



2011.01.27

Thoughts on the South Africa trip

By Rev. Stephan Kwan

Rev. Douglas Wu, the CIM missionary in South Africa, sincerely invited me to travel there at the end of 2010 and be the keynote speaker for the Christmas retreat at the church he pastors, the Pretoria Evangelical Chinese Christian Church (PECCC), as well as lead a three-day youths gospel seminar.



This is the first time I stepped foot in South Africa. Even with a few more hours of flight time (for a total of 26 hours), I had chosen to connect through Hong Kong. Little did I know that our gracious Lord would spare me from the massive travel delays as a result of the snowstorms that took place in many of the European countries. Praise Him indeed.

Most of the attendees at the retreat were immigrants from Taiwan, Hong Kong, and China. Just like everywhere else, the increase in number of fellow kinsman from Mainland China accounts for the most. Besides some seekers, there were also new believers present. The scheduling of the retreat was tight. Although all the sessions were packed, I was delighted to have an opportunity to



share God's words with them. I even had to change my message at the last minute in order to put more focus on the gospel and some basic doctrines.

The attendees had a very good attitude as seekers and responded well to my messages. I know besides God's presence there, Rev. and Mrs. Wu did a lot to prepare beforehand. As to the three-day youth retreat, we adopted more of a sharing format. It seemed more natural of a setting for young people. They all took notes and shared afterwards. I trust that God's word has made an impact on them in building a stronger faith foundation and will help clarify their direction ahead.

My ministry in Pretoria lasted only eight days. I did not have a chance to discover more about the country and I was already gone. I did get a feel for the tireless service the missionaries have and continue to offer there. It is certainly not an easy task to minister in that high crime environment. Let us remember their ministries and families in our prayers and know that they are comforted and encouraged by your thoughts coming from afar.

May God keep them and bless them and strengthen their serving heart to follow Him for years to come.

South Africa

Rev. Douglas and Whitney Wu were invited to attend the commencement of the International Chinese Biblical Seminary in Europe in Barcelona, Spain, from February 14 to 21. They will take the opportunity to share their vision of their serving in South Africa in the hope that God will open and touch these graduates' hearts and they will obey His call to join the ministry there. They will also spend a day to partner with a Chinese church in Lisbon, Portugal. May the Lord bless their travel safety.

There are currently more than 300 Chinese students studying at the University of Pretoria. PECCC hopes to establish a Chinese Christian fellowship on campus. A new school year begins on January 31, 2011. May the Lord move at least fifty people to register for the fellowship, as that is what the university requires for an official campus group, and make it a reality. Pray that the Lord will raise up more of His servants to reap the harvest.

A youth retreat has been planned for July and a family retreat for December. Efforts are under way to round up short-term mission teams and three churches have already signed up. May these two



2011.01.27

retreats cultivate a more abundant spiritual growth in all who will attend.

Rev. Wu has been battling HIV for almost a year now. May God heal him and grant him a speedy recovery.

The police force in South Africa has been doubling their patrol efforts to aggressively combat crime. There has been obvious improvement since the end of last year. Shop owners from Rustenburg making inventory trips to Johannesburg no longer have to hire security guards to go along. Pray that the safety of the land will continue to improve and that God will guard them and bless them.

Brazil

Since the first teachers retreat was held in 1998, there has not been another one until now. It is with great excitement that plans have been put into place for one to be held July 1-3 during 2011's winter holiday (summertime in the Northern hemisphere). The retreat will be led by short term mission team from California. May all the teachers be able to attend and be strengthened mentally, spiritually, and physically.

After the retreat, the short term mission team will hold a children's bible camp, according to their various age groups, from July 4-8. There will also be a special topic session for the youth and a seminar for the parents focusing on their relationship with their children. During the weekend, the team will partner with medical groups in Sao Paulo to provide free medical services, hold personal evangelism sessions, and carry out medical team ministry. Pray that the Lord will open doors for small Chinese churches near Sao Paulo to also benefit from the team.

The Happy Kids Family ministry needs to move to a new location. They have found a building that was originally being used as a music school. If everything goes smoothly with the purchase; repair and remodeling work will only be needed in the kitchen, the dining room, and the pipe layout. Because they need to move in by July, all the repair work needs to be scheduled soon.

Praise the Lord that there has been an increase in enrollment and in new teachers and coworkers with the new school year at the Happy Kids Family ministry.

Home Front

The Board of Directors will hold their first business meeting on February 14 to plan for 2011's ministry.

Mrs. Christine Pi's eye surgery has resulted in a cataract that might need to be operated on again. Her next consultation is on February 7. May the Lord keep her and heal her.

Prayer Requests

1. A smooth business meeting for the Board of Directors in February;
2. A Chinese Christian students fellowship could be established on campus at the University of Pretoria;
3. Continual recovery of the now retired Pastor Chi Liu in the US;
4. A new campus for Happy Kids Family;
5. Smooth planning and carrying out of the short-term mission team to Brazil;
6. God will prepare the hearts of those who are looking at joining the Brazil & South Africa mission teams;
7. CIM's coworkers and ministry in 2011;
8. The recovery of Mrs. Pi's right eye that the Lord will heal her and protect her.

Financial Report

Jan-Dec, 2010 Revenue and Expense Report

	Revenue	Expense	Balance
General Funds	\$35,891	\$53,153	-\$17,262
Mission Funds	\$71,624	\$60,717	\$10,907
Total	\$107,515	\$113,870	-\$6,355

How You Can Support Our Ministry –

Check Donation - please make checks payable to: CIM
Mail to: P. O. Box 700185 · San Jose · CA 95170-0185

CIM Staff

Executive Director: Christine Pi
Administrative Assistant (Part time): Tiffany Wu
Editor (Part time): Grace Ching

CIM Board of Directors

Rev. Yoman Man (Chicago) Rev. Andrew Ho (Los Angeles)
Elder Ying Chang (San Jose) Wang Li (San Jose) Peter Chang (Milpitas)
Abraham Kou (San Jose) Rev. Samuel Law (Houston)

.....
CIM Hong Kong Board of Directors Chairman Rev. Joseph Lee
CIM Canada Executive Director Rev. Philip Leung