

March 2020

Issue No 4



SINGAPORE BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

靠神
Rich
GOD
freely in Him

Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Network (BTS Alumni Network)

- Name:** Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Network, abbreviated as BTS Alumni Network
- Address:** Baptist Theological Seminary
1023 Upper Serangoon Road #01-01 Baptist Centre Singapore 534761
- Purpose:** The Alumni Network strives to
1. focus primarily on connecting and helping Alumni serving throughout the world by supporting them in personal ministry growth, and to strengthen the cooperation between their churches or organisations and BTS;
 2. deepen the affiliation among Alumni and between Alumni and BTS;
 3. share resources, strengthen cooperation, improve the cohesiveness of BTS, and develop and strengthen the Alumni's contribution to BTS.
- Formation:** Alumni will be assigned to different regions based on the primary location they are serving. Each regional network will select a Regional Representative and Assistant Representative to facilitate communication and the sharing of resources among Alumni serving within that region. If there is a change in the location the Alumni is serving, they will be re-assigned to the relevant region. Representatives will be appointed (or reappointed) by the Alumni Network Committee every 3 years.
- Membership & Privileges:**
- BTS graduates are automatically Alumni members. They can
1. belong to a network of prayer support among Alumni.
 2. have free membership with the BTS library for a 5-year period after graduation (with borrowing privileges as regulated by the library). Thereafter, it will be on annual subscription at a discounted rate.
 3. enroll for one free 2- or 3-credit/Audit course & two free Lay Leadership Development courses per year at BTS for the purpose of on-going training.
- Scope:** The BTS Alumni Network seeks to facilitate ministry in the following areas:-
1. Carry out overseas training, special lectures, theological training and other activities to support the growth of alumni and the churches they are serving in.
 2. Receive and publicise alumni news.
 3. Collate and coordinate prayer concerns for alumni.
 4. Encourage Alumni to make regular monthly or annual contributions to BTS.
 5. Establish, raise funds and administer the "BTS Alumni Aid Fund".

Mode of Offering:

Cheque: Baptist Theological Seminary

Direct telegraphic transfer:

Name: **Baptist Theological Seminary**

Bank Account Number: **028-005061-5**

Bank Name: DBS Bank Ltd Singapore

Bank Address: 12 Marina Boulevard, DBS Asia Central, Marina Bay,
Financial Centre Tower 3, Singapore 018982

Swift Code: DBSSSGSG

Words of Thanksgiving

Mrs Irene Ng-Chia

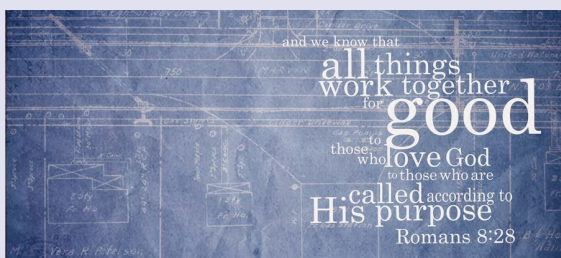
2019 has been a blessed and busy year for both BTS and me. BTS celebrated her 30th Anniversary, organised the 1st Alumni Retreat and published a commemorative collection. With the early retirement of President Daniel Wu, we had to start a new President's search. I am truly grateful to have caught up with many alumni members and we all had a great time of fellowship during the retreat. I also travelled to 4 countries last year to visit our alumni in the field, including 2 mission trips where alumni members joined our teams. You can imagine the joy of witnessing our Chinese Programme alumni visiting our English Programme alumni in the field, as they broke through the language barriers and had a wonderful cross-cultural experience.



We welcome 2020 with an uninvited guest—COVID-19--affecting our alumni and current students. Two of our Chinese Programme students were unable to come back due to the shutdown of their provinces by the authorities. Those who managed to return had to take 14 days of Leave of Absence (LOA). BTS carried out precautionary measures and lecturers had to come up with ways to help the LOA students to catch up.

Words of Thanksgiving

Despite the fear and panic caused by the epidemic, I witnessed the support among the alumni. We had alumni who helped to buy and send masks to the affected provinces, as well as provide licensed vehicles that could transport medical resources within China. We



also had alumni helping BTS to buy masks from Malaysia and Myanmar. I am truly touched by their actions. It is a beautiful scene I have been looking forward to see – alumni supporting each other in unity. I thank God for all who have contributed. May our Lord bless you all!

Having the convenience of the Internet, I will be using the respective chat groups and our BTS official website to provide updates of to you. By using these platforms, I hope that you will be able to receive the latest updates of BTS and our fellow alumni very promptly. I pray that all of you will actively respond so that we can not only support one another in ministry, but we can also encourage one another spiritually.

Finally, let me give you an update of our Alumni Aid Fund. To date, we have assisted 4 of our alumni, from both the English and Chinese Programmes. We have a few applications pending approval. If you happen to know of a fellow alumni who needs help, do contact me or our committee members (Dr Fong or Joanna). Let us not only support one another in prayer, but also show our love in action.

May our heavenly Father be gracious to you and bless all of you who are serving faithfully in the fields that He has entrusted to you.



Please contact Mrs Irene Ng (email: irene.chia@bts.org.sg or Hp: 90677641) for any updates or enquiry.