

Prayer letter of Douglas Wu and Family

February 1, 2017

*Isiah 57:19* “*Creating praise on the lips of the mourners in Israel. ‘Peace, peace, to those far and near’, says the Lord. ‘And I will heal them.’*” After the successful completion of the Christmas camp, the Silicon Valley Living Hope Community Church (LHCC) Short Term Mission Team returned home to the U.S. with peace from the Lord. They also left with us the abundant grace and blessing from the Lord, as light and salt for us at South Africa of the “Dark Continent”.

**Children Sunday School:** The Short Term Mission Team led the children to observe the wonders of the sun, moon, and constellations that were created by God, and helped them to realize and understand God’s power and sovereignty. Furthermore, the children learned that they all are uniquely precious to God.

**Youth Fellowship:** The teacher from the Short Term Mission Team led the youths to realize the gifts they’ve received from God, and prayed to offer those gifts for God to use, such that our lives would be filled with God’s grace and blessing. We hope to share and pass on God’s gifts and grace.

**Adults & Families:** Through the list of God’s creations in Genesis, the speaker showed us how God started with an empty and formless world and created light, the bodies in the cosmos, and all living things in the world. God’s hands supported everything in the world that were created for us to govern, manage, and be blessed through His promises. All the participants of the gospel camp understood clearly that if Jesus is invited to be the head of a household, for the members of that household the relationships between spouses, parents and children, and with others will be blessed.



LHCC STM Team arrived US safely

Whitney leading Children Sunday School

Br. Lin (Right) returning to HK

Brother Michael Lin returned to Hong Kong in January. The Youth Fellowship gave him a farewell party, and prayed for his job and marriage. They asked God to bless Michael and to lead him to the Promised Land. Brother XueJin Lin and his wife from the Pretoria Fuqing Fellowship also returned home to China. They asked God to be their pillar of cloud during the day and pillar of fire at night, so their new careers will be free of obstacles. Sister Jin Shao of Rustenburg is accepted to study Chinese medicine in California and has also left us for the U.S. in January.



Sister Jin Shao goes to US

Praying for Br. XueJin Lin before his departure

With Sister Xue in court

The daughter-in-law of Mrs. Mai is an unbeliever and the twin she was carrying had a premature birth at seven months. Doctors were not able to save the baby girl during birth, and the baby boy also died after a month's struggle in the incubator. But thankfully the mother was fine.

Sister XiaoXing had a major operation last year which was a combination of three different procedures for ectopic pregnancy, gall stones, and removal of gall bladder. At the beginning of this year she was happy to find out she was pregnant for the second time, but she also miscarried by end of January.

Sister Xue gave up her daughter Maria at birth to be raised by a white woman, and Maria is now five years old. This white woman doesn't want to return Maria and took legal action to apply for consent by birth parents for child to travel overseas. Actually she wanted to use this legal action to enter a child custody suit. Because Sister Xue and her husband don't understand English, the white woman was able to accomplish her goal of the past one plus years and will enter formal court proceedings on February 2<sup>nd</sup> to keep the child and not return her to Sister Xue.

Brother Chen returned to China for a proctologic surgery, so his two lovely children YuXuan and LongEn stayed with us for two weeks. It brought us back to the time when Helen and Clarence were in elementary school.

*1 Corinthis 10:13 "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it."*



Protest march outside the court

YuXuan and LongEn

Clarence met God

Clarence's grades from last year (11<sup>th</sup> grade) were not very good so he couldn't apply for college admission last April. He had to wait for the Matric test scores from last year to be released and apply this April for college admission in 2018. In mid-January he received his Matric scores, which improved a lot but the math score wasn't ideal. In chemistry he only received a score of 49.5 which dimmed his plan to apply for dentistry and Bachelor of Science in Biology. This was a major blow for him (and actually for me and Whitney as well). Clarence's first reaction was to apply for a re-grading of his tests. The office of the Department of Education is located in the Pretoria Central Business District. Because of the situation with crime and traffic, both of us were under great stress when we made the trip. I waited for him in a parking structure two blocks away, and he said there were a lot of people waiting in line. I used WhatsApp to pray with him. An hour later he said he was done, because he ran into a friend who told him the people waiting in line were there to apply for tuition reductions or waivers, and he could go upstairs directly and avoid a long wait time. He hoped to get at least 50 points for his chemistry score then he could apply for the Bachelor of Science in Biology. *Psalm 37:5 "Commit your ways to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this."* Clarence also said his friend told him he could apply to retest two subjects, but he needs a letter from a company stating he would be considered for employment if he scores at least 60 points in both subjects. I therefore suggested him to intern in Dr. Huang's Chinese medicine clinic this year and ask Dr. Huang to help with the letter. (My older sister also has a company, but Clarence is not familiar with the works of that company and Dr. Huang is also a Christian brother.) Clarence happily went back to apply for the retest, but an interview was required this time to find out his understanding of the potential job (maybe to weed out fake applications?) Clarence recounted to me the wonders of God's work: With his experience of acupuncture through a Sister Debbie from a Short Term Mission team, who was also a Chinese medicine doctor, and the memory of visitations to Chinese medicine shops with me, he was able to pass the interview (He was the only one to pass that day) and planned for four days to retest at end of February or beginning of March.

.....Douglas & Whitney's blog: <http://douglaswufamily.blogspot.tw/>

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## THANKSGIVING

1. Give thanks to God for the Silicon Valley Living Hope Community Church (LHCC) short term mission team returning to the U.S. peacefully from South Africa.
2. Let us be thankful to God for keeping brothers and sisters in South Africa peaceful during Christmas.
3. Thank God, Helen successfully passed her second language Zulu exam.
4. Give thanks to God; Clarence successfully got his driver's license. He obtained his birth



certificate paper from the Department of Home Affairs which allows him to renew his South African passport.

5. Give thanks to God and brother Chang in Chicago who helped Sharon acquire a used vehicle without any problem.

### **SUPPLICATIONS**

1. Pray for Whitney and I as we plan to go to Taiwan for physical examination in early February and return on February 15. Pray for our health and give us peace.
2. Pray for the meeting place in Rustenburg. The pastor of the church is on vacation for the next two months, and there is no one to open the door for us. Give thanks to Brother He who will open his house for our gathering. We hope to return to normal in March.
3. Pray for the brothers and sisters who are leaving South Africa to return to China. May they be gospel soldiers wherever they are. Also, continue to pray for the South African Chinese evangelical ministry, and ask God for wisdom so that we can prosper the Gospel.
4. Pray for Clarence's Mathematics and Chemistry exams on February 22 and March 6 and for a great door will be opened for him. Please urgently pray for his college application for desired majors in April for admission in 2018.
5. Pray for Brothers Dave, Robert, Yang, and Heting of the Youth Fellowship. They expressed interest at the Gospel Camp to serve the Church and ask that the Lord to gives us wisdom to lead them.
6. Pray for Alex & Nicole Ko and the fundraising as they join CIM family. Pray for their last semester in the seminary, that the Lord will open the path for them after they graduate.
7. Pray for political stability and that the Chinese immigrants would get used to the South African way of life. May our fellow Chinese experience peace by trusting in Jesus.
8. May the Lord continue to raise up His laborers from local churches to serve the African Chinese and make disciples. Our greater hope is to send out more missionaries through CIM to help reap the Lord's harvest.

#### **North American Donations:**

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P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170-0185, U.S.A.

Please specify the offering is for "Douglas Wu - South Africa Missions"

#### **Taiwan Donations:**

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