



MISSIONS FOCUS

Our Missionaries, their health and ministries affected by Covid-19

Chinese Bible Mission (CBM, US, Asia)

From today's bulletin / Missions Report from Missions Team

Chinese Bible Mission (CBM US, Asia) – The Linkou International Church in Taiwan (CBM's main church plant of 2+ years) continues to grow. Attendance has increased from 31 in October 2021 to 122 at the end of 2023. The church recently hired a young seminary graduate to take on pastoral duties. BACBC plans to send a Short-Term Missions team to serve at Linkou Church's English Camp (one week) this summer.

In the US, there was concern about the pandemic's effect on their youth camp ministry but this past summer, they had record numbers of attendees for both junior and high school camps! The recent 50+ fellowship gathering had over 70 participants and there are plans for a cruise in 2024 (September) and a gathering on May 4 in Vacaville (Pena Adobe Excursion).

As CBM expands, they are facing some serious challenges with their home organizational capacity. Even with over 20 people dotted all over Asia and the US, they still do not have a full-time administrator and accounting person. Their faithful volunteers are maxed out and there is a need for fresh talent. If you are interested in helping in the home office, spending a couple of years living in Taiwan to help with the church plant, or mentoring some young church leaders, please get in contact with CBM. It is their prayer that CBM will continue to grow as they continue to partner with God and with church partners for their next phase.

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Reports from CBM Teacher and Missionary

March 2024

- completed teaching a 3-month course in “Pastoral Care Ministry” to 16 students who are pastors and lay leaders, but also teachers, doctors, lawyers. Their desire to be better equipped make waking up at 3 AM well worth it.
- working with another seminary to start a 2 year program on Soul Care; hoping to have 30 students – prayers appreciated for this new project
- continue to supervise students from 2019-2022 cohort – they are not just students, but also coworkers in the vast field of ministry

While the zeal to be equipped continues to grow, persecution is also increasing. One town has a mandate to arrest all house church pastors. We are looking for another possible way to reach out, including an exploratory trip to a neighboring country to set up a training center which is accessible but without the anxiety of persecution.

Please pray for:

Wisdom to teach with clarity and compassion

Traveling mercies (Starting May – August will be traveling/teaching between Asia and US)

Health to keep up with the demands and dietary changes in different countries across different time zones

Funding for ministry

November Update

Every few years we upgrade our phones because we can.

In some countries, pastors get new phones out of necessity. Every time they are arrested or questioned, their phones are confiscated or closely monitored. Changing phones and getting a new phone service are not the only inconveniences persecuted believers face. Another hardship is banning pastors' children or other Christians from attending public school – they grow up illiterate and without any prospects for the future.

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National Security Law and Espionage Law – anyone with contact with someone in a foreign country could be labeled a spy. Hundreds of actual spies are spread all over neighboring countries.

Education for second generation believers' children are detrimental to spiritual lives

1. Ideological brainwashing and propaganda is part of education, Sunday schools are banned for students and minors, not allowed to practice religion.
2. Long hours of schooling leave no time for religious life or activity bringing tension.
3. Seeing parents arrested, children suffer humiliation and lowered self-confidence
4. Parents move to another country for their children's sake – especially so they can graduate from high school.

These pastors need our constant encouragement and their children need an education—most importantly, they need healing of their hearts.

Prayer requests

For the displaced children away from their persecuted parents

Wisdom to help, encourage children, pastors and leaders undergoing persecution

Ongoing class: Marriage and family

Ongoing class: Supervision of pastors/counselors

Traveling mercy – terrible jet lag syndrome every few months

Ongoing mission expenses – financial support

Thank you for reading about and praying for our missionaries, the countries and people locally and globally served.

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