

Chinese International Missions, Inc.

02.01.2021

CIM CANADA SHARING

Rev. Isaac Quan Executive Director

It is wonderful to be part of the CIM family as we share the gospel of Jesus Christ worldwide especially during these uncertain times with the COVID 19 pandemic still raging on.

Our ministries are cross-cultural in nature initially to Ghana starting in 2003. In 2010, we expanded to the neighboring country of Togo and in 2018, we started ministering to the Roma people group in Ukraine. All our work is done in partnership. In Ghana, we partner with the Evangelical Church of Ghana. In Togo, we partner with Eglise de la Grace en Christ du Togo and in the Ukraine, we partner with the House of Mercy.

The year 2020 was like no other in recent memories. COVID 19 has affected all of us in every area of our lives, including mission organizations like CIM Canada. After the World Health Organization (WHO) declared a global pandemic and many countries closed their borders, we made the decision to postpone all short-term missions trips. Also because of social distancing recommendations, nearly all our ministries were grounded to a halt internationally in our missions fields of Ghana, Togo, and to the Roma people group. This was heartbreaking because we knew that at a time like this, the gospel was needed more than anything else.

However, though our "normal" ministries have grounded to a halt, there were still many highlights for CIM Canada in 2020. In January, I traveled with our first "international worker", Janice Wong, to help her settle in Ghana. Little did I know that would be my last trip.

With down time due to travel restrictions, we continued to do ministry but in different formats. All our meetings became online virtually, and we focused on what God wanted us to do in under COVID and hopefully soon post COVID world. It seemed apparent to us that we had to enhance our on-line presence so throughout the year, we worked on that.

Not only do we have a new webpage we produced new promotional videos in English, Cantonese, and Mandarin. Also, we have updated our mission, vision, and value statements. The essence is the same as it has always been. Our mandate continues to share the gospel of Jesus Christ cross-culturally, but our wording has been revised to reflect our modern-day culture.

As 2021 is now upon us, we know that God is still in control and there is hope. There is hope because COVID 19 vaccines are now being distributed worldwide, but there is greater hope because we believe in the authority and power of Jesus Christ. Our goal is to continue our work internationally as soon as possible, but as we wait, we continue to work and glorify the Lord. This pandemic may still be with us for most of 2021 and our regular ministries may still be on hold, but we will continue serving the Lord. This is also my challenge to all of you as well. COVID 19 may have changed the way we live temporarily. Depending on the jurisdiction you live in, you may be sheltered in place, not being able to meet your friends physically or attend church in a physical building. Your normal evangelism and missions endeavors seem to be put on hold, but evangelism and missions never take a break. People always need the Lord.

As we wait for things to return to "normal", let us seek God's direction as to how He wants us to evangelize to do missions. Perhaps it is to invite our friends and family to on-line church; perhaps it is to share the gospel message via Zoom or other online platforms; perhaps it is to care for your neighbors or others who have difficulties doing everyday tasks like shopping for groceries; perhaps it is to pray for our ministry partners overseas as they share about Jesus; perhaps it is to give financially to our organization to continue to work for the Lord. This pandemic does not stop missions work. It allows us to do the Lord's work from a different perspective.

I long for the day when I can travel again with no travel restrictions and COVID 19 is a distant memory, but as I wait for that day, CIM Canada will continue to do the work of the Lord as part of the CIM global family.

CIM Board of Directors

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Executive Director

Administrative Assistant Alice Wong (Part time) Editor Debbie Cheng (Part time)





PRAYER REQUESTS

- 1. Please pray for the end of the worldwide COVID 19 pandemics. May the universal vaccine delivery reach the whole world quickly. May God protect South Africa to obtain the vaccine as soon as possible. May His word and His fire will ignite the land.
- 2. Pray for the Lord to grant Douglas the peace to quietly write the sermons every week, to receive the grace of God's words, and to properly break down His word!
- 3. Please continue to pray for Whitney's renewal application for her driver's license. May the Lord grant grace to have a smooth process.
- 4. Please continue to pray for smooth process of Helen's application for conversion of New Zealand physiotherapist license. Pray for Helen to work in Johannesburg Hospital safely and not be infected by COVID-19. Clarence has submitted the application for transfer to the official dentistry education. May God accomplish it.
- 5. Thank God for protecting Rev Jorge Loo for leading a medical missions team to serve the local Chinese in *São Luis*, Maranhão State, in northern Brazil from January 1-11. There are no Chinese Christians in this city, but there were Brazilian Witnesses of Jehovah who preached their message to some Chinese. Pray that God will open the door to the gospel, so that these Chinese can know the Good News and pray for Rev Loo's next mission. This time he met a fellow Taiwanese, Mr. Wang, and Rev Loo will have Bible studies with every Tuesday morning for ten times. Please pray for this ministry.
- 6. Starting this year, Rev Loo and sister Liang will lead the Chinese Alliance Church in Campinas Bible study group together every Wednesday night. Please pray.
- 7. Starting from February, Rev Loo will go to the Chinese Alliance Church in Sao Paulo to preach and preside over the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of each month. Please pray for his travel mercy and stamina.
- 8. Pray for all existing regular meetings in Brazil.
- 9. Praise God that close to C\$60,000 was raised for CIM Canada's oversea ministries during their "Be a Blessing" Christmas Fundraise. This money will be used to help pay salaries for church planters and village schoolteachers in Ghana, Togo and to Roma pastors in Ukraine. Please continue to pray for donations to fund their work in Canada.
- 10. Pray for CIM Canada's new board leaders—Chairman: Tomson Chan; Vice Chair: Pastor Karen Wong; Treasurer: Rev Morgan Wong; Secretary: Candace Wong.
- 11. Ask God to provide wisdom to CIM coworkers in performing their duties in the ministry entrusted by the Lord. Pray that God will move more brothers and sisters to join the service so God's kingdom would be more prosperous. Pray for God's abundant provision for all the financial needs of CIM.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM CIM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chinese International Missions (CIM), with regrets, announces the retirement of Executive Director Christine Pi, effective January, 2021. Christine had planned to retire a few years earlier due to health reasons, but stayed on at the request of the CIM Board of Directors and continued to lead the evangelistic ministry until the end of 2020. In the thirteen years since assuming the role of Executive Director in 2007, Christine has contributed immensely to the expansion of ministry fields in Brazil and South Africa, and also set excellent examples in her services with the churches and Christian believers of North America. She has the respect of her CIM co-workers, who give thanks to God for her. In addition to appointing Christine as a member of the Board of Directors, CIM is also planning a retirement celebration for her. CIM is currently actively recruiting for an Executive Director successor, as well as a Director of Ministry. Please remember these efforts in your prayers. Thank you.

FINANCIAL REPORT

December 2020

| | <u>Income</u> | Expense | Balance |
|----------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| General | \$98,698 | \$6,538 | \$92,160 |
| Missions | \$18,757 | \$8,431 | \$10,326 |
| Total | \$117,455 | \$14,969 | \$102,486 |

To contribute to CIM ministries:

- 1) Make checks payable to "CIM" and mail to: P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170-0185, USA
- 2) Donate <u>online</u> via credit card, go to: <u>www.cimusa.org</u> Click on "Give" and follow directions. Thank you!

