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2025 Theme:
Growing Holistically in Christ

"X" (CHI) IS FOR "CHRISTOS"

NEITHER WINTER NOR SNOW, YET IT'S CHRISTMAS

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A TRIBUTE TO A LIFE OF MINISTRY AND JUSTICE



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"X" (CHI) is for "CHRISTOS"

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Galatians 4:4-5

In 1895, Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen accidentally discovered some odd radiations that can penetrate wood and flesh, and he named them X-rays since their nature was still unknown then. Later, Marie Curie invented a machine that can use X-rays to take photographs of the inner parts of human body for the purpose of medical diagnosis. There was a popular TV series called "The X Files" in the 1990s, featuring plots of suspense around mysterious and paranormal occurrences. The Powerpuff Girls in the famous animated series emerged due to a fictional substance known as "Chemical X." Mutated superheroes with superhuman functions in Marvel Comics were dubbed "X-Men." The letter "X" is commonly used to denote things that are unknown, mysterious, or even weird. As a young Christian, I was taught that writing "Christmas" as "X'mas" is a flaw, as if "Christ" is a dubious "X" factor. Perhaps you have been taught so too.

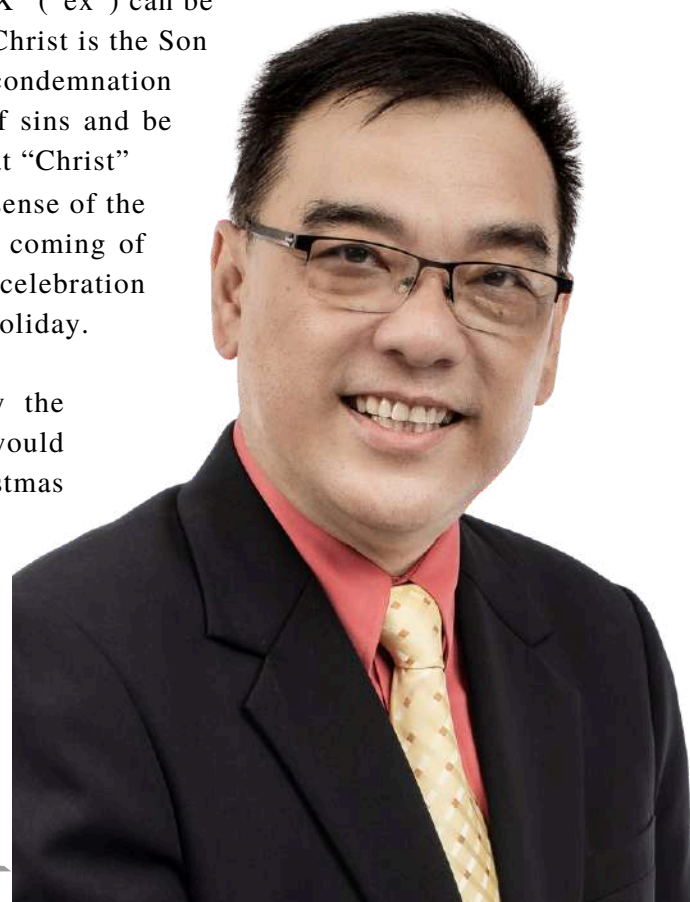
Coincidentally (or providentially), there is a letter in Greek which looks similar. The Greek letter "X" (pronounced as "chi" or "kai"; χ in lowercase) happens to be the first letter for the designation "Χριστός" ("Christ"). Among Christians in the first few centuries, the letter "X" ("Chi") was prominently featured in religious symbols to represent Christ, the centre of their worship and devotion.

People could have different impressions about Christ, depending on how they perceive him—as a doubtful mysterious character or as the God-sent saviour to the world. Would "Christ" be only an "X" ("ex") signifying vagueness and uncertainty, or a "X" ("Chi") for Christ, the Son of God, saviour of the world?

It is just a matter of shifting one's perception to realise that "X" ("ex") can be "X" ("Chi"). In Galatians 4:4-5, Paul bore witness that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who was sent to the world to redeem sinners from condemnation under the law, and that sinners may be freed from slavery of sins and be adopted as God's children. This could happen if we realise that "Christ" is not "X" ("ex") and "Christmas" is not "X'mas" in the true sense of the word. The celebration of Christmas is the celebration of the coming of Christ, the Son of God, to save the world; and not simply a celebration of an unknown "X" ("ex") to give us a reason for a year-end holiday.

I think I have gone past the stage of being offended by the "X'mas" commercials. Even if it is written as an "X" (ex), I would choose to read it as a "X" ("Chi") to remind myself that Christmas is for Christ. "X" ("Chi") is for "Christos."

A very happy and Christ-full Christmas to you.



“X”（CHI）的意义就是“基督”（“CHRISTOS”）

等到时候成熟，神就差遣他的儿子，为女子所生，且生在律法之下，为要把律法之下的人赎出来，使我们获得儿子的名分。（加拉太书 4:4-5）

1895年，威廉·康拉德·伦琴意外地发现了一些能够穿透木材和血肉的奇特辐射。由于他当时对其性质尚不了解，便将其命名为X光。后来，玛丽·居里发明了一种能够利用X光拍摄人体内部照片的仪器，用于医学诊断。1990年代，有一部名为《X档案》（The X Files）的热门电视剧以神秘和超自然事件为主题，讲述一系列的悬疑故事。在著名动画片《飞天小女警》（The Powerpuff Girls）中，飞天小女警的产生是源于一种名为“化学物X”（Chemical X）的虚构物质。在漫威漫画中拥有特异功能的变异超级英雄被称为“X战警”（X-Men）。英文字母“X”时常被用来代表未知、神秘甚至怪异的事物。刚信主不久时，我曾被教导说：把“圣诞节”（Christmas）写成“X'mas”是不正确的，仿佛“基督”（Christ）是一个可疑的“X”因素。或许你也被这样教导过。

巧合（或说是上天的安排）的是，希腊文中有一个字母与它非常相似。希腊字母“X”（发音为“Chi 慨”；小写为χ）恰好是尊号“Χριστος”（基督）的首字母。在早期基督教群体中，字母“X”（“Chi 慨”）在宗教符号中被广泛使用来代表基督，就是他们崇拜和敬仰的中心。

人们对基督的印象可能因为对他的看法而各不相同。有人可能认为他神秘莫测，也有人视他为上帝差遣到世上的救世主。“基督”到底是代表模糊不清的英文字母“X”，还是象征基督，神的儿子、救世主的希腊字母“X”（“Chi 慨”）？关键在于我们如何转变观点，因而意识到英文字母“X”也可以是“X”（“Chi 慨”）。在加拉太书4:4-5中，保罗作见证：耶稣基督是神的儿子，被差遣到世上救赎罪人脱离律法的定罪，使罪人得以从罪的奴役中得释放，并被接纳为神的儿女。如果我们意识到“基督”（“Christ”）并非单纯的英文字母“X”，“圣诞节”也并非只是“X'mas”而已，我们就能理解基督降世的真正意义。我们庆祝圣诞节，是为了纪念神的儿子基督的降临来拯救世界；而不是庆祝一个未知的“X”，把它当作年终休假的理由。

我想我已经过了会被“X'mas”广告冒犯的阶段了。即使“基督”被写成英文字母“X”，我也会选择把它读作“X”（Chi 慨），以此提醒自己圣诞节是属于基督的。“X”（Chi 慨）的意义就是“基督”（“Christos”）。

祝您有个快乐、充满基督的圣诞节。



"X" (KAI) adalah untuk "KRISTUS" ("CHRISTOS")

Namun, setelah genap waktunya, maka Allah mengutus Anak-Nya, yang lahir daripada seorang perempuan, dan takluk kepada hukum Taurat. Dia diutus untuk menebus mereka yang takluk kepada hukum Taurat, supaya kita diterima menjadi anak. (Galatia 4: 4-5)

Pada tahun 1895, Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen secara tidak sengaja menemui beberapa sinaran ganjil yang boleh menembusi kayu dan tubuh manusia, dan dia menamakannya sinar-X kerana sifatnya masih belum diketahui ketika itu. Kemudian, Marie Curie mencipta mesin yang boleh menggunakan sinar-X untuk mengambil gambar bahagian dalam badan manusia untuk tujuan diagnosis perubatan. Pada tahun 1990-an, terdapat satu siri TV popular berjudul "The X Files" yang memaparkan plot saspens mengenai kejadian misteri dan paranormal. Dalam satu siri animasi terkenal, Powerpuff Girls muncul disebabkan bahan kimia fiksi yang disebut "Chemical X." Wira-wira bermutasi dengan fungsi manusia luar biasa dalam Marvel Comics digelar sebagai "X-Men." Huruf "X" amat biasa digunakan untuk menggambarkan perkara yang tidak diketahui, bersifat misteri, bahkan pelik. Semasa saya masih muda dalam iman Kristian, saya pernah diajar bahawa menulis "Krismas" sebagai "X'mas" adalah satu kesalahan, seolah-olah "Kristus" adalah faktor "X" yang meragukan. Mungkin anda juga telah diajar begitu.

Secara kebetulan (atau hikmah ilahi), terdapat satu huruf Yunani yang nampak serupa dengan huruf "X." Secara kebetulan juga, huruf Yunani "X" (disebut sebagai "kai"; χ dalam bentuk huruf kecil) ini adalah huruf pertama untuk perkataan "Χριστός" ("Kristus"). Golongan penganut Kristian dalam beberapa abad pertama biasa sekali menggunakan huruf "X" ("kai") sebagai simbol agama untuk mewakili Kristus, iaitu objek ibadat dan penyembahan mereka.

Tanggapan tentang Kristus mungkin berbeza di antara individu, ini bergantung kepada persepsi mereka terhadap Dia, sama ada mereka memandang Kristus sebagai watak misteri yang diragui atau sebagai penyelamat yang dihantar oleh Tuhan ke dunia. Adakah "Kristus" hanyalah huruf "X" yang menandakan keraguan dan ketidakpastian, atau "X" ("kai") bagi Kristus, Anak Tuhan, penyelamat dunia? Kekeliruan ini boleh diselesaikan sekiranya seseorang itu sudi mengalih persepensya untuk menyedari bahawa huruf "X" itu boleh menjadi "X" ("kai"). Dalam Galatia 4: 4-5, Paulus bersaksi bahawa Yesus Kristus adalah Anak Tuhan yang diutus ke dunia untuk menebus orang berdosa daripada pengadilan di bawah hukum Taurat, agar orang berdosa boleh dibebaskan daripada pengabdian dosa dan diangkat sebagai anak-anak Tuhan. Ini boleh berlaku jika kita menyedari bahawa "Kristus" bukanlah huruf "X" semata-mata, dan "Krismas" bukan "X'mas" dalam erti kata sebenar. Perayaan Krismas ialah perayaan kedatangan Kristus, Anak Tuhan, untuk menyelamatkan dunia; dan bukan semata-mata perayaan demi huruf "X" yang tidak diketahui maksudnya hanya untuk bercuti pada setiap hujung tahun.

Saya fikir saya tidak akan tersinggung lagi dengan perkataan "X'mas" dalam pelbagai siaran iklan. Walaupun ia ditulis sebagai huruf "X", saya memilih untuk membacanya sebagai "X" ("kai") untuk mengingatkan diri saya sendiri bahawa Krismas adalah untuk Kristus. "X" ("kai") adalah untuk "Kristus" ("Christos").

Selamat menyambut Krismas, dan semoga Krismas anda dipenuhi dengan Kristus.



Pray For STM

Our Faculty

Our faculty is currently busy with their lesson plans and syllabus for next year's semester. Pray that they will all continue to be healthy, united, faithful, and fruitful.

NEITHER WINTER NOR SNOW, YET IT'S CHRISTMAS!

Rolina Jaslin Steven | Faculty-in-Development

I come from a small village in Kota Marudu, Sabah. I started participating in church activities in 2009. One of the most memorable times for me was the Advent and Christmas seasons. During those times, we, the youth, happily worked together at the church, even though there were only a few of us. Since it was the school holidays, we went to the church almost every day. We ate Maggi noodles, practiced Christmas carols, and made lanterns together. Those moments were filled with friendship and togetherness that I will always cherish.

One thing I will never forget was when we went *keroling* (caroling) door to door at night. Usually, when we visited church members' houses, it would start to rain. I remembered my cousin, who is also my close friend, asking this question, "Why does it rain during Christmas in Malaysia instead of snowing?" That question made us all laugh!

Keroling was not easy. We got wet because of the rain, and there were not enough umbrellas to share. Sometimes we slipped on the roads, got bitten by ants, and one time, my friend's hair even caught fire from a candle while we were singing!

It was a challenging yet fun and joyful experience. We were happy because we worked together to share the good news; the joyful message that Jesus Christ, our Saviour, was born!



Resting before continuing our journey



One quick snap, and we're ready to go!



*Christmas event at
PCS Ulu Kukut, Kota Belud*



*The process of making a
lantern from bamboo*



John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN PCS: STARTER PACK!

Rolina Jaslin Steven | Faculty-in-Development

I would like to share my involvement with caroling at my home church. The Protestant Church in Sabah (PCS) is mostly located in the rural areas of Sabah: Kudat, Kota Marudu, Pitas, and Beluran. PCS is very active with Christmas events and caroling every November and December. The most challenging yet fun and joyful parts are when the youth faithfully take part in caroling even during the rainy season. Below is the “starter pack” for Christmas carols, and most PCS youth have experienced this joyful tradition!



Bring a torchlight



It's better to wear slippers!



Need to cross the river



Rainy season



There is a Bible inside the bag!



Handmade Christmas card



Receive goodies after visitation



Handmade lantern



Bring an umbrella



Wear black and white



Wear Santa hat



The classical guitar is the best instrument!



Singing Christmas carols in the native language



Going from house to house with the choir



Isaiah 7:14

“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”

The Start of a New Journey: PhD Studies in Melbourne

Rev Daniel Ng Wee Jin | Dean of Studies (2024-2025)

Preparing a sermon requires two ingredients: understanding the biblical text and understanding the human text. This is why I often emphasise to seminarians that it is not enough to remain in the pastor's office to wrestle with the text, important as that work is; but that it is equally important to spend time with church members in order to understand the struggles and challenges they face within their contexts. It is our role as preachers to help believers see the relevance of biblical wisdom in their lives, and to live in accordance with such wisdom, so that our lives may bear a compelling witness to the world.

At the same time, I also recognise the complexity of human beings, both individually and collectively. While anecdotes and pastoral observations are valuable, they are sometimes insufficient for providing a more careful analysis of the problems we encounter. Often, with a superficial understanding of human struggles, we as preachers may end up offering applications that resemble behavioural modification rather than addressing deeper matters of the heart. This is where practical theology plays an important role. Through rigorous field research, both qualitative and quantitative, and through the interaction between social sciences and theology, practical theology seeks to offer biblically faithful responses to human struggles.

It is for this reason that I have decided to embark on PhD studies at Ridley College, Melbourne, beginning on 1 February 2026. My aim is to equip myself with stronger research skills, coupled with theological reflection on an issue that is close to my heart: burnout among Gen Z volunteers in urban churches in Malaysia.¹ According to the Wellness at Work Report 2024, which surveyed over 1,000 employees across generations in Malaysia, occupational burnout has risen from 58% in 2022 to 67% in 2024.² The highest rates were among Millennials (69%), followed closely by Gen Z (64%). These statistics suggest that many Gen Z volunteers are already carrying substantial stress even before serving in church on weekends.

In many attractional churches, volunteers are expected to devote significant time and energy to weekend programmes designed to welcome and attract newcomers. Built on consumerism and pragmatism, the attractional paradigm constantly asks: "Who is our customer?" and "What does our customer want?"³ While such approaches are frequently driven by sincere evangelistic intentions, an unintended consequence is that volunteers may gradually experience themselves as service providers rather than disciples in the making. Over time, prolonged immersion in such demanding environments can contribute to burnout, a form of chronic stress characterised by emotional and physical exhaustion, cynicism toward work, and a growing sense of ineffectiveness.⁴



[1] Gen Z refers to individuals born between 1997 and 2012, who are approximately 13–28 years old in 2025.

[2] Employment Hero, *Wellness at Work Report 2024*, statistical report, accessed September 4, 2025, online via registration.

[3] Jared C. Wilson, *The Gospel-Driven Church: Uniting Church-Growth Dreams with the Metrics of Grace* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019), 25.

[4] Christina Maslach and Michael P. Leiter, *The Truth About Burnout: How Organizations Cause Personal Stress and What to Do About It* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1997), 17–18.

The COVID-19 pandemic further complicated matters. With weekend programmes coming to an abrupt halt, many volunteers experienced a loss of direction and purpose in how they served God, leading to increased stress and uncertainty. Pastors who noticed this heavy reliance on church programmes began exploring alternative approaches to church life. One such approach is the missional paradigm, which emphasises living out faith in everyday life rather than primarily through structured programmes. This approach has the potential to reshape the church from a place of tireless service into a space for rest and renewal. However, as churches resume activities in the post-COVID era, many have reverted to familiar attractional models, highlighting the need to study burnout among Gen Z volunteers within these contexts.

It is my desire that through this research journey, I will be able to offer a theologically grounded response to the current challenges faced by many Gen Zs, while being further equipped in my research skills. Through this work, I hope to contribute meaningfully to the Malaysian church and beyond. I also trust that this journey will provide meaningful cultural exposure for my family as they accompany me along the way.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your support in various ways, through prayer and financial partnership, in making this research journey possible.

Note: Rev Daniel will be on study leave from STM from January 2026 to December 2028.



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Grace for the Journey: Reflections from the STM Alumni Presidency

Terence Anthony Raj | STM Alumni President (2023-2027)



Serving as the STM Alumni President from 2023–2025 and continuing into 2025–2027 has been both a privilege and a challenge. Balancing this responsibility alongside my pastoral ministry at the Presbyterian Church in Port Dickson has not always been easy. Yet, by God’s grace and with the support of a dedicated alumni committee, the burden has been lightened, and the journey has been deeply rewarding.

The heart of our alumni association is to be a bridge between STM and its graduates, fostering connection, encouragement, and growth. A highlight of our calendar is the annual Alumni Homecoming in July. Organising this event requires careful consideration of denominational schedules, but God has always provided a way. In 2024, we were blessed to have Ps. Daniel Singh of Ignite Church, Serdang, as our speaker. In 2025, we took a different approach, focusing on creative and meaningful programmes—team building, prayer beads, a Passover reflection, and a special talk on Malaysia Madani by Rev. Dr. Albert Walters. Next year, we look forward to welcoming a special guest speaker whose identity we will reveal in due time.



PD Presbyterian Church 52nd Anniversary



Farewell to Rev. Daniel Ng (Interim Moderator)

Alongside alumni responsibilities, my pastoral ministry continues to be a source of joy and learning. Our church recently celebrated its 52nd anniversary on November 9 with a combined service—a moment of thanksgiving and farewell to our interim moderator, Rev. Daniel Ng Wee Jin, who also serves as STM’s Dean of Studies. Within our congregation, cell groups have been vibrant expressions of faith in action: one group ministers monthly at a drug rehabilitation centre, while another recently organised a hike at Tanjung Tuan Forest, strengthening fellowship and discipleship.

The challenges of leadership, whether in church or alumni work, are many. Yet each step has been a learning process, reminding me to trust in God’s guidance. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve, to witness the faithfulness of God in both STM Alumni and my local church, and to walk alongside brothers and sisters in Christ as we continue to build His kingdom together.

“Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain” (Psalm 127:1). May we continue to labour faithfully, trusting Him to lead us forward.



2025-2027 Alumni Association Committee



2025 Alumni Homecoming

Formed to Serve: Reflections from Our Journey at Seminari Theoloji Malaysia

By siblings Sarib Taimoor Ashiq (BTh-2024) and Sheeza Shaleen Ashiq (DipCM-2025)

Looking back on our time at Seminari Theologi Malaysia (STM), we can both say without hesitation that it has been one of the most formative chapters of our lives. It is often said that education shapes the mind, but in the case of STM, it goes far deeper; it shapes the heart, the character, and the calling of every individual who walks through its gates. When we first began our journey, we were filled with anticipation, curiosity, and perhaps a fair bit of uncertainty. Yet as the semesters went by, we found ourselves being molded in ways we didn't quite expect. The experience was not merely academic; it was deeply spiritual, practical, and communal. Through the classes, chapel sessions, pastoral group discussions, and field education, we began to understand that theology is not confined to the pages of textbooks; it comes alive in how we live, serve, and relate to others.

Through the experiences we gained at STM, we have learned that ministry is not simply about doing, but about being, being present, being compassionate, being faithful. This has proven to be an integral aspect of our ministerial journey, that we learned the importance of pausing to listen before speaking, of seeking understanding before offering answers, and of walking humbly before God and people. The myriads of courses and activities offered at STM provided us with a rich tapestry of learning experiences. From systematic theology to pastoral care, from biblical exegesis to field education, each subject carried lessons that were not only intellectually stimulating but spiritually grounding. There were moments when we found ourselves questioning certain teachings or wondering about their relevance. But over time, as we stepped into active ministry, those very lessons began to make sense. We realised that the seeds planted during our years of learning were now bearing fruit, guiding us in conversations, helping us navigate challenges, and shaping our responses to real-life ministry situations.



Of course, like any journey of growth, it wasn't without its challenges. There were moments of discouragement, seasons of burnout, and times when appreciation seemed scarce. Yet it was in those very moments that we were reminded of something our lecturers and pastoral group tutors often emphasised, that we serve not for recognition, but out of obedience to the One who called us. Our calling is not defined by applause, but by faithfulness. Ministry, after all, is not about self-fulfilment; it is about surrender. Formation is not always visible in the moment; sometimes it takes stepping into the field to realise just how deeply God was working behind the scenes.

As we look back, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the lecturers who patiently guided us, for the peers who journeyed alongside us, and for the opportunities that stretched and strengthened us. To those who are still journeying through their time at STM, we offer this word of encouragement: cherish these moments. They may feel demanding now, but they are preparing you for something greater. Let every class, every reflection, and every challenge be an opportunity for God to form you. Remember that our ultimate goal is not perfection, but faithfulness. As we continue to serve in our various ministries, we carry with us this simple but profound truth: we are formed to serve. Whatever we do, wherever we go, may our lives continue to reflect the One who first called us.

To God be the glory, always.

Anugerah Tuhan Dalam Hidup Saya

Amelia a/p Jali | Sijil Pengajian Merentasi Budaya (TEE) 2025



Pada tahun 2019, saya telah mengambil keputusan untuk menyambung pengajian saya sebagai pelajar TEE BM di Seminari Theoloji Malaysia. Menjadi pelajar TEE BM di STM sebenarnya tidak mudah bagi saya sendiri secara peribadi, pelbagai perkara yang muncul dan menjadi pergelutan dalam minda saya, dengan umur yang masih muda, pandemik yang melanda, pelayanan di kampung yang sibuk dan hal-hal yang masih banyak saya perlu belajar. Semuanya saya harungi dengan ucapan syukur kerana saya tahu bahawa Roh Kudus menyertai saya dan memberi kemampuan sehingga saya dapat menyelesaikan pengajian saya di STM tahun ini.



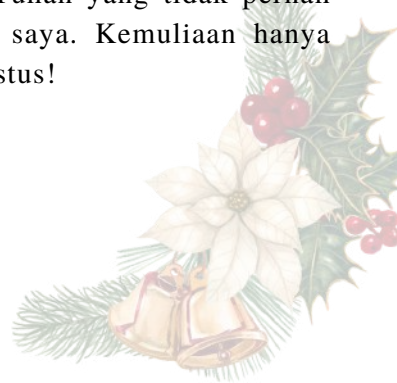
Saya berterima kasih kepada pihak STM kerana membuka Pusat Pembelajaran TEE BM di Kampar, Perak, sehingga saya dan rakan-rakan sekelas dapat mengikuti pengajian TEE BM di sana. Walaupun tidak mudah untuk saya belajar teologi, saya tetap berusaha untuk cuba memahami dan membuka fikiran saya untuk menerima pelajaran yang diajarkan oleh pensyarah-pensyarah kami. Hari semakin hari banyak perkara baru yang saya belajar selepas menyertai TEE BM.

Sepanjang pengajian bersama TEE BM, saya juga berpeluang berkenalan dengan rakan-rakan sekelas yang berlainan denominasi. Saat-saat yang sangat berharga bagi saya adalah apabila kami semua sebagai satu tubuh Kristus berpeluang untuk saling bertukar fikiran, berkongsi pengalaman pelayanan dan saling memberi galakkan diantara satu dengan yang lain.



Selama pengajian saya bersama STM (2019-2025), saya sangat bersyukur dengan sokongan yang diberikan oleh pemimpin-pemimpin gereja dan juga ahli keluarga yang telah banyak menyokong saya sepanjang pengajian saya. Saya amat bersyukur dengan semua pencapaian yang saya terima hari ini kerana berkat penyertaan Tuhan yang tidak pernah berhenti dalam kehidupan saya. Kemuliaan hanya bagi Tuhan kita, Yesus Kristus!

Amelia (dua dari kanan)



2025年毕业晚宴

黄俊仕 | 毕业晚宴筹委会主席



对于2025年毕业晚宴，我在此衷心感谢毕业晚宴全体筹备委员会，在过去半年中默默地付出，为这场盛会倾注全力。

我们在节目设计上进行了全新的构思与尝试。本届晚宴以“Beloved to love and serve”（约一4:19）为主题，提醒我们因着神的爱，祂先爱了我们，使我们得以凭借基督的爱与能力去服事人。为此，筹备团队秉持“爱人如己”的信念。在节目中注入更多元、更和谐的内容，以谦和之心彼此服事。

首先，我们在主持阵容上突破传统，特别启用四位主持人，分别以中文、英文、国语及淡米尔语共同主持整场晚宴，携手展现马来西亚多元共融的文化特色。整场晚宴中，最令人动容的莫过于各年级学生全力以赴呈现的精彩节目：诗班呈现，充满活力的旗舞表演、幽默风趣的舞台剧、悠扬动人的马来群岛传统民谣，以及富有沙巴风情的歌谣。

此外，主持人别开生面以开场舞蹈揭开典礼序幕，更邀请毕业生共同参与，瞬间点燃全场气氛。今年的“最佳服装比赛”环节同样令人眼前一亮。筹委荣幸邀请到讲师团与学院同工担任评审，他们的热情参与为此活动增添了许多惊喜。

最后，我们亦衷心感谢院方代表与毕业晚宴筹委会的紧密配合。通过无数次沟通与流程修订，最终成就了晚宴环节得以顺利进行。我们感恩学院领袖们的支持，促使2025年毕业晚宴在每个人心中留下美好而深刻的回忆。



θαυμάζειν in Bible Translation —Interview with Mr. Edwin Poh

We are privileged to have Mr. Edwin Poh, our alumnus (MDiv 2022) who is currently the Translation Officer at the Bible Society of Malaysia, share with us about his work in Bible translation, publication, and distribution. In this interview, we explore the journey that led him to this unique calling and how his time at STM helped to shape his path.

Background

I was born in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, raised in Labuan and subsequently back in Kota Kinabalu. I came to faith in Jesus in 2006, after my mother was delivered from demon possession. I was baptised and confirmed in All Saints' Cathedral in the Anglican Diocese of Sabah. I started serving in the Bible Society of Malaysia in 2022, right after my graduation from STM. In 2024, I am happily married to my wonderful wife, Jam Low.

How were you called to study theology in STM?

Back in 2006, I felt a strong calling at the Diocesan Youth Camp of the Diocese of Sabah to serve God full-time. After completing my tertiary studies, I was advised by my church leaders to work for two years prior to responding to full-time ministry. When I have worked for almost two years, I started looking for seminaries with the encouragement from Pastor Nanson Lai. By then, I found out about STM and its longstanding history in Malaysia's theological education for multiple major denominations. Coming from the Anglican denomination, I would love to know more fellow Anglicans from the other Dioceses as well as getting to know Christians from other denominations, since most Christians I know are from the Diocese of Sabah. Having been shown around by Fr. Stanley from the Diocese of Kuching and receiving the informative briefing from Pastor Sophia, I prayed for two more months before enrolling in STM as a self-funded seminarian.

As an STM alumnus, please share a short testimony about your current ministry and how STM has shaped/impacted your journey and calling?

I am deeply indebted to the multid denominational and ecumenical atmosphere of STM in preparing me towards the ministry of the Bible Society of Malaysia (BSM). I believe it is safe to admit now that before joining STM, I self-identified as a "reformed-evangelical" Christian (the definition of which is entrusted to your gracious judgment). I prefer Christian books only from specific publishers and preachers from the Reformed and Neo-Calvinist circles. In my three years of training in STM, I was exposed to how different biblical interpretations and Christian spiritualities were lived out by various branches of historical Christian denominations. This opened me up to studying more Christian traditions and guided me towards the mission of the Bible Societies. The Bible Societies throughout the world share the same mission in serving all Christian churches: Protestant, Catholic, and also Orthodox churches. I was asked during my interview with BSM if I would be fine to involve myself with the translation of the Roman Catholic Deuterocanonical books (e.g., Tobit, Sirach). I have agreed to this job scope, because after STM's training, I have deemed them as precious writings of faith still being read by a large number of Christ-believers. If it were not because of STM, I might still be stuck in my quasi-sectarian worldview and would not be able to appreciate the historically ecumenical work of the Bible Societies. All thanks and glory be to our God!



With my first batch of Biblical Greek I students, who all performed well with a 100% pass rate.



Leading a translation review with a group of indigenous pastors in Borneo.



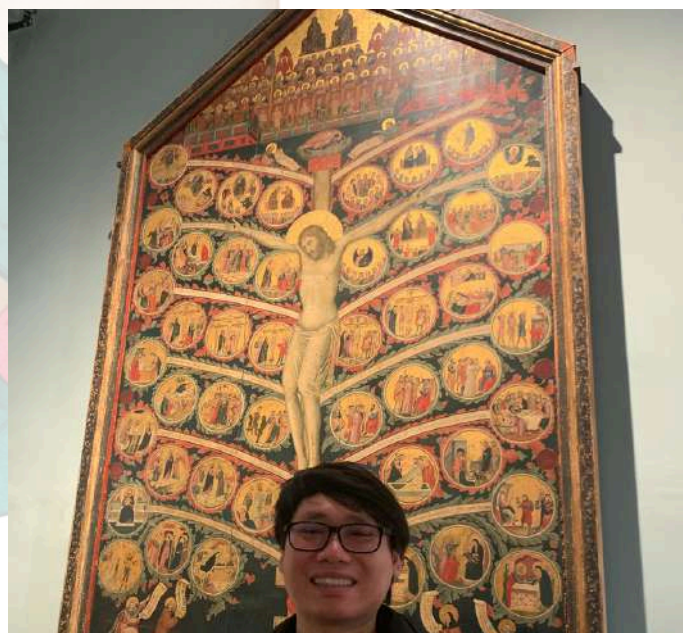
With my PhD supervisor, Prof. Philip Esler and his wife Patricia. His generous acts and kind words kept me going in my PhD journey.

How has your experience with the Bible Society of Malaysia (BSM) enriched your ministry or individual spiritual life?

Awe is the word I would use to describe how I feel about the ministry in the Bible Society of Malaysia. For some, the Bible translations done in the last century are merely linguistically outdated works. For me, these are legacies of blood and sweat from past missionaries and mother tongue translators, passed down to the next generations as an exemplar of devotion, dedication, and adoration for God's words. Even now, there are communities that practice tolerance in order to have a Bible translation in their own language; there is a translator who translated a whole study Bible in 7 years using only two index fingers to type; there are highly competent translators who passed away and having their draft completed by successors who do not even know them personally. I only realised this year how my past involvement in translation, casual interest in linguistics and anthropology, as well as my previous legal practice have all been God's preparation for me to serve here in BSM. Furthermore, as I reflect on my potential involvement in the Bible Society of Malaysia, I realise that I am but a transitory steward in this longstanding ministry of Bible translation. I can at most only give 30 years of my life for this ministry, while the Bible Society has been in Malaysia for 209 years! Plus, I barely know any of my predecessors and their sacrifices. One day, I too will pass on, and the works will be picked up by more competent brothers and sisters, who will better improve the works their predecessors have done. To quote a Translation Consultant's wise words to me, "We are in this ministry not because we are the best, but instead it is because we have responded to God's calling. The only thing we can do is to serve faithfully." This privilege leaves me only with a sense of awe.

As an STM alumnus and working with the Bible Society of Malaysia, can you share a word of encouragement to others?

My advice as an alumnus: strive for wisdom by studying the Word of God, the original languages, theology, archaeology, and even secular topics, as wisdom is found everywhere in this world. As a Translation Officer of BSM: be more concerned about Bible translation and how the Bible can relevantly address the shifting woes of the world. The Bible Society of Malaysia has always been in Malaysia to serve the churches and seminaries in Bible translation, publication, importation, and distribution of the Bibles. We appreciate the support from denominational leaders, parish priests, pastors, and lay members. Last but not least: the Word of God exhorts the ignorant, guides the lost, instructs the godly, empowers the weak, and unites us all. May the Christians in Malaysia be united in His Word and fulfil our calling among our beloved people in our motherland.



With Lignum Vitae by Pacino Di Bonaguida in Galleria dell'Accademia di Firenze. It is awe-inspiring how one controversial Person in the Middle East has tied together God's salvation history and changed the world along with its inhabitants.

Note: The meaning for the Greek word θαυμάζειν in the title is twofold:

1. The sense of awe I experienced from God upon joining the Bible translation ministry;
2. The same wonder pushes one to seek wisdom (see Aristotle's quote below).

Here's W. D. Ross' (1924) translation of Aristotle's *Metaphysics*, Book I:

"For it is owing to their wonder (θαυμάζειν) that men both now begin and at first began to philosophize"

Receiving the Rev. Tony Dumper Collection: A Tribute to a Life of Ministry and Justice

P. Sakthivel | Research Resources Coordinator

We rejoice and take pride today as we receive part of the Rev. Tony Dumper Collection for the STM Archives. The collection consists mainly of photographs (1950-1970) and printed materials, which were handed to Mr. Chan Eik Kent, the Acting Librarian, and me, P. Sakthivel, the Research Resources Coordinator, by his daughter, Hildegard Dumper, during her visit to the library on 12 November 2025. This collection offers valuable insight into his life and ministry as an Anglican priest in Malaya/Malaysia (1949–1963) and Singapore (1964–1970).

Rev. Tony Dumper and his wife, Sibylle, arrived in Malaya in 1949 amid post-war political upheaval. That year, he was appointed vicar of St. John's Church in Ipoh, where he and others actively engaged with the community, addressing social issues arising from the turbulent climate. In 1955, he was made Archdeacon of North Malaya, a role that required him to travel to remote areas of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar, and Indonesia. In 1957, the year Malaysia gained independence, he became vicar of St. George's Church in Penang. Recognising the growing sense of nationalism among Asian clergy, he removed St. George's Church property from Crown ownership and placed it in a trust. When Crown properties were handed over to the new government in 1963, St. George's remained under its own ownership.



Rev. S. Jesuthasan's ordination at St George's Church, on May 28, 1961



1953 Jan - Rev. Tony at Bidor New Village with the OMF missionaries



Rev. Tony Dumper and his wife, Sibylle Dumper

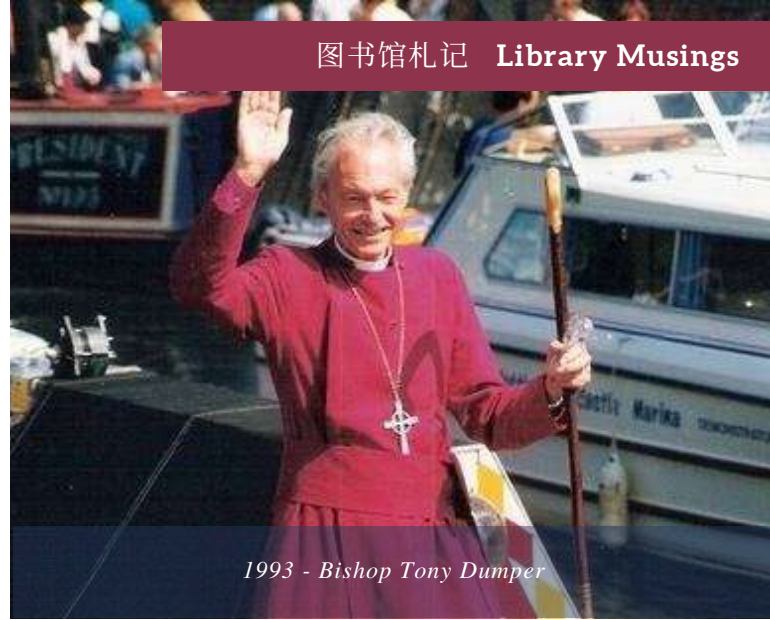


Prize giving by Sibylle Dumper at the St. George's kindergarten



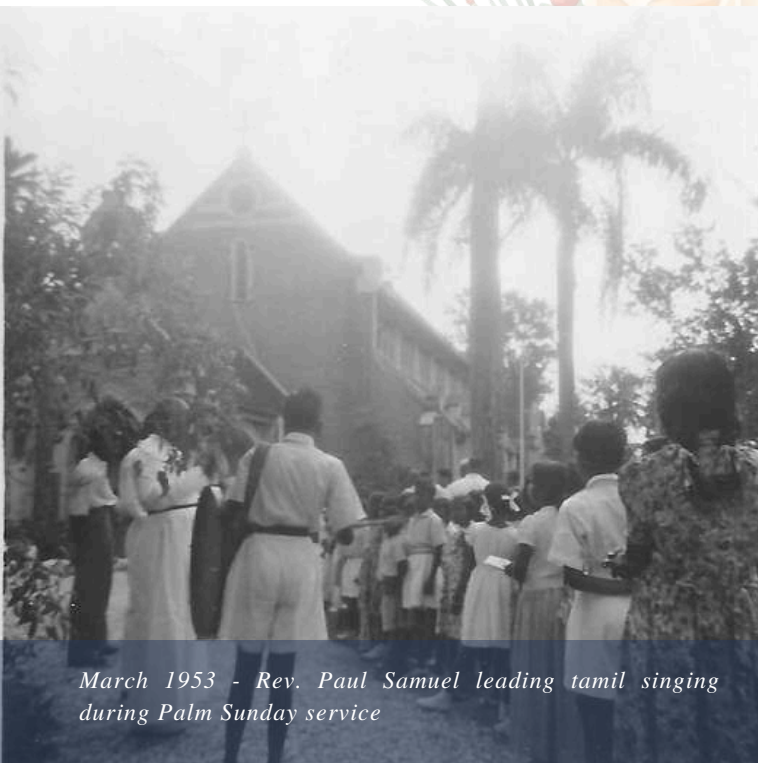
The enthronement of Bishop Sansbury at St. Andrew's Cathedral Singapore

In 1964, Tony was appointed Dean of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore. Under his leadership, St. Margaret's, the cathedral's first daughter church, was established. He supported the Anglican Welfare by allocating cathedral resources to it, as well as the Industrial Mission and the Deaf School.



1993 - Bishop Tony Dumper

Tony returned to the UK in 1970. In 1977, he was appointed Suffragan Bishop of Dudley, where he continued to champion issues of poverty, racial justice, and nuclear disarmament. He retired in 1993 to Bournville in the Diocese of Birmingham, serving as Assistant Bishop. Sibylle passed away in 2001, and Tony died on 27 August 2012 in Bristol.



March 1953 - Rev. Paul Samuel leading tamil singing during Palm Sunday service

Rev. Tony Dumper was a kind and loving man, a caring priest who prioritised his parishioners and deeply loved the Malaysian Church. His passion for justice, poverty alleviation, and racial equality was evident throughout his ministry. I had the privilege of meeting him twice during his visits to STM. On his second visit, I conducted an oral history interview with him. Meeting his daughter and engaging in heartfelt conversation allowed me to revisit the memory of that remarkable man. As we exchanged stories, it became clear how deeply he was loved and respected—not only by his family, but also by friends and colleagues.



1957 - Meeting the Penang Governor and his wife



Anthony Charles Dumper

Annual Christmas Lunch and Farmhouse Fellowship

Jason Teong | Assistant Registrar (Postgraduate Studies)



After a year of dedicated hard work, navigating challenges, deadlines, and working together, our team truly earned a moment to pause, celebrate, and recharge. The annual Christmas lunch became that perfect reward—a vibrant gathering on a sunny December afternoon that honoured our collective efforts and reignited our sense of unity in the cozy and beautifully decorated STM dining hall. Most of our faculty and staff, together with some of their family members, joined in, transforming the familiar space into a scene of laughter and meaningful interactions.

The festivities kicked off with a warm greeting and words of encouragement from the principal, Dr Chong, followed by everyone singing beloved Christmas carols. The mood lifted even higher with a simple human bingo icebreaker, where everyone moved around with their cards, hunting for matches such as “who drinks more than three cups of coffee a day” or “who is left-handed,” while enjoying their delicious lunch. Laughter filled the air as colleagues got to know one another a little better through the fun facts on the cards.

The meal was amazing, with spaghetti, grilled chicken, “tau fu fah,” kuih and many more tasty dishes. To end the lunch, everyone received small Christmas gifts—a thoughtful token of appreciation that sparked smiles and grateful exchanges.

Farmhouse Fellowship

Refreshed and connected, we travelled on a short trip to Ms Yap Hai Yen’s farmhouse. There, we saw how she is slowly transforming a piece of land into what will soon be a relaxing place to enjoy nature. Fellowship deepened over afternoon tea with light bites of cake and coffee as conversations continued in a slower, more reflective pace.

We truly enjoyed the time together. Everyone headed home with full hearts and fond memories, already looking forward to another fun and meaningful fellowship in the future.

Our Guests - October to December



27 October 2025 - Group from Xifu Training College visited STM labyrinth.



30 October 2025 - Hosted Rev. Prem, Dean of Nepal (training centre) under the Diocese of Singapore (Anglican). He is exploring to enrol his students for our MTh program.



31 October 2025 - STM welcomed students and lecturers from the University of Darussalam Gontor (UNIDA), Indonesia, for an interfaith dialogue and to better understand theological education in a Malaysian seminary.

12 November 2025 - Mrs. Hildegard from Bristol, UK, visited the STM Library and presented the collection of her late father, Rev. Tony Dumper, to the STM Archives. This collection provides valuable insight into his life and ministry as an Anglican priest in Malaya/Malaysia (1949–1963) and Singapore (1964–1970).



14 November 2025 - A group from The Christ Centre Lutheran Church visited STM.



14 November 2025 - STM welcomed a delegation from STT Sriwijaya for an institutional visit.

Visits & Collaborations - October to December



21 October 2025 - Ms. Christabel Wong, the Senior Assistant Librarian, participated in the ATESEA visit to the Myanmar Institute of Theology.



23 October 2025 - Collaboration between STM and OMF to preserve, and provide access to OMF archival resources deposited in STM.

(L to R) Ms. Vernie Woo (Admin & Finance Manager), Ms. Pauline Mak (Executive Director OMF Malaysia) Mr. Au Ka-Neng (Archivist, OMF International), Mr. P. Sakthivel (Coordinator of Research Resources), Mr. Chan Eik Kent (Acting Librarian), Mr. Ting Chee En (STM student).



31 October 2025 - Rev. Daniel Ng representing STM in attending the thanksgiving lunch of Lifewords Berhad, a seminary in Johor Bahru.



13 November 2025 - Rev. Dr. Jimmy Chong presented the STM Report at the Sabah Annual Conference of the Methodist Church in Malaysia.



5 November 2025 - STM Principal Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung, together with the Dean of Postgraduate Studies Dr. Elaine Goh and Communications Officer Ms. Annie Yee, visited Madam Mary Chen, founder of Beacon Hospital and Resorts, at her office.



18 Nov 2025 and 21 Nov 2025 - STM Principal, Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung, presented the STM Report at the Chinese Annual Conference and the Trinity Annual Conference of the Methodist Church in Malaysia, respectively.



15-16 December 2025 - STM Principal, Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung attended the ATESEA Board Meeting at McGilvary College of Divinity, Payap University, Chiang Mai.

Program pengajian STM bersama di Yayasan Cipta Generasi Baru, Makassar.

Dss. Dr. Tan Swee Bee –(STM Faculty) / Pr. Ngallinah Osinjiu (Faculty in-Development)

Setelah seharian melayani di gereja bandar, Makassar City Blessing pada hari Ahad, kelas intensif bermula. Ini merupakan kali kedua kelas intensif dilaksanakan mengikut kurikulum BM TEE. Kursus diadakan di Yayasan Cipta Generasi Baru bertempat di daerah Maros, lebih kurang satu jam perjalanan dari Makassar di Sulawesi Selatan. Seramai 30 pelajar mengikuti kursus Pengantar Perjanjian Baru (10-14 November) yang telah diajar oleh Dss. Dr. Tan Swee Bee, manakala kursus Doktrin-doktrin Kristian (17-21 November) yang telah diajar oleh Pr. Ngallinah Osinjiu.



Kursus pertama terdiri dari pelajar yang sedang dilatih untuk menginjil di kampung-kampung kawasan pergunungan di pedalaman dan juga terdiri daripada hamba-hamba Tuhan yang sedang melayani sebagai penginjil di kawasan pergunungan di sekitar Tana Toraja. Kelas berjalan dengan sangat interaktif apabila perbincangan antara teori dan praktikal dilakukan. Beberapa komen dari pelajar kelas merangkumi pendekatan yang memberkati mereka sepanjang kursus, seperti: “memberi peluang untuk berfikir dalam memberikan pendapat”

“suasana kelas menyenangkan kerana tidak terlalu tegang”

“sesi tanya jawab dan partisipasi dalam setiap kumpulan membuat suasana kelas lebih hidup”

Selain daripada belajar dalam kelas, setiap pelajar juga mempunyai peluang beraktiviti di luar kelas. Mendaki Bukit Bonto Bunga yang berdekatan menjadi salah satu aktiviti selepas kelas dan dalam masa yang sama menikmati pemandangan indah di daerah Maros.

Selepas berakhirnya kursus Pengantar Perjanjian Baru yang diajar oleh Dss. Dr. Tan Swee Bee, sesi kedua pembelajaran diteruskan dengan kursus Doktrin-doktrin Kristian. Dalam kursus ini, para pelajar didedahkan kepada asas utama Doktrin-doktrin Kristian. Pengajaran disampaikan melalui gabungan kaedah pembelajaran formal di dalam kelas, dan sesi kuliah interaktif. Pengajaran diisi dengan perbincangan kumpulan, yang bertujuan untuk menggalakkan pelajar bertukar pandangan dan menyuarakan persoalan berkaitan topik yang dipelajari. Bersama itu, pelajar turut digalakkan membuat refleksi peribadi, bagi menilai bagaimana setiap doktrin memberi kesan terhadap iman dan perjalanan rohani masing-masing.

Dengan pendekatan tersebut, diharapkan pelajar bukan sahaja memperoleh pengetahuan, tetapi juga terus bertumbuh dalam Firman serta meneguhkan mereka dalam pelayanan.

Perbincangan dan persekutuan yang sempat dilakukan antara pelajar juga turut membuatkan pelajar rasa diberkati dan dikuatkan. Terutama sekali mereka yang sudah diutus ke ladang pelayanan dan juga yang bakal diutus.



STM English TEE Courses 2026

| Weekly Classes - Assignment Due Date: about a month after the end of the course | | |
|--|---|---|
| Religion, Church and Malaysian Society (Elective) (Hybrid Class: STM Seremban & Zoom Platform) | Jan 13- Apr/May (TBA) Every Tue 7.30-10.30pm | Mr. Eugene Yapp |
| TEE Modular Classes Assignment Due Date, unless otherwise stated, 5 months after the last day of class | | |
| Introduction to New Testament (Core for GradDipCM/MCM) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Jan 15-17, 22-24 & 29-31 Thu & Fri 7.30 – 10.30pm Sat 9.00am – 1.00pm | Rev. Dr. Tan Jin Huat |
| The Book of Job (Elective) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Jan 19-23, 26-30 Mon – Fri 9.00am – 1.00pm | Dr. Seow Choon Leong |
| Missiology (Core for MDiv) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Feb 5-7, 12-14 & 26-28 Thu & Fri 7.30-10.30pm Sat 9.00am – 1.00pm | Dss. Dr. Tan Swee Bee |
| Christian Ethics (Core for MDiv) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Mar 5-7, 12-14 & 19-21 Thu & Fri 7.30-10.30pm Sat 9.00am – 1.00pm | Mr. Jose Philip |
| Anglicanism 1: Anglican Theology and Identity (Elective) (PHYSICAL CLASS ONLY : Wisma Anglican, KL) | Mar 10; Tue 2.00pm-5.00pm Mar 11-13; Wed-Fri 9.00am-5.00pm | Rev. Dr. Jeremy-Joe Tan |
| Bible Archaeology (Elective) (Hybrid: Kuching & Zoom Platform) | Apr 9-11, 16-18 Thu & Fri 7.00pm-10.00pm Sat 9.00am-5.00pm | Rev. Dr. Lim Kar Yong |
| Anglicanism 2: Anglican History and Tradition (Elective) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Apr 20-24 Mon - Fri 2.00pm-6.00pm | Rev. Dr. Lee Gatiss |
| Introduction to Old Testament (Core for GradDipCM/MCM) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Apr 22-24, 29-30, May 1, 6-8 Wed - Fri 7.30-10.30pm | Dr. Siew Woh |
| World Religions (Core for MDiv) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Jun 4-6, 11-13, 18-20 Thu & Fri 7.30-10.30pm Sat 9.00am – 1.00pm | Rev. Dr. Albert Walters |
| NT Exegesis - 1 Corinthians (Core for MCM) (Hybrid: STM Seremban & Zoom Platform) Pre-requisite: Exegetical Methods | Jun 17-20 Wed - Sat 9.00am-5.00pm | Rev. Dr. Barry Danylak |
| Exegetical Methods (Core for GradDipCM/MCM) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Jul 8-10, 15-18 & 22-24 Wed, Thu & Fri 7.30-10.30pm Sat 9.00am – 1.00pm | Rev. Dr. Tan Jin Huat & Dr. Siew Woh |
| Pastoral Care and Mentoring (Elective) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Aug 13-15, 20-22 & 27-29 Thu & Fri 7.30-10.30pm Sat 9.00am – 1.00pm | The Rt. Rev. Dr. Steven Abbarow |
| Worship & Liturgy (Core for MDiv) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Sep 3-5, 10-12 & 17-19 Thu & Fri 7.30-10.30pm Sat 9.00am – 1.00pm | Dr. Leon Lim Kok Weng |
| CT 4: Eschatology and Ecclesiology (Core for GradDipCM/MCM) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Sep 4, 7, 9, 11, 21, 23, 25, 28 & Oct 2 (various weekdays) Time : 7.30pm - 10.30pm | Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung |
| OT Exegesis - Book of Isaiah (Core for MCM) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) Pre-requisite: Exegetical Methods | Oct 3-4, 10-11, 17-18 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. | | |
| Hebrew 1 (Core for MDiv) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Mar 21, 28; Apr 18, 25*; May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 & Jun 6 Sat 9:30am - 12:00pm 25 April - 3:30PM onwards | Dss. Charlotte Ng |
| Greek 1 (Core for MDiv) (Online Class: Zoom Platform) | Apr 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26; Jun 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Tue 8.15pm-10.00pm | Rev. Simon Kang |

To register : Scan the QR code or go to <https://form.jotform.com/engtee/reg2026>
or download this app @ <https://app.jotform.com/engtee/reg2026>
For enquiries, please email to engtee@stm2.edu.my



Introduction to New Testament

3 cr hours - CORE for GradDipCM / MCM

Online Class : Zoom Platform

Date : Jan 15-17, 22-24 & 29-31

Time : Thu & Fri 7.30pm - 10.30pm; Sat 9.00am - 1.00pm

Course Description

This course covers the historical, political, religious, and cultural background of the Inter-Testament period; authorship, dating, critical issues, and content and theological themes of the books in the New Testament; and the life, ministry, and mission of Jesus and the Apostle Paul. Particular emphasis is placed on engagement with texts in their historical contexts and the development of basic exegetical skills.

The Lecturer

- Rev. Dr. Tan Jin Huat

Rev Dr Tan Jin Huat, an Anglican minister and formerly Academic Dean at Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, has been teaching New Testament, Homiletics, and Malaysian Church History. He studied theology at Trinity College, Bristol, London School of Theology (BA), University of Aberdeen (MTh) and the Oxford Center for Mission Studies (PhD). He is author of a few publications which include 'Preacher, Prepare Yourself', 'Brookes, The British and Christianity in Sarawak' and 'Planting an Indigenous Church: The Case of the BEM.'



Scan the QR code or go to
<https://form.jotform.com/engtee/reg2026>
before the closing date for each course.

CLOSING DATE : Jan 8, 2026



Missiology

3 cr hours - CORE for MDIV

Online Class : Zoom Platform

Date : Feb 5-7, 12-14 & 26-28

Time : Thu & Fri 7.30pm - 10.30pm; Sat 9.00am - 1.00pm

Course Description

This course aims to prepare candidates to understand the missions of the church. It will explore the biblical mandate for all Christians to participate in the missions ministry through various capacities. This course will give a basic exposure to various aspects of the mission and an actual practical experience to prepare participants to engage in the ministry.

The Lecturer

- DSS Dr. Tan Swee Bee

DSS Dr Tan Swee Bee graduated from the University of Malaya with a degree in Anthropology and Sociology in 1991. Additionally, she holds a Doctorate in Missiology from MBTS and currently serves as a lecturer at STM, where she also serves as the Director of TEE BM.



Scan the QR code or go to
<https://form.jotform.com/engtee/reg2026>
before the closing date for each course.

CLOSING DATE : Jan 30, 2026





福音、文化与社会



报名程序

- 1.) 扫描二维码填写谷歌表格
<https://bit.ly/2026CTcnf> 务必清楚注明报名修学分或旁听。
- 2.) 报名的课程奉献汇款/转账收据，请另行电邮致：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）。

福音不能脱离世界、人们的需要来言说它是什么，一旦脱离了处境关怀和人性种种的需要，福音就显得离地和毫无生命力。处境文化不是铁板一块，透过掌握知识概念就可以完全理解。它需要透过聆听、相处等经验来认识。教会在言说福音之前，需要不断聆听群体的需要，找到每个群体的文化叙事（cultural narrative）、处境需要以及终极关怀，才能以福音回应。唯有成功把福音做处境转化，才能帮助人看见：他们社会中最基本的文化叙事以及他们内心深处的渴望，是唯有在基督里才能找到解答和满足的。



邱君尔传道
马来西亚神学院
中文延伸课程主任



中文延伸课程

* 马来西亚神学院 *

教会历史 1

主后 30-1500



教会历史这门课将介绍基督教会在使徒时代的五旬节开始建立,直到现在的这段教会历史过程。

本课程旨在帮助学生了解从初期教会到改革前的发展。同时为学员提供有关的主要事件、问题和人物的知识。

由此,让学员能够在事奉中运用教会历史中的丰富资源遗产,并且鼓励学员在生活中、教会中和社会中寻求属灵生命的更新。

报名程序

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一月16-18, 23-25

周五: 7:30PM-10:30PM

周六: 9AM-12PM, 2PM-6PM

周日: 2PM-6PM



李丹萍牧师

STM中文部讲师

中文延伸课程副主任

研究领域: 历史神学/卫斯理神学/教会历史

Christmas in Our Life and Ministry

Rev. Joseph Yesupatham | Tamil TEE Director

Great is my Saviour! As we look back on the year 2025, our hearts overflow with gratitude as we proclaim the marvellous works of the Lord. This year stands as a powerful testimony of God's abundant favour upon Tamil TEE under Seminari Theologi Malaysia. By His gracious enabling, Tamil TEE successfully conducted five modules, each drawing an encouraging average attendance of 30 students. The Lord continued to expand the ministry by opening doors for two new centres offering the Basic Certificate in Christian Ministry. The first centre was established in Ipoh with 17 students registered, and the second in Semenyih, Kajang, with 18 students enrolled. We rejoice that these centres now serve a combined total of 35 students, a clear sign of God's growing work among us. Adding to our joy, eight students graduated across the certificate, diploma, and bachelor levels at the 43rd Graduation Ceremony of Seminari Theologi Malaysia. Their achievements mark a significant milestone for us and bring immense joy to the entire Tamil TEE family. They also stand as a vivid reminder of God's unfailing faithfulness in the ongoing work of Tamil TEE.

As we look back on the favour we experienced from God throughout 2025, Christmas calls us once again to remember what the birth of Christ truly means for our life and ministry.

Christmas: God Stepping Into the Midst of Our Lives and Ministry

The birth of Jesus stands as an enduring testimony that God steps into human history with compassion, purpose, and redemptive intent. With this truth before us, we are able to recognise how, throughout this year, Christ has likewise stepped into our ministry in unexpected yet deeply meaningful ways. Whether in teaching, mentoring, organising TEE modules, or journeying alongside our students, we have consistently sensed His abiding presence. We experienced Him in our moments of weakness, in His empowering grace that carried us through our responsibilities, and in the gentle guidance that shaped every important decision we made. Therefore, we boldly affirm that Christmas reassures us of the timeless promise of **"Immanuel-God with us,"** and reminds us that He continues to walk faithfully with us in the calling He has entrusted to us.

Christmas: Where Divine Favour Meets in Ordinary Places

As we reflect on the place where Jesus was born - **"a humble manger"**- we are reminded that God chose a setting marked by simplicity and obscurity to unveil the fullness of His glory. The manger, though ordinary, became the centre of divine revelation, teaching us that God's presence often shines brightest in the most unassuming places.

In this light, we recognise that throughout 2025, God likewise transformed the ordinary rhythms of Tamil TEE into extraordinary encounters of grace. Classrooms quietly became sanctuaries of learning, discussions turned into moments of insight and transformation, and administrative challenges unfolded as opportunities to witness God's timely provision. Through it all, we were gently reminded that God's favour does not always manifest in dramatic or spectacular ways, but often radiates through the simple obedience of our daily life and ministry.

We, the Tamil TEE of Seminari Theologi Malaysia, extend our heartfelt Christmas greetings to each one of you. May the Lord grant us a blessed celebration as we once again cherish and give thanks for the glorious and transformative birth of Christ Jesus for all humanity.

நமது வாழ்க்கையிலும் ஊழியத்திலும் கிறிஸ்மஸ்

என் மீட்பர் மகத்தானவர். 2025 ஆம் ஆண்டை நாம் திரும்பிப் பார்க்கும்போது, தேவனின் அற்புதமான செயல்களை அறிவிக்கும்போதும், நம் இதயங்கள் நன்றியால் நிரம்பி வழிகின்றன. இந்த ஆண்டு சிரம்பான் இறையியல் கல்லூரியின் கீழ் தமிழ் தியியி குழுவின் மீது கடவுள் காட்டிய ஏராளமான தயவு, ஆற்றல் மிக்க சாட்சியாக நிற்கிறது. அவரது கருணையால் தமிழ் தியியி ஐந்து பாடப்பிரிவுகளை வெற்றிகரமாக நிறைவேற்றியது. ஒவ்வொரு பாடத்திற்கும் சராசரியாக 30 மாணவர்கள் பங்கு பெற்றனர். மேலும் கிறிஸ்தவ ஊழியத்தில் அடிப்படை சான்றிதழை வழங்கும் இரண்டு புதிய மையங்களுக்கான கதவுகளை கர்த்தர் திறந்து ஊழியத்தை விரிவுபடுத்தியுள்ளார். முதல் மையம் ஈப்போவில் 17 மாணவர்களுடனும், இரண்டாவது மையம் காஜாங் செமிஞ்சே யில் 18 மாணவர்களுடன் தொடங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. இந்த மாணவர்களுடன் இணைந்து பணிசெய்வதில் நாங்கள் பெருமகிழ்வு அடைகிறோம்.

எஸ்.டி.எம் 43 ஆவது பட்டமளிப்பு விழாவில், டிப்ளமோ மற்றும் இளங்களை நிலைகளில் எட்டு மாணவர்கள் பட்டம் பெற்றனர். அவர்களின் சாதனை எங்களுக்கு ஒரு குறிப்பிடத்தக்க சான்றாகும். தமிழ் தியியி தொடர்ச்சியான பணியில் கர்த்தரின் தவறாத உண்மைத்தன்மை உள்ளது என்பது தெளிவான நினைவூட்டலாகவும் அவை நிலைநிற்கின்றன. 2025 ஆண்டு முழுவதும் கடவுளிடமிருந்து அனுபவித்த கிருபையை நாம் திரும்பிப்பார்க்கும்போது, கிறிஸ்துவின் பிறப்பு நம் வாழ்க்கைக்கும் ஊழியத்திற்கும் உண்மையில் என்ன அர்த்தம் என்பதை மீண்டும் ஒருமுறை நினைவுகூர கிறிஸ்மஸ் நம்மை அழைக்கிறது.

கிறிஸ்மஸ் – கடவுள் நம் வாழ்வின் மத்தியிலும் ஊழியத்தின் மத்தியிலும் அடியெடுத்து வைக்கிறார்.

இம்மானுவேல் – கடவுள் நம்மோடு – என்ற காலத்தால் அழியாத வாக்குறுதியை நமக்கு கிறிஸ்மஸ் உறுதியளிக்கிறது. நமது பலவீனமான தருணங்களிலும் அவரது உடனிருப்பை, மென்மையான வழிகாட்டுதலை நாம் அனுபவிக்கிறோம்.

கிறிஸ்மஸ் – சாதாரண இடங்களிலும் தெய்வீகத்தை சந்திக்கும் இடம்.

இயேசு ஒரு தாழ்மையான தொட்டிலை தேர்ந்தெடுத்தார். கடவுள் தனது மாட்சியை வெளிப்படுத்த எளிமையைத் தான் தேர்ந்தெடுத்தார். தொட்டில் சாதாரணமானது. ஆனால் அது தான் தெய்வீக வெளிப்பாட்டின் மையமாக மாறியது.

இதுபோலத் தான் தமிழ் தியியி ன் சாதாரண தளங்களை அசாதாரண கருணையின் சந்திப்புகளாக தேவன் மாற்றினார். வகுப்பறைகள் கற்றலின் சரணாலயங்களாக மாறின. கடவுளின் தயவு வியத்தகு வழிகளில் எப்போதும் வெளிப்படுவதில்லை. ஆனால் பெரும்பாலும் ஊழியத்தின் எளிய கீழ்ப்படிதலின் மூலம் வெளிப்படுகிறது என்பதை நாம் மறந்துவிடக்கூடாது.

சிரம்பான் இறையியல் கல்லூரியின் தமிழ் தியியி உங்கள் ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் மனமார்ந்த கிறிஸ்மஸ் வாழ்த்துகளைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறது.

கிறிஸ்மஸ் மற்றும் 2026 புத்தாண்டு வாழ்த்துகள்.

அருள்பணி ஜோசப் இயேசுபாதம் – தமிழ் தியியி , எஸ்.டி.எம்

The Book Of Job

with Dr. Seow Choon Leong



About the Speaker



Dr. Seow Choon Leong is the Vanderbilt, Buffington, Cupples Professor Emeritus in Divinity and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Hebrew Bible at Vanderbilt University. A renowned scholar in Old Testament and wisdom literature, Dr. Seow is best known for his groundbreaking Illuminations commentary on Job 1 - 21, praised for its literary and theological depth. He brings decades of expertise in biblical interpretation, Hebrew poetry, and the history of reception. His engaging teaching style and deep scholarship make the Book of Job come alive in fresh and powerful ways.

Postgraduate Module

This module offers an in-depth exploration of the Book of Job, one of the most complex and poetic books of the Hebrew Bible. Through literary, theological, and historical-critical approaches, students will engage with Job's profound questions on suffering, justice, divine sovereignty, and human integrity. Attention will be given to the structure of the book, its dialogues and monologues, the role of the divine speeches, and the editorial framework. Students will also examine the reception of Job in Jewish, Christian, and interreligious traditions, and consider its relevance for contemporary theological reflection and pastoral care. Primary texts will be studied in English, with options for Hebrew reading and exegesis for advanced students.

Online Class : Zoom

Date : Jan 19-23, 26-30, 2026

Time : Mon-Fri 9.00am - 1.00pm

For enquiry: jasonteong@stm2.edu.my,
012-777 2368 (WhatsApp)

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to register your interest



Consequences of the Whirlwind in the Book of Job

with Dr. Seow Choon Leong



Public Lecture Series

What happens when God answers out of the whirlwind?

Join world-renowned Hebrew Bible scholar, **Dr. Seow Choon Leong**, as he leads a powerful exploration into the climactic divine speeches in the Book of Job. These six interactive lectures - delivered online and hosted in-person across six local churches - unpack the theological, ecological, and poetic depth of Job 38 - 42. Each session reveals new insights into creation, divine mystery, and the nature of faithful speech in the face of suffering.

Six Interactive Hybrid Lectures Exploring Job 38 – 42

| DATE/DAY | TIME | TOPIC | VENUE |
|---------------------------|------------|---|--|
| 8/02/2026 (Sunday) | 1 - 3pm | Cosmology | Crossway Community Lutheran Church, Mont Kiara |
| 28/02/2026 (Saturday) | 2 - 4pm | Green Theology | KL Chinese Methodist Church (CAC) |
| 07/03/2026 (Saturday) | 9am - 12pm | Sacred Zoology | Trinity Methodist Church (TRAC) |
| 14/03/2026 (Saturday) | 8 - 10pm | Divine Monstrosities | Permai Chinese Methodist Church (CAC) |
| 15/03/2026 (Sunday) | 11am - 1pm | Did Job Surrender? | Christ Lutheran Church, Setapak |
| 18/03/2026 (Wednesday) | 8 - 10pm | Speaking Rightly as the LORD's Servant | STM MPH |

For enquiry: jasonteong@stm2.edu.my , 012-777 2368 (WhatsApp)

Public Lectures

*hosted across six Venues +
livestream.*

教牧与临终关怀

Pastoral and Hospice Care

线上课程: Zoom

日期: 3月2日(5小时); 5月11-15日 (每日7小时)

讲师

- 郭汉成牧师 (博士) Rev. Dr. Ezra Kok

郭汉成牧师早年获得香港建道神学院神学士、中国神学研究院道学硕士，后来获得英国杜伦大学神学系哲学博士(主修新约，研究保罗神学)。他受教于国际知名学者邓雅各教授(Professor James Dunn)，博士论文“The Truth of the Gospel: A Study in Galatians 2.15-21”，已由香港建道神学院出版(JDDS 7; Hong Kong: Alliance Bible Seminary, 2000)。

郭牧师为资深神学教育工作者、马来西亚卫理公会牧师，先后于檳城日落洞卫理公会及吉隆坡卫理公会广东堂牧会。曾任马来西亚神学院院长、新约讲师、基督教卫理公会华人年议会会长。



课程简介

本课程旨在与教牧同工一同探究和思考临终关怀的理论和事工经验。临终关怀是一种专注于提升临终病患者生活质量的全人护理模式，涵盖身体、心理、社交和灵性层面的支持。本课程将以牧养的角度来探讨临终关怀的神学基础、伦理挑战以及多元文化中的牧养实况，激发学员发展与回应临终病患与其家属的整全关怀能力。课程将涵盖信仰反思、哀伤辅导、临终礼仪、群体牧养与属灵支持，引导学员成为具备深度神学洞察与同理心的牧养实践者。

- 刘聪赐博士 Dr. Law Choon Sii

刘聪赐博士 (Dr. LAW Choon Sii) 是马来西亚神学院的新约圣经研究讲师。目前她亦担任研究院中心的副主任。她于 2006 年在新加坡三一神学院完成道学硕士学位，2009年在东南亚神学研究院获得神学硕士学位。最后，她于 2015 年在东南亚神学联盟 (ATU) 获得神学博士学位，主修新约圣经研究。

刘博士积极参与教会的教导工作，尤其带领教会查经班、成青主日学及教导新约圣经书卷研究。



请扫描二维码或浏览

<https://bit.ly/stmpg-reg26> 注册报名。
请在每门课程的截止日期之前注册报名。

截止日期: 2026年2月16日



Heartiest Congratulations

*Mr. Amos a/l Palaniaady (STM Staff) and
Ms. Cassandra Juboi were married
on 4 October 2024.*



*Rev. Brandon Loran (2022 alumnus) and
Ms. Heazel a/p Jiti were married
on 15 November 2025.*



Farewell

We would like to wish a fond farewell to Ms. Diana Fernando and Ms. Nancy A/P Selvaraju and thank them for their contributions to STM.



Ms. Diana Fernando



Ms. Nancy A/P Selvaraju

We also want to say bon voyage to our Dean of Studies (2024-2025), Rev. Daniel Ng Wee Jin who has been on the faculty team since 2019. He will soon be leaving for Melbourne to pursue his PhD. He has been such a blessing during his tenure at STM and he will be greatly missed by the students, staff and faculty. We wish him and his family every blessing, and look forward to his return upon the completion of his studies.



Rev. Daniel Ng Wee Jin

Welcome and Promotions effective 1 January 2026

We warmly welcome Rev. Dr. Karthik Sibanyanam who will join our team as faculty for both the English and Bahasa Malaysia tracks and serve as Associate Director of Centre for Religion and Society effective 1 January 2026. He has just obtained his PhD in Diaconic Science and Management (University Bielefeld, Germany, 2025). He will be a valuable asset to STM.



Rev. Dr. Karthik Sibanyanam

Our heartiest congratulations to Mr. Chan Eik Kent on his appointment as Librarian and to Ms. Annie Yee Ang Nee on her appointment as Assistant Manager (Corporate Services). We wish them well as they take on their new responsibilities.



Ms. Annie Yee Ang Nee



Mr. Chan Eik Kent



Pray For STM
Our Staff

There are many preparations that need to be made before and after Christmas. Please pray for our staff for good health, be filled with wisdom, and remain faithful.

Heartiest Congratulations



STM lecturer and alumni who have been ordained on 28 October 2025 at the Ordination & Commissioning Service of The Anglican Synod Diocese of West Malaysia.

Deaconesses, Deacons & Priests:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Rev. Emmanuel Nickson A/L George (2023 STM Alumnus) | Mr. John Dammar Kumar Siwakoti |
| Rev. Dr. Lee Soo Tian (STM Lecturer) | Mr. Daniel Woon Jian Yao (2022 STM Alumnus) |
| Rev. Dinesh A/L Natorajan | Mr. Ling Yi Yang (2023 STM Alumnus) |
| Rev. Timothy Cheang Jun Hao | Mr. Yap Siew Hone (2023 STM Alumnus) |
| Ev. Aaron George A/L Anthony (2024 STM Alumnus) | Mdm. Palathammah A/P S. Jackerdesan (2019 STM Alumna) |
| Ev. Noel Nickson A/L George (2024 STM Alumnus) | Ms. Phoebe Chua Chia Shing |
| Ev. Dante Lum Lock Sam (2023 STM Alumnus) | Mdm. Patricia Van Mil |
| Ev. Kelvin Cheah Wei Jian (2023 STM Alumnus) | Mdm. Wan Lai Choo (2023 STM Alumna) |
| Mr. Terry Tan Gin Ho | |
| Mr. Joseph Stanley Thomas | |

STM lecturer and alumni who have been ordained as Elders and Deacons on 20 November 2025 at the 50th Chinese Annual Conference (CAC) of the Methodist Church in Malaysia.



Elders

(First row): Rev. Yap Zhen Ern (L2) (2020 STM Alumnus), Rev. Kok Jai Fatt (L4) (2020 STM Alumnus), and Rev. Chieng Jack Soon (R1) (2019 STM Alumnus).

Heartiest Congratulations



Deacons

First row:

Rev. Dr. Elaine Goh (L2) (STM Lecturer and Alumna)
 Rev. Siew Sin Choo (L4) (2008 STM Alumna)
 Rev. Yong Jin Jin (L5) (2021 STM Alumna)
 Rev. Peter Ong Chong Ghee (L6) (2019 STM Alumnus)
 Rev. Chien Yew Sieng (R4) (2018 STM Alumnus)
 Rev. Ng Kok Lim (R3) (2021 STM Alumnus)
 Rev. Lim Ming Wei (R2) (2021 STM Alumnus).

Ordained as Elder and Deacon at the 50th Trinity Annual Conference (TRAC) of the Methodist Church in Malaysia



(R2) Rev. Edward Lee (2022 STM Alumnus) as Elder
 (L2) Rev. Lim Pei Leng (2022 STM Alumna) as Deacon



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Are you proactive, hardworking, adaptable, and a good team player — someone who works well with others, has good interpersonal skills, and possesses a humble and teachable spirit?

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Your Ideal Venue for Retreats, Camps, and Spiritual Getaways

Are you looking for a peaceful space for personal retreat, family getaways, church camps, or small group prayer walks? Strategically located on a hill surrounded by beautiful greenery and a tranquil atmosphere, STM offers cosy guest rooms, hostel facilities, a welcoming dining hall, a mini chapel, a multipurpose hall (MPH), a prayer labyrinth, a basketball court, an open field, and well-equipped lecture rooms—everything you need for rest, reflection, and recreation.

Our seminary joyfully opens its doors for bookings during weekends, semester breaks, and year-end breaks (mid-May to mid-June, and late October to January 1).

Check us out!

Email us at: reservations@stm2.edu.my



Chapel



Prayer Labyrinth



Basketball court

Campers Testimonies:

We have been having 6 retreats of "Walk to the Emmaus" weekends for West Malaysia since 2022 in STM. This is just the right venue for our retreats, reasons being that STM is ever supportive to accommodate all our needs, the serene surrounding takes you away from all the hussle and bussle of the world outside.

Not to forget are the newly renovated & upgraded guest rooms with attached bathroom which provide us comfortable sleep every night. Other than that, the 3 wings of dormitory with either single or double occupancy are all well furnished, clean and tidy too.

The 3 meals of each day have never been a problem too as there is a very accommodative and easy going caterer who can serve us clean & healthy food in a very spacious dining hall.

Overall, I would highly recommend groups or individuals planning for retreat to seriously consider STM being your venue of choice.

Dr Liau Chun Hong
West Malaysia Emmaus Community

为何选择STM作为我办营会的地方?

除了我本身是STM的学生之外，主要原因是因为这里的环境优美，还有食堂可以安排营会的食物，可说是一站式地满足我找营地的所有条件。另外，STM坐落在一个小山丘上，空气清爽，让人感觉退隐在小市镇里。在STM办营会可以得到各方面的支援，还有宽阔的场地。我个人最喜欢的就是在多功能礼堂当中带领敬拜和分享神的话语，这里拥有浓厚的属灵气息。除此之外，因着许多牧者都曾在这里受训和毕业，个人更是享受在其中，所以在STM办营会是非常不错的体验。

叶锦泉 (2025BTh毕业生)

Scan the QR code to
view our photo gallery



Financial Updates



As the year comes to a close, we thank God for HIS marvellous grace and mercy in seeing us through every challenge.

Though we are still short of RM250,000 to meet our year end expenses, yet we shout for joy for the Lord has done great things in our midst. Indeed, HE alone deserves all our praises, glories and honours.

HE has blessed us with new STM Friends & Partners as well as new donors. One of the donors was from another faith. HE has also blessed us with churches and organisations who used our campus for their camps and retreats. Some of these churches and organisations are new to STM.

The Lord is our Hope of Glory. HE will never leave us nor forsake us. Therefore, we continue to look to HIM and fix our eyes on HIM alone, trusting that HE will supply all our needs according to HIS riches in glory.

Your continued support remains vital and crucial as STM partners with God in training and equipping God's people for HIS purposes and for the expansion of God's kingdom.

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For bank details, please use the information below:

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| Bank | :RHB Bank Bhd |
| Account No | :2-14389-0007093-1 |



If you have any enquiries about STM or would like more information on how your donations are utilised, 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 so that we may keep in touch with you.



How to Support STM | 如何支持STM | எவ்வாறு உங்களின் ஆதரவைத் தரலாம்

Personal/ Church/ Organisation Particulars 个人/ 教会/ 机构资料

Full Name : _____ 全名 : _____
Church 教会/ Organisation 机构/ Tan Sri 丹斯里/ Datuk 拿督/ Datin 拿汀/ Bishop 会督/ Rev 牧师/ Dr 博士/
Mr 先生/ Mrs 夫人/ Madam 女士/ Ms 小姐/ Others 其他: _____

Address 地址: _____

Tel 电话: _____ H/P 手机: _____ Email 电邮: _____

Preferred Language 首选语言: ☐ English ☐ 中文

Church Name 教会名称: _____



Please scan to fill in STM Friends & Partners online form
请扫描填写STM挚友&伙伴线上表格

Donations 捐献

☐ STM Friend (Individual pledging RM600 or more annually or RM50 x 12 months)
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☐ STM Partner (Church or Organisation Pledging RM2000 or more annually)
STM 伙伴 (教会或机构每年认献至少RM2000或以上)

☐ Donor 捐献者

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☐ Library 图书馆

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Account No 户口号码 : 2-14389-0007093-1



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备注: 有关以上奉献, 请您把奉献银行凭据电邮至: collections2@stm2.edu.my
您也可以选择邮寄给我们至以下地址:



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)



STM Privacy and Personal Data Protection Policy

STM is committed to protecting the privacy, confidentiality, and security of all personal data to which it is entrusted in line with the PDPA Act 2010 & PDPA Amendment Act 2024. All information provided in the above will not be published or shared with any unauthorised person(s).

For further detail of STM's Privacy and Personal Data Protection Policy, you can find it at -
<https://stm.edu.my/policies/stms-privacy-policy/>

Condolences 慰唁

Our heartfelt condolences to the family of:

✨ *Rev. Hwa Chih, STM Alumnus, who was called home to be with the Lord on 3 December 2025.*

✨ *The late Mr. Ong Sing Hwa, who has found eternal rest in the Lord on 4 December 2025. He was the beloved father of Ms. Christina Ong a member of the STM Faculty.*

✨ *Mdm. Kong Swee Kam, who was called home to be with the Lord on 7 December 2025. She was the beloved mother of Ms. Vernie Woo, the STM's Admin & Finance Manager.*

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families during this time of loss.

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

Berita STM Committee

Publisher:
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Chief Editor:
Rev. Dr. Chong Siaw Fung

Advisor:
Rev. Dr. Elaine Goh Wei Fun

Planning Team:
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• Ms. Delaila Singa
• Ms. Vernie Woo
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Proof-reading:
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Newsletter Designer:
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+606 632 2815



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www.stm.edu.my



Lot 3011, Taman South East.
70100 Seremban,
Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia.