

July 2017

Dear mission partners,

My wife Ling and I came to know Rev John Wallis when we joined COCM ten years ago. He was the COCM Council Chairman at the time. John is a retired pastor from the Church of England. He and his wife Kathleen were OMF missionaries to South Korea. After they returned to the UK, John served as OMF Director for England and Scotland. Over the past forty years, John has been involved in all areas of COCM ministry, which included helping our workers to plant local Chinese churches in the early years, and becoming a spiritual advisor to former COCM General Director Ms Mary Wang. For the past eleven years, he has been the COCM Council Chairman, guiding our entire COCM team with wisdom and understanding.

John has a pastor's heart, he is always gentle and gracious towards all our staff workers and mission partners. Through thick and thin, he has been a constant source of support and encouragement to our team. To me personally, John has been more than just our council chairman. He is my trusted friend and spiritual mentor. Working side by side over the years, I have learned many valuable lessons from John.

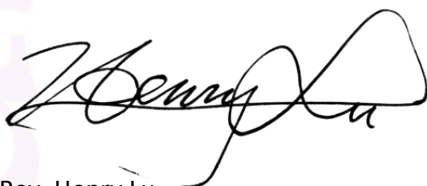
Rev John Wallis officially retired from our council at the end of June. I thank God for giving us such a great mission partner and spiritual companion. Rev Siew-Huat Ong (OSH) will be our new Council Chairman. I look forward to building a fruitful partnership with Rev Ong and together we will continue to expand the mission ministries in Europe.

We need spiritual companions in the mission field. I give thanks for our team of workers with diverse gifts coming together to realize the shared vision of reaching the Chinese to reach Europe. In June, our COCM staff team went to Israel to embark on a study tour walking on the same roads our Lord Jesus once traveled. This tour gave me a chance to know more about the spiritual conditions and needs of my fellow workers. Along the way, I also took time to have some reflection. At first glance, Israel looked like a highly developed country with great wealth and prosperity. But as we set foot in its land, we discovered wide rich-poor gaps between two distinct peoples. The Jews and Arabs in Israel are not only vastly different in faith and culture, but also worlds apart in their living conditions.

I look back to two thousand years ago when Jesus first came to live on this land, the Romans and the Jews were also living in a world full of tension and conflict between different faiths, cultures and national identities, much like the present one we live in. Jesus came into such a messy world, for he knew that the root cause of human conflict was alienation from God because of sin. And he came willingly to offer us reconciliation to God through his death on the cross.

Regardless of where we live today, we can sense the ongoing political turmoil and rapid social change. It is evident that we cannot place our hope on building an ideal type of government or society. Mankind is hopeless if the problem of sin is not dealt with. Our only hope is Jesus Christ. He is the resurrection and the life. He is the true light of the world. Praise be to God who calls us to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ among the Chinese in Europe!

Serving together in Christ,



Rev. Henry Lu  
General Director

二零一七年七月

親愛的宣教夥伴們，

十年前，當我和妻子鐘凌加入 COCM 時，就認識了當時的董事會主席華理善（John Wallis）牧師夫婦。他們是英國聖公會的退休牧者，曾經被 OMF 差派到韓國宣教，回英國後又成為 OMF 在英格蘭和蘇格蘭區的總幹事。在過去的四十年裡，華理善牧師參與在 COCM 各個層面的服事中，一開始他直接參與當地華人教會的建立，後來成為 COCM 總幹事王光霞姊妹的屬靈顧問，而在最近的十一年間，他一直是 COCM 董事會主席，非常有智慧地帶領我們整個團隊。

對同工們來說，華理善牧師具有牧者的心腸；對眾多的宣教夥伴來說，他滿有恩典。對我個人來說，他不但是董事會主席，更是我的朋友和屬靈的督導。多年來他與我並肩作戰，帶領扶持，總是給予鼓勵，使我受益匪淺。

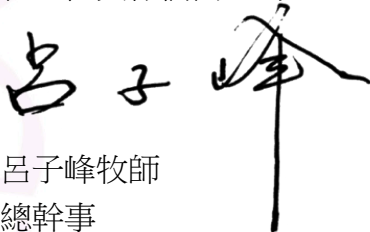
今年六月底，華理善牧師將正式從董事會退休，感謝主賜給我們這位宣教路上的好夥伴和同路人。華理善牧師退休後，董事會主席一職將由王紹發牧師繼任。我很期待能和王牧師也建立這樣的夥伴關係，一同努力，繼續擴展在歐洲的福音事工。

在宣教工場我們需要屬靈的同伴，感謝神讓我們這樣一群各有恩賜的同工聚集起來，彼此幫助，共同完成神所托付的使命。六月中，我們的團隊有機會前往以色列退修，一同行走在當年我們主耶穌所走過的路上。在這個旅程中，我不但有機會更多了解同工的生活和需要，也在其中有一些反思。以色列這片土地看似非常富裕，但當我們有更多了解後，就發現在這裡居住著兩個截然不同的族群。猶太人和阿拉伯人不僅信仰文化迥異，生活環境的差距也十分巨大。

我回想兩千年前，當主耶穌來到這片土地的時候，這裡的羅馬殖民者和猶太人也同樣處在文化、信仰和族群的張力中，與我們今天所身處的世界並無不同。我們的主道成肉身選擇來到這個混亂的世界，因為他深知造成人與人之間隔閡的乃是因人不認識神。他甘心情願地死在十字架上，使我們得以通過他與父神和好。

今天無論我們身處何方，都多少能感受到世界政治的動盪和社會潮流的變更，人的盼望絕不能放在建立一個理想的國家政權或是社會體制之上，人的罪若是得不到解決，就無法找到出路。唯有耶穌是復活和生命，世界的真光，人類的盼望！感謝主呼召我們，在歐洲的華人中宣揚耶穌基督的福音！

在主裡與你們同工的，



呂子峰牧師  
總幹事

二零一七年七月

亲爱的宣教伙伴们，

十年前，当我和妻子钟凌加入COCM时，就认识了当时的董事会主席华理善（John Wallis）牧师夫妇。他们是英国圣公会的退休牧者，曾经被OMF差派到韩国宣教，回英国后又成为OMF在英格兰和苏格兰区的总干事。在过去的四十年里，华理善牧师参与在COCM各个层面的服事中，一开始他直接参与当地华人教会的建立，后来成为COCM总干事王光霞姊妹的属灵顾问，而在最近的十一年间，他一直是COCM董事会主席，非常有智慧地带领我们整个团队。

对同工们来说，华理善牧师具有牧者的心肠；对众多的宣教伙伴来说，他满有恩典。对我个人来说，他不但是董事会主席，更是我的朋友和属灵的督导。多年来他与我并肩作战，带领扶持，总是给予鼓励，使我受益匪浅。

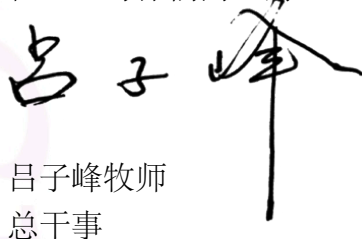
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在主里与你们同工的，



吕子峰牧师  
总干事





With John and Kathleen in 2007  
2007 年與華理善牧師夫婦



With OSH and Grace now  
現在與王紹發牧師夫婦



COCM Council member and spouse at John's retirement luncheon  
COCM 董事會成員夫婦一同參與華理善牧師的退休聚餐



The land where Jesus walked  
耶穌曾經走過的這片土地