



Dear Friends,

December 2019

Greetings from Singapore!

The Advent is here. We do not have garlands and a Christmas tree to decorate our place for the Christmas season. Although a bit too simple in the season of gathering without family and friends, we want to adorn ourselves with some decorations in heart, *"Then adorn yourself with glory and splendor, and clothe yourself in honor and majesty."* **Job 40:10**

We could not believe that 2019 is leaving us soon. How grateful we felt that the life-giving God sustained us through the deep waters and dark valleys we faced during this year. We are thankful for the protection over Raymond's heart attack in which we have learned some different perspectives in life. We are thankful that we could be part of changing people's lives with the love of Christ. We do not know who has been impacted by our ministry of teaching and sharing gospel to many foreign students and foreign domestic helpers, but we know what God is doing His work in their lives. *"I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow."* **1 Corinthians 3:6-7**

**East Asia School of Theology** finished the first semester of the 2019-2020 academic year. It has been a phase of sojourning in the wilderness so to speak. Many felt the need of an environment at least to strengthen/maximize learning/teaching as a community, which has been challenged since we moved our classes to the current church. With this desperate need, EAST community has been raising the fund and we will move into a new place (partial rent) hopefully by June 2020. EAST will occupy two floors of this building which will relieve some of the major difficulties we have. However, God's grace has been evident to all of us even in the midst of "not so doable" situation throughout the semesters.

**EAST Mission Hub is Coming!**



There is a challenge for us. While the extension centers in Asia have been expanded yet the resident school gets weaker in enrollment. There must be multiple reasons to analyze it. One of the reasons seemed like a phenomenon of most seminaries in which we could see the impact of declining number of young believers in the "millennials." Although worrisome and prayerful for the matter, we are excited to see the transformation of students' lives whom God has currently entrusted to us. Therefore, we want to be faithful to raise the young Christian leaders whether big or small in numbers.



The new subjects **Raymond** (Contextualization) and **Justine** (Educational Ministry of the Church) have taught this semester went well despite the rough start due to Raymond's acute heart attack. God has been so gracious for giving us daily strength, perseverance, faith, and hope to continue to serve students and domestic helpers. Justine also finished the teaching the Old and the New Testament Survey course for the church members this year. Justine got to know the participants in-depth through these two courses. It is always nice to find new friends in Christ Jesus.

Our **Mentoring Group** students are growing in their respective faith journeys. As we observed the students when they met challenges and storms in their lives, they began to see their real selves and to find a moment of questioning who they really become in Christ. They realized the reality of success or failure in fruit-bearing lives in Christ.



**Domestic helpers “Young Joseph Ministry”** hit the biggest number in Korean classes. We opened it to other domestic helpers who were not involved in our ministry. The Korean teachers did a great job to teach Korean to many domestic helpers. We are praying that many will be connected to our Young Joseph Ministry as a result of it. K-drama and K-Pop were the forces to prompt some Asians finding an interest in the Korean language. Some domestic helpers seek to get a job in Korea

and some just want to communicate with their Korean employers.

Thank you for your prayers and support! We really appreciate you all! We wish you a Joy-full Christmas and a very blessed New Year!

*Raymond and Justine*

### **Please pray for us...**

- May God grant good health for us.
- May God clothe us with joy, contentment, faith, and wisdom.
- May God grant us fruitful teaching at EAST.
- May God help us be powerful in proclaiming His words.
- May God guide us in leading Young Joseph Ministry
- May God meet our needs in every aspect of our lives including our children's needs.

67A Carlisle Rd. Singapore 219638

1-847-778-8821 (Ray); 1-847-641-0542 (Justine); prsong@gmail.com; hanhjustine@gmail.com

**Support** (please write check payable to “**The C&MA**” and write “**Song/MM**” on the memo)

Mail to: The C&MA, c/o Donor Account, 8595 Explorer Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80920

**On-line giving:** <https://secure.cmalliance.org/give/>, select International Worker, type in “**Song/MM**”, when you see our name, click “**Give To**” (highlighted in red) and enter giving amount and “**Add to cart.**”