

December 2023

Dear Prayer Partners,

“It rains while I’m playing soccer, it looks like that God doesn’t care about me?” This was a common commercial dialog on Hong Kong TV years ago, but it was also in my mind not long ago when Evangel Seminary celebrated its 90th anniversary. This year’s 90th anniversary celebration was indeed held in the midst of rain and storm. What came first was the talk held on September 1-2. We invited Rev. David Pao to come all the way from the United States to Hong Kong to hold a theological talk on “Being Faithful, Being Faithful to Jesus.” However, the Super Typhoon Saola hit Hong Kong on those two days and Hurricane Signal No. 10 was hoisted. Then came the anniversary thanksgiving service and dinner, which was originally scheduled for October 8. The event was postponed for one day due to another typhoon, Typhoon Koinu, which hit Hong Kong with black rainstorm warning. These things made me examine my life. How unworthy I was, but by God’s grace, He allowed us to complete all the 90th anniversary celebrations in the midst of the stormy weather.

We had switched Rev. Pao’s talks to online and as a result, more than 80,000 people attended, many of them expressed that the messages were inspiring and helpful. The 90th anniversary thanksgiving service was delayed by one day with all the guests being able to attend, including the two officiating guests - our former Presidents, Rev. John Hsu and Dr. Maureen Yeung Marshall. Again, with God’s grace, the thanksgiving dinner was also successfully held in the evening of that day. Here, I would also like to thank God for giving us faithful colleagues, who worked tirelessly and put in extra hard work in making all those necessary changes. I am so thankful for and appreciated their love for God and for the Seminary.¹

During the anniversary thanksgiving service, it was announced that I would retire at the end of 2024. The Board of Directors, after much concerted effort, has invited our Vice-President, Dr. Jimmy Man, to be the next President. There are still some formalities to be completed, and we believe that Dr. Man will be able to take up the post as the seventh President of the Seminary in January 2025, and will lead the Seminary to continue to equip leaders of the Chinese churches in an environment full of challenges. Please keep Dr. Man and the Seminary in your prayers.

Every year during the fall semester, we will arrange the new M.Div. students to share their testimonies on God’s calling at our chapel. This year, many of the students’ testimonies deeply touched us. I felt as if I was watching the testimonies from the Showers of Blessing Evangelistic Ministry. We thank the Lord for bringing His beloved children into our midst, and ask Him to shape their lives to be His useful vessels in this age.

¹ With the recent retirement, illness and departure of our staff, and the newly recruited staff still adjusting to their job duties, making all the urgent and appropriate changes for the celebration of the anniversary was not an easy task. I would like to express my regret to those alumni who had not be asked to receive accreditation under this circumstances. Please accept my sincere apology on this.



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The originally scheduled 90th anniversary tour to the Holy Land with our alumni met with the Israeli-Palestinian war just before departure. From the TV news, we saw many elderly people and children lost their loved ones in the war. Regardless of our political affiliation, we felt very sad. We pray that our Heavenly Father will put an end to this war, and that the Gospel will reach them and resolve their hatred for each other. In addition, the Russian-Ukrainian war has been going on for over a year now, and although there is very little we can actually do, we trust that nothing is too difficult for God.

We have recently learnt that our colleagues and a number of our alumni (both pastoral and non-pastoral) got cancer, which has had a great impact on their lives and ministries. We pray for the Lord's grace and mercy on them, so that they can experience God's presence and healing in the midst of their illness.

In the past, we have two pastors sent from China for three years' full-time training in our seminary, and both of them have graduated and returned to serve in their own areas. I promised them that I would visit them and I plan to do that before I retire, hoping that they can continue to work hard to serve the Lord with the blessing of Evangel Seminary.

Please remember the future development of the seminary in your prayers. We plan to start offering certificate courses overseas next year to equip Christians serving in churches, and we have received positive feedback from the churches in Sydney, Australia and Vancouver, Canada. Pray that the Lord will use us to bless the overseas Chinese churches so that they can grow healthily in God's will.

As we are approaching the day of commemorating our Lord's birth, I would like to wish you all:

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year

Let's love the Lord more deeply

Together we serve,

KWOK Man-chee

December, 2023



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90周年主禮嘉賓、老師、院董及各神學院代表等合照

90th anniversary officiating guests together with faculty, Board of Directors and representatives of other seminaries



播道總會、恩福神學院、播道神學院於10月15日舉行「為耶路撒冷、加沙求平安」的祈禱聚會

Prayer Meeting praying for Peace for Jerusalem and Gaza was held on October 15th by the Evangelical Free Church of China, Yan Fook Theological Seminary and Evangel Seminary.