



# 基督工人中心

## CHRISTIAN WITNESS CENTER

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### December 2024

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

2024 is nearing its end, but to me, this year has flown by even more swiftly since starting from February. Every step has been a path of faith given to me by God.

When talking about faith, we inevitably think of Abraham, the "father of faith" who Stephen testified, saying: " The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, and said to him, 'LEAVE YOUR COUNTRY AND YOUR RELATIVES, AND COME INTO THE LAND THAT I WILL SHOW YOU.'" (Acts 7:2-3). Before this, Abraham was a man with a nature like ours. But "By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise.... for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God." (Hebrews 11:8-10).

The biggest event of the year in CWC is the Winter Conference. Because of the large number of attendances, the CWC's facilities are insufficient, so we have been holding the Conference in a hotel. However, in February this year, the new management team of the Kansas City Sheraton hotel, which we had been using for many years, notified us that not only would they raise the room rates, but they would also not allow us to use their kitchen to prepare Chinese meals ourselves. While the price increase could be understandable, the restriction on meal preparation would be difficult, because it is not only costly but could also fail to meet our needs. So in the first half of this year, we have been experiencing Abraham's journey of "Leave your country and your relatives and go to the land I will show you... By faith Abraham



Embassy Suite Hotel

obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going..." But Abraham "believed, {even} God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist.... Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed..." (Romans 4:17-18). We, too, began to experience this journey of faith. From February until now, step by step, we have learned to rely closely on the Lord. Now, with the December Winter Conference approaching, we ask you to continue supporting us in prayers.

When you receive this letter, we are preparing for all the winter meetings. This year, we urge you to step out of the comfort of your home and attend at least one of the meetings to equip yourself for spiritual

growth, to meet the need for more workers in God's house, and to help with the vast harvest field of the gospel, asking God to prepare us to be vessels He can use.

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

This year's Winter Conference will be held at the Embassy Suite Hotel in Rogers, Arkansas. Online registration has already begun, and we encourage brothers, sisters, and gospel friends to sign up early to attend. The theme for this year's Winter Conference is "Love the Lord Your God." God has prepared many new speakers for us, including Pastor Mingpeng Gong, who is currently pastoring in Canada, and Pastor Larry Wong from SAGOS Institute of Preaching & Bible Exposition, who will lead spiritual revival with God's Word. Another special feature this year is that we have invited Teacher Joshua Peng, who led our Holy Land study tour last year and has lived in Israel for twenty years, to speak on the relationship between the Holy Land and the Bible. Pastor David Lu will continue to share his specialty: the messages of eschatological prophecy. In addition, Pastor Andy and Hilary Tso from the Brooklyn Pastoral Church in New York, who emphasize 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 theme for the English and youth groups will be "Coming Home to Jesus," with speakers such as Pastor Paul Sin, Pastor Andy & Hilary Tso and Pastor Steve Tan, and others. Please do not miss this opportunity!

**(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 Teacher 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 9:3 God's heart for the Jews? 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. Deadline: December 14.



2024 May

Lay – Minister Disciple Training Camp

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

This time, we will continue with the study of "The Life of Christ / The Four Gospels" and move on to "The Acts of the Apostles and the Life of Paul." Thank the Lord! Pastor David Su and Sister Grace Lee will be teaching. As of the registration deadline on November 15th, over 60 brothers and sisters have signed up. Please pray not only for these brothers and sisters who have a heart to pursue spiritual growth, but also for the speakers and the CWC's coworkers. Pray that the Lord grant the coworkers strength upon strength, grace upon grace for this meeting.

If you missed this Bible Camp, you can still prepare for the one in August next year. Please sign up for the December Discipleship Training as soon as possible.

As I mentioned earlier, this year has been a challenging journey of faith for me. But I thank the Lord that, despite the changes in my surroundings, the one I rely on in my heart, in addition to God Himself, is the group of faithful coworkers and board members whom He has placed around me. They have been a great support to me this year.

The temple of Solomon was built on the mountain of Moriah, where God had appeared to David, the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite (2 Chronicles 3:1). There is a beautiful legend among the Jewish people regarding Araunah's threshing floor. It is said that two brothers, Araunah and Arona, lived on this land. Although they had separated their households, they loved each other deeply, and their fields were connected. During the harvest, Arona thought to himself, "My brother's household has more people, and my own family is smaller. He may need the grain more than I do." So, in the middle of the night, he secretly took some bundles of grain and delivered them to his brother's field. At the same time, Araunah also thought, "Although my brother's family is small, he is young, so I should help him." He, too, secretly took some bundles of grain and delivered them to his brother's field. The next morning, both brothers discovered that their grain bundles had not diminished at all! They were both puzzled, not knowing the reason. The following night, they repeated the same action. After several nights of transporting the grain, something miraculous happened—the bundles still did not decrease the next morning. Finally, one night, the two brothers met on their way to deliver the grain. At that moment, they realized the reason their grain had not decreased, and they embraced each other and wept. Because of such beautiful brotherly love, David chose the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite, and his son Solomon built the first magnificent temple, the dwelling place of God.

On October 28th and 29th this year, the CWC's coworkers and board members held a retreat at the Winter Conference venue, the Embassy Suite Hotel. In order to minimize the time spent going in and out and dining at outside restaurants, I asked each coworker to bring a dish from home. As a result, many people brought double portions of food, and not only that, the coworkers thoughtfully brought gifts for each other. So, by the time everyone left, they actually had more to take home than they had brought! When I returned home that day, I thought about the story of Araunah's threshing floor. At the same time, I thought of the church in Philadelphia from the Book of Revelation, where "Philadelphia" means "brotherly love."



CWC coworkers and board members at Embassy Suite

This year, "Although the Lord has given you bread of privation and water of oppression, {He,} your Teacher will no longer hide Himself, but your eyes will behold your Teacher. Your ears will hear a word behind you, 'This is the way, walk in it,' whenever you turn to the right or to the left." (Isaiah 30:20-21) God will certainly continue to be our help, just as He has in the past.

Every month, we issue a prayer calendar and prayer letter. If you are not on our mailing list, you are welcome to visit our website to read them and pray for us. Your prayers remind us to always keep our eyes focused on the Lord, asking God to grant us heavenly wisdom, a heart that is obedient to Him, and to serve Him diligently without laziness.

May the Lord bless you!

Cindy Chiang