联络:
012-6599898 (邱君尔传道)。



Lengkapkan dirimu!

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2025 TEE BM

STM Seremban

Kursus	Tarikh	Pensyarah	Kenyataan
Misi Kristian	21-23 Feb & 28 Feb-2 Mac	Dr. Tan Swee Bee	Teras
Doktrin-Doktrin Kristian	11-13 & 18-20 April 2025	Rev. Jensey	Teras
Tafsiran Alkitabiah	4-6 & 11-13 Julai 2025	Rev. Reekha Malajang	Teras

Gereja Methodist Cina Kampar

5, Jalan Kuala Dipang (Jln Naga Emas), 31900 Kampar.

Kursus	Tarikh	Pensyarah	Kenyataan
Misi Kristian	14-16 & 21-23 Mac	Dr. Tan Swee Bee	Teras
Doktrin-Doktrin Kristian	20-22 & 27-29 Jun 2025	Rev. Jensey	Teras
Tafsiran Alkitabiah	12-14 & 19-21 Sept 2025	Rev. Reekha Malajang	Teras

RECRUITMENT

We are inviting Christian Servant Leaders who are proactive, hardworking, adaptable, and team players with good interpersonal skills to apply for the following positions:

Registrar

Requirements

- English, Chinese and Bahasa Malaysia proficiency in both written and spoken.
- Possesses strong administrative skills and an eye for detail.
- Degree holder, preferably in theological studies.
- Working experience of 5 years and above, preferably in education setting.

Job Description

- Assist the Dean of Studies and Assistant Dean of Studies (Planning & Operation) to act as the custodian and administrator in curriculum management – including course naming, assigning of course codes, documentation of course descriptions / programme details, and so on.
- Lead, direct, and mobilise the team of staff members in the Academic Office for all academic related matters.

If you view this as an opportunity to serve the Lord and His people, we invite you to email your application and resume accompanied by a photograph image to manager@stm2.edu.my.

WE'RE HIRING!

FINANCIAL UPDATES



The following updates is until 10 December 2024:

Categories of Donors	Amount Received till 10 Dec 2024 (RM)	Budgeted till Dec 2024 (RM)	Excess/ (Shortfall) (RM)
STM Partners	666,819.77	1,000,000	(333,180)
STM Friends	946,342.85	1,200,000	(253,657)
STM Donors	564,726.15	500,000	64,726

As the year is coming to a close, we continue to look to the Lord to grant us grace and wisdom to cope with the financial situation due to shortfalls.

Please join us in prayer as we seek HIS guidance. We humbly ask for your assistance in sharing our needs with your family members, friends and church members. Your prayers and kind assistance are very much appreciated and valued.

For bank details, please use the below information:

Name : Pemegang Amanah Seminari Theoloji Malaysia Berdaftar
Bank : RHB Bank Bhd
Account No : 2-14389-0007093-1

If you have any inquiries about STM or would like more information on how your donations are utilized, please do not hesitate to contact our Senior Communications Officer, Ms Annie, at comm_officer_chi@stm2.edu.my for further details.

Please email your donation details to collections2@stm2.edu.my for us to keep in touch with you.

STM NEW VAN

STM Council gathered on the 5th of December 2024 to dedicate the new STM van to God's service. May this vehicle be a vessel of ministry, carrying blessings wherever it goes. We would like to thank our donors, Ms. Esther Siah Xin Li, Mr & Mrs Tan Teck Un (in remembrance of Mr. Tan's late parents - Mr Tan Yew Kee & Mdm Gan Sun Neo), STM alumna, the late June Wong Chun Kiu for their support in building our ministry.



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Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, Lot 3011 Taman South East, 70100 Seremban, Negeri Sembilan.
Tel: +606 632 2815 Email: admin@stm2.edu.my
Website: www.stm.edu.my (We are on Facebook - refer to QR Code)



Condolences 慰唁

Our heartfelt condolences to the family of:

 *The late Rt. Revd. Dr. Jason Selvaraj, STM former Council Member (2006 July - 2024 April), who has found eternal rest in the Lord on 17 November 2024.*

 *The late Rev. Nga Boon Hwee, STM alumnus, found solace with the Lord on 18 November 2024.*

 *The late Mr. Michael Moey Kam Wei, STM alumnus, went home to be with the Lord on 6 December 2024.*

*"You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you."
Isaiah 26:3*

Berita STM Committee

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