



Summer 2019

The College of Bible and Ministry of Harding University seeks to lead all students to know, live and share God's Word and to understand, love and serve God's world through and beyond their chosen vocation.

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25th Annual Women in God's Service (WINGS) Conference

By Teresa Castleman

Challenging, enlightening, confronting, informative, uplifting, motivating.

These words were used by guests to describe the women's conference hosted on the Harding University campus. The 25th Annual Women in God's Service (WINGS) Conference occurred February 22-23, 2019. The topic "And They Shall Know" featured 18 different speakers and presenters who discussed how Christians can show love to the world. The diverse group of presentations covered topics of racial prejudice, social justice, poverty, and compassion for our neighbors both locally and abroad. Several Harding students were included in the list of speakers.

One guest reflected on her experience at the WINGS conference: "There is a lot of work to be done to heal generational pain and to build authentic relationships that reflect God's love." Another commented that she left with a renewed appreciation that "Christian women are involved and active in many ministries."

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In addition to keynote lectures and class discussions, the WINGS committee hosted an “Idea Fair” which included 10 exhibitors who provide ministry on different scales. From local outreach to international aid, these exhibits provided inspiration to WINGS attendees for how they could engage as the “hands and feet of Jesus” both in their communities and across the world. At the end of the conference, the ladies were each given three “love bags” and challenged to fill the bags and give them away to individuals who need to be shown love.

One guest reported that she returned home from the WINGS conference with “a heart filled with a renewed spirit of love for all God's people in all the world.”

There were nearly 300 ladies present at the WINGS conference this year. WINGS was started by Dr. Sherry Pollard 25 years ago in response to a need for more quality spiritual growth opportunities for women, and has been an important outreach to Harding students and women across the southeast. This was the final year for the name “WINGS”. Beginning in 2020, the conference will be called the “Bloom Conference” and will continue to focus on spiritual growth for women. BLOOM 2020 will be held February 21-22, 2020. More information can be found at www.harding.edu/BLOOM.



“There and Back Again: A Singaporean’s Journey”

By Elizabeth Shores

John Lim wants to go home.

Lim, a sophomore Bible and Family Ministry major, is from Choa Chu Kang in Singapore.

For the past year and a half, his enrollment at Harding has been sponsored by his home church, the Pasir Panjang Church of Christ in Singapore. Though Lim has enjoyed and is looking forward to his Harding experiences, his attendance at the university serves a larger goal: to return to Singapore after graduation in order to work with the Pasir Panjang church.

As a teenager, Lim approached his church and told them he wanted to pursue ministry in order to later help grow their church, and the church responded with support. He first heard about Harding from alumni that attend his church, and became better acquainted with the school by Harding students that visited Singapore through a Global Outreach program. The way the alumni and students discussed Harding stood out to Lim.

“When I actually started intentionally looking for a Christian college in the U.S., I sought out all the information, [the Harding alumni] fed me all that I could take,” Lim said. “Harding always just stood out as the choice, somehow ... I think the way that these alumni talked about Harding was different.”

Beng Chuan Tan, a minister at Church of Christ Pasir Panjang, said Lim’s passion and skills will benefit the church, and in some ways, they already have. Lim helped lead worship services last summer.

“One thing that stands out about him is his passion for Christ — for anything at all — but especially for Christ,” Tan said. “He’s full of passion.”

While in Singapore on a Global Outreach trip, Gary Jackson, an instructor in the College of Bible and Religion, met Lim while visiting the Pasir Panjang Church of Christ. Jackson and Lim have stayed connected at Harding, and Jackson said he admires Lim’s dedication to ministry no matter where he is in the world. Lim is active in the Chinese ministry at Harding, as well as in a church ministry in Higginson, Arkansas.

“John has a very clear idea of his faith and also his role,” Jackson said. “I think maybe being from Singapore also helps. ... He knows that it’s difficult to do ministry anywhere, but in Asia, it’s very difficult. Christians are a minority in Singapore and in Asia in general.”

Lim plans on working in the youth ministry in his home church, as well as working on the church’s media platforms. Lim said he wants to help in youth ministry because of positive and negative experiences in his own youth.

“I understand that they need someone to look after them, someone to be their friend when they think no one else is there for them.”

Lim graduates in May 2021 and intends to begin his journey back to Singapore shortly after.



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