



香港浸信會神學院 Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary



Today's Students, Tomorrow's Pastors.
Today's Seminary, Tomorrow's Churches.

Newsletter August 2009

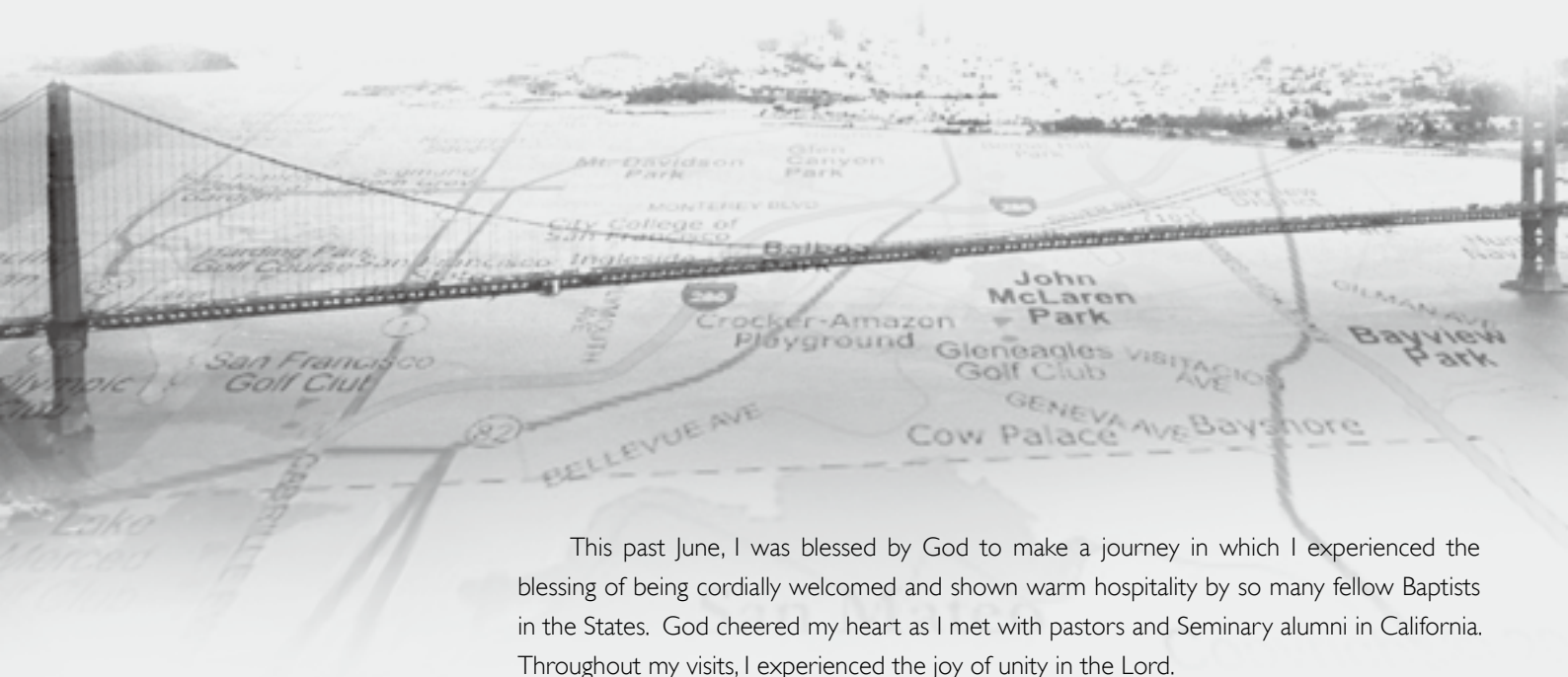
President's Word



Through offering cordial hospitality, Christians manifest their unity and show forth a beautiful testimony. Cordial hospitality is to share Jesus Christ's love and grace with a stranger. It is this cordial hospitality on which the Christian church has been established. Through this warm-hearted hospitality, the church extends Christ's purpose in coming to earth as strangers are welcomed into God's kingdom and as members of the Christian community near and far are nurtured and built up.

The New Testament is full of exhortation to practice cordial hospitality. The Greek word *philoxenia* in the New Testament means hospitality offered with the deepest affection. It refers not only to reaching out to strangers but also to the joyful warmth between host and guest. This joyful encounter is cheered on by a great expectation: God is present in each hospitable meeting (Heb 13:2; Rom 12:13).

A Journey to Los Angeles and San Francisco — From **Cordial Hospitality** to **Unity in the Lord**



This past June, I was blessed by God to make a journey in which I experienced the blessing of being cordially welcomed and shown warm hospitality by so many fellow Baptists in the States. God cheered my heart as I met with pastors and Seminary alumni in California. Throughout my visits, I experienced the joy of unity in the Lord.

From June 1 to 13, I toured California from Los Angeles to San Francisco, visiting Chinese Baptist churches and graduates of the Seminary. I am especially grateful to Rev.



A group photo with pastors and ministers from Chinese Baptist churches in Los Angeles



Rev. Lin praying fervently for President Cho

Leong Tuck-soon (Peter) who planned my itinerary for this two-week trip of California churches. Besides reporting on the latest developments of HKBTS and sharing the challenges we will face in the future, I also shared scriptural messages in spiritual enrichment meetings, Sunday services,

topical seminars and a pastoral conference. The trip was a rich experience for me. I am grateful God gave me the opportunity to share my views of "spiritual leadership" and "spiritual theology" with ministers and brothers and sisters in Christ.

The Los Angeles Trip

My journey began in Los Angeles and ended in San Francisco. In Los Angeles, I was impressed and touched by the spiritual atmosphere I found of the local Chinese Baptist churches, the passion for spiritual growth of Christian brothers and sisters and the spiritual vitality I witnessed among the ministerial workers. Although I had never had the opportunity to meet any of the local ministerial workers before, their cordial hospitality allowed me to experience a special kind of friendship and bonding and be reminded that through Jesus Christ our Lord, we are all a part of the same body of Christ. More specially, we are related to one another because we all come from the same Baptist root.

The Chinese Baptist churches in Los Angeles are thriving and prosperous. While there, I met 25 church pastors and ministers, and we began developing friendships which I look forward to continuing. I was reminded that the Lord has instructed his servants to develop such friendships. I was welcomed so heartily that I not only longed to know them

better as friends, but also came to appreciate their beautiful Christ-like lives. Their natural gift of hospitality allows them to share God's love with others and reach out to strangers in God's kingdom. I look forward to developing an abiding partnership as we share the gospel.

I was privileged to get acquainted with Dr. Timothy Lin of the First Baptist Chinese Church, Los Angeles. He had been the President of China Evangelical Seminary for ten years (1980-1990). Rev. Lin is now 99 years old. When he first came to plant a church in L.A., he encountered a lot of difficulties and his congregation was rather small. Despite the hard times, Rev. Lin remained faithful to his pastoral ministry and upheld the truth of the Bible so that he gradually led the church to grow and multiply. Amazingly, the congregation expanded from a few dozens to almost 2,000 members. Eventually, four branch churches were planted and now all of them are growing and prosperous. In talking with Rev. Lin, I was reminded of how a spiritual leader can be used by God throughout his life to pastor a church, to nurture the next generation of ministers and see these younger ministers to go on



A group photo taken after meeting with Seminary's alumni in San Francisco



A visit to Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary



Paying a visit to Rev. Samuel Tang, HKBTS's third president.



A photo with Rev. Leong Tuck-soon and Rev. Sin Chi-kim

further nurturing brothers and sisters, passing on the candle's glowing light.

The day that I left Los Angeles, I paid a formal visit to Rev. Lin, asking him to pray for me and advise me as to how to be a seminary president. He chose three scripture verses (Gen 1:26; Rev 3:21; Matt 7:21) to encourage me and remind me to hear what God has to say to me. He fervently prayed for my bodily weakness so that my body and spiritual life could be made strong. I came to him as a stranger; yet he touched my heart deeply as he played host and exhorted me. After Rev. Ho Tsung-hei and I said farewell, Rev. Lin stood at the front door, watching us drive off. Seeing the smile on his face as we bade him farewell, I was assured that my heavenly father was also smiling and blessing me.

In this seven-day trip, I experienced deeply the wonders of God's love as he accepted me and showed hospitality to me, a stranger; through so many agents of grace. God's assurance and hospitality is more effective and more precious than the ties for which man strives. Through the pastors and ministers in Los Angeles, God cheered me and made me know that HKBTS can move forward in faith undergirded with their strong support.

The Trip to San Francisco

On the afternoon of June 9, I flew to San Francisco. My stay in San Francisco was rather short, with barely enough time to meet with 24 alumni for fellowship, feasting and praying together. Besides, I had the opportunity to be the speaker at a topical seminar; sharing with pastors and ministers of the local Chinese Baptist churches. I also paid a visit to Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary where I talked with the President, the Director of the Extension Department and the Consultant of the Church Planting Group of the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. We had a fruitful time of fellowship as we explored the possibility of future cooperation.

On the morning of June 10, I, together with two alumni, Rev. Leong Tuck-soon and Rev. Sin Chi-kim (Jeremy), paid a special visit to Rev. Samuel Tang, HKBTS's third president. In his home, we talked about theological education and Christian writing, faith and music, Baptist belief and pastoral care. Rev. Tang urged us to persevere in making clear the distinctives and strengths of our Baptist heritage and to promote the unity of Baptist churches. He then prayed for each one of us. After we

bade him farewell, Rev. Tang courteously stood at the front door. As I saw this dear Christian gentleman standing there, I felt the blessing of this former president for the new generations of our school.

In these few days of my itinerary, I was able to experience profoundly how our alumni are the sturdy roots of the Seminary. I was also assured that God will make good use of these and other roots that are linked and bound together enabling the Seminary to continue to grow and to stand firm in face of all challenges. Through our fellowship, there were words of affirmation, as well as words of encouragement and suggestions, indicating our alumni's deep concern, love and care for the Seminary and our students. What I appreciated the most was the support our alumni expressed for their alma mater. Among these was the offering of "two small copper coins" which greatly moved me. There was an alumna who by faith was pleased to offer to the educational fund of the Seminary part of her future pension. Then there was a young sister who purely offered out of a love for HKBTS to pray for the Seminary and contribute money to support our theological education.

To Patch up the Broken World with Our Unity in Christ

All in all, this was a spiritual journey during which I was renewed in God's grace and love. I also enjoyed a lavish feast prepared by God and an opportunity for me to experience how God has been working in the lives of our alumni and the Baptist communities, and also the love and friendship with fellow church members. I am convinced that the steadfast love and burden-sharing of our alumni, their watch-keeping and support of their alma mater and the binding together of Baptist churches in the Lord are sufficient to enable HKBTS to be a seminary after God's own heart and an even better instrument of God than ever.

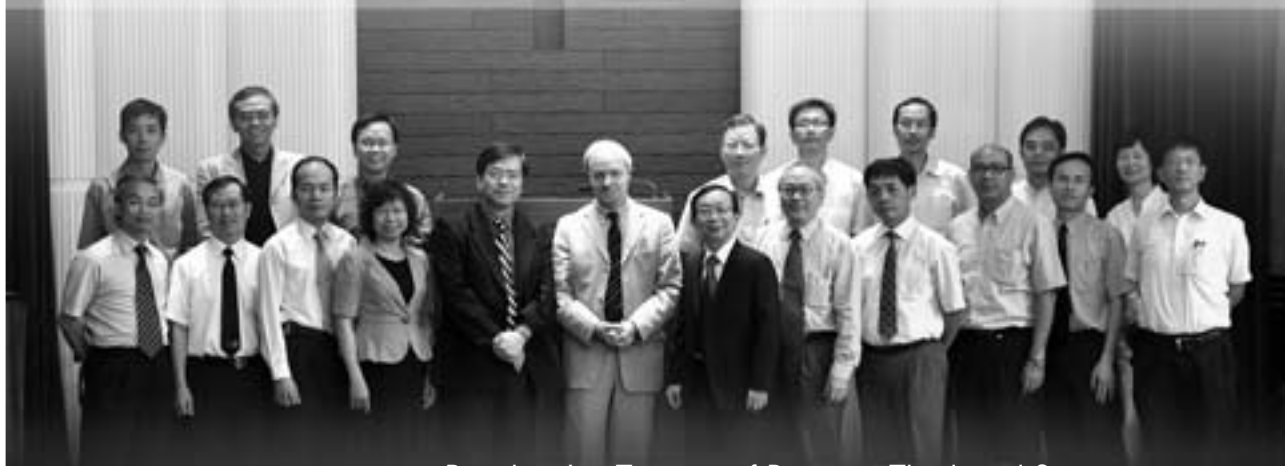
On this spiritual journey, through the hospitality of our alumni and church pastors and ministers, I have tasted and come to understand this: that solicitous hospitality can unite us so that we and churches with such diversity can establish a partnership relationship and mutually share the joy of mission and service to God. In this way, we do not strive to build our own organizational Tower of Babel, but rather focus on our mutual understanding and calling to serve God together in this

broken world. On the other hand, this journey has enabled me to see God's heart and will and so be more convinced that Christ's exhortation to show hospitality is by no means easy, but the practice of cordial hospitality allows us to listen to different views and walk together hand in hand despite our differences. This calling is an impossible possibility. However, we believe that it is God's heart and will that all the Baptist churches can patch up this broken world, as we offer one another mutual hospitality in an effort to be united in the Lord.

On this spiritual journey, I have also listened to God, seeking to know his will and heart toward our Seminary: God demands that HKBTS become a community of sterling character exhibiting Christian love and cordial hospitality, always playing an

active role in promoting unity among Baptist churches. When we find the assurance of God's love and solicitous hospitality in our Christian communities, we will definitely serve all churches with the same love and hospitality. This hospitality to guests and strangers is not an option for us, nor is it only confined to those people who have the spiritual gifts to do so; it is, after all, God's instruction that HKBTS are called to implement. When we put hospitality into practice this way, God will cheer us on in our effort to reach out to others. When this unity becomes manifested in all our Baptist churches, those around us will be taken by surprise just as the multitude was moved at Pentecost. God's kingdom will then be spread and expanded throughout the world.

President Iain Torrance of Princeton Theological Seminary Visited HKBTS



President Iain Torrance of Princeton Theological Seminary came to HKBTS on June 25 and met with the presidents and academic deans from local seminaries in our Sai O campus. He shared and exchanged views with local theologians on the topic "The Shaping and Change in Academic Theology in UK and US." President Cho hosted the meeting in the capacity of an alumnus of Princeton Theological Seminary and the Vice Chairman of Hong Kong Theological Education Association.





2009

Music Revival Meeting — Leap of Faith

The Seminary's Music Revival Meeting was held at Kowloon City Baptist Church on April 24 and its theme was "Leap of Faith." That evening the Seminary Choir, the Hill Road Singers, the Alumni Choir and the Male Faculty Choir sang a good number of hymns, President Joshua Cho delivered the theme message and three students shared their testimonies.

It is our great joy to gather together more than a thousand brothers and sisters from many different churches through this public meeting to pray for revival of our lives in the Lord and to praise him and testify his abundant grace with our lives and songs.



A Quartet from the Alumni Choir



The Male Faculty Choir



President Cho delivered the theme message

Dr. Andres Tang, Mrs. Helen Wan and Mr. Sanson Lau officiated at the meeting:



Testimonies from Our Students In the meeting, three students shared truthful and touching testimonies of their life struggles. Owing to the limitation of space, we can only publish part of two students' sharing and the whole testimony of the third one.

Student Wong Mun-lun

"That night I thought that once I began my seminary study, the family's financial situation would have to be changed. With that thought in mind, I could not help sweating out of fear and anxiety, lying restlessly in bed. Just at that moment, God spoke to me for the second time: 'I pray that my Lord will be with me — you must trust in me and not in anything else.*' His instruction encouraged me and also gave me a sense of peace...."



Our student Wong Mun-lun, who is married with two sons and who has worked as a senior engineer in the government, recounted how God had spoken to him twice and reminded him to let go the attachment to the high-pay, secure job and to cast away the worries about what would happen in the future but to take the first step on the road of consecration by faith.

*The prayer of Jabez (1 Chr 4:9-10)

Student Wong Woon-yin

That year, just as Wong Woon-yin was preparing to wed with his fiancée, he fell for another girl. As a result, the wedding was cancelled, he hurt his fiancée and did not know how to face his human weakness. During that period of darkness, he reflected on his Christian faith and once again stood in front of God: "I know that the road ahead will be hard for me to walk, but if it is a road pleasing to God, it is a good road. And so, by faith I began to step on the road of repentance...."



Woon-yin described how God redeemed him and his marriage, led him and his fiancée to break through the barriers and then stepped on the red carpet four years later. Not only this, God even led the couple to respond to his calling to enter HKBTS together to be equipped for full time ministry.

Student Fung Kit-ying

The Voice of a Victim: A Leap of Faith

Being One of the Forty Thousand Victims

After several years' struggle, I confirmed God's calling to be a full time minister in 2005. I then resigned from my work in a bank where I had worked for more than twenty years. I soon began full time seminary study in HKBTS, set out on a

new road in life by faith and opened up a remarkable second half of my life. The equipping process has been colorful. It has enabled me to experience how God's grace and faithfulness are made perfect in a weak person like me. God has continued to help me experience the lessons of faith, and he gave me an extraordinary lesson last year: Among the forty thousand "Lehman" victims, I had become one of them without even knowing it.



In leaving the bank in 2005, I got a sum of money from my mandatory fund. I immediately put it in a time deposit account to generate fixed interest assuming I would not have to pay further attention to it. In 2006, a

former bank colleague kindly introduced me to some bonds as investment products, telling me that it would generate interest every quarter, better than the time deposit and assuring me that it was safe and secure. At that time, I thought that as I would not need to use that sum of money for any other investments and I trusted my former colleague, I bought this financial product. The expiry date was 2009, which would be the year I would graduate from the seminary and so I could set my mind at ease and rest assured that I could have guaranteed interest every quarter during the time of my study.

When I first heard the news about the Lehman Brothers' bankruptcy, I was still unaware that I was involved in it. It was only when the bank called me that I came to realize that I was affected. At first I remained hopeful, but later when I received the bank statement, I was shocked to find that my bonds investment was down to zero! At that moment I felt shocked and heavy-hearted! I remembered clearly that when I bought the products, I did not intend to make quick money on risky ventures but simply considered the products to be a kind of savings. How could it end up this way? In the past, there were times when I had lost some money, including a loan to a friend who did not pay me back and once my hand bag was stolen, but this time it seemed too big a joke to me. To be sure, the money was hard earned, and now it suddenly came to nothing. Could that be true?

Owing to the fact that it also involved my former colleague, I hesitated to lodge a complaint. Instead, it was my former colleagues in the bank who initiated in providing me with avenues for complaints and urged me to file a complaint with the authorities concerned. What touched my heart was that this colleague who had introduced these products to me took the initiative to call and apologize to me, telling me the phone number of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and urging

me to lodge a complaint as soon as possible without worrying about him.

What I Learned First Was Thanksgiving

After doing what needed to be done, I felt relieved and let God take control! However, it was not something that I could bear at the first instance. In the process, I kept asking God: What is your will in this matter? What lesson do you want me to learn?

God has a great sense of humor as his reply is that I first must learn to be grateful. In retrospect, I certainly have to be grateful for a good number of things:

1. Adversity Reveals the True Feelings

Even though my entire mandatory fund might come to nothing, my husband neither complained nor blamed me. Instead, he kept comforting me and generously promised me: "Come what may, I definitely will take care of you!" What he said touched me greatly! My husband shared this in his prayer group and gave my special thanks to God that our husband and wife relationship had not been affected because of this. Remarkably, there was no quarrel whatsoever. I was grateful for my husband's consideration as his generosity equaled his physique: fairly solid.

2. Shared Frankly with Others

I shared this within my prayer group and among my fellow students, asking them to pray for me. I also told the congregation in my church practicum when I delivered my worship sermon. Brothers and sisters showed their concern, and fellow students took the initiative to ask me if I needed any help. At lunch time in the campus canteen, some fellow students were worried that I might not have enough to eat and so voluntarily served me more food from the dishes with their chopsticks. Frankly speaking, although this lost mandatory fund was part of our pension, we have not yet become penniless and our present way of living has not been affected. Shouldn't I be thankful for this? As for our finances when we grow old, I am sure God will have his plan and we can trust him to take care of us.

3. Experienced God's Peace That Transcends All Understanding

Even though fellow students worried that I could not sleep well, I was astounded that God granted me good sleep every night during that period. This ability to sleep well was truly a

very great blessing from God, more precious than anything else! I saw on television that other Lehman's victims were very broken-hearted, and I personally witnessed so many indignant, bewildered, anxious people in the protesting procession. I increasingly realized how precious God-given peace was in my life. This peace transcends all understanding. I had prayed to God that he could take away anything but not the peace and joy inside my heart. I thank God that he hears my prayers!

Bank of God's Kingdom

Although the mini-bonds issued by Lehman Brothers Incorporation Ltd. caused me to lose a lot of money, what was most important was that I was made to reflect on my attitude toward money in light of my Christian faith.

1. What is the position of money in my life?

Does it mean that the loss of a big sum of money equals the loss of everything? Who is my support in life? Am I left alone in the deep valley of anxiety when I lose money? Psalm 23, my favorite scripture, says: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want." Do I really believe that?

2. How do I make use of money in future?

In the future, how will I use the money entrusted to me by God? Will I keep storing up treasures on earth and be a miser, or will I invest in something which is of greater value because it is eternal?

God challenged my husband and me to take a further step in faith. This was really hard as we had already lost a sum of money, and now did we still need to take a further step? But then God really put a burden in my heart as I kept hearing the message to make a pledge of offering by faith. All right, we reasoned. Trusting that God is all that we want and apart from him we have no good thing, my husband and I have decided to

practise the lesson of giving still more to him. That is, besides our basic tithe offering, we set aside an extra sum of money to meet the needs of the mission field practicing storing up treasures in heaven. Right now, we have set our eyes on a bank which yields the highest return, the Bank of God's Kingdom. It is easier to learn from bits and pieces at first, and at present my husband and I have begun putting this lesson into practice. We pray that God will help us keep up the good work of supporting missionaries who go to far off foreign lands to share the Gospel.

My husband and I have made a decision: If there would be any compensation or the mini-bond can truly be redeemed in the near future, that sum of money would totally be put in the most secure Bank of God's Kingdom. It was wonderful that recently I heard that the bank would probably redeem the mini-bond. We pray that God would give us the opportunity to increase our savings in the Bank of God's Kingdom so that more money can be used for the mission field, which is in financial need.

"Losing" Is a Channel of Blessing

Brothers and sisters, what in this world can separate us from the love of Christ?

What man sees to be a loss can become in God's kingdom a channel of blessings. God can grant us blessings bigger than any we might expect and yearn for! He is the God who grants us peace and not calamities. Thank God! He continues to lead us on to victory in Christ.

Let us move on together by faith! To God be all the glory and praise!

Please Pray for Our Seminary

- **Students' Summer Practicum (from mid-June to mid-August)**

Pray that God will guide the ministry of our students in different churches and Christian organizations while doing their summer practicum and also pray that God will give them a time of peace and needed rest.

- **Students' Spiritual Formation Camp (August 19-21)**

Theme: From Entering ... to Returning to God...

Pray that as a new school year begins, God will help each of our students to come before him in peace and renewal.

- **Concern and Response to the Sewage Collection System and Pumping Station**

The Drainage Services Department is planning to build a large scale sewage collection system and pumping station right next to our Seminary. If this is implemented, it will degrade our neighboring natural ecological environment. Please pray for the Seminary and ask God to give us wisdom as we have the responsibility to be a good watchman for this piece of land and our neighbors.



News of Academic Affairs

1. Assistant Chaplain

We welcome Mrs. Cheung Ho Yuk-ling (Elaine) to be our Assistant Chaplain beginning in mid-April. She will assist Chaplain Brian Lam, so that the spiritual needs of all our students, whether male or female, will be met.

2. Summer Intensive Courses

Two courses, "Youth Counseling" and "Growth Groups for Ministers" taught by Mr. Lau Wing and Mrs. Chan Cheung Choi-wan. They were conducted in early June and mid-July respectively.

3. Faculty Retreat

The Faculty Retreat was held from June 17 to 19. President Joshua Cho was the speaker who spoke on the topic "Toward Excellence in Theological Education."

4. Faculty Movement

Dr. Mak Kai-sun (Alexander) and Dr. Sher Hing-kei (Tony) will be our Assistant Professor of New Testament and Visiting Assistant Professor of Old Testament respectively beginning August 1. Dr. Mak received his Th. D. from Australian College of Theology and his main research areas are Greek, the Epistles of Paul and Hermeneutics in New Testament Literature. Dr. Sher received his Ph. D. from the University of Edinburgh and his main research areas are the Hebrew Bible and early prophets. Dr. Clement Shum's appointment has changed from Visiting Assistant Professor to Assistant Professor of New Testament beginning August 1.

Dr. Poling J. Sun, Professor of New Testament and Dr. Kevin Mok, Assistant Professor of Practical Theology (Counseling Psychology) left the Seminary as of August 1. The Seminary would like to thank both Dr. Sun and Dr. Mok for their service over the past years, and we pray that God will continue to care for his servants and lead them on the new path of ministry to which they have been called.

5. Minor Modification of the Master of Pastoral Counseling Program

To meet the needs of church ministers, there will be minor modification in the structure of the Pastoral Counseling Program. The characteristics of this program will be that its spirituality dimension will be strengthened to enable students to integrate the spiritual theology elements into their pastoral counseling ministry.

Faculty News

- **Dr. Andres Tang**, Professor of Christian Thought (Theology and Culture) presented an essay entitled "The Praxis Characteristics of Zen Buddhism" in a conference on "Civil Society and New Ethics in the Discourse of Modern Buddhism: In Memory of Master Sheng-yen" organized by the National Affairs Association of the Hong Kong Baptist University on April 9; he gave a talk on "The Impact of Jacques Derrida's Grammatology on Theological Hermeneutics" at the Bible Seminary of Hong Kong on April 17. He also spoke on "Death, while the Conversation Goes: An Exploration of the Modern View of Death and a Reflection on How to Respond to Such a View from the Pastoral Care Perspective" at a seminar for in-service hospital chaplains organized by the Association of Hong Kong Hospital Christian Chaplaincy Ministry Ltd. on May 19. Dr. Tang's article "Collin Gunton's Understanding of Metaphorical Theological Language" appeared in *Jian Dao* 32 (July 2009).
- **Dr. Desmond Choi**, Assistant Professor of Practical Theology (Pastoral Studies) spoke on the topic "Promoting Death Education for Other Citizens: A Reflection on Its Implementation in Protestant Churches" in a seminar on "Health Communities: Public Health and End of Life Care" organized by the Department of Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences, and Technology, The Hong Kong Institute of Education on May 7. He also spoke on the topic "To Establish 'The Head of the Family': The Ministry for Men" in a seminar on "A Preliminary Exploration on the Family-Friendly Policy" jointly organized by The Society For Truth And Light and the Center for Applied Ethics, at Hong Kong Baptist University on May 22.

Lay Theological Education Department

Application for enrolment is welcome for the following programs:

Master of Christian Studies Program (Major in Christian Communication)

Aim: To enable lay Christians with university education to integrate Christian faith with communication theories so that they can engage in theological reflection on present situation and setting of our society and communicate the Christian message more effectively.

Enrolment deadline: August 14

Bachelor / Diploma / Certificate of Christian Studies Program

The Christian Studies Program is a part-time evening program. Students can choose to take:

Certificate Program: Certificate of Christian Studies Program, Certificate of Music Ministry Program

Diploma Program: Diploma of Biblical Studies Program, Diploma of Music Ministry Program, Diploma of Care and Counseling Ministry Program

Bachelor Program: Choose to major in: Bible Studies, Music Ministry, Care and Counseling Ministry

Enrolment deadline: July 31

Childhood Ministry Diploma / Certificate Program

Target: Lay Christians devoted to ministering to children aged from 6 to 12, tutors of children ministry, Christian parents,

Christian teachers, Christian children education workers. The program provides a holistic and systematic technique with theology training in children ministry.

Program characteristics: Its contents include: Faith and IQ, EQ and SQ, the ministry-provider's personal growth, the positive view of children's life education, children's family care and cultural trends of our society, and they are blended with ministry technique in tutoring children in reading the Bible, memorizing scripture verses, prayer, mission and evangelism. The purpose is to help students face the challenge in nurturing a new generation of children.

Enrolment deadline: August 17

Early Childhood Ministry Diploma / Certificate Program

Target: To enable lay Christians to minister to young children from new-born babies up to five-year-old children. They include tutors of infants, Christian parents, Christian kindergarten teachers, early childhood Christian education workers. This program provides holistic and systematic technique with theology training in early childhood ministry.

Program characteristics: Its contents include: EQ and the Christian faith, the ministry-provider's personal growth, spiritual discipline, a basic understanding of the Bible, and they are blended with a pluralistic infant ministry technique training in the use of music, games, drama, stories and science. The two modules "Infant Activities in the Church" and "Religious Activities in Campus" are especially set up to help students face the challenge in nurturing a new generation of infants.

Enrolment deadline: August 17

For inquiries, call: 2711 2552 Email: ltedinfo@hkbts.edu.hk
Website: www.hkbts.edu.hk/lted

Pastoral Continuing Education Center

Courses and talks offered from September to December

Course / Talk	Lecturer	Date / Time
Film in Theological Perspectives	Dr. Yam Chi-keung	Sep 7 (Mon) 2:00 - 5:00 pm
Studying the Hebrew Language	Dr. Wong Fook-kong	Sep 7, 14, 21 (Mon) 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
To Discern Psychotic Illness from Demon Possession	Dr. Hong Kwai-wah	Oct 5 (Mon) 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Wisdom in Financial Management for Church Ministers	Rev. Dave Kwok	Oct 12 (Mon) 1:30 - 3:30 pm
Principles and Practices of Leadership for Ministry Effectiveness	Dr. Peter Liu	Nov 2, 9 (Mon) 9:30 am - 12:30 pm; 1:30 - 4:30 pm
A Church Minister's EQ and AQ	Mr. Charles Yu	Nov 16 (Mon) 10:00 am - 12:00 noon
A Selected Reading of Pseudepigrapha of the New Testament: The Gospel of Thomas	Dr. Clement Shum	Dec 7, 14 (Mon) 1:30 - 4:30 pm

A course pamphlet has just been published in July. Readers can log on our website: www.hkbts.edu.hk

For application or inquiry, 2768 5179 by phone, 2630 1391 by fax or pce@hkbts.edu.hk by email. An application form can be downloaded from the Seminary's website.

- * Graduates of HKBTS, ministers and seminary students of Baptist churches (including practicum students and students taking degree programs in our Lay Theological Education Department, full time students in the 14-member seminaries of the Hong Kong Theological Education Association) can have tuition fee concessions. For details, please refer to the application form in the course pamphlet.

The Fourth Class of Executive Training for Christian Leaders

The recruitment of the fourth class of Executive Training for Christian Leaders has begun. The course is jointly organized by HKBTS and Peter F. Drucker Academy (Hong Kong). The program's aim is to enhance the leadership of church ministers and managerial staff in Christian organizations to become effective leaders for the Christian community and our society. The program is a four-month intensive program, comprising three modules ("Self-management," "Managing Others" and "Organizational Management") and providing intensive training through lectures, case studies and workshops. It is offered to ministers and leaders in Christian churches or Christian organizations, the middle management staff in Christian organizations and Christian administrative staff in nonprofit organizations. The program will begin on October 5, 2009 and ends on January 25, 2010. Deadline for enrolment is September 21. Individuals who enroll before September 5 will enjoy a 10% discount of the program fee; a one-third fee concession will be offered to groups of a minimum of three applicants. For application and enquiry, call 2768 5179 or log on to the Seminary's website: www.hkbts.edu.hk.

Distance Education Program

The new diploma programs will begin in September while the certificate programs can begin at any time

Name of Program	Program Description	Admission Requirements	Date of Commencement	Registration Deadline
Diploma in Biblical Studies Program	Through an in-depth study of a specific book of the Bible, students are trained to do systematic hermeneutics and Bible study.	Secondary school leavers with their church pastor's recommendation	March and September	March semester: Hong Kong: February 10 Overseas: January 10 September semester: Hong Kong: August 10 Overseas: July 10
Diploma in Christian Studies Program	It is a ministry-equipping program that helps students to set up a solid foundation in the Christian faith and doctrine.			
Higher Diploma in Biblical Studies / Christian Studies Programs	Further studies for students having completed the certificate program			
Certificate in N.T. / O.T. Studies Programs	Introductory programs in biblical studies, leading students to study a book of the Bible systematically.	All are welcome	Register at any time. Concessions in fees are available. Students can begin at any time.	

Elective students: Students can choose part of the subjects offered in the correspondence programs according to their own personal interest. For details, please log on the "Distance Education" website.

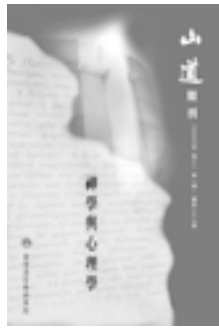
On-line Program	Program Description	Date of Commencement
On-line Certificate in New Testament Studies Program	An introductory program of the study of an individual book of the Bible in Chinese with a choice of either the traditional Chinese or the simplified Chinese versions. It is a diversified program providing an on-line resource room as well as a platform for communication between tutors and students.	Students can begin at any time. Fee concession is provided. You are welcome to log on our on-line program for trial study: http://distance.hkbts.edu.hk The User ID for the traditional Chinese version: 04YM0001 Code: guest The User ID for the simplified Chinese version: 04YM0002 Code: guest

For enquiries, call 2768 5105 or log on the distance education program website www.hkbts.edu.hk/dist/.

Publication News

Hill Road (Issue 23) has been published in July with "Theology and Psychology" as its theme. There are four theme articles: "Anxiety as the Core Theme of Humanity — Psychology in Tillich's Theology" (Chuang Hsin-te), "On the Positive Psychology Appropriated by Hope-Based Christian Counseling" (Kwan Shui-man), "A Reflection of Positive Psychology from the Christian Spirituality Perspective and Constructing Christian Positive Psychology and Its Soul C.A.R.E.S. Model" (Lee Yiu-chuen), "Psychology through the Eyes of a Pastor" (Gerald Lui). In addition, there are three miscellaneous articles, "On Liu Xiaofeng's Conception of Sino-Christian Theology" (Cheung Hung-shing), "Bonhoeffer on Prayer" (Samuel Chiow) and "Worship: From the Triune God back to the Triune God" (Andres Tang). There are also six book reviews in this issue.

Dr. Samuel Tang's new book *Psalms of Different Genres* (vol. 11, the final volume of the "Psalms among Psalms" series) will be published in September. The book comprises 14 psalms of different genres, namely 7 imperative hymns, 2 thanksgiving hymns, 2 enthronement songs, 1 hymn of trust, 1 song of prayer and 1 song of liturgy. Following the format adopted in the series, each individual psalm is expounded under four sections: "general introduction," "commentary," "spiritual message" and "digest." It is suitable for use for preaching, for family and for personal devotional.



Alumni News



- Alumnus **Tam Kwok-wah** (class of 1992), alumna **Ng Wai-chu**, Alice (class of 1987) and alumnus **Lam Kwok-keung**, Donald (class of 1966) all left us because of cancer in January, March and May respectively. We feel sorry upon losing these three alumni and pray that God will comfort their family members and give them peace during their hard times.
- Alumnus **Pang Kwan-shing**, Carter (class of 2005) and Ms. Choi Ching-man were married at HKBTS's Sai O chapel on March 22.

- Alumnus **Kwan Chi-keung** (class of 2004) was ordained pastor by the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church Union of Hong Kong on March 29.
- Alumnus **Li Ki-cho** (class of 1997) was ordained pastor by Tuen Mun Baptist Church on April 19.
- Alumnus **Cheung Shu-kai** (class of 2002) was ordained pastor by Cha Kwo Ling Baptist Church on May 10.
- Alumna **Wong Kit-fong** (class of 1991) was ordained pastor by Hong Kong Baptist Church on May 31.
- **The Executive Committee of HKBTS's Alumni Association (2009-2011)**

Advisor	: President Joshua Cho
Chairman	: Wu Lau Nin-fung
Vice Chairman	: Leung Chi-keung
Secretary	: Ng Lee Kam-lai
Treasurer	: Wu Man-tsun
Academic & Devotional	: Ho Ka-lun
Chief Convenor	: Yip Wai-hung
Deputy Convenors	: Yung Chi-wai Lin Sim-wah
Honorary Auditor	: Cheung Shu-kai

Obituary

In Fond Memory of Our Respectful Deacon Chan Sai-ying and Dr. Hung Hin-shiu

Our Board of Trustee member, Deacon Chan Sai-ying, went to be with the Lord on April 6. He was a member of the Fund-raising Committee of the Seminary's second phase extension (1987) and continued to be a member of the Board of Trustees since 1992. He set up the Seminary's Deacon and Mrs. Chan Sai-ying Scholarship Fund and for years has helped many of our students out of financial difficulty.

Dr. Hung Hin-shiu, our President Council's member, went to be with the Lord on May 31. Dr. Hung had been a member of the President Council since 1989 and was also a member of the Fund-raising Committee of the Seminary's second phase extension (1987). Dr. Hung set up the Seminary's Hung Hin-shiu's Faculty and Students Fund for Further Studies to support faculty and students pursuing further studies or to provide them with the opportunities of academic exchange.

We will miss both Deacon Chan and Dr. Hung and grieve their leaving us. Their faithfulness in serving the Lord and their unreserved support and contribution to the Seminary will long be remembered. We pray that the peace and grace of our Lord will always be with the families of Deacon Chan and Dr. Hung.

Financial Report

General Fund, 1 April - 30 June 2009

	HK\$
Income	6,155,671.77
Expenditure	7,427,915.73
Deficit	<u>(1,272,243.96)</u>

DONORS REPORT FOR APR 2009

Education Fund (Church)

九龍城潮語浸信會	80,000.00
上環浸信會	2,000.00
大角嘴浸信會	12,152.00
大埔浸信會	10,000.00
牛池灣竹園潮語浸信會	1,000.00
以馬內利浸信會	3,500.00
尖沙嘴國語浸信會	1,000.00
沙田浸信會	7,000.00
赤柱浸信會	3,000.00
旺角浸信會女傳道會	5,132.50
紅磡浸信會	3,500.00
香港仔浸信會	29,815.70
香港浸信教會	88,300.00
香港堅尼地城浸信教會	1,200.00
粉嶺浸信會	25,000.00
基磐浸信會	1,000.00
深水埗浸信會	31,279.20
第一城浸信會	5,000.00
愛群道浸信會	5,000.00
置富浸信教會	3,000.00
筲箕灣潮語浸信會	25,000.00
銅鑼灣浸信會	3,000.00
灣仔浸信會	5,520.00
觀塘浸信會	2,711.00
鑽石山浸信會	7,500.00
基督教宣道會華基堂	500.00
基督教宣道會觀塘堂	6,780.00
HK\$	<u>368,890.40</u>

Education Fund (Donor/Organization)

Law Suet Yan Esther	500.00
Margaret Anderson	500.00
Vivian Holder	1,000.00
何譚惠如	1,000.00
吳國傑伉儷	500.00
呂志華	1,000.00

杜國維伉儷	5,000.00
招慧敏	500.00
胡文恩伉儷	500.00
徐詩雅	300.00
袁鳳蘭	3,000.00
崔燕琮	2,000.00
張惠銓伉儷	3,000.00
梁廷益	3,000.00
莫少霞	1,400.00
許鋒威	400.00
陳順錦	2,000.00
陳麗英	1,000.00
黃華娟	100.00
葉煥章	300.00
劉永生	300.00
潘文組	2,000.00
鄭非兒	300.00
鄧兆栢	500.00
鄧炳光伉儷	1,000.00
盧靜宜	500.00
薛聲明	1,000.00
羅佩珊	100.00
羅凱慈	1,000.00
關德華伉儷	140.00
劉建紅	600.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	400.00
無名氏	1,000.00
無名氏	500.00
無名氏	400.00
無名氏	80.60
無名氏	1,000.00
無名氏	6,000.00
HK\$	<u>38,320.60</u>
Chinese Indep. Baptist Church-S.F.	540.00
許統禮伉儷	1,000.00
US\$	<u>1,540.00</u>

Annual Concert

鑽石山浸信會	300.00
葉淑儀	1,700.00
鍾建偉	1,000.00
李錦霞	700.00
馬錦泉伉儷	500.00
無名氏	300.00
HK\$	<u>4,500.00</u>

Scholarship and Bursaries

香港(西區)潮語浸信會	5,000.00
愛子伉儷	300.00
HK\$	<u>5,300.00</u>

Lay Theological Education Program

蕭桂娥	1,500.00
杜桂鵬	500.00
蔡麗桃	1,000.00
宣教事工證書課程畢業同學	850.00
年長者事工證書畢業同學	3,310.00
HK\$	<u>7,160.00</u>

Distance Education Program

Ernest & Sylvia Ho	2,000.00
何鏡煒伉儷	3,000.00
鄒小寶	500.00
無名氏	1,000.00
HK\$	<u>6,500.00</u>

Local Filipino Program

張智理伉儷	5,500.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
陳麗英	400.00
HK\$	<u>6,100.00</u>

Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired

溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
HK\$	<u>200.00</u>

DONORS REPORT FOR MAY 2009

Education Fund (Church)

上水浸信會	15,000.00
上環浸信會	2,000.00
大埔浸信會	10,000.00
元朗浸信會	16,000.00
屯門浸信會	600.00
牛池灣竹園潮語浸信會	1,000.00
以馬內利浸信會	3,500.00
尖沙咀潮語浸信會	1,000.00
佐敦道浸信會	1,500.00
沙田浸信會	7,000.00
旺角浸信會	30,000.00
紅磡浸信會	3,500.00
香港天樂浸信教會	1,000.00
香港浸信教會	88,300.00
香港聖約瑟地城浸信教會	1,200.00
基督教浸信會	1,000.00
深水埗浸信會	2,670.00
圓洲角浸信會	5,000.00
銅鑼灣浸信會	3,000.00
觀塘浸信會	2,338.00
基督教宣道會華基堂	500.00
HK\$	196,108.00

Education Fund (Donor/Organization)

禧年行基金有限公司	30,000.00
何譚惠如	1,000.00
吳國傑伉儷	500.00
呂志華	1,000.00
林威烈	1,000.00
胡文恩伉儷	500.00
胡勝雲	500.00
徐詩雅	300.00
許錦威	400.00
陳巧貞	100.00
陳錦鴻	500.00

陳證光	500.00
黃少娟	2,000.00
黃振中伉儷	10,000.00
黃偉銓	2,000.00
黃華娟	100.00
楊謝金玉	900.00
葉煥章	300.00
劉永生	300.00
劉建紅	600.00
鄭非兒	300.00
鄧兆栢	500.00
薛聲明	1,000.00
羅佩珊	100.00
關德華伉儷	140.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	400.00
Mr. & Mrs. John Dockerill	5,000.00
無名氏	400.00
無名氏	3,000.00
無名氏	500.00
無名氏	1,000.00
無名氏	820.00
HK\$	65,660.00

Scholarship and Bursaries

香港(西區)潮語浸信會	10,000.00
香港浸信會聯合會	2,000.00
陳巧貞	400.00
愛子伉儷	300.00
溫恩智快事伉儷助學金	20,000.00
無名氏	22,780.00
HK\$	55,480.00

Lay Theological Education Program

杜桂鵬	500.00
蔡豐桃	1,000.00
鄧炳光伉儷	1,000.00
蕭桂娥	1,500.00
羅玉清	900.00
08-09幼兒事工文憑課程畢業同學	550.00
08-09年度兒童事工證書課程同學	3,700.00
08-09宣教事工文憑課程	400.00
幼兒事工證書課程	1,405.00
年長者事工文憑課程畢業同學	300.00
HK\$	11,255.00

Distance Education Program

何鏡煒伉儷	3,000.00
姚鳳麟	10,000.00
Ernest & Sylvia Ho	2,000.00
HK\$	15,000.00

Local Filipino Program

張智理伉儷	5,500.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
HK\$	5,700.00

Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired

溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
HK\$	200.00

President Council	
陳偉生	HK\$ 2,000.00
Mrs. LAM KO KIT TAK Bursary Fund	
林高傑德	HK\$ 20,000.00
Annual Concert	
牛池灣竹園潮語浸信會	2,000.00
陳詠恩	100.00
HK\$	2,100.00
Overseas Short Term Mission & Field Education	
劉華清	HK\$ 500.00

DONORS REPORT FOR JUN 2009

Education Fund (Church)

九龍城浸信會	165,000.00
九龍國際浸信會	26,000.00
上環浸信會	2,000.00
大埔浸信會	10,000.00
大埔國際浸信會	750.00
小西灣浸信會福音堂	2,000.00
牛池灣竹園潮語浸信會	1,000.00
以馬內利浸信會	3,500.00
尖沙咀潮語浸信會	1,000.00
佐敦道浸信會	750.00
沙田浸信會	7,000.00
旺角潮語浸信會	4,000.00
紅磡浸信會	3,500.00
香港天樂浸信教會	500.00
香港浸信會	32,776.60
香港浸信教會	88,300.00
香港聖約瑟地城浸信教會	1,200.00
恩典浸信會	10,000.00
基督教浸信會	1,000.00
愛群道浸信會	8,250.00
置富浸信教會	1,500.00
銅鑼灣浸信會	3,000.00
廣林浸信會	1,000.00
興田浸信會	1,000.00
觀塘浸信會	2,682.00
觀塘潮語浸信會	10,000.00
基督教宣道會華基堂	500.00
HK\$	388,208.60

Education Fund (Donor/Organization)

Wong Ki Hang	500.00
何譚惠如	1,000.00
吳國傑伉儷	500.00
呂志華	1,000.00
周佩珊	1,000.00
洪應輪	200.00
胡文恩伉儷	500.00
胡永定、何惠珍	5,000.00
徐沛然	500.00
徐詩雅	300.00
馬錦泉伉儷	500.00

達守本伉儷	400.00
梁兆津伉儷	5,000.00
許錦威	400.00
陳麗英	500.00
馮德華	300.00
黃華娟	100.00
楊謝金玉	900.00
葉煥章	300.00
劉永生	300.00
劉建紅	600.00
鄭非兒	300.00
鄧炳光伉儷	1,000.00
薛聲明	1,000.00
龐凌玉珍	1,000.00
羅佩珊	100.00
羅凱慈	2,000.00
關德華伉儷	140.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	400.00
無名氏	20,000.00
無名氏	1,000.00
無名氏	500.00
無名氏	400.00
無名氏	300.00
無名氏	46.70
無名氏	10.00
HK\$	47,996.70

HKBTS Asso. Alumni of USA & Canada	200.00
Connie Pong K. L.	200.00
黃汝光博士	100.00
鍾慕恩	100.00
羅甘杏葵	200.00
黃鄭繼慈	500.00
US\$	1,300.00

President Council

徐承順伉儷	HK\$ 20,000.00
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Naming Donation

薛林美愛	US\$ 10,000.00
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Scholarship and Bursaries

香港(西區)潮語浸信會	5,000.00
愛子伉儷	300.00
無名氏	29,000.00
不記名	10,000.00
不記名	3,950.00
HK\$	48,250.00

Lay Theological Education Program

杜桂鵬	500.00
林烈琴	200.00
林愛儀	1,000.00
達守本伉儷	200.00
蕭桂娥	1,500.00
麥翠珊	500.00
蔡豐桃	1,000.00
HK\$	4,450.00

Distance Education Program

Ernest & Sylvia Ho	2,000.00
何鏡煒伉儷	3,000.00
胡永定、何惠珍	5,000.00
專題講座	310.00
鄒小寶	1,000.00
HK\$	11,310.00

Local Filipino Program

第一城浸信會	930.00
Merlie M. Reglos	20.00
張智理伉儷	5,500.00
陳麗英	200.00
溫祥、黎琮珍	200.00
無名氏	20.00
HK\$	5,940.00

Theological Education for the Hearing Impaired

溫祥、黎琮珍	HK\$ 200.00
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Reply

I will support The Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary by

☐ praying for the Seminary's theological education ministry

☐ contributing \$_____ for

☐ Educational Fund ☐ Others: _____

Name: _____

(Mr / Ms / Rev / Dr / Mr & Mrs)

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Donation Methods:

☐ **Crossed cheque** payable to

"Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary"

☐ **Cash** either deliver to the Seminary or direct pay-in to our
Hang Seng Bank Account No. "242-026144-003"

☐ **Credit card:** ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

Cardholder's Name: _____

Cardholder's Signature: _____

Card No.: [] [] [] [] - [] [] [] [] - [] [] [] [] - [] [] [] []

Expiry date: _____

Amount: HK\$ _____

(Credit card charges are denominated in HK\$)

☐ **Monthly Autopay** by Bank Account or Credit Card —
autopay form will be forwarded to you

- Please send cheque or bank deposit slip with this reply to the Seminary at 1 Nin Ming Road, Sai O, Sai Kung North, N.T., Hong Kong.
- Receipt will be issued and donation is tax-deductible.
- Your name and donation amount will appear in the Seminary's *Newsletter*. If you do not wish them to appear in the *Newsletter*, please tick the right box. ☐
- Your personal data will only be used for issuing receipt and Seminary's administration purposes.
- For donation inquiry: Tel : (852) 2768 5113 or (852) 2715 9511
Fax: (852) 2768 5102

Thank you for your support !



Precious Moments



◀ March 23 Monthly-held Seminary-wide Staff Meeting

Beginning in March, we had our monthly staff meeting in which there was a time of worship and singing led by a staff member and a message presented by Chaplain Rev. Brian Lam. President Cho shared with all staff members the latest development of the Seminary, and we prayed together for the Seminary.



April 13 Day of Silent Retreat ▶

It was organized by the Spiritual Devotion Department of the Student Union and was held at Tao Fong Shan Christian Center. Students were challenged to retreat from their busy study schedule and ministry life and led to meditate on Christ our Lord's sacrifice on the cross and his resurrection.



◀ May 14 Commissioning Ceremony for the Graduates

In the commissioning ceremony, one of the faculty shared a farewell message, and all the faculty and students prayed aloud for the graduates. President Cho lit candles held in the hands of the graduates, signifying passing on the candle's glow as our graduates go out into different ministry fields, shedding the Lord's light and warmth.

May 26 Awards Day ▶

The annual awards ceremony was a joyful day for us to offer up to God our thanksgiving and for students to give thanks to all scholarship donors. This year 18 awards were presented to students. Besides, long-service awards were presented to the faculty and staff concerned, and gifts of recognition were presented to long term volunteers and retiring staff members.



June 10-14 ▶

The Christian Music Tour of "Hill Singers"

The 20-member Hill Singers visited the minority tribes in the south western part of the Mainland where they shared music with the local people. Through this trip, the choir gained profound and precious experience.



June 28 ▶

The Third Graduation Ceremony of TEFL

The Theological Education for Filipino Leaders Program jointly organized by HKBTS and Philippine Baptist Theological Seminary held its third graduation ceremony in our Sai O Campus. Nineteen students graduated, amongst whom 5 were awarded diplomas while 14, certificates. The program began in 2003 with a total enrolment up to 356 students.



▲ June 12-15

A Summer Visit and Exchange Tour to Jiangxi

This trip was organized by the Seminary's Student Union. Through visiting local churches and contacting minority tribes, 14 students were able to get to observe first hand the life and faith of these Jiangxi brothers and sisters and to have a good time of mutual encouragement and sharing, as well as friendship building.