



### 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](mailto:michael.paul@lcmsintl.org) with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

## Sowing, Watering, Reaping

Sometimes God's Word works quickly to work faith in people's hearts. From our experience, it more often takes months or years, and the efforts of many different Christians sharing and teaching God's Word. So far in Taiwan we've been blessed twice to be at the final "reaping" stage of the Gospel harvest, as I baptized the elderly Mucheng Jiang in the hospital two years ago, and we celebrated Jacky Yu's baptism a few months ago. With many others, we're sowing seeds and doing lots of watering. Our twice-monthly home Bible Study is a great place where lots of Gospel watering occurs, and we pray especially for Ivy and her daughters Penny and Kiki, as well as Evelyn, whom we've all introduced to you before. Two new neighbor moms who have recently begun coming are Jenny and Melody. Both have had previous contact with Christians, and both are now interested to learn more. Jenny is very forthright in stating that "the message of the cross is simply unreasonable," but the consistent loving witness of many Christians in her life makes her curious to learn more. Melody recently out-of-the-blue asked Irene what kind of bilingual Bible she should buy. It turns out that both in middle school and in high school, Christian friends had given her Bibles, but she later got rid of them. However, when she came to our Bible Study for the first time recently, she realized that she had almost no idea what's actually in the Bible, and that got her interested to finally find out. In the next few days, Irene will go with her to the local Christian bookstore to pick out the best Bible for her. Please join us in praying that Jenny and Melody, and their daughters, Ivy, Mia (Jenny's), and Grace (Melody's), would continue to come to

the Bible Study, and that God's Word would work faith in their hearts.

*Jenny and daughter Ivy*



"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth."

(1 Corinthians 3:6 ESV)





### What can you pray for?

#### Thanks for:

- the opportunities to sow, water, and reap in God’s harvest fields in Taiwan
- three new classes in which to teach God’s Word

#### Petitions for:

- Ivy, Penny, Kiki, Evelyn, Jenny, Ivy, Mia, Melody, and Grace, that God would grant them faith through His Word
- good teaching and learning of God’s Word, that faith be strengthened and the ability to teach others increased

#### Our mailing address:

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China Lutheran  
Seminary

Our official website:  
[www.lcms.org/paul](http://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](http://www.lcms.org/service). Click on “Service Opportunities.”

**Three New Classes** This Fall I’ll be teaching a new class at the seminary, and two new ones in China Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC) congregations. First of all, I’ll teach an “Introduction to Preaching” course at the seminary for the first time. I’ve spent quite a bit of time the past two years working with the vicars of the CELC to help them improve their preaching. I’m looking forward to using what I’ve learned, and sharpening my skills in this area further, as I teach this course. Next, I’ve just begun teaching an Old Testament Survey course at Qianjia Lutheran mission station, where we usually worship. This group is very eager to learn and I enjoy studying with them. Finally, I just began teaching Luther’s Small Catechism to eight church workers from four different CELC congregations in southern Taiwan. This group has been asking for the past two years for this catechism instruction to come to the south, and I’m now able to help out...again studying with a very eager and diligent group. For this class, I take Taiwan’s “bullet” train back and forth for the two-hour Friday afternoon class. If I drove, it would take over three hours one-way, but it’s only an hour on the bullet train.



The catechism class for Church workers in Tainan

### Brief Updates

- I recently had lunch with one of our mission station’s “brothers.” I hope to schedule these “men’s lunches” occasionally, both with Church members and non-Christians. It’s a great way for me to get to know men better, and share God’s Word with them.
- The past three Sundays I administered the Lord’s Supper in three different CELC congregations. This is unusual for me, but with the current pastor shortage, sometimes I get to serve in this way. All the more reason more pastors need to be trained!
- Last week I taught the 13 new China Lutheran Seminary students “How to Study.” I don’t really consider myself an expert in this area, but the seminary asked me to do what I can to help...I certainly have studied a bit in my life! It was a fun session.

**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](mailto: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 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861



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.