

March 2015

Dear mission partners,

In Ephesians chapter 6, Apostle Paul warns us that as we bring the gospel to the lost, we are engaging in a battle against spiritual forces invisible to the physical eye. Paul is keenly aware of the challenge in being a minister of Jesus Christ, so he encourages us to pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. Paul also urges his supporters to pray for him: "...that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should."

Mission in Europe and UK is not easy. On the surface, we seem to enjoy the so-called religious freedom in countries that are by and large "Christian" historically. But Christian workers do encounter difficulties in many areas when we want to be bold and openly share the gospel. Oppositions can come from unlikely sources such as government regulations in their effort to ensure fairness towards all religions. Obstacles may be encountered because of immigration control, which sets up unnecessary hurdles for travelling from one country to another for the sake of the gospel ministry. As COCM expands its mission work, we need to be mindful of the unforeseen oppositions from all sides. At the same time, Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 16:9 rings true to me that even though there are many oppositions, a great door for effective work has opened to COCM.

This February was an unforgettable month as I lost two people who were so dear to me and had wholeheartedly supported my family to embark on our missionary journey. On the 8th of February, I heard over the phone that my father went to be with the Lord peacefully in his sleep. Even though I did not get a chance to say goodbye to him before his passing, I am grateful to the Lord for giving me a wonderful earthly father who loved me and was my best mission partner through encouragement and support. Although he had never been to the COCM mission centre, he had been my faithful prayer partner all along. He would follow my ministry schedule each month and ask about my trips visiting churches as well as work going on at the mission centre. On the 25th of February, an email informed me that our beloved Ms Ellen Giebel finished her work on earth and went to be with her Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in Paradise. Having been a missionary to China and Taiwan for more than 40 years, Ellen knew how important it was to pray for God's people. I still remember her parting words to us when Ling and I left Amherst Massachusetts to join COCM as missionaries: "I have followed the Lord for a long time and sure there had been difficulties. But when I look back, it is all joy! There will be tough times for you down the road, but trust in His provision. I will pray for you!"

The older generation of mission partners is passing. As I give thanks for their life and legacy, I earnestly pray that God will raise up a new generation of mission partners to take their places and pray for the work of the gospel ministry in UK and Europe. Please pray for me and the COCM team to stand firm and fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel.

Serving together in Christ,



Rev. Henry Lu
General Director

二零一五年三月

親愛的宣教夥伴們，


在以弗所書第六章中，使徒保羅提醒我們，當我們在給失喪的靈魂傳福音的時候，我們乃是在打一場屬靈的爭戰。保羅清楚的意識到作為耶穌基督的使者所要面對的挑戰，因此他也鼓勵我們靠着聖靈，隨時多方禱告祈求。保羅也請求他的支持者們為他代禱：“.....使我得着口才，能以放膽開口講明福音的奧秘，我為這福音的奧秘作了帶鎖鏈的使者，並使我照着當盡的本分放膽講論。”

如今在歐洲宣教並非易事。從表面上看，這些歐洲的國家因着過去的“基督教”傳統而保有所謂的宗教自由。可是在這裡的宣教士同工們也確確實實在公開傳福音方面遭遇難處。有時，這些難處來自於政府所制定的一些政策，為的是維繫宗教平等；有時，從一國到另一國的旅行佈道也因為政府緊縮移民政策而阻礙重重。COCM 一邊正在不斷擴大佈道的範圍，另一邊我們也需要警醒來自於靈界的爭戰。但是，保羅在哥林多前書十六章 9 節中的話仍然千真萬確，雖然反對的人也多，但是有寬大又有功效的門已經為我們打開了。

今年二月我失去了兩位至親的人，他們都在我們全家踏上宣教旅程的時候全心全意地支持我們。二月八日，我在電話中得知我父親在睡夢中平靜地歸回天家。儘管我沒能有機會在他離世之前跟他道別，但我還是感恩神在地上賜給我一位愛我的父親，他從始至終都在我宣教的道路上鼓勵和支持我。儘管他從未來過 COCM 宣教中心，但是他卻一直為我獻上持續不斷的禱告。他熟悉我每個月的行程，也會問起我去不同教會的情況和在宣教中心的情況。二月二十五日，我通過電郵獲悉 Ellen Giebel 歇了她在地上的工回到天家與主同在了。Ellen 在中國和台灣宣教四十年，她知道如何要用禱告來托住神的兒女。我仍然記得當我和鍾凌即將離開美國安城踏上英國宣教之旅的時候，Ellen 對我們說的話：“我大半輩子跟隨主，知道其中各樣的艱辛困難。但是當我如今回頭看的時候，真可以說，一切都是喜樂。你們一定會在這條路上遇到難處，但是一定要相信神的供應。我會為你們禱告。”

老一輩的宣教夥伴們漸漸逝去，當我感恩他們的生命和所留下的寶貴遺產之際，也盼望神在這個新的世代中要興起一批新的宣教夥伴們，來繼續支持和為歐洲和英國的福音事工禱告。請為我和所有 COCM 的同工們禱告，求神幫助我們可以站立地穩，繼續放膽開口來講明這福音的奧秘。

在主裡與你們同工的，



呂子峰牧師
總幹事

二零一五年三月

亲爱的宣教伙伴们，

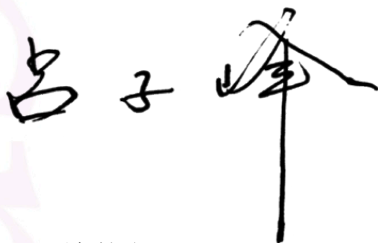
在以弗所书第六章中，使徒保罗提醒我们，当我们在给失丧的灵魂传福音的时候，我们乃是在打一场属灵的争战。保罗清楚意识到作为耶稣基督的使者所要面对的挑战，因此他也鼓励我们要靠着圣灵，随时多方祷告祈求。保罗也请求他的支持者们为他代祷：“……使我得着口才，能以放胆开口讲明福音的奥秘，我为这福音的奥秘作了带锁链的使者，并使我照着当尽的本分放胆讲论。”

如今在欧洲宣教并非易事。从表面上看，这些欧洲的国家因着过去的“基督教”传统而保有所谓的宗教自由。可是在这里的宣教士同工们也确确实实在公开传福音方面遭遇难处。有时，这些难处来自于政府所制定的一些政策，为的是维系宗教平等；有时，从一国到另一国的旅行布道也因为政府紧缩移民政策而阻碍重重。COCM 一边正在不断扩大布道的范围，另一边我们也需要警醒来自于灵界的争战。但是，保罗在哥林多前书十六章 9 节中的话仍然千真万确，虽然反对的人也多，但是有宽大又有功效的门已经为我们打开了。

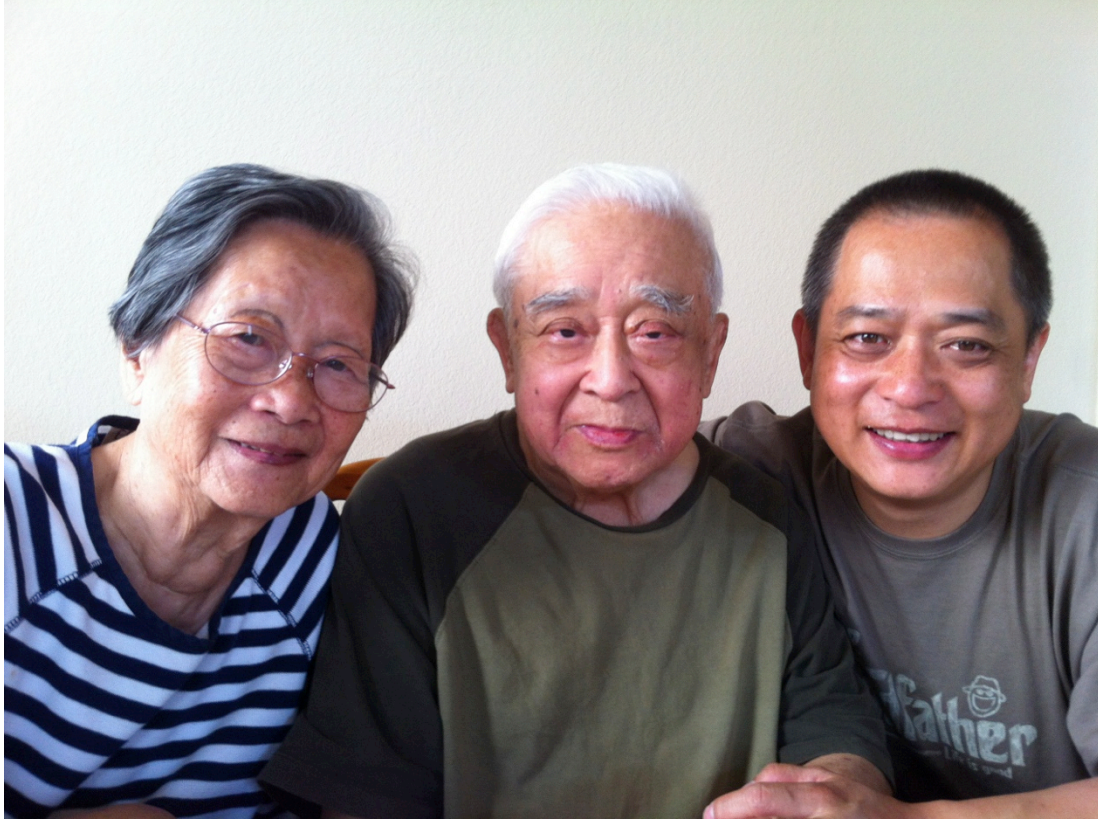
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老一辈的宣教伙伴们渐渐逝去，当我感恩他们的生命和所留下的宝贵遗产之际，也盼望神在这个新的世代中要兴起一批新的宣教伙伴们，来继续支持和为欧洲和英国的福音事工祷告。请为我和所有 COCM 的同工们祷告，求神帮助我们可以站立地稳，继续放胆开口来讲明这福音的奥秘。

在主里与你们同工的，



吕子峰牧师
总干事



Henry with Dad and Mom in Texas last year
 呂牧師去年和自己的父母在美國德州



Henry and Ling with former OMF missionary to Taiwan – Ellen Giebel in Amherst before joining COCM
 呂牧師和師母在加入 COCM 前在美國安城與 Ellen Giebel 在一起，Ellen 曾是 OMF 在台灣的宣教士