

September 2021

Dear Prayer Partners,

The fall semester of 2021-22 has started on August 23. Our President, Rev. Kwok, took his sabbatical leave this semester and he will be back to serve in the spring semester. Please remember him in prayers, that he can have a good rest during this period and complete his writing on *Pneumatology*.

Due to cancer relapse and the ineffective chemotherapy, our Dean of Students, Mrs. Kun Wai-Shan, decided to return to the United States to recuperate and spend time with her family. She resigned from the seminary in August 2021 and returned safely to her son's home in the United States on August 23. Please pray for her recuperation and treatment in the United States. Her husband, Rev. Steve Kun, our Assistant Professor of Theology, also took an unpaid leave to accompany his wife to return to the United States. In a haste, we enlisted the assistance of two of our emeritus faculty, Dr. Elaine Cheung to be our part-time Dean of Students as from August 2021, and Rev. Andrew Lam to teach the subjects originally taught by Rev. Kun. Please pray for them as they suddenly have to bear a heavy workload in their retirement life, and also remember our long-term faculty arrangement and recruitment in prayers.

As regards our campus development, thanks be to our Lord, we would like to share a good news with you. Our Board of Directors has approved the sale of No. 15 Cumberland Road to a brother in the Lord for ministry purpose. The formal sale and purchase agreement was signed on September 2 and it is hoped that the sale can be completed before the end of this year. Most of the sale proceeds will be used to repay our bank mortgage, and the remaining amount will be used to settle the interest-free loans that are due for repayment. After the completion of the transaction, there will still be about \$220 million bank mortgage outstanding together with other interest-free loans, and the monthly interest will be reduced from the current amount of more than \$600,000 to about \$320,000 per month. Please continue to pray as we still have to sell at least another property on Cumberland Road in order to pay off all the loans; however, the sale of Nos. 55 and 59 has encountered many difficulties.

We have enrolled 62 new students in this school year, including:

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Master of Arts (Christian Education)	3
Postgraduate Diploma (Biblical Studies)	11
Postgraduate Diploma (Christian Education)	4

We give thanks to God as the number of students enrolled is 20 more than that of last year, and some of them were called to dedicate themselves wholly to serve the Lord due to the immigration of their pastors. Please pray for the adjustments of our new students and also the impact arising out of the immigration wave to the churches in Hong Kong. Please also remember our new master programs in prayers, the Master of Overseas Christian Ministry and the Master of Arts in Worship Studies, both will commence in January 2022 and are currently under enrollment, and also a complete online theological program that is under preparation. Please pray that God will use our programs to better equip believers and God's servants in this era.

Together we serve in Christ,

Alfred SUEN September 2021, Hong Kong