

News from David & Barbara Bush, Career Missionaries, serving the Lord in Asia

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 **Figure 1.** Barbara,
Merry Christmas from
Barbara & David.

Prayer Requests, Praises, and Thanks

THANK YOU, LORD...

1. For the honor to at the Lutheran School for the Deaf in Hong Kong.
2. For being able to serve as a member of the board of Concordia School of Special Education in Macau.

LORD, hear our prayer.

3. For Barbara's surgical removal of basal cell carcinoma from left arm.
4. For the wisdom to communicate the Gospel to those of the Chinese Culture.

Amen.



Greetings, Fellow Saints, Citizens of the Kingdom of God

When I was young, very young, I lived on a farm with many sheep. I used to look out my upstairs bedroom window to the valley and creek below on a moon-lit night. I could see the sparkles from the creek. The sheep were huddled together in the cool of the night. They gave the appearance of a white-woolly blanket spread over a portion of the darkened portion of the pasture below. What an awesome picture. When I read the words from Luke 2:8, *"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night."* I cannot help but picture my childhood home back in rural Michigan. I can imagine standing out with the sheep, (which I did several times in the evening on a moon-lit night) and *"lo, the angel of the Lord came...and glory of the Lord shone."* I would be afraid too. More than once was I startled in the night by something moving and making a sudden noise in the still of the night. But angels...! I can see why the angel had to say, *"Fear not..."* I imagine the angel would pause and let the shepherds heartbeat slow a little, so they could hear what message was to come.

"Unto you, is born this day... a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord," as if seeing an angel was not enough for one night's adventure. Now, the shepherds heard the greatest news. That news was that generations had waited to hear, *"a Saviour is born."*



Figure 2. Macau town square nativity 2019

As you hear the retelling of this precious and miraculous story this season, may your heart be warmed with the promise of the angel...not only for the shepherds but us as well, *"which is Christ the Lord."* This is the message we are bringing to our new friends and neighbors here in Hong Kong and Macau. A Blessed Christmas to you all.

LORD'S SUPPER

As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to his household

What is Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

Where is this written?

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also, He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."



Since my return from USA in October, Hong Kong has continued its protests, mostly on weekends. On Monday, November 11th, the first day of city-wide strike disrupted and shut down the transportation system and the businesses. The strike continued all week, and all schools closed on Wednesday for a week. It was madness and full of sadness, as I checked the English online news day by day. After Sunday, November 29th (election day), Hong Kong has quieted down a bit with continued peaceful weekend protests and few clashes between the police and the protesters.

The spirit of Christmas is at its lowest point this year, as some teachers told David and me. Many weekend activities are cancelled. New Year Eve firework is cancelled. Most due to concern of protests and to people's wellbeing and safety.



When the evening comes and the quietness settles, the man can walk home peacefully. It reminds me that Lord God walks with each of us through good and bad times every day and night.

Please pray for Hong Kong, Macau, China, and every place on Earth.

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Barbara J. Bush

Support can also be sent to:

Gary Thies at:

Mission Central – LCMS World Mission

40718 Highway E 16, Mapleton, IA 51034

Phone: 712-882-1029



REPORT

LSD CLASSES. I continue to teach Lutheran Doctrine classes which include English and American Sign Language.

NEW VISA. On December 18th Barbara and I were able to renew our visas for another two years. Both the people in Macau and Hong Kong are happy that we can stay another two years, God willing.

PROTESTS. Things have quieted down a bit for a while. There were several times some real scary things happened. But Barbara and I have never been in any danger. We continue to pray for peace and reconciliation. These events give us the ability to demonstrate our trust in God. He is in control. We continue to share God's love here.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. In Macau, St. Peter Lutheran Church has started a new Sunday School. I assist the two teachers in this new endeavor. The evangelist talks with parents, while we teach the children. We hope we can bring more to Christ with this activity. None of the children, attending Sunday School, are of the congregants. +++

Misson Work-Teaching

Teaching LSD Hong Kong.

This year I teach 7 classes. In these classes we teach Bible lessons, American Sign Language and English. I teach a total of 37 students in these classes. I am assisted by a teacher in each class.

Teaching Macau. Twice a month I assist with three Bible classes: 1) Friday night Bible Study, 2) Sunday morning Sunday School with young children, 3) "Table Talk" after church.

Giving by Check: You can also make a tax-deductible donation towards the Bush's ministry by check.

Mail your check, made payable to

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and designated with their last name, - BUSH, to:

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

(Or call **888-930-4438** to speak with someone.) Or, use the LCMS website online giving page at www.lcms.org/bush.

Calendar – Important Dates 2019 Major Events

December 19. **Macau.** CSSE - *Christmas Party and Board Meeting*

December 19. **Hong Kong.** Paul Chan - *Christmas Banquet*

December 20-January 1, 2020. *Christmas Holiday.* School on break

December 25. Macau. *Christmas Service and "Love Feast" dinner*

December 30, 2019-January 3, 2020. **Taiwan** – LCMS Family Retreat & Reconciliation Workshop

January 4, 2020. Return to **Hong Kong**.

For more information check [Facebook](#):

Hong Kong & Macau Mission Work: David & Barbara Bush

MACAU



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Board members cutting the Christmas cake at Concordia School for Special Education (CSSE).



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HONG KONG

1. Macau, December 19th, CSSE-Xmas party and board meeting.
2. St. Peter Lutheran Church - new Sunday School class with teacher Kerris.
3. CSSE choir sang a couple of great Christmas songs.
4. Principal Lam showed the certificate, indicating CSSE has been approved to receive government land and funding.
5. Presenting at CSSE the Xmas story.
6. American Culture exhibit.
7. David & Barbara cooking food.



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