

November 2021

Dear Prayer Partners,

The new coronavirus pandemic has lasted for two years. According to the data from Johns Hopkins University in the United States, as of November 7th, 250 million people had been infected and more than 5.04 million had died. Although many vaccines have been approved for emergency use in different countries, the “disparity between the rich and the poor” in vaccines, the distrust of government, and the continuous mutation of the virus have all made the epidemic unable to alleviate globally. Recently, many countries could no longer withstand the economic impact of the lockdown and have begun to adopt a strategy of “coexisting with the virus,” which has also caused the number of infections to rise again. Let’s kneel before the Lord, our creator, and pray for His mercy on those communities which are disadvantaged in terms of vaccines and economics. In addition to facing the impact of the epidemic, the churches in Hong Kong also face the immigration wave. We need to wait for God our Lord and be sensitive to His work and guidance during this time. Although our seminary has already resumed face-to-face teaching, we still have to wear masks, which to a certain extent hinders the interaction between each other. So far, I myself have not been able to recognize the first-year students enrolled this year.

In our September prayer letter, we shared that our board of directors had approved the sale of No. 15 Cumberland Road to a brother in the Lord. At that time, it was only mentioned that the purchaser bought No. 15 for “ministry” purpose, without stating the actual use. However, with the consent of all parties, we formally announced at our Anniversary thanksgiving worship on October 11th that the purchase of No. 15 Cumberland Road was dedicated at no cost for the use of the “Bible Seminary of Hong Kong” at No. 17 next door such that these two adjoining lots could be better developed. The purchaser being moved by God is willing to do his best so that his dedication can concurrently benefit both seminaries. We give thanks to God who has moved him for this willing dedication. Please remember the whole sale process in prayers. Because of the sale of No. 15, we will no longer provide dormitories after the end of this year. Several students who currently live there need to move back to the more crowded environment at home or find other places to live. Please pray for their needs. We still need to lift the sale of No. 55 and No. 59 in prayers to God so that the mortgage loan of Mei Foo campus can be paid off as soon as possible. But just as Rev. Ken Chan, the chairman of the board of directors, who used his sermon titled “The Provider above Imagination” in the past 89th Anniversary thanksgiving worship to count the blessings of the Lord with us, we deeply affirm that God will provide our needs in time.



In the September prayer letter, it was also mentioned that our former Dean of Students, Mrs. Kun Wai-Shan returned to the United States for recuperation and treatment because of cancer relapse. Mrs. Kun, upon return to her home in Houston, has started a new course of treatment. Please continue to pray for God's healing on Mrs. Kun. Her husband, Rev. Steve Kun, originally applied for a one-semester unpaid leave to accompany her wife, has now, in response to her treatment, extended his unpaid leave to the end of the school year (i.e. the end of July 2022). Please lift both of them in prayers, asking God to guide them in their way forward. Another faculty, Rev. Samuel Lui, who suffered from nasopharyngeal cancer, has almost recovered after operation. However, because he came to Hong Kong from Australia to serve, due to the epidemic, he could not meet with his family for more than a year. So, he decided to resign and return to Australia after finishing the fall semester in December. Please remember Rev. Lui's recuperation and his future direction after returning to Australia in prayers.

November 2nd to 5th is our specialty week, of which the theme is "Exploration and Implementation of Church without Walls." Through the sharing of several pastors who have made achievements in church without walls, urban missions, and gangster ministry and through visits arranged for our students, hopefully the student's concern for the more marginalized groups in society has been aroused. Under the current circumstances, the pastoral care in traditional churches is full of challenges, but we must not forget that there are still many unreached people outside the four walls of the church. We pray that the Lord will lead our seminary to better and more appropriately train the pastors of this new generation. 2022 is the 90th anniversary of the seminary. It is worth celebrating the grace of God in these 90 years (please remember the preparations for the 90th anniversary celebration, as the new coronavirus epidemic has brought a lot of uncertainties). On the other hand, we pray that God will keep this 90-year-old seminary to continue to be full of energy and vitality. 2022 is also the time we have to receive the five-year accreditation of the Asian Theological Association. Please pray for our Dean, Dr. Josaphat Tam, this being his first time preparing for the accreditation after taking office, needs to get ready a lot of documents and make other arrangements. Please also remember our full-time students who will be graduating this year. They are in the process of considering their future ministry. Pray that they discern God's will and have the courage to take up mission in time of challenges and opportunities.

Time flies. When you read this prayer letter, this semester is coming to an end, and the season of remembering the birth of Jesus Christ is approaching. Hope that you can experience the true meaning of Christmas, that God is with us, more deeply during this time. The next prayer letter will be written by Rev. Kwok Man-Chee again.



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Christmas is coming soon, and the year will pass. I wish you all:

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

More prayers, more strength!

Together we serve,

Alfred SUEN
Vice President