



STANDING FIRM, BUT NOT STANDING STILL

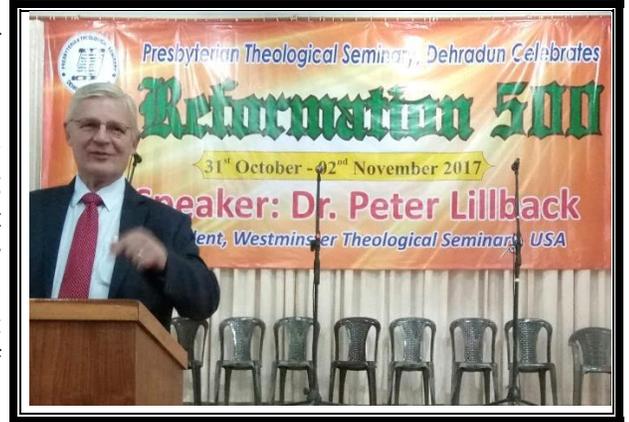
PTS Newsletter

Presbyterian Theological Seminary

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500 YEARS OF REFORMATION CELEBRATED: This year marks the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The traditional date of the Reformation is October 31, 1517 - the day on which Martin Luther, an Augustinian monk and biblical scholar, nailed the 95 theses on the church door at Wittenberg, Germany, questioning the sale of indulgences. In remembrance of this great event Presbyterian Theological Seminary (PTS) organized a three-day celebration from October 31 to November 2, 2017. The program consisted of a series of worship services, lectures by eminent scholars, student and faculty symposiums and screening of Reformation related films.

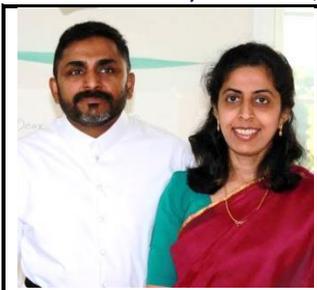


Our special guest speaker was Dr. Peter A. Lillback, President of Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, USA. The program was attended by pastors, Christian leaders and theological students and teachers in Dehradun. Dr. Lillback masterfully explored the history of doctrines of the Reformation through his lectures and messages. The contributions of Martin Luther, John Calvin, U. Zwingli, P. Melancthon, and several of the forerunners of the Reformation were discussed. Dr. Lillback’s ministry was greatly appreciated.

There were two Symposiums: The Student Symposium dealt with, “What are the areas in which Asian churches need Reformation today?” and the Faculty Symposium focussed on “Reformation and Christian Leadership in Asia Today.” There was a panel discussion at the end of the day with active participation. The celebration was a great blessing to all who attended.

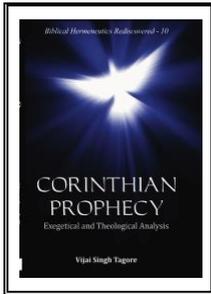


News from the Fields: As part of the requirement, PTS students have been involved in practical ministries during their course of study. At times, students would continue to work even after their graduation.



Such is the case with **Rev. Shibu Oommen** ('07). His practical ministry while a student was among the under-privileged women and girls in the slums in Dehradun. He continued working with them after his graduation and later formed a Trust known as the India Village Mission (IVM). He provided some vocational training to the women, making hand-made products, tailoring centers, Informal Education Centers for children where free tuition was provided. As a result, regular Sunday school programs have also started in these places. Today, a team of PTS students continue to work with IVM under the local leadership. Shibu Oommen with his wife, Mary, is at present serving in a PCA church in Pennsylvania, USA.

Rev. Markus Masih did his Bachelor of Divinity (B.D) in 1994 at PTS. He joined the Evangelical Christian Church in India at Rajouri Garden, New Delhi, and later became senior pastor of the church. Through the ministry of personal evangelism, the number of members increased. Few years ago, the church had nearly lost its property when Delhi metro line was introduced. The Lord heard their prayer and as a result, the line was miraculously diverted to a different route. Because of the church's intervention, a good number of businessmen in his locality were saved. That itself was a great witness! Markus and Amita Masih have three children, Cherup, Charis and Shalom.



New Book by PTS Faculty Member: A new book written by PTS Faculty Member was released on Reformation Day. The book, *Corinthian Prophecy* deals with an exegetical analysis of the phenomenon of prophecy in the Corinthian church. The learned work not only interacts with scholarly debate on the topic, but also provides a biblical theology in the Old and New Testaments. The book was released on 31 October 2017. It is available @ Rs. 250 plus postage charges from the author. It is also available online at: www.christianworldimprints.com. The author, Rev. Vijay Singh Tagore is a graduate of Christ College, Sydney (M.Th) and PTS, (B. Th, M. Div). He is currently Lecturer of New Testament at PTS.



A NEW BOUNDARY/RETAINING WALL:

Part of the boundary (retaining) wall by the old servant quarters of PTS collapsed during the last monsoon. We are grateful to MTW for granting us the needed fund to immediately rebuild the wall. Connecting to the wall, a shallow drain with cemented flooring also was constructed to divert the flow of the water and to avoid soil erosion. We praise the Lord that we were able to rebuild the wall to protect the property.



Visitors: We were happy to have with us three of our alumni from three southern states, Pondicherry, Karnataka and Tamilnadu: Rev. Kuppusamy is doing a church planting ministry and is teaching at a Bible college in Pondicherry, Rev. Paul Raj is pastor of Agape Presbyterian Church in Karnataka, and Mr. Paul Stephen is pastor of a Brethren Church in Tamilnadu. * Friends from Australia: Rev. Bert Kuipers, G.O.S.P.E.L, Dr. Murray Capill, Principal of Reformed Theological College, and Mr. P. Newbegin, Director of CRFI, Bangalore visited PTS in October. * Our friends from DVN, the Netherlands, Mr. Allard Treep and Mr. Wietze Jan Wezeman visited PTS in early November.

PROJECT

Sponsor a student: There are several student candidates who are in need of support. Sponsor a student for 3 or 4 years, by investing approximately \$ 1800 per year/\$150 per month, covering tuition and boarding. Any amount you can give is appreciated. Gifts and donations, indicating its purpose can be sent to any of the following:

FROM ABROAD:

- 1. Presbyterian Theological Seminary**, Savings Bank Acct No. 306802010008768, Union Bank of India, Dehradun (Main Branch). Swift Code No: UBININBBDER, IFSC: UBIN0530689.
- 2. Association for Reformed Ministries Abroad.** C/o Mrs Jean A. Schreur, 4544 Van Buren, Hudsonville, MI 49426, USA.
- 3. MTW**, 1600 North Brown Road, Lawrenceville, GA 30043, USA.

FROM WITHIN INDIA:

Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Savings Bank Acct No. 306802010008758, Union Bank of India, Dehradun (Main Branch), IFSC: UBIN0530689.

WEBSITE: Please do visit our website www.ptsindia.com for more information about us. The Newsletter and the Daily Prayer Guide are available at our website. Upon request, these can be sent to you by email.

Please write to: revroshyama@ptsindia.com

Rev. L. Roshyama Hrangchal, Editor & Vice Principal, Development & Projects.

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