



Our family

Michael, Jen-Yi "Irene",
Rachel, Jonathan, Elizabeth



Pastor Paul's Call

Pastor Paul is a theological educator in Taiwan, serving with the China Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC) and China Lutheran Seminary (CLS). He is called to teach, write, and help plant and pastor Lutheran churches.

To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to michael.paul@lcmsintl.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

Teaching the Faith to our Neighbors

We continue to meet more and more of our neighbors, and continue to find more and more of them who have some prior connection to the Church or otherwise have interest in the Christian faith. Many are truly open to learn more, but their busy schedules make it difficult to come to a regular Bible study. We tried extra hard these past few weeks, though, to arrange special times on the weekend for some who normally can't come. Two different times I taught our neighbors the "Stream of Life"---eight pictures that introduce the Christian faith---and had lots of great questions and feedback. Please pray that our neighbors would continue to be interested, that schedules could be arranged, and that God's Word would work in the hearts of many to create saving faith in Christ.

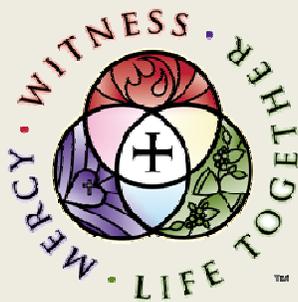


A New Semester of Teaching

A new semester recently began at China Lutheran Seminary, and I'm teaching "Introduction to Doctrinal Theology" at the main campus and "Theology of Worship and the Historic Liturgy" at a branch location. I'm also informally teaching a few Lutheran church leaders a class on how to teach Luther's Small Catechism. These are all classes I've taught before, but I always enjoy the opportunity to teach new students and to try new ways to teach God's Word more clearly.

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness."
(2 Timothy 3:16 ESV)





What can you pray for?

Thanks for:

- lots of great opportunities to teach & preach God's Word
- God's working interest in our neighbors' hearts to hear His Word

Petitions for:

- God's Word to grant faith to our neighbors, especially Tony, Ivy, Penny & Kiki
- God's comfort for the family of Yu-Ying
- strength & wisdom to preach and teach God's Word clearly

Our mailing address:

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China Lutheran
Seminary

Our official website:
www.lcms.org/paul

There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at www.lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

Seeing the Gospel in the UK

We often mention the family of Tony, Ivy, Penny, and Kiki, our friends and neighbors. During this winter break they decided to travel to the United Kingdom for two weeks. Before they left, I talked with Ivy about the past, but now waning, influence of Christianity in that country. She knew that there were many cathedrals and other Christian landmarks there, and was surprised to learn that Christianity is not as strong of an influence there as it used to be. After that conversation, Irene and I prayed that some of those Christian cathedrals and landmarks would somehow make a positive impact on them during their travels. Well, they had only been there a few days, when Ivy sent pictures to us from their visit to the "National Gallery," including the one shown here. She added a brief note, "Since I've been going to the Bible class [at our apartment], I understood what the paintings were about." We continue to pray for the whole family that God's Word would create Christian faith in their hearts.



Witness at a Wake

One of our Church members, a woman in her 50s, recently died of heart failure and other problems. As is the custom among the aborigines here, there were "wake" services held at their tribal home for about a week's time before the funeral. I was asked to lead one of these and did a type of Vespers service. For the "sermon" portion, I taught the "Stream of Life" again, applying it specifically to proclaim how it was that the Triune God saved Yu-Ying. What a blessed message of comfort, and also a clear witness to the many in attendance who have little contact with the Church.

Lots of Preaching

I normally preach once or twice a month, but lately it's been a lot more. Five out of the last seven Sundays I've been behind the pulpit proclaiming God's Word. Preparing a Chinese sermon still takes me a lot of time and effort, but the need for preachers in the Lutheran Church in Taiwan is great. I preach partly because there simply "aren't enough preachers to go around," and also to give examples for our synod's three vicars whom I mentor. As I've been doing for about seven years now, after the sermons are preached, I make them available on-line--in text, audio, and sometimes video format.

Keeping up-to-date: If you're not receiving this newsletter by email but would like to, please contact us at michael.paul@lcmsintl.org. For frequent facebook updates, go to the facebook group: "Michael Paul family Taiwan mission."

To support our work financially, you may make checks payable (memo line: "Support of Missionary Michael Paul") to "The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod" and send your tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 790089
St. Louis, MO 63179-0089.



You can **ALSO** make checks payable to "**Mission Central**" and send your tax-deductible gift to our friends at: Mission Central, 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034.