



The Western FRONT

November 2014

where the gospel meets the world



Western alumnus Pastor Robbie Leong (back row - blue checkered shirt) and a team of pastors on a mission trip in India where they trained national pastors.



IMPORTANT DATES

Western Seminary will be closed:

Nov. 27-30	Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 24-25	Christmas
Jan. 1, 2015	New Year's Day
Jan. 19, 2015	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day - Remember those who have sacrificed and served our country.

JANUARY 14, 2015

Discover Coaching, 7:00pm-9:00pm,
Presented by Linda Miller. [RSVP](#) by Jan. 7.

Other [Community Calendar](#) dates

W Western Trained... Mission Possible

By Charmaine Williams

THE LANDSCAPE

In the hustle and bustle of life - in the day and age of advanced media outlets, technological advances and extensive mobility, it is often difficult to discern how God desires to use His trained people for ministry. Don't we have enough people going to Mexico, parts of China and Africa? Are people still needed to go to the remote parts of the earth? Some-

times it seems like there are plenty of people getting the word out about Jesus, yet just one spiritual conversation with a Silicon Valley worker is a great reminder of the Kingdom work still left to do both here and abroad.

THE CALL

Did you know that the average cost for one long-term missionary or couple per

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Audit a Class For Free!

The [Spring 2015 Semester Class Schedule](#) is now online. Alumni can take one eligible course per academic year free as an audit course. You need only complete a [Non-Credit Application](#) form and the [Alumni Audit Opportunity](#) form and submit them to [Carrie Priest](#), Director of Student Services. Contact her at 408.356.6889 x405 or carriepriest@westernseminary.edu with any questions.

“WESTERN TRAINED...MISSION POSSIBLE” CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

year in 2012 was \$103,000? That's a lot of money for a church or individual to gather up! This is one of the many reasons that short-term missionaries are needed. Not only do they tend to serve and support long-term missionaries, but they can minister in ways that equally impact kingdom work.

Regardless of money or scope of commitment, the Father is still asking the same questions as Isaiah heard nearly 3000 years ago, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” In many respects, these questions challenge trained seminarians regardless of their program or discipline to assess whether God is prompting their involvement to say...“Here am I. Send me!”

THE RESPONSE

This summer, I met with three alumni who responded to the Holy Spirit's prompting. Their missional assignments were very different in scope but a Godly result was accomplished - transformational growth internally, and awareness, hope, and connection externally. Done for the glory and honor of God, there is no greater aspiration.



Tina Chiang praying with a young girl in India.

Tina Chiang, MFT 2008, went on a year-long mission trip that involved visiting a different country every month in support of long term missionaries already in place all over the world. Although the ability to travel and meet different people of varying cultures most certainly has its appeal, she summed up her experience in one word - “surrender.” You leave thinking that God

will use your strengths, talents and abilities to reach given goals. However, you later discover that you need to “do things you suck at for the entire month!” Often times she found herself outside her comfort zone doing difficult tasks that did not always seem rational. Tina mentioned that you need to “allow God to take you on His journey for you.” Feeling disconnected and lonely at times, she stated that you “lose self” yet still need to serve with the smile of enthusiasm for whatever lies ahead. With the added emotions of being in a new place, learning a new culture, and missing friends and family, she stated that you must “listen to your inner voice.” Her time away allowed her to connect with her true self while accepting that letting go of her agenda for God's agenda is a good trade off.

Pastor Robbie Leong (pictured on the front page), M.Div. 2013, was involved in a program to train national trainers in India and China. He was part of a team of pastors who went to help equip Indian pastors and Chinese pastors, as well as college students in house churches. Teaching others is a great way to visually see the multiplying effects of the gospel locally and abroad in other communities. God uses seminary-trained people to be a catalyst and resource for spiritual awakening and renewal as they pass their training forth to those who may never grace the doors of a graduate school. Robbie stated in his mission newsletter that, “I was blessed to learn more about the Indian pastors' ministries and their personal lives from our morning or lunchtime walks.” In Shanghai, he took part in teaching on topics such as singleness, depression, anger, forgiveness, and spiritual maturity and found this ministry to be so rewarding. Robbie then closed out his time with a visit to a medical center that cares for and provides lifesaving medical care to Chinese orphans with severe birth defects. A picture of a baby



Esther Wei expressing love through friendship bracelets with local students on her mission trip.

who is recovering from surgery says it all! God's provision meets the needs of babies, children, young people, and adults.

Esther Wei, MFT 2008, accepted a leadership role shepherding a group of college students to East Asia for about three weeks. Interestingly, of the five short-term trips she had taken, this endeavor unexpectedly took her back to the exact location as her very first trip 18 years ago. She was amazed to learn that the high school that she taught in back then has become the best school in the city and maybe even in that country. The U.S. students she chaperoned had the privilege of interacting cross-culturally with a cohort of local “crème of the crop” college students who were chosen amongst the best in their schools to participate in a leadership program. Many of the interactions and friendships built between these U.S. students and the local student leaders may pave the way and plant seeds of faith while challenging the U.S. students to greater spiritual awareness and character development. For Esther in particular this “mission possible” helped her to get reacquainted with the fact that, “I am a Christian first, then a counselor.” Coming back in touch with this aspect of her spiritual walk reminded her that it is God who “gives us gifts to accomplish his purposes.” Esther plans on paying close attention to the heart God has given her for this area of the world and looks forward to more opportunities to serve.

SPRING ELECTIVES TO CONSIDER

- BLS 538S/NTS 527S - Exposition of Romans and Exegeting the Book of Romans - Dr. Gary Tuck. 2 credits.
- DMS 502SH - Intro to Theology and the Practice of Worship - Dr. Dan Kimball (see page 4 about instructor). 2 credits.
- PCW 511S - Pastoral Understanding of Women (men are welcome) - Dr. Bev Hislop. 2 credits.

Check the [Spring 2015 Semester Class Schedule](#) for more specific details on dates and times. Registration begins November 11.

SPRING 2015 PERSPECTIVES CLASSES

[Perspectives](#) Spring 2015 classes will be held on Tuesdays at Valley Church in Cupertino from January 6 to May 19, 2015 from 6:30-8:00pm. For more information, contact [Nancy Parks](#) or (408) 354-1754. Other local locations hosting Perspectives from January through May are [Pleasanton](#) and [Moraga](#). You may also [find other classes](#) around the nation.

MINISTRY AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Please see the Ministry and Employment Opportunities and Counseling binders in the front lobby for more information about the recent (and previous) postings:

Student Services Associate (20 hrs/wk)
[Western Seminary San Jose](#)

Assisting the Director of Student Services in providing support (administrative and programmatic) to students throughout their seminary training. Includes 5 hrs/wk of administrative support in the area of alumni/donor event relations. Send your cover letter and resume to [Carrie Priest](#).

Youth Pastor[Yiu-Mienh Baptist Church of Richmond \(YMBC\)](#)

777 Sonoma Ave., Richmond

They will build up the American-born Mien generation at YMBC through discipleship. \$31,000 with health benefits. 32 hrs./wk. (4 days/wk.) with flexible schedule. To apply, send a resume with cover letter to [youth.ymbc@gmail.com](#).

English Youth and Young Adult Pastor[Tree of Life Lord's Harvest Christian Church](#)

Fremont, CA

Provide spiritual leadership to develop mature Christian lives of the English congregation through shepherding, scriptural teaching, and discipleship training. Email your resume and cover letter to [jobs@living-tree.org](#).

Director of Children and Family Ministries (full-time)[Saratoga Federated Church](#)

20390 Park Place, Saratoga, CA

Send resumes to [federatedjobsearch@gmail.com](#).

Bilingual (Spanish/English)**Therapist/Counselor II**[Alum Rock Counseling Center, Inc.](#)

Provide Medi-Cal appropriate and approved individual and family crisis intervention, rehabilitation, and case management services to youth exhibiting and/or engaging in high-risk or delinquent behavior. Full-time (evenings required). Contact Wilson

Ho Yin Cheh at [wcheh@alumrockcc.org](#).

Cantonese Associate Pastor[Living Hope Community Church of Silicon Valley \(LHCC\)](#)

Moving to San Jose Christian School this month. Lead all facets of the Cantonese Ministry, to faithfully shepherd the Cantonese-speaking brothers and sisters. Please contact Patrick Hong at [psc@livinghopesv.org](#).

High School Ministry Intern[Venture Christian Church](#)

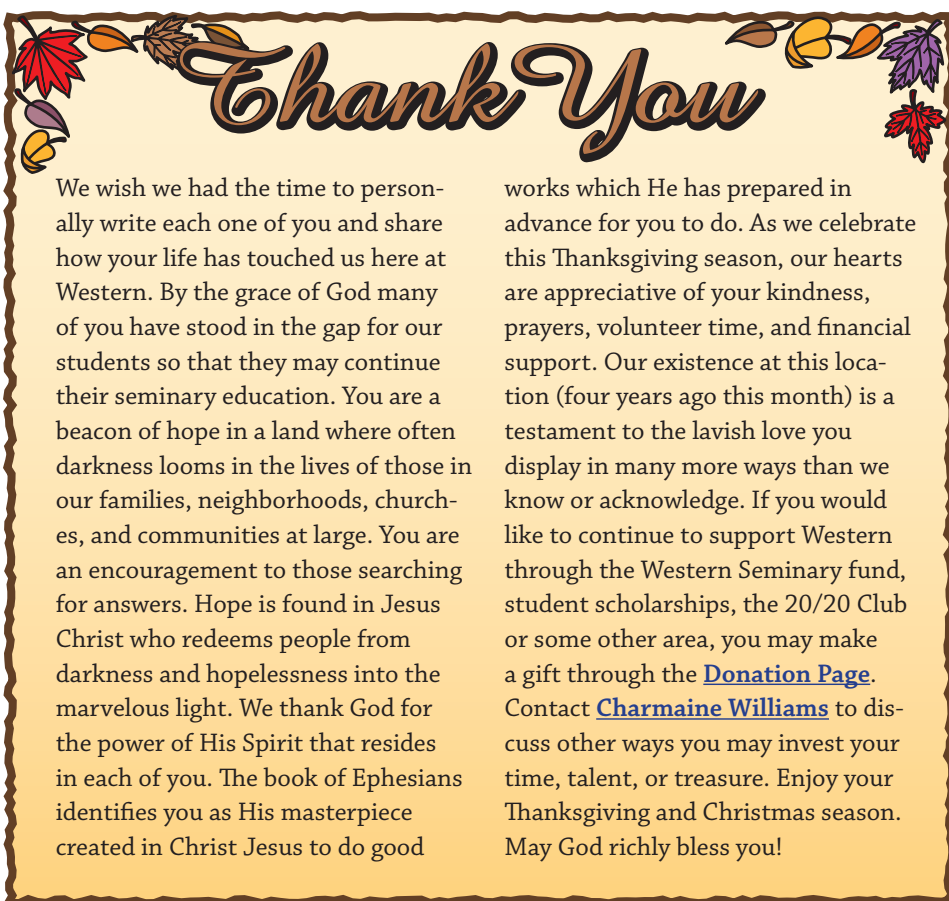
16845 Hicks Road, Los Gatos

Seeking an intern who wants to move into student ministry. Please send resume to Judie Christensen at [JChristensen@venturechristian.org](#).

Young Adult Ministries Intern[Twin Lakes Church](#)

2701 Cabrillo College Drive, Aptos

Looking for male intern. Must be able to commit 15-20 hours per week. You will be compensated by receiving free housing on the TLC property. Call 831-465-3300.



Thank You

We wish we had the time to personally write each one of you and share how your life has touched us here at Western. By the grace of God many of you have stood in the gap for our students so that they may continue their seminary education. You are a beacon of hope in a land where often darkness looms in the lives of those in our families, neighborhoods, churches, and communities at large. You are an encouragement to those searching for answers. Hope is found in Jesus Christ who redeems people from darkness and hopelessness into the marvelous light. We thank God for the power of His Spirit that resides in each of you. The book of Ephesians identifies you as His masterpiece created in Christ Jesus to do good works which He has prepared in advance for you to do. As we celebrate this Thanksgiving season, our hearts are appreciative of your kindness, prayers, volunteer time, and financial support. Our existence at this location (four years ago this month) is a testament to the lavish love you display in many more ways than we know or acknowledge. If you would like to continue to support Western through the Western Seminary fund, student scholarships, the 20/20 Club or some other area, you may make a gift through the [Donation Page](#). Contact [Charmaine Williams](#) to discuss other ways you may invest your time, talent, or treasure. Enjoy your Thanksgiving and Christmas season. May God richly bless you!



Dr. Lorraine Hutchinson (with her husband) received a Certificate of Appreciation plaque and a gift basket for her 20 years of ministry at Western Seminary.

Dr. Hutchinson Celebrated 20 Years of Teaching!

By Lisa Mueller

If you weren't able to make it on September 27 to celebrate Dr. Lorraine Hutchinson's 20 years of teaching at Western Seminary here is a recap. About 30 Western alumni, staff and faculty, family, friends and professional colleagues of Dr. Hutchinson gathered at Trinity Church of Sunnyvale to honor her. Western's former MFT Director, Dr. Judith Needham-Penrose, and Western's Executive Dean, Dan Ruiz (Class of '97), shared what Lorraine means to them as a colleague and friend. Lorraine's daughter, husband, and a couple of other colleagues also gave tributes to her. Former students, Arleen Musci (Class of '12) and Western's Assistant MFT Program Director, Nancy Broxton (Class of '98), shared about the impact of her teaching. Afterwards, Lorraine and her husband were presented with gifts on behalf of Western Seminary. Perhaps the most memorable gift she received was her daughter surprising her by flying in from out of town to celebrate. You could hear Lorraine shriek with joy as she saw her daughter for the first time at the event. There was time to mingle and fellowship over appetizers and dessert. Love and laughter filled the room as her close family members stayed until the very end to visit. What a beautiful, fun and loving family they are! Thank you everyone who came to honor her on this special day! Also, on October 18, we had another celebration for her where the students were able to honor her at the Student Social event during the lunch hour at the San Jose campus.

Dan Kimball Joins Western



Western Seminary prides itself on providing students with a faculty of experienced ministry practitioners. The hire of Dr. Dan Kimball during the early part of the year adds to that expertise with his years of college-age ministry and concentrated efforts to release the millennial generation into the world in the name of Jesus.

Dan has a doctorate from George Fox University and master's degree from Western Seminary. He was part of the team that launched Vintage Faith Church in Santa Cruz, California in 2004, where he currently leads the mission and teaching. He has authored widely-read books including [Emerging Worship: Creating Gatherings for New Generations](#) and [They Like Jesus But Not the Church](#). His speaking schedule regularly takes him around the country where he meets churches who are reaching the next generation.

As an instructor in pastoral ministry, Dr. Kimball has taught

intensive courses at Western at the Portland and Sacramento campuses. This Spring semester will be his first time teaching at the San Jose campus; Intro to Theology and the Practice of Worship (DMS 502SH), a 2 ¹/₂ day intensive.

In addition to teaching, he is the Director of the ReGeneration Project, a collective group of pastors, theologians, artists, church leaders and all those who are passionate about seeing new generations follow Jesus and serve Him on mission in their world. Through the [Regeneration Project website](#), regional conferences and online ministry resources, the ReGeneration Project will provide practical insight from churches who are seeing millennials becoming followers of Jesus and reversing the negative perceptions of faith amongst that generation. Bringing attention to theology and apologetics will be central to the ReGeneration Project, another gospel-centered ministry of Western Seminary. There will be a ReGeneration Conference on February 27-28, 2015 in Portland, Oregon and on April 17-18, 2015 in San Jose, California. We hope you can attend!

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For the Western Wave and other student campus news -
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