



Reflections from Our STM Trip

~Rev. Jorge Loo

We give thanks to God for He has kept us safe and healthy amid this serious coronavirus pandemic. During January 1~11, me and my wife, Mara, along with Mr. Wang and his wife, Fernanda, departed São Paulo for São Luis, the capital city of Maranhão state in northwestern Brazil, to explore new fields for the gospel. Fernanda is from São Luis and we stayed in her mother's house while we were there.

According to the Chinese community in São Luis they number about 300 people. There is only one family from Taiwan, the Wangs, who has been there for 45 years, the rest of the community is mainly from the Fujian and Zhejiang provinces of China. None of the Chinese has ever heard of the gospel and there is not a single Christian among them, although we heard that two families have been visited by Jehovah's Witnesses before. We allocated four days of our free clinic for the Chinese community, and it was set up at the local Assembly of God church through its gracious pastor. The church is centrally located in the city and close to the shops run by the Chinese, so we saw more than 30 people for the free clinic. We held two more days of free clinic at another city called Rosario for the local Brazilians.

On the second day of our arrival, which was a Saturday, we went to visit the Chinese shops located on five major streets at city center. I introduced our group as doctors from São Paulo to hold a free clinic, and a Mr. Zheng, who has lived there for about 15 years, told me another doctor also from São Paulo held a clinic there last year but it wasn't free. Furthermore, that doctor took their money for some Chinese herbal medicine and promised to send to them after he returned to São Paulo, but no medicine has ever been received. Mr. Zheng also told me he can help to spread the news through their WeChat group so we wouldn't need to go door-to-door. Nevertheless we still went ahead and visited several shops, and then we ran into a Mr. Lin, who turns out also knows our brother Lin in the Chinese church at Salvador. Mr. Lin called brother Lin right away to confirm my identity, and later he and his wife both came to the free clinic.

Back to Mr. Wang, whose age is about 58 and the only family from Taiwan in São Luis. His wife, Midori, is of the Japanese ancestry, and his elderly mother is a Buddhist. Mr. Wang accepted my invitation to attend the online Bible study, which uses the "From Wondering to Believing" study guide and is held every Tuesday at 10AM for ten weeks. I hope he can accept Jesus our Savior through this Bible study, and please also remember in your prayers.

Although we didn't hold any evangelical services in this STM trip, but we distributed gospel tracts and established relationship with the Chinese community there, and they welcome us to return in the future for another clinic. May God provide so there would be a CIM STM team to Brazil this year to spread the gospel.



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NOTE

Beginning March 1, please call 408-596-4567 to contact CIM for questions or comments. Thank you for your continual support.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Ask God for quietness and to send His message as Rev. Douglas Wu works on the weekly sermons, and that His words are accurately interpreted!
2. Please continue to pray for the safety of Helen Wu from coronavirus as she continues to work in a Johannesburg hospital.
3. Pray for Clarence Wu's dental school transfer. University of the Witwatersrand has told him to re-apply next year, and he's still waiting for decision from University of the Western Cape and University of Pretoria.
4. Pray for the family of brother Zhang of PECCC, who passed away due to coronavirus infection. Ask God for compassion and comfort, as well as continued protection for other brothers and sisters.
5. Pray for Alex Ko's ministry plan for this year. Ask God to help him with the training of coworkers during the pandemic, and to lead to more opportunities for spreading the gospel.
6. South Africa continues to have bad COVID-19 infection and crime rates, but our missionaries still need to go out of the house for visitations and to preach the gospel. Ask God to keep them safe.
7. Continue to pray for the pandemic situation in Brazil. Currently only 5% of population has been vaccinated and the daily death count is still around 800 cases.
8. Pray for the personal evangelistic Bible study Rev. Jorge Loo is holding with Mr. Wang of *Sao Luis* every Tuesday morning.
9. Rev. Jorge Loo and Mrs. Loo will be going to *Sao Luis* again in April to hold another medical STM.
10. Pray for the ministry of CIM Canada both during and after the pandemic and ask God for continued guidance and direction for 2021.
11. Pray for the recruiting effort underway to fill job vacancies in CIM for a Director of Ministry to oversee STM and daily operations, and an Executive Director successor. (For details on position qualification, please refer to CIM's webpage and go to HOME--RECRUITMENTS--DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY)
12. Pray that God will move more brothers and sisters to join the ministry so God's kingdom would be more prosperous. Pray for God's abundant provision for all the financial needs of CIM.

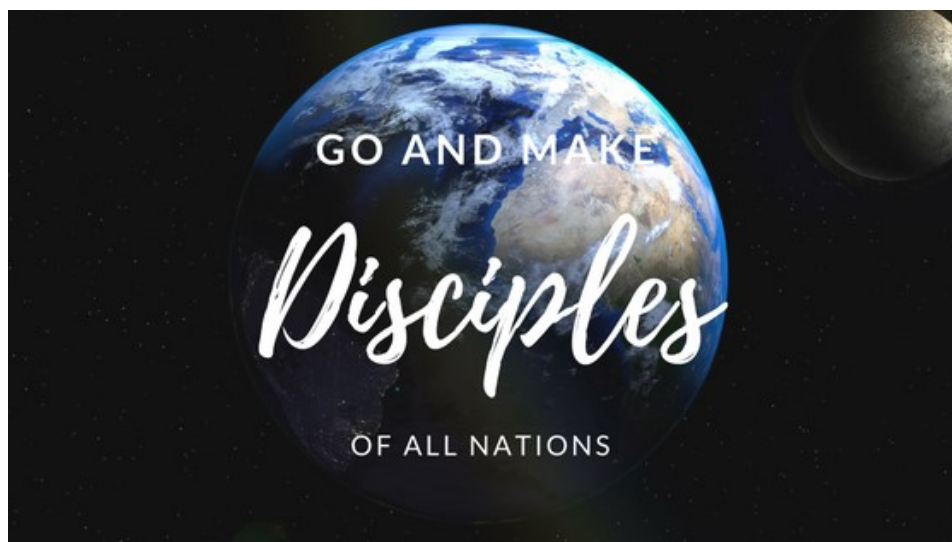
FINANCIAL REPORT

January 2021

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General	\$3,427	\$1,003	\$2,424
Missions	\$4,926	\$7,630	-\$2,704
Total	\$8,353	\$8,633	-\$280

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- 1) Make checks payable to "CIM" and mail to: P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170-0185, USA
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