



基督工人中心

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November & December 2024 Prayer Letter

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Peace to you in the Lord!

Winter Conference is just around the corner in one month! There are many new things for this year's meeting: new venues, new speakers, and new content. In the last issue, I have introduced Teacher Joshua Peng from Israel, who has lived in the Holy Land for 20 years, will come to lead us into deeper understanding of the Holy Land and the Bible from the perspectives of Israel's culture, history, geography, language, etc. There are many other speakers, such as Pastor Mingpeng Gong, who will share how he believed in the Lord while studying in Canada and how he returned to the mainland to preach the gospel in rural area after obtaining his Ph.D., which I believe will inspire intellectual gospel friends in North America. Pastor David Lu will share on Israel's future from the current state of affairs and remind us that the day of Jesus' return is near. Since there is only one month left before the Winter Conference, we can only introduce one more speaker. And this issue we will introduce are the speakers of the Family workshop and Youth program: Pastor Andy Tso and his wife Hilary.

How the Chinese churches shepherd the next generation

Most of the Chinese churches in North America are consisted of first-generation Chinese-Americans who came to the States to study. Their children were born and educated in North America. Regardless of the challenges of adapting to different cultures in a foreign country, many of these parents were also first-generation believers, and needed to learn how to raise their children according to the Bible. Especially when it comes to integrate faith into their children's lives, these parents have been groping forward while in exploration. When children are young, they can go to Chinese churches with their parents. But when they grow up, they leave home to go to college, and many have abandoned their faith. Generally speaking, because the parents are first-generation immigrants to the United States, Chinese churches may have only focused on meetings for adults in pursuing spiritual growth. Children and youth programs have become a "subsidiary" part that usually brothers and sisters who can speak English better just take turns watching them to keep them safe and quiet when the parent having their meetings.

Pastor Tso is a first-generation immigrant restaurant child who grew up in New York. He attended public school in New York City, a Catholic high school, graduated from New York University, Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, and retired as a lawyer in New York State. Mrs. Tso grew up in Taiwan and completed her college education in Taiwan, followed by Texas Tech University (MS) and Cornell University (PhD). She resigned from her tenured professorship at the University of New Hampshire to answer God's call as wife, mother, and full-time CMO. They have been involved in Brooklyn Community Christian Church for more than 30 years. They have homeschooled four children. The motto of their ministry is: "Equip godly brothers and godly sisters to form godly families and raise godly offspring."

So in this newsletter, I specifically asked them to share "a little" about their church's philosophy of shepherding the next generation. Of course, for the complete and wonderful messages, please do not miss this year's Winter Conference! Pastor and Mrs. Tso will also share in the Youth/English group, so it will also be a good edification for your children. [For](#)

[conference programs, please click here.](#)

Church and Family Fusion

The family and the Church Must Return to Its Biblical Roots in order to Face the Challenges for Today

(Rev. Andy Tso)

Growing up in the New York City public school system, I've witnessed in the past four decades the traditional evangelical churches lose about 70% of their young people. We ask ourselves what we want for our families and our churches. We must return to a Biblical Model for both: Healthy churches must nurture healthy families; healthy families make healthy churches.

Visions for "Church and Family Fusion":

1. Emphasize the next generation church. Our children are not Chinese. They are very American and so we need to emphasize the building up of the next generation with Biblical values, a church of their own and faith of their own. Before God revealed His name YHWH, He was known as the "God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." He works through fathers in the family and builds his kingdom intergenerationally. We need to think of an intergenerational strategy to give our kids a proper Biblical faith.
2. Emphasize male headship in the family and the church. Encourage men to lead their families to church Sunday worship, fellowship and prayer meetings, to take full responsibility for the discipling and educational nurture in the home, including teaching catechism & baptizing their own children. Church selects godly men to be leaders on the church board of elders, deacons, trustees, etc.
3. Emphasize and set goals for local and global missions. One dollar spent in church must match one dollar spent on missions. That is, 50% of the church budget should go to missions. We demonstrate this by sending our people, our pennies, and our prayers. In worship services, we pray for missions every week in church, and raise awareness of other needs outside of our church. We started a kids "Penny Parade". We have a love offering box - donate \$1 and a prayer every time kids bring in takeout and drinks so as to remember orphans overseas who don't have this luxury.
4. Emphasize "Salt and Light" - commands us to embrace social and political conservatism - to address the evils of our current day, to know the political economic social platforms of the parties of the candidates' stand and we MUST vote according to conscience - Romans 13 says we owe taxes we pay taxes respect we pay respect, We owe a vote then we cast our vote.
5. Emphasize debt-free living - Romans 13 commands us to owe no one anything but the debt of love. The Church must not incur debt. Too many churches have hindered their ministry and mission by incurring too much debt for building projects. Churches must lead a debt-free example to teach families to live debt-free (with the exception of a house mortgage). Debt causes trouble in Churches and divorce in couples. Let's teach, uphold and celebrate debt free living.

The family and the church must return to its Biblical roots in order to face the challenges today. On Sundays, allow children to sit with parents for worship and receive Holy Communion to learn godly worship from their parents' examples. During weekdays, families live out the gospel based on the principles of God's Words and build family altars. All church activities aim at the ultimate goal of equipping believers to become disciples: summer camps, after-school programs, sport events, and visitation, etc. We must see evangelism as a lifestyle and not just a project/event and grow this mindset into a global cross-cultural perspective of fulfilling the Great Commission.

"For this reason I bow my knees before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named" (Eph 3:14-15)

Future Meetings

(1) Winter Conference (12/21 evening to 12/25 noon)

This year Winter Conference will be held at the Embassy Suite Hotel in Rogers, Arkansas, please reserve your schedule early and invite brothers and sisters and your gospel friends of the church to attend the meeting. God has prepared many new speakers for us: Pastor Mingpeng Gong of Canada, whose burden and gift is to evangelize gospel friends from mainland China; Pastor Larry Wong of SAGOS Institute of Preaching & Bible Exposition will share revival messages: Reflecting the workmen of the Lord in a crooked and perverse generation from 3 judges in the Book of Judges. Another feature of this year is that we have specially invited Teacher Joshua Peng, who led our Holy Land Study Group last year and has been in Israel for 20 years, to speak about the Holy Land and the Bible; Pastor David Lu will still be preaching his

specialty: the messages of eschatological prophecy: Times of Trouble for Jacob (Israel). In addition, Pastor Andy and Hilary Tso from the Brooklyn Community Christian Church in New York, which emphasizes parent-children relationships and home school, will share the topic: Church and Family Fusion. Elder Daniel Luan of the Rutgers Community Christian Church in New Jersey will also come and share messages: “A Christian-centered Worldview”. The speakers in the English group are Pastor Paul Sin, Pastor Andy & Hilary Tso and Pastor Steve Tan, and others. Online registration has started, [please click here](#). Please note: The deadline is: December 15 at 4 p.m. (not 12 a.m.).

(2) December Discipleship Training (12/25 evening to 12/29 noon)

As soon as the Winter Conference is over, December Discipleship Camp will be held at the Center that evening. Due to the schedule of the Winter Conference and January Bible Camp, we have compressed the December Discipleship Training to four days. However, it still requires full-time attendance. Thank the Lord that Pastor Mingpeng Gong and Techer Joshua Peng will come to teach. Pastor Gong will teach: “The Victorious Life of a Christian” and “Be a Doer of the Word”; Teacher Peng will answer questions that buzzle bother our hearts with Romans 9: God's heart for the Jews? And what is God's heart for us Gentile saints? In addition, he will teach how to study the Bible with exegesis in contextual exegesis, contextual principles, and Hebrew exegesis. For registration form. [For registration form, please click here](#). Please not only reserve time for yourself, but also invite the brothers and sisters of your church to participate and be equipped. The deadline is December 14.

(3) January Bible Camp (12/29 to 1/4/2025)

This time we will study “the Book of Acts and Life of Paul”. Praise the Lord that Pastor David Su and Sister Grace Lee will be here leading the study. By the deadline of November 15, more than 60 brothers and sisters had already applied. Now they are writing the final stage of the "assigned topic report". Please pray that the Lord will not only give them wisdom to complete, but also grant every CWC coworker strength reading their reports. If you missed this time, you can prepare for next August's Bible camp by signing up for the December discipleship as soon as possible.

Special Offering for the Winter Conference

All CWC meetings are by free-will offerings, not only because we are totally convicted that our God is faithful, but also because our philosophy is: We hope that our brothers and sisters and gospel friends will not be held back from pursuing the Lord because of the expenses. But this year, the cost of a room in the hotel is about \$150.00 a night, almost 2.5 times that of previous years. Plus the fact that the state of Arkansas does not give tax exemptions to any non-profit organizations (not even to local churches in the state), so funding has become a heavy load this year. We would like to practice being a good steward of money early. If you are burdened for the funds of the Winter Conference, whether you attend or not, you can start your support by designating your offering to the Winter Conference so that Gospel friends and students will not have pressure when they participate the meetings. You can give by using the new Zelle transfer designate to Winter Conference, [please click here](#).

Sunday Online Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

During the pandemic, many churches' meetings were held online, that was why Pastor Ko started this Sunday evening Bible study and prayer meeting to lead brothers and sisters continue to have a life of Bible reading, prayer, and spiritual sharing as a group. To help the participants into deeper study of the Bible, we will teach how to study the Bible, how to do the outlines, and how to write a topic reports, etc. We will be studying “The Book of Acts and Life of Paul” to prepare brothers and sisters for January Bible camp, we will also spend some time to pray for the need of CWC ministry. We will shorten the meeting to one hour (7:00-8:00PM CT) so that it will not affect your next day schedule. We will study “the Book of Acts and Life of Paul”. Zoom ID is: 85888709271, passcode: 567482. Please come and study the Bible together that we will be equipped in the Lord.

New Online Donation

Praise the Lord! Since April, we have finally opened an account where we can donate via Zelle. Over the past few months, not only we have seen brothers and sisters giving by scanning the QR code on their mobile phones when attending meetings, but also giving via Zelle at home. If you are willing to give and support CWC ministry, you can use this channel to give (especially for the Winter Conference) to reduce the trouble of writing checks and mailing them, [please click here](#) for detailed operation.

Thanksgiving and Prayer Requests

1. Please pray for the three winter meetings that more people will be edified and believe in Jesus. Please also pray for the speakers, CWC coworkers, and brothers and sisters of all churches. May the Lord be glorified.
2. Please pray for us hosting this year's Winter Conference at the Embassy Suite for the first time. Pray the Lord will work in the hearts of the staffs so that we can find grace in their eyes, recognize that we are God's people, and give us special grace.
3. For Coworkers:
 - * Mrs. Ko: Thank the Lord for His daily blessings and sufficient grace. The intensive acupuncture treatment has almost completed, and I will return to my daughter's house in early December to help take care of the children. The follow-up treatment plan will not be known until the end of the month. The plan for repairing the basement of the Missouri house is also becoming clear. Please pray that God continue to protect and give the right builder and the fair price. Please also pray for my winter travel, may the Lord grant good weather and safe in-and-out.
 - * Sister Cindy Chiang : From now until mid-January, Sister Cindy will be focusing on preparing for the three busy winter meetings. Pray that the Lord will give her heavenly wisdom, good health, and abundant spiritual strength, so that she will know God's guidance and be obedient to God's heart at every step. Please also pray for her for the administrative work during the weekdays and for weekend's ministry on campus that she can be a blessing to all.
 - * Brother Qinglong Liang: Pray that the Lord will give me a blameless heart with joyful spirit to obey Him and all His teachings. Pray that the Lord will give me the spirit of wisdom to encourage the brothers and sisters in the Midwest to come and participate in the three winter meetings: Winter Conference, Discipleship Training, and Bible Camp; to increase the desire to share the gospel and lead others to be disciples of Jesus in Columbia and other fields, taking good care of my family according to God's heart. Pray that the Lord will clearly guide the green card application process.
 - * Pastor Charles Huang: Please pray for church congregation preparing their hearts attending the three winter meetings and pray that the Lord will give the CWC coworkers good health physically, mentally, and spiritually to serve in the winter meetings. Pray that the Lord will bless these three meetings so that those who attend will have good learning and a closer relationship with God.
 - * American coworker Scott Jerome: Pray for Scott's dad who has lung cancer, for Scott's mom who has Alzheimer, and also pray for Becci's shoulder that she needs go back to the chiropractor as it is trying to freeze again. Pray that God will prepare children with workers' hearts for the Winter Conference.
4. Pray for the CWC monthly financial need (General fund, Building fund, Training fund, etc.). Pray the Lord to manifest His abundant provision and allow more brothers and sisters to experience the blessings of giving.
5. For CWC: Pray that the Lord will bring more co-workers to the CWC ministry for the furtherance of the gospel ministry in the Midwest.

Emmanuel

In the Lord,

Sister Cindy Chiang