

Thanksgiving Outreach



Our family

Michael, Jen-Yi "Irene",
Rachel, Jonathan, Elizabeth



Pastor Paul's Call

Pastor Paul is a theological educator in Taiwan, serving with the China Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC) and China Lutheran Seminary (CLS). He is called to teach, write, and help plant and pastor Lutheran churches.



As we have our first three Thanksgivings here, we once again invited our apartment complex neighbors to our home to celebrate American Thanksgiving. Although we did have some "regulars" come, over half of our guests were in our home for the first time. Altogether, 33 came—17 adults and 16 children. Irene prepared turkey and other Thanksgiving staples, and most guests brought some type of food to share, making it a cross-cultural potluck. After the meal, I gave a PowerPoint presentation introducing the holiday, of course including what Christians are most thankful for—eternal salvation through Christ's death and resurrection. Guests also wrote down what they were thankful for, and many mentioned being invited to our home. We were most excited (and thankful!) that we got to know Jeannie, who seems very interested to come to our home now for Bible study. We're now planning for another "Stream of Life" one-time study, that introduces the Christian faith through pictures. With Jeannie, we now have 3-4 neighborhood "mamas" who we think might come. We also thank *you* for your support, which allows our apartment to continue to be a Gospel light in our community.

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Oh give thanks to the LORD,
for He is good;
for His steadfast love
endures forever!
(Psalm 118:1 ESV)





What can you pray for?

Thanks for:

- the many who heard the Gospel at our Thanksgiving Celebration.
- good progress on the hymnal project

Petitions for:

- continued progress on the hymnal project, especially that the pilot hymnal could be published in March
- many to come to the Christmas evangelistic events, and that God's Word would bring many to repentance & faith

Our mailing address:

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Our official website:
www.lcms.org/paul

There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at www.lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

Hymnal Blitz

After three years' of hard work, a pilot version of a new Chinese Lutheran hymnal is nearly ready to be published. Over the past few weeks, a flurry of activity has occurred, trying to get this test hymnal across the finish line and into the pews of Chinese Lutheran congregations throughout the world. As I write this, the only thing left prior to layout and printing work is an "introduction" that I, as the director of the hymnal committee, need to finish writing. At the same time, I have also led workshops in three different locations to try to increase participation in the translating of more hymns... which will be needed for the eventual "full version" of the hymnal. We have quite high standards for the type of translations we want, and lots of effort and many people are involved with each hymn that's done. With over 200 yet to translate, the task is daunting, yet we're gaining momentum as we go. Lord-willing, we'll have a dedication of the pilot hymnal here in Taiwan in March, and we hope that event will also encourage more participation as we move further along.



Participants at a recent hymnal translating workshop. Third from right is hymnal coordinator Deaconess Sandra Rhein

Coming Soon—Christmas Outreach

Christmas is by far the best time for evangelism in the Chinese community as many are curious to learn what the true meaning of Christmas is. We'll have at least four evangelistic events this year—one at our mission station, and three with our apartment complex neighbors. Learn all about it in our next newsletter.

Keeping up-to-date: If you're not receiving this newsletter by email but would like to, please contact us at michael.paul@lcmsintl.org. For frequent facebook updates, go to the facebook group: "Michael Paul family Taiwan mission."

To support our work financially, you may make checks payable (memo line: "Support of Missionary Michael Paul") to "The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod" and send your tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861



You can **ALSO** make checks payable to "**Mission Central**" and send your tax-deductible gift to our friends at: Mission Central, 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034.