



20 May 2020

Dear Alumni,

Amidst the Covid-19 pandemic, I bring you warm greetings from Trinity Theological College even as we in Singapore are still observing the Circuit Breaker measures, otherwise known as 'work from home' mode. We do look forward to 1 June and hope that some restrictions will be lifted to allow for smaller groups to meet. And now, let me share some updates with you about your alma mater.

1 TTC held its Closing Service (without Holy Communion) on 15 May via Zoom teleconferencing. During the Circuit Breaker period, online learning was taught by our faculty and committee meetings were held via Zoom. Our wardens have been paying attention especially to overseas students living on campus and being away from home and family.

2 It has been difficult for the 2020 cohort of graduands who have been deprived of their graduation retreat and dinner. Our Graduation Service has been postponed to 13 June with the hope that a physical gathering will be allowed. We are considering the possibility that they can at least return with their loved ones for a combined graduation dinner with the Class of 2021 next year. Thus we continue to pray for a return to normal conditions in the not-too-distant future.

3 Meanwhile, we have received 93 applications for the new academic year. We expect to admit some 70% of these prospective students unless some overseas students find difficulty with entry permits into Singapore. As always, students from Singapore form two-thirds of our student population.

4 Two of our faculty members will be leaving TTC at the end of this academic year. They are

- Rev Yap Seok Chin, our Registrar, who has asked to retire a little earlier, so that she can follow her heart to serve in missions. Seok Chin is a valuable member of our administrative team and we appreciate the fact that she extended her stay at TTC upon my request when her services were much needed. Seok Chin has been on faculty for twenty-two and a half years and also served as Dean of Students and Field Education Director. May God bless her as she goes into mission work.
- Rev Dr Jeffrey Truscott has been given another assignment by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), his sponsoring church. We have been blessed through the partnership of the Lutheran Church in Singapore who facilitated Jeff's tenure as lecturer at TTC since 2004. A former Chaplain of TTC, we thank him for helping us to rediscover the wealth of our liturgical tradition and for his contributions in Worship and Liturgy and in Homiletics. Jeff will be joining the faculty of a Batak Lutheran Seminary in Medan, Sumatra as soon as he receives his visa from the Indonesian authorities.

5 We hope you have received the [e-Trumpet \(April issue\)](#). Hopefully, a limited number of print copies can be circulated at the appropriate time. We also invite you to use the [Spiritual Resources for Troubled Times](#) prepared for all who would like to spend some time in quiet meditation and reflection while confined at home.

6 Finally, I will be making an announcement about the future leadership of TTC in a month's time after the meeting of the TTC Board of Governors. Your prayers and support of our college is deeply appreciated as we journey through this very challenging year. Until then, may God continue to bless you and yours.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev Dr Ngoei Foong Nghian  
Principal