

OLIVERS LATEST TWIST



Winter 2020

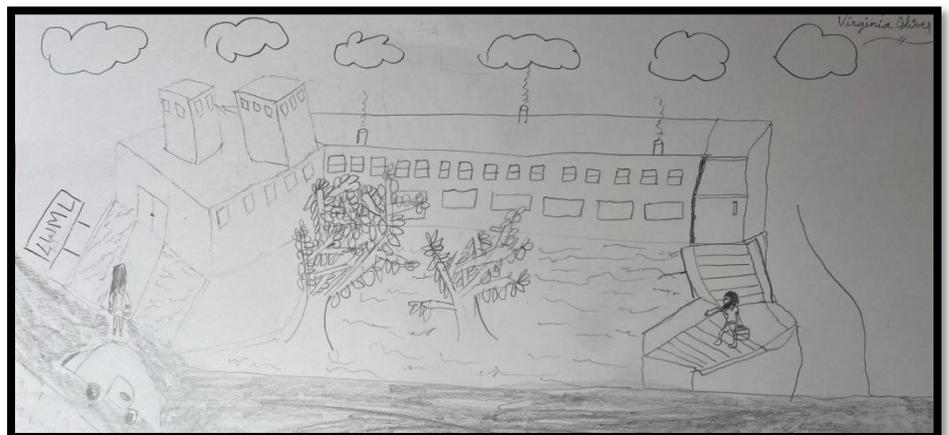
SERVING THE LORD IN TAIWAN, ASIA, & THE U.S.

LWML Presidents



November 1 was the day I had the honor and privilege of taking this photo with the **Lutheran Women Missionary League presidents (past & present)**, who have a yearly meeting with each other at their headquarters, which is now on the Concordia Seminary, St. Louis campus. When the economy is wavering and peoples' hearts are failing them over fear of the pandemic (Luke 21:11, 26), the LWML women are some of the strongest, most down to earth and faithful (Luke 21:28). They've supported missions and the Gospel going out to the ends of the earth through thick and thin and there's no way they are going to stop now! We are so so so grateful to all the women of the LWML!!!

Ginny drew this picture of Loeber Hall at Concordia Seminary, which is where the **LWML Headquarters** is located. See her going in to participate in LWML activities?





Ginny has been enjoying attending **LWML outreach knitting activities** with Mommy. And, we were very happy to hear the recent news that LWML gave a big donation to Mission Central for some missionaries in Asia.



LWML is the place where each woman is *welcomed* and *encouraged* to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness.

For 75 years

Chinese Ministry



While in St. Louis for education and guest instructor service, we have been attending **Light of Christ Lutheran Chinese Mission** and have had invitations to share at a variety of Chinese fellowships. Light of Christ had to move into Immanuel, Olivette's gym for worship since the worship service has been growing with Chinese from all around (many different places of origin). St. Louis Chinese Christians are close to our hearts and are filled with God's love, commitment, warm-hearted serving, and joy!



Light of Christ senior choir (see retired **Pastor Shaw** is on the far right), and **Pastor Ed Lim** is giving the children’s message during worship. LCMS Pastors Shaw and Lim are from Taiwan and Singapore respectively. It’s a joy being with them!



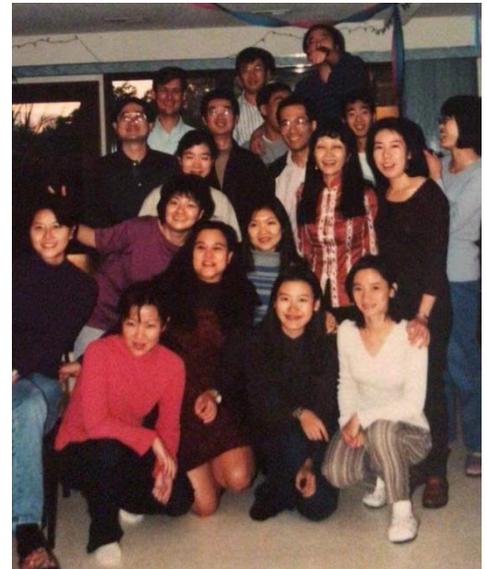
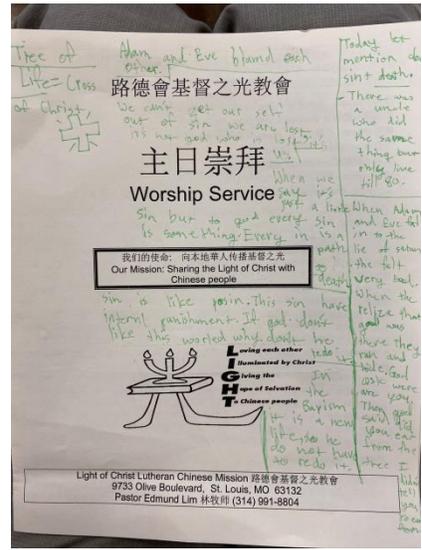
Light of Christ fellowship lunch after worship. And, yes! That’s **Mark Wolfram**, who served in Taiwan for ten years and now serves at our mission headquarters in St. Louis! It’s great to have him and Lucy as neighbors during our short stay here!



These are two Light of Christ fellowship groups, where I had the privilege of serving as I was invited to speak on properly discerning God’s Law and Gospel.



Ginny is taking notes during the sermon. The sermon is given in English and Chinese.

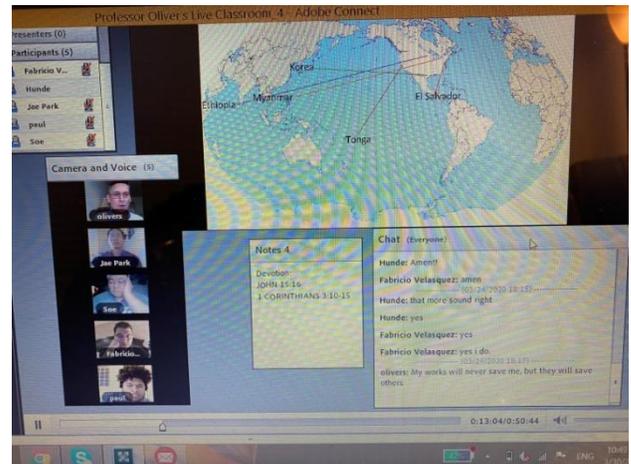


Mayflower Fellowship is on the top left. To the right of it is a photo from twenty years ago, with some of the same people (including me) in the **Faith Hope Love Fellowship**. The photo on the direct left is in the home of **Allen and Huiqing Yang**, with Concordia Seminary PhD student, **Pastor Vincent Kam** and his family.



The photo above is of **Pastor Shiuming Lau** (originally from Hong Kong), who was the pioneer pastor at Light of Christ. I participated in his ordination 20 years ago there in St. Louis. This photo shows him leading the Mandarin Worship at **Holy Spirit Lutheran Church in San Francisco**. I was there to preach in the Mandarin and Cantonese (top left) services, and to teach a **China Lutheran Seminary class** (left) in Properly Discerning God's Law & Gospel.

Concordia Seminary



It's been very edifying to have a short study time at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, especially to learn from professors like **Dr. Robert Kolb** (top left). The mission has also lent me to the Concordia Seminary this semester to do a kind of mission work, building and teaching **Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology (EIIT)** internet courses (top right).

I made this map to show each of my **student's country of origin** and where they now serve in our churches in the U.S.A. The exploding Christianity of the **Global South** is coming to America (as well as we going out). The urgent need is for that solid and **deep root of God's Word** so that it's not like the rocky ground, and we have that rich gift to give and not bury!



The **professors of Concordia Seminary** are a great blessing! They are truly a treasure in rich theological faithfulness as well as pastoral engagement in key contemporary issues! It's been good to have a lot of good interaction in various ways with them, to learn from them and to share about mission and China Lutheran Seminary. How can this valuable blessing from God of our seminary and her teachers radiate out beyond our simple reach to the whole of Christianity and the World for the salvation and edifying of many?!



The children were excitedly looking forward to playing in the snow (which they had never done), so a few snow activities have been fun! On the left, Ginny and Maggie build a snowman and on the right, Gary and Isaac have fun sledding.





Life in the missionary apartment at Concordia Seminary has included things like our family devotions (left) and Maggie's preparation of a wonderful Chinese New Year dinner!



Isaac was in **Chamber** (he's farthest left in the photo) where they played the very beautiful Concerto Grosso in G Minor by Corelli. He also had the experience of **Robotics Club** where their team went all the way to state and won a number of awards (pictured with the robotics coach and the award winning robot).



Gary won the **Spelling Bee** at Captain School, which has about 350 students. We were happily surprised as you can see by our faces in this photo taken right after he won. One of the last words was "abundance," which he said he easily remembered from reading the Bible!



This is us, The Olivers, right after Ash Wednesday Worship: Isaac, Maggie, Ginny, Stephen, and Gary.

Prayer

Pray for our health, serving, teaching, all of our studies, and God’s guidance & our flexibility as we are scheduled to return to Taiwan in mid-June.



China Lutheran Seminary in Hsinchu, Taiwan

For our past news and donate button at Mission Central, go to <https://missioncentral.us/oliver/>

To support the LCMS through the work of Stephen & Maggie Oliver, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

Mission Central
40718 Highway E 16
Mapleton, IA 51034

or

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

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To give where needed most in Asia, go to this webpage: <https://www.lcms.org/givenow/asia-where-needed-most>

