

News from the Michael Paul family serving our Lord in Taiwan

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Our family

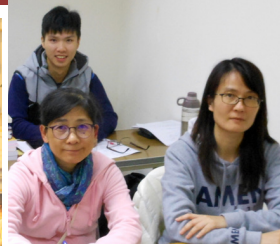
Michael, Jen-Yi "Irene",
Rachel, Jonathan, Elizabeth



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.

To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to michael.paul@lcmsintl.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.



The Gospel Comes to Seminary Students

I wasn't able to grade my seminary students' final papers from last semester until we returned to the US. While I drove across the Midwest, Irene read me their papers so I could give them a grade. Several students wrote about how the Introduction to Doctrinal Theology course made a great difference in their Christian life and service. One student commented that "before this class I always thought that I had to try hard to produce faith within myself, and that if I didn't actively serve God in the Church there would be no way that I could please God or stand at the final judgment." She said that in reality her faith was almost dried up, because she simply couldn't do all that she thought she had to do, no matter how hard she tried. The seminary course, however, assured her from God's Word that faith is actually God's gift and that God serves us, not the other way around. She is now relieved to know that her salvation doesn't depend on her, but completely on Christ. God Himself creates faith in us through His Word, and now that we are branches transplanted into the Christ-vine, we bear fruit as a *result*, not a *cause* of our salvation. While it's sad to see so many Christians in Taiwan who are uncertain about their salvation like my student, what a blessing it is that through your support we can be here to share God's Gospel with them.

Teaching Chinese God's Word in the US

While the main purpose we're back in the US this summer is to visit congregations to raise prayer and financial support for our service in Taiwan, I've also had three opportunities to teach God's Word to Chinese here. In two LCMS congregations, Luther Memorial Chapel in Milwaukee, and Our Savior Lutheran in Carbondale, Illinois, I taught my basic "Stream of Life" introduction to Christianity class in Mandarin Chinese. In addition, I led a four-day Chinese-language seminar at Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne to a small group of Chinese. I taught especially on Law & Gospel and also on Luther's explanation to the Lord's Prayer in his Small Catechism. We were especially glad that a few attendees now seem to be considering studying at CTS in the future.



I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5 ESV)





What can you pray for?

Thanks for:

- the gospel reaching seminary students in Taiwan
- opportunities to teach God's Word to Chinese in the US
- a very full & helpful visit to LCMS sites for Sharon & Rachel
- wonderful congregation visits and safe travel this summer

Petitions for:

- strength, good health and continued safe travel in the US
- more workers for the Lord's harvest fields

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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."

Taiwan Church Leaders Visit the LCMS

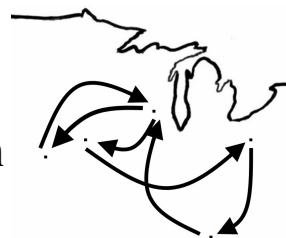
For ten days in



Sharon & Rachel visit Rev. Peter Bender and the Concordia Catechetical Academy

July, we were the hosts and guides for two women leaders from our Taiwan partner Church body, as they visited sites in the LCMS and also attended the Chinese seminar at Ft. Wayne mentioned above. Sharon and Rachel were overwhelmed at the abundance of resources that the LCMS is blessed with, as (aside from their stay at CTS-FW) they visited several congregations, one international student ministry location, two host families, three deaconesses, the Concordia Universities in Wisconsin

and Chicago, the Concordia Catechetical Academy, part of a Higher Things conference, part of the Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education conference, and Northwestern Publishing House (yes, that's WELS, not LCMS :)) They especially were grateful to be introduced to so many resources for teaching children God's Word and the Small Catechism. One hope is that the Concordia Catechetical Academy material in particular might be translated into Chinese and used in Lutheran Churches in Taiwan in the future.



On the Home Service Homestretch

As I'm writing this, we've visited 30 congregations or small groups so far and probably have at least 15 to go. While seeing so many of God's people excited about His mission is wonderful and very encouraging, we are beginning to get a little weary. Please join us in praying for energy, strength, good health, and continued safe travels as we finish our final month in the US. Here is what is scheduled so far:

August	18 AM – St. Paul, Evansville, IN
5 PM – Trinity, Goodland, IN	19 PM – Immanuel, DeKalb, IL
6 AM – St. Peter, Indianapolis, IN	20 PM – Zion, Naperville, IL
7 PM – St. Paul, Wegan, IN	25 AM - Blessed Savior, Milwaukee WI
11 AM – Our Saviour, Evansville, IN	Sep 1 AM – Luther Memorial, Milwaukee, WI

Keeping up-to-date: If you're not receiving this newsletter by email but would like to, please contact us at michael.paul@lcms.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.