

*The*  
***Mediator***



*A Journal of Holiness Theology for Asia-Pacific Contexts*

**ASIA-PACIFIC NAZARENE  
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*Bridging Cultures for Christ*  
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## Preface

One of the joys of theological education is when students “get it.” The effort to instill wisdom, insight, and discernment pays off when they complete their studies and go out into various ministries effectively. Character formation does not happen overnight. For many of us, it takes much effort to become who God has called us and created us to be. The faculty of APNTS seeks to help students both discover or strengthen God’s call on their lives and also prepare them for a changing world.

*The Mediator* provides a forum for both faculty and students to share with a wider audience what they have been learning. This issue includes some of their research and discoveries. The opening article by Dr. Rebecca Davis presents key ideas from her doctoral research and dissertation at the University of Aberdeen. She explores the place of experience in Wesley’s theology and how the heart is changed through the sanctifying process.

Other articles in this issue provide insight into students’ work. Benita Florentia wrestles with a challenging situation concerning same-sex attraction among young people in Indonesia and how the church can respond with grace and community. Adjunct Professor and doctoral student Encheng (Kevin) Jin gathered the ideas of some students in his undergraduate World Religion course and constructed an interesting study on idolatry. Idols or icons are common in many Asian countries, including the Philippines. How Christians understand and respond to this issue is a relevant and urgent need. These students have set out on a path of discovery that can help them in their present and future ministries. Finally, Christian Manguera, another student, explores the connection between hospitality and preaching, and how pastors can be catalysts for evangelism through welcoming people. This issue also includes abstracts of 2025 graduates, representing the more focused research of students completing their programs.

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