

Our Dear Members, Subscribers, Church Partners and Friends,

Merry Christmas and Happy Blessed New Year 2021!

2020 was indeed a very tough year and full of many new experiences like Social Distancing, Lockdowns, isolation and various aspects of freedom restriction. Meanwhile, we became more diligent about personal hygiene habits especially washing hands and wearing a medical mask in public. We pray that a by-product of the virus is that we have become more concerned about others, instead of closing ourselves alone in the new year.

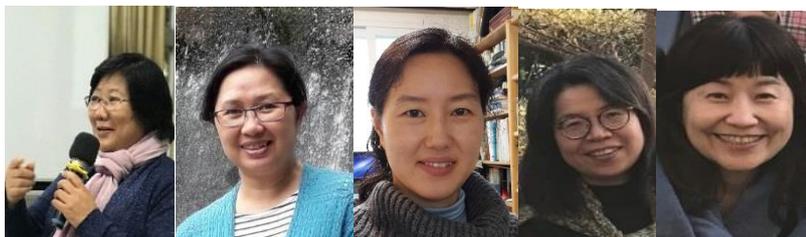


Introduction to New Co-opted Coordinating Team Members

After the long process of nomination for the election of New Coordinating Team Member (CTM), we are sorry that there were not enough nominations from our members. In response to the disappointing result, the Working Group (WG) had a few email discussions and finally decided to co-opt CTM instead. Please note we have three newly co-opted members from different sub-regions, and each person was proposed by the WG and endorsed by the CTM. They are: **MAW Aye Aye** (Myanmar), **Lovely Manosi Dazel** (Bangladesh) and **Michelle Eastwood** (Australia).



In its last meeting (Dec 2019), the CTM also Co-opted: **Limala Longkumer** (India), **Gifliyani Krisna Nayoan “Nina”** (Indonesia) and **KIM Eun Jung** (Korea), the representative of KAWT. The CTM



members **Christina Wong** (Hong Kong) and **LIN Ni Ling** (Taiwan) continue their terms until now. Each CTM not only represents her own sub-regions, but also speak for the future of AWRC. Please visit our

website for more information!

Impacts and Opportunities in the aftermath of COVID-19

With the increased uncertainties surrounding COVID-19, the Working Group made the deliberate decision to postpone **the South East Asia (SEA) Workshop** to next year, (originally planned for Oct 2020). Further discussion will be processed in relation to the development and ease of the pandemic

in 2021. As a matter of fact, we have been very eager to conduct the workshop since 2019, however, the security of life always matters and remains the first priority.

At the same time, we would like to express gratitude to previous Coordinating Team Member **NAW Htoo Htoo**. As our local host, she had already begun the logistics of a SEA workshop in January 2020. The work of corresponding with the seminary as well as checking the accommodations with the hostel was mostly complete before the pandemic became serious and out of control. Nevertheless, we are hoping and praying for the best in 2021.

Owing to Taiwan government's early preventive measures, the pandemic is well controlled and for the most part life continues as usual – we feel blessed and grateful. The **iGi Reading Club** convened with more attendees and new faces! The Reading Club is part of our local supporting group, we welcomed **Rev. PARK Keun Young** from Korea (a PROK new mission partner with PCT) and other Taiwan pastors **CHEN Lei Hua**, **HONG Qian Huei** and Evangelist **CHENG Ya Yun**. We learn to value and pay more attention to other voices especially of those who are rarely heard, marginalized and of different cultures.

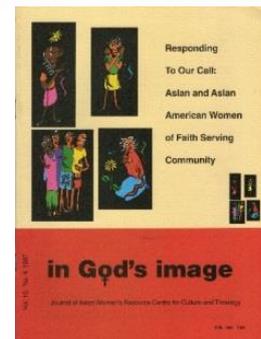


Networking with PANAAWTM

Thanks to the invitation of **KWOK Pui Lan** to join the **35th Anniversary of PANAAWTM** (*Pacific, Asian, North American Asian Women in Theology and Ministry*) we were honored to express heartfelt congratulations and joy to PANAAWTM for sustaining 35 years of fruitful ministry. We wish them another promising 35-year to come! Using the platform of webinar, **AWRC** as well as **iGi** were introduced in brief to more Asian and Asian Americans.



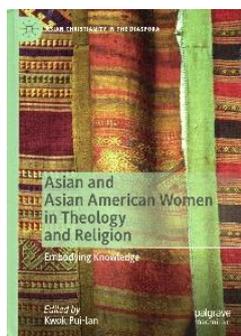
In fact, AWRC dedicated one issue, “**Responding to Our Call: Asian and Asian American Women of Faith Serving Community,**” to PANAAWTM in 1997. This significant moment reminded us of what we achieved and motivates us to think of new things. We anticipate the networking of Asian Women who return home from North America after their study will continue and provide powerful resources.



In our second webinar with PANAAWTM, we were invited to give a presentation entitled “**Introducing Asian Women’s Theological Networks.**” It was an exciting time to see Asian and Asian

American women organizations gathering together to share visions, struggles and aspirations to Asian and Asian American women and to receive feedback and challenges from each other. We anticipate reconnecting in the years to come with Asian and Asian American women who are doing feminist theologies and ministries.

In order to reach out and develop Taiwan’s local networking, we conduct a monthly Reading Club. The AWRC coordinator also had opportunity to give a presentation at the annual meeting of the **Taiwan Christian Women Evangelists Association**. Thanks to God that we had opportunity to connect with more indigenous Women Pastors of different ethnic tribes including some from Southern and Eastern Taiwan. We are hoping *iGi* can be a very practical resource for them in preparation of sermons and for gatherings/fellowship to explore women/gender issue.



Circle of Fellowship

Thanks **KWOK Pui Lan** for sending us a new book entitled **Asian and Asian American Women in Theology and Religion**. We welcome you check it out either through <https://www.panaawtm.org> or drop by our office in Taichung!

Standing Together

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep (Romans 12:15). Knowing that the pandemic is getting serious in most of the world, we expressed our concerns and prayers to four of our partners- **Kerk in Actie, Methodist Church in the UK, United Church of Canada, and FTESEA** (*Foundation of Theological Education in South East Asia*). They are grateful for the concern and to know they are not alone at such a difficult period. We

raised and sent 300 medical masks to the FTESEA, trusting our little efforts convey support and warmth to those who are in need in the USA. It is in the participation of standing together action that we are hoping for the better world in 2021. We believe that there is a light at the end of the tunnel!

“Little Light Project”



To ensure we have sufficient and stable funds for the administration and programs every year, we seek your support and partnership in the “Little Light Project”. Through sharing your Light with us between us we can make it as a “spotlight” to shine on Asian Women. As a result, both those who share and those who receive are nurtured and cultivated; in turn all will be enabled to share individual light by the grace of our Lord.

iGi

2020 Single Issue is in the process of formatting and printing. We will be sending it off to you before the end of February. However, as you are aware many countries have stopped international mail service due to lack of flights at present, please know we will keep an eye on the regulation and send *iGi* to you once the restriction is lifted. As for **2021 Dec: Post Covid-19 World**, kindly remind you the deadline is **30 June 2021**. Please share your concerns and/or perspective on the pandemic with us. We welcome any creative contributions of poetry, art, music etc.. For more details, please visit AWRC website www.awrc4ct.org.

Last but not least - stay safe and stay well - sincerely yours in Christ,

Chan Hsiu-Yin (Showin)
AWRC Coordinator

HOW to be Little Light to AWRC

YOU can be the Little Light to AWRC through your annual donation. Make a donation 50 100 200 USD per year for consecutive three years or five years. Alternatively, you are most welcome to make a donation any amount for only one or two years.

Contribution can be made through **wire transfer** or **PayPal** (simply scan the QR Code).



May our gracious God bless you for standing with us and shining your little light for/with us!