

New Missionaries Get Right to Work

Rev. Dr. Tom Park arrived in Taiwan in September, and Mr. David Bush joined him here in November. While Dr. Park is primarily focused on learning Mandarin right now, and Mr. Bush is called to work with the Deaf here, they both agreed to help me with catechesis for English-speaking worshipers at our mission congregation. Julian is a local Taiwanese man, but speaks very fluent English and prefers to study God’s Word in English. He is extremely eager to learn and can’t wait to join our congregation as a member and receive the Sacrament with us. Mr. Bush is tailor-making a program just for Julian, complete with plenty of homework, which Julian gladly devours. What a joy to see his great zeal for God’s Word! Gioi and his wife Vang are Vietnamese and are also fairly fluent in English. Especially since their Mandarin Chinese is not very good yet, they are thankful to be able to use English to learn Luther’s Small Catechism. Dr. Park met with them for the first time in person here in Hsinchu, but since he lives over two hours away in Chiayi, their weekly class is now done on-line. They are moving quite slowly through the Ten Commandments, but this type of thorough basic

missionary David Bush and Julian



teaching is very appreciated. While Gioi and Vang are from a Baptist background, Gioi is now studying at China Lutheran Seminary and is eager to learn our Biblical Lutheran teaching and become a member of our congregation. They would most like to return to Vietnam in a few years and serve in a Lutheran Church there.



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.

[The Jews in Berea] received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.
(Acts 17:11 ESV)





What can you pray for?

Thanks for:

- the great service that new missionaries Dr. Park and Mr. Bush are already engaged in
- the outreach to the Vietnamese here in Taiwan

Petitions for:

- God’s blessings on Dr. Park’s Mandarin study
- that Mr. Bush could soon make many good contacts in the Taiwan Deaf community
- that the Holy Spirit through God’s Word would grant repentance and faith to many Vietnamese here

Our mailing address:

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our mission station’s crucifix

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.”

Reaching Vietnamese in Taiwan



It’s almost always the case that people are more receptive to the Gospel when away from their home country, culture, and family. Irene and I certainly saw that in our past experience in the US with international students, and we see it now here in Taiwan with international students and the thousands of contract workers from elsewhere in Asia. Workers

come especially from the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, and Vietnam. The China Evangelical Lutheran Church has been reaching out especially to the Vietnamese population over the past several years. The center of the work is now being done here at our Hsinchu mission congregation, including with a Vietnamese language worship service on Sunday afternoons. Huang Lan is a full-time deaconess serving here, Gioi (mentioned earlier) is a seminary field-work student, and Yixin volunteers to help in various ways. All three have come to Taiwan from Vietnam in the past several years. Both Huang Lan and Yixin are members of our Chinese congregation, and while I do not participate in any of the Vietnamese activities, I do teach Huang Lan, Yixin, and also Gioi in the morning Bible Class. Huang Lan often shares her challenges in reaching out to the Vietnamese community, and we then discuss possible ways to bring God’s Word into these situations. I am glad and blessed to be a part of helping Huang Lan keep strong and firm in her Biblical faith and teaching, as it is so needed among the Vietnamese here.

Brief Updates:

- Our mission congregation has begun having simple “social events” to both help our members get to know each other better & also to reach out to our community. So far we’ve had an informal music recital & tomorrow we’ll have a ping pong tournament.
- We are so thankful that more missionaries Lord-willing will soon be arriving in Taiwan. The Rev. Dr. Michael Lockwood family is scheduled to arrive on December 18, with Ms. Rebecca Bartelt and Mr. David Bush’s wife, Barbara, preparing to come in mid-January.
- We’re busy preparing for our annual evangelistic Christmas Program on Christmas Eve. As always, there will be lots of music, an evangelistic message, and the Christmas events acted out. We pray that many of our non-Christian neighbors and friends will attend.

Keeping up-to-date: If you’re not receiving this newsletter by email but would like to, please contact us at michael.paul@lcms.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.