

NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

17 May 2023

Asia-Pacific Region



Taiwan

In 1956, Nazarene missionaries came to Taiwan, an island in the Pacific Ocean, and established the Church of the Nazarene. Taiwan, first inhabited by Austronesian peoples, became home to Han (Chinese) immigrants in the 17th century. In 1895, with a military defeat of Chinese forces, Taiwan was ceded to Japan, under which it was governed for 50 years. After the Second World War, Taiwan fell under Chinese Nationalist control, and in 1949, with over two million Chinese Nationalists fleeing to Taiwan, lines began to blur between the mainland and the island. In the 1970s and 1980s, the democratization process expanded, and in 2000, presidential elections resulted in the first peaceful transfer of power. Economic reform and growth continue to stir sensitive relations between Taiwan and China. In this complex milieu, the Church of the Nazarene has gradually planted new churches, and while most are congregations of less than 100 members, there are encouraging signs of growth. Only 6% of the island's population claim to be Christian. As you will read in the story to follow, a fresh wind of the Holy Spirit is moving across this island nation, and God is calling young men and women into ministry and mission. This has led to the re-opening of Taiwan Nazarene Theological College, which provides an approved Course of Study for ministerial preparation.



4,122 Members



44 Fully Organized Churches; 3 Not Yet Organized Churches



10 District Licensed and 67 Ordained Ministers on 1 District

PRAYER



- Pray that God would pour out His Holy Spirit upon the Taiwan Nazarenes to be unified in faith and emboldened in witness to Jesus Christ in their families, neighborhoods, and cities.
- Pray that God would raise up young ministers who can faithfully lead the Taiwan Church of the Nazarene into God's Kingdom mission, connecting a new generation to Jesus.
- Pray for district and church leaders, for their emotional, spiritual, and financial health and that they would be given God's grace and wisdom as they lead the Church into mission.
- Pray for Taiwan Nazarene Theological College in its important role to train pastors and leaders for the Chinese-speaking churches of Taiwan and beyond.



PRAISE

- We give thanks for a growing unity across the district, uniting all of our churches in mission.
- We praise God for the reopening and expansion of Taiwan Nazarene Theological College, especially its validated Course of Study for ordination.
- We praise God for a new group of elders who were ordained during the 2023 District Assembly.

NMI SNAPSHOT



Taiwan Nazarene Theological College (TNTC).

The early Church of the Nazarene in Taiwan understood the need for training those called into ministry, and in 1958, a theological college was established in Taipei City to train young people for ministry. In 1962, with \$17,500 donated from an Alabaster offering, the Church of the Nazarene purchased seven acres of land on Guandu Hill to build the school that is known today as Taiwan Nazarene Theological College (TNTC).



The TNTC Campus, purchased with Alabaster Funds.

Initially, TNTC was led by missionaries who were committed to the Wesleyan doctrine and trained many capable and faithful workers for the Church of the Nazarene on the island. After many decades of faithful equipping of pastors for Taiwan, the school was forced to close in 2002 due to a lack of faculty, funding, and enrollment. Thankfully, in 2014, TNTC was reopened to meet the demands for a new generation of pastors. Now under the leadership of Dr. Steven Wang, TNTC has actively recruited students, developed support across the Taiwan District, and received validation for its Course of Study for ordination of ministers. There are now a total of 32 full-time students and nearly 100 part-time students.



Looking to the future, TNTC will continue expanding recruitment and fundraising efforts. During the COVID-19 pandemic, classes were offered via online formats, allowing the school to provide all classes online. This has made it possible to expand its reach beyond the borders of Taiwan. We ask all churches to pray for our enrollment and funding needs so that we may train more committed workers for God's kingdom through Mandarin language theological education.



TNTC Students—A Community of Joy.

Could You Serve?

Is God calling you to join Him in missions? For more information, click [here](#).



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