CHINESE BIBLE CHURCH OF MARYLAND 馬利蘭中華聖經教會



# 磐石



教會通訊 二零一三年十二月

## 事奉恩主五十载 福杯滿溢頌主爱

在劉牧師將要退休之際,筆者受教會文字部的委托,很 榮幸地到了劉牧師和劉師母的府上採訪。那是十一月中旬的 一個晚上,我下班後,直接驅車前往。雖是秋末,卻寒氣逼 人。我穿著長過膝蓋的羽絨大衣,走進了他們家的大門。暖 氣迎面撲來,我換上了師母為我準備的一雙合腳的毛茸茸拖 鞋,感到回到了家,一股暖流通透心房,兩隻冰冷的手開始 暖和起來。



這是一棟有五十年左右的房子,客廳雖然不大,主人卻是好客的。看到主人讓兩張長長的 沙發椅靠著牆,是為了能容納更多的客人。淺色的窗簾,掛在牆上的字畫,和角落邊的鋼琴, 多麼素雅大方的擺設。我不禁問自己,我是牧師和師母接待的第幾千人次的客人?

和他們共進晚餐時,我享用著劉師母做的美味佳餚,喝著劉牧師到南非宣教時買回的神草茶。談話間,才知道他們兩口子,兩天前到中國餐館點了兩樣菜,慶祝了劉牧師七十一歲生日。人生第七十二年是人生的新驛站,在這之前,神是如何帶領他走過來的《這要追述到他十九歲青春的歲月……

十九歲是令人羨慕的美妙的年齡。處於這青春年齡的青年充滿著朝氣活力,充滿著理想希望。從小生長在韓國的年僅十九歲的小劉傳章也不例外。與衆不同的是,他的眼光不是停留在世間的榮華富貴,而是定睛在十字架上的耶穌。一九六二年他剛高中畢業,在一次基督教培靈會上,在聖靈的感召之下,他走到台前,回應于中一牧師的呼召,將自己奉獻給了神,並立下了「往普天下去,傳福音給萬民聽」的心願。

次年,這位年輕人開始為自己制定了美好的計劃。他想到台灣基督教神學院學習,然後再回到韓國事奉主耶穌。他先後向台灣三家神學院發去了申請函,有的渺無音訊,有的卻說不收。眼看暑假已經結束,神學院已開學,怎麼辦呢?當年十月間,于中一牧師又來了韓國,傳章在教會的培靈會上見到他,就請教他有沒有可推薦的神學院。于牧師就立刻給香港的建道神學院發去了電報,把這位年輕人介紹給這家神學院。沒想到建道神學院連傳章的申請表及履歷表都沒看到,就接受了他。

可是,傳章的父親不同意兒子到香港讀神學院,就沒有供應兒子一分錢。傳章帶著聖經和簡單的行李,登上了飛往香港的飛機,就像彼得捨下了漁網,離別家人,跟從耶穌一樣。雖然初次出遠門,更不知道下飛機後,是否有人來接他,但他心中卻不害怕,因為聖經告訴他:「兩個麻雀不是賣一分銀子嗎?若是你們的父不許,一個也不能掉在地上。就是你們的頭髮也都被數過了。所以不要懼怕,你們比許多麻雀還貴重。」(馬太福音 10:29-31)飛機抵達了香港機場後,傳章被平安地接到了神學院。那是一九六三年十二月二日,學期已經過了三分之二了。

傳章開始了三年半緊張又愉快的神學院學生生活,他用神的話語裝備自己的同時,(接下頁

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(接上頁) 還學會了國語、英語和粵語,為他將來事奉奠定了紮實的屬靈基礎和多種語言基礎。這三年半,世上的父親沒有給他一分錢的生活費,而天上的父親,卻為他預備了豐盛的一切,提供了他一切所需,讓他無牽掛地順利地完成了神學院所規定的課程和訓練,及各種不同的實習。正如聖經所示:「我的神必照他榮耀的豐富,在基督耶穌裡,使你們一切所需用的都充足。」(腓立比書 4:19)

神學院畢業後,傳章按照自己的計劃回到韓國,當上了青年傳道人。正幹得起勁時,卻被驅逐出境。原來,他回去一年後,需要到韓國政府有關部門延續簽證時,被發現由於他出國三年半沒有回韓國,已經自動失去了韓國居民的身份,而且失去居民身份者在韓國工作是犯法的。於是,他離開了韓國。

這位年輕人的計劃又被擱淺了。但是,他沒有氣餒。他想到創世紀十二章,耶和華對亞伯拉罕說:「你要離開本地、本族、父家,往我所要指示你的地去。我必叫你成為大國。我必賜福給你,叫你的名為大,你也要叫別人得福。為你祝福的,我必賜福與他:那咒詛你的,我必咒詛他。地上的萬族都要因你得福。」亞伯拉罕就照著耶和華的吩咐去了。雖然他已經七十五歲,卻因著信,甘心樂意地順從上帝的吩咐和指引。他把上帝要他去的地方,看作最安全、最蒙福的地方。劉傳章也離開了本地、本族、父家,隻身一人到了台灣。雖然他當時不知道前面的道路應怎樣行走,要往哪裏去,但他深信上帝必親自同在,步步指引。

一九六八年聖誕前夕,在台北市金山街的錫安教堂,燈火通明,二十三歲的黃懷甯姐妹帶著一群人到教會参加聖誕慶祝活動。那天晚上的講員是劉傳章。當他站起來講道時,他在開場白說道:「你們聽,牆上的時鐘滴答滴答地響著,時間就一秒一分的這麼飛逝而過。我們的生命也將隨著時間的飛逝,走到盡頭……」懷甯的心被這位年輕的講員

吸引了。沒想到當晚抽籤領取交換聖誕禮物時,她拿到的小聖經,竟是傳章準備的禮物。她的心不禁砰砰地加速跳動。那天晚上,傳章也發現了懷甯的一舉一動,看起來都那麼令人心悅,不僅歌聲優美,連擰抹布擦桌子的動作都那麼地敏捷利落。這一切都被傳章看在眼裏,記在心裏。

幾天後,他找了個機會,送懷甯一本《青年聖歌》。懷甯打開一看,在聖歌「我不知明天的道路」這一頁,夾著一張字條,上面寫著:「我很喜歡聽妳唱歌,妳能否為我唱這首歌?」傳章點此歌正是巧妙地暗示懷甯:我不知明天的道路,但我知主牽我手,妳願意和我同走這條信心之路嗎?從那一刻起,這對男女青年的心,碰撞在一起了。他們相愛了,開始



約會,一起参加教會的服事。次年六月份,在父母的祝福下,他們訂婚了。同年十月份,懷甯應聘移民來美國。第二年,傳章也來到美國的紐約奈亞大學讀書。一九七一年七月三十一日在紐約市九十六街國語教會舉行了婚禮,教會的青年團契為他們籌備的婚宴只花了兩百美元。從此,傳章有了溫暖的家,上帝為他預備了一位美麗溫柔的妻子與他共同事奉主。

那時懷甯在醫院作護士,她計劃用自己掙來的錢支付家庭的費用。當她懷孕臨近分娩時,她到婦產科做產前檢查, 正好有個亞洲婦女也要做產前檢查,於是懷甯就帶她一起去。懷甯向婦產科醫生介紹那個人的先生是醫院的醫生,醫生 問懷甯說:「那妳的先生是幹什麼的?」懷甯說是神學院的學生。之後,懷甯一直沒有收到醫生寄來的帳單。等到孩子 出生後去找醫生複查時,她查詢醫生的秘書,為什麼沒有寄帳單給她,得到的回答是:「醫生在產檢單上註明妳的丈夫 是神學院的學生,所以不收妳的錢。」

孩子出生後,懷甯請了三個月的假,沒有薪水可領取。可是夫婿的學費,孩子的奶粉尿布錢,房租,水電費,這麼多的家庭開銷,誰來支付呢?奇妙的是,三個月懷甯沒有薪水支取時,新澤西的華人教會、紐約的華人教會、新港的華人教會都來請傳章去講道或做臨時的傳道。一到主日,傳章就穿梭在幾個教會中講道。有時,一個週末要講五堂道。三個月後,懷甯準備要回去上班時,突然想起這三個月是怎麼過的?他們算一算,這三個月講道的車馬費加起來,正好是懷甯三個月的薪水,一分不多,一分不少。他們驚訝萬分,滿心感謝讚美主。經歷了這兩件事,懷甯看到了神的信實與可靠,向神悔改了自己小信的心,明白了只有神的計劃才是完全的,美好的。從此,她把自己的明天完完全全交託給神,道路越走越輕省。

在懷甯坐月子期間,有一天剛睡醒,看見夫婿站在床前,額頭流著血。原來傳章開的那輛老爺車在去學校

接上頁)考試回來的路上剎車失靈,傳章怕車子撞到人,就把車子轉向欄杆,整輛車報廢了。懷甯在感謝神保守夫婿平安的同時,突然有一個念頭出現在她的腦海裡,她就說:「神會賜我們一輛車。」車禍第二天就是傳章要去匹茲堡講道的日子,他去講道並與同工面試,後來他們決定請他去牧會。不久匹茲堡教會寄來一張到匹茲堡的單程機票,請傳章前往匹茲堡教會,把留給牧師用的車先開回紐約去用,等九月上任時再開回來。我們神的幫助是那樣地及時,這輛車成了他們家庭得力的交通助手,一直伴隨著他們在紐約生活的幾個月,直到傳章到匹茲堡教會牧會。

一九八二年一月八日,劉傳章牧師和師母黃懷甯帶著他們一雙兒女來到了馬利蘭中華聖經教會,同月二十四日就職。一開始,他們居住在公寓。後來,他們在教會附近貸款買了一棟小房子。那時教會還未擴建,許多團契活動就在他們家舉行。神為他們預備的房子門前的街道比較寬闊,家對面整條街沒有住房,可以停數十輛車,很方便。師母非常友善好客,第一年,教會每個弟兄姐妹都被邀請到牧師家做客。那年,他們的女兒讀小學三年級,兒子讀小學一年級。這對兒女從小就學會搬椅子,收拾東西,在服事主中長大。劉師母是位賢妻良母,她把家務事和教養孩子的事全都包攬給自己,讓夫婿專心牧養教會。劉牧師牧會三十二年來,曾經給一百一十多對新郎新娘證婚。當年的新娘新郎的孩子們,現在大都上了大學。



劉牧師夫婦與女兒及兒子全家合影

除了每週日講道,劉牧師還召集修訂了教會章程及會員入會課程的教材,並多次給主日學老師開課培訓。他盡量参加教會內外的各項活動,傳揚福音。他對擴大神的國度很有負擔,在他任職期間,在神的祝福下,馬利蘭中華聖經教會三次擴建教堂,並先後植了三間教堂:樂道堂、海華堂、北卡中華聖經教會,而且開始了馬利蘭中華聖經教會蓋城堂。劉牧師總是說:「沒有我,中華聖經教會照樣成長。」他舉了一個例子,有一次他應邀到俄亥俄州的一間華人教會講道,時間預定在週五晚上七點半,可是他乘坐的航班晚點好幾個小時,飛機抵達機場已經是晚上九點半。他聽到來接機的弟兄告訴他,聚會照樣進行,由主持人到網上找到劉牧師的講道錄像,在會場上播放了。雖然劉牧師來不及參加,但聚會照樣進行。英語堂的鄧業鵬傳道是這樣評價劉牧師的:「雖然他是教會的主任牧師,我看到的劉牧師是那麼地謙卑,對於教會三十多年來成長所結出的果實,他總是將榮耀歸於神,從不誇耀自己。」

劉師母在教會中,也投入了事奉。她在詩班的事奉,數十年如一日,從未間斷(除了他父親生病的那兩年)。剛來本教會時,她和一群愛兒童的弟兄姐妹參與兒童崇拜和主日學的事奉,但是從來沒想到要教成人主日學。後來因為當時教會有很多有小孩的弟兄姊妹,應他們的要求,才開始教成人主日學,開教養兒女的課程,及與劉牧師合教婚姻的課程。師母先後教了「安慰傷心人」、「夫妻相處」、「婦女事奉」、「教養兒童」等課程。也因為教授這些課程,當時使者雜誌的主編即要求師母寫關於教養的文章,結果就出版了《真愛傳家寶》一書。因此,師母也常被邀請在不同營會中主領婚姻和教養等專題。英語堂董牧師說,他從劉師母那裏學到了不少處世爲人的優秀品格,例如:施予、好客、關懷、友善、熱情。

我問劉牧師,「你在中華聖經教會牧會三十多年,常激勵你的聖經金句是什麼?」他說:「是腓立比書四章十三節,『我靠著那加給我力量的,凡事都能作。』」不少人都發現,七十一歲的劉牧師滿頭黑髮。劉師母說:「他從來沒有為教會的事情睡不著覺,因為牧師知道『那召你們的本是信實的,他必成就這事。』(帖撒羅尼迦前書 5:24)」即將退休之際,劉牧師回憶起在中華聖經教會和其他牧師、長老、執事、主日學老師、細胞小組的小組長共同服事上帝的歲月,感到非常溫馨。他說:「牧會多年,教會發生的大大小小的事,都有神的美意。教會的會友都是追求真理的兢兢業業為主做工的好弟兄姐妹,沒有起什麼大的爭執,使我有很好的環境和時間去講道和寫書出版。」至今,他已經出版的書有《寶架清影》、《教會生活》、《教牧書信講義》、《像我們一樣的人》,還翻譯了一本禱告的書《舉起聖潔的手》。

劉牧師還說:「牧會這麼多年要退休了,從感情上,很捨不得離開。但是,教會總要往前走。要有新的領導,新的方向,百尺竿頭更進一步。如果我繼續任職,只能維持。我不是爲我自己退休,而是希望教會有新的生命,新的異象,新的方向和發展。另外,我退休後,還有很多服事主的機會,我要把握這些機會。我年輕時,已立下了『往普天下去,傳福音給萬民聽』的心願,我和師母已經去過了四大洲傳福音,還剩下澳洲沒有去。如果神允許,明年春天我和師母準備到澳洲去傳福音。」我問:「有具體計劃嗎?」他說:「沒有,我是上帝的僕人,我的計劃在上帝的手中,我

<sup>(接上身)</sup> 只能禱告,把這事交托給上帝,由祂來帶領。」

對於為他做了四十多年早餐的相濡以沫的妻子,劉牧師有個心願,在退休後,要常走進廚房,為愛妻做早餐。他們夫妻在服事神上同心協力,在生活小事中,也配合得很好。每當包餃子時,是他們非常享受的時光。劉牧師挽起袖子和

麵,揉麵,擀餃子皮,師母則繫上圍裙切菜,剁肉,拌餃子餡。兩口子一邊包餃子,一邊 數算神的恩典,夫妻恩愛做出來的餃子美味無比。

當我聽著劉牧師和師母敘述他們的故事,我看到了主與他們同行同工,主的竿、主的 村始終在他們身前身後看顧和鞭策,一路引領。他們服事神五十年心路歷程的點點滴滴, 見證了神的偉大、信實和美善。我的心房不禁輕輕地一顫,一道亮光從心頭掠過。哦,我 不是只來採訪的,更是來學習的。感謝主!今晚,我靈命上的收獲可是滿滿一籮筐。

我想借用教會兒童部黃林珂慧姐妹對劉牧師的幾句描述來結束本文:「他有著孩童般 對神的信心,有著少年般對宣教的火熱,有著青年般對教會事工的衝勁,有著中年般處世 的沈著穩重,還有著年長者的智慧隽睿。」其實,這也是教會衆多弟兄姐妹對劉牧師的讚 揚。



(筆者在此感謝劉牧師和師母提供珍貴的信息和資料,以助此文的完成。)



## The Real Purpose of Christmas

Grace Chen (8 yr-old)

In Jamaa, the animals were sleeping. It was the day before Christmas. They were so very excited. They had very good dreams. They also were imagining their gifts. But as they slept, snowflakes began to fall. Soon, it began to snow heavily. Without warning, a blizzard started. The animals didn't notice the blizzard until it became so powerful that the lights flickered out. The animals suddenly woke up. They stared only to find complete darkness. Then they stared out their windows, but it took them 5 minutes to find the windows. When they finally got to their windows, they gasped in awe as the blizzard roared past their eyes. Then one animal said, "A powerful blizzard must have started when we were sleeping. It must have also gotten so strong that it made the lights go out." "It could have. There is a possibility," replied another animal. The animals shrugged. Then they went back to sleep without remembering that if there is a very powerful blizzard outside, Santa Deer wouldn't be able to get through to give them their gifts.

In the morning on Christmas, the animals woke up. Sleepily, they walked over to the calendar. They looked and suddenly saw that it was Christmas today. They cheered and jumped up with joy. But when they got to the Christmas Tree, no gifts were there, nothing at all. They stared in awe. The animals were really sad because the gifts were the best part of Christmas. They would be happy for their gifts, but there was none. Just then, a voice said, "Don't you remember? The real purpose for Christmas is to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ," said the voice. It was the Lord! The animals looked up but saw no one. "I am The Lord your God," said The Lord. The animals then remembered that was the specific reason for Christmas. They had totally forgotten that. Then, they just remembered that they could still have fun and joy with their friends and family.

A Christmas without gifts is still Christmas. And besides, the real purpose for Christmas is to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, not the gifts. So the animals enjoyed the rest of their Christmas happily.

# Giving thanks – in remembrance of My Mother

# 緬懷慈母

George Liu

My beloved mother went home peacefully to be with the Lord on 4/12/2013 at age 97 after having lived in a nursing home in NYC for over 3½ years as a result of a serious stroke. I am thankful that all her 5 children and 14 grandchildren, including two flew in from Hong Kong on a delayed flight, were by her bedside to bid farewell. My son Elliot played her favorite hymns with his violin as I prayed and blessed her before she completed her journey on earth.

At her memorial service, all family members wore either red flower boutonnieres or red ties to honor her wish and to celebrate her life. Several caregivers from the nursing home also attended the viewing and they shared with us how mom sang hymns and witnessed to them about Jesus. They were also touched by how mom was lovingly cared for by the family members every day at the nursing home. I gave the eulogy and praised her as the Proverbs woman.

I thank God for a loving mother for an exceptionally long time to nurture, guide and encourage me to walk with Jesus. After college, I moved from NYC to WDC in 1978 for my job. She would always ask me if I had attended church on previous Sunday during our weekly telephone conversation. God has obviously used her to keep me in check during my "busy" younger days. When Amy gave birth to Bethanie in 1990 and Elliot in 1993, she came and lived with us to provide the much needed help and relief. Mother was quiet in nature and she didn't say much. However, she modeled God's love to us through her kindness, gentleness and hospitality to others. She lived frugally, and yet she was one of the most generous people that I have ever known towards God's servants and ministries. Mom frequently reminded her children that serving God is the most blessed privilege in life. She was most thankful that all her children were actively serving in their local churches.

I am so grateful to God for an opportunity to bring mom great joy when I brought my newly engaged daughter and her fiancé to visit her at the nursing home in March of 2013. Mom's health was deteriorating then and was not fully alert most of the time. However, she was fully alert when we arrived and she was so happy to see us; especially seeing her future grandson-in-law for the very first time. She kept pointing at me and laughed heartily as if I had done something hilarious. After that brief moment of clarity of mind; she reverted back to her sleepy stage. Less than one month later, mom left us peacefully without discomfort to be with Jesus. I can still see that big smile on her kind and gentle face that projects a life of joy and contentment. Thank you Lord for that beautiful memory.

我摯愛的母親於三年半前中風後,就住進紐約市一所療養院,今年四月十二日那天,她平靜地被主接回天家,享年九十七歲。我很感謝神,讓她的五個孩子及十四個孫兒(其中有兩位從香港飛來,班機還誤點)都能及時趕到,圍繞在她身邊與她道別。我兒子建國以小提琴拉奏她最喜愛的聖詩,我則以禱告及祝福,陪她走她世上最後這段路。

在母親的追思禮拜上,所有家族親人都遵循她的 遺言,身上戴著紅花或紅領帶,慶賀她的一生。有幾 位療養院的看護也來致敬,說起母親常唱聖詩,向他 們傳講耶穌,也提到他們眼見每天母親都有親人來療 養院悉心照料她,使他們很感動。在典禮上,我代表 家人向母親致頌詞,稱讚她就像聖經箴言裡所說的才 德的婦人。

我很感謝神,有一位慈愛的母親,在一段極漫長的歲月中,不斷培育、引導、鼓勵我與耶穌同行。大學畢業後,1978那年我從紐約市搬來華府就業。每星期我們通電話時,她總會問我上星期日有沒有去教會做禮拜。很顯然的,神透過母親來約束我,使我不至於在年輕忙碌的日子裡遠離神。1990年女兒及1993年兒子出生的時候,她也來與我們同住,幫忙照顧孩子,料理家務。母親生性安靜,話雖不多,可是她卻以她的恩慈與溫柔,以及對他人的愛心,向我們表達神的愛。她生活節儉,可是對神的僕人及事工,卻是我所知道最大方的人之一。母親常常提醒兒女,事奉神是人一生中最大的福份與權利。她最感恩的,是她每個兒女都在教會裡熱心服事主。

我非常感謝神,有機會在今年三月時帶了剛訂婚的女兒及其未婚夫去療養院探望母親,給她帶來了極大的喜樂。當時母親的身體已非常衰弱,大部分時間都不是完全清醒。但那次當我們走進她房間時,她卻是完全清醒,而且非常高興看到我們,尤其是初次見面的準孫女婿。她一直用手指著我,對我大聲笑,好像我做了什麼可笑的事似的。但在短暫的清醒後,她又回到昏睡的狀態中。不到一個月後,母親就毫無痛苦、平靜地離我們而去,與耶穌一起在天家。如今,我仍然能看到她那溫柔慈祥的臉上綻放著莫大的笑容,是她喜樂與滿足的一生的最佳寫照。神哪!我為這美麗的回憶感謝祢。

(編者譯)

#### Ten Things I Learned from Pastor Liu:

- Better to go than not go: better to be at an event than not be there
- Be careful with money that is not yours
- Allow pastors and elders' wives freedom to serve as they see fit
- Unity of leaders
- Be active and persistent in reaching the loss of the world
- On-the-job training for those who serve
- Be on time
- Plant churches
- Get lay people involved in serving
- Be generous in your giving to God

#### Five Things I Learned from Mrs. Helen Liu:

- Be giving
- Be hospitable
- Be caring
- Be friendly
- Be warm
- ~ Pastor John Tung, CBCM English Pastor

Top ten reasons why I will sorely miss Rev. and Mrs Liu:

- 10. Staff parties Mrs. Liu planned for us at Bamboo Buffet.
- 9. Without Rev. Liu, we will have one less excuse for birthday parties.
- 8. Their hospitality -- we had the best Christmas parties and Chinese New Year gatherings at their house.
- 7. Their thoughtfulness -- Mrs. Liu hand-picked/made presents for us every Christmas.
- 6. Rev. Liu's sense of humor and his heart of gold. Without him, we will be like Charlie's Angels without Charlie!
- 5. Rev. Liu's ministry sharing after he came back from his trips overseas.
- 4. The fun chats we had during staff evaluations.
- 3. The opportunities to learn from Rev. Liu's sermons while I work on it
- 2. Mrs. Liu is gracious, generous, loving and caring; all the qualities that made her the perfect pastor's wife. Rev. Liu is blessed with the most supportive partner in life and ministries. God bestowed our church with the most awesome BOGO deal.
- 1. Rev. Liu is one of the most principle-oriented and godly man that I know. He is the best Senior Pastor CBCM has ever had.

~ Irene Chang, CBCM Church Secretary

還記得一九八六年底在我剛結婚移民來美不久,劉牧師就徵詢我是否有興趣擔任教會的部份時間秘書一職,就這樣一待便在教會任職了廿多年。二十四年不是一段短的日子,在其間真的經歷很多,感謝神讓我可以在劉牧師身上學到很多寶貴的功課。謝謝牧師這麼多年來,在教會工作上,事奉上,並父母的角色上,給我很多的教導、啓迪與鼓勵。牧師是一位謙遜、忠心、嚴謹、有洞見、有毅力、不辭勞苦、大有信心、愛羊群的好牧者。在與他共事的這二十多年當中,一再見證他是一位神無愧的僕人,特別敬佩牧師對中國失喪靈魂的負擔與栽培信徒的心懷。求神繼續賜他健康、魄力與熱忱,在退去牧養教會之職後,能更多的在其他方面繼續事主愛人。

~ Karen Tong, CBCM Church Secretary

Pastor Liu is a spiritual leader with strong leadership skills, like Moses, he also cares about people, it doesn't matter who they are. I always receive Christmas gifts from him. I like his sermons and testimonies. Talking about his retirement, I think God is calling him for another adventure. We need a strong leader like him for our church. May God bless CBCM with a new senior pastor in the future.

Pastor Liu and Mrs. Liu, may God bless you with your new adventure!

~ Andrew Leung, CBCM Facilities worker

#### Dear Pastor Liu.

When I think of you, I think of 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8, 11-12: "But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children. Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us... exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children, so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory."

These are some of the areas I appreciate Pastor Liu:
- His heart for God and his faithfulness and commitment to serve Him

- His heart for the world, the lost and His Kingdom
- He's a man of "few words", but when he speaks people listen
- His perseverance
- He and Mrs. Liu visited me on the field several times during my 18 years of missionary service in Taiwan (one or twice they brought their children with them)

- He is generous in giving to God and to people
- He cares about Christian workers who start out and need extra help and encouragement
- He cares about small churches and desires to help them grow
- They brought me their homemade 韭菜盒子 after I came home from a surgery

#### And Mrs. Liu:

- Always has a positive outlook She thinks the best of people and situation
- Very giving, generous, thoughtful
- Each time I was on home service, when the staff get together for meals, she always extend her gracious invitations to me to join them
- Hospitable: she is a 'Hostess with the Mostess'!
- Christmas gifts they prepare for the staff and their spouses each year and countless meals they host. One of the fun ones was the hotpot lunch.

With much appreciation, Isabel Lee CBCM Minister of Women's Ministry One thing I've learned from Pastor Liu is how to stay humble in ministry. Despite being the Senior Pastor of a prominent Chinese church, I do not sense any pride in him. I see a man who is humble, never willing to take credit for all the wonderful things that have happened while he has been here but rather crediting everything to God.

~ Kenneth Hom, CBCM English Minister

他有著孩童般對神的信心,

有著少年般對宣教的火熱,

有著青年般對教會事工的衝勁,

有著中年般對處世的沈著穩重,

卻有著年長者的智慧雋睿。

他就是我們摯愛的劉牧師!

~ Sophia Wong, CBCM Children's Director

五年前在我面試教會職位的時候,牧師沒問我職場問題,卻問了我三大神學生活應用題:第一,妳是否順從丈夫?第二,妳是否回風緊?第三,妳是否堅持己見?我差點沒被噫卡!這幾年我對牧師的近距離印象,是不僅這三點劉牧師自己都做到了,從牧師的身上,還數得出一大籮筐其他的屬靈品格。

牧師、師母的服事從未間斷過。從早期開放家庭招待新朋友(附筆:我們是1996年與王長老、曾立振同期的新朋友),牧師長期平均每週兩堂的主日講台服事、輪流上場在主日學的教導事奉,參與不同團契小組試著多去認識弟兄姐妹,禱告會和私下探訪及做不同層次的關懷與輔導,長執會議及三不五時的私人宣教行程表,三十幾年來因服事而放棄無以數計的假期。我也親眼目睹牧師多次在主前和人前謙卑不堅持非真理的己見,甚至寬容我們不同的個性和錯誤,用神賜的智慧解決了教會中可大可小的事務。劉牧師和師母的牧會經驗真是豐富,神也藉著劉牧師和師母的擺上,使我們遠近的人都蒙福。很慶幸牧師和師母就住在教會附近,想念他們就去探望他們,他們出遠門就為他們禱告。

~ 唐維麗 Ellen Lei, CBCM Administrator/Pastoral Assistant

Dear Pastor Liu and Mrs. Liu,

When our family immigrated to this country 21 years ago, we were preoccupied with the uncertainties of our new life. As new immigrants, we struggled with the thought of supporting ourselves and two children.

During that time, dealing with the new environment and finding a new job was very stressful. We knocked many doors but without any success. Our future outlook seemed very dim.

However, despite the hard circumstances, our Lord and Savior sent so many brothers and sisters from this church CBCM to comfort us. They were praying for us and generously extended their loving hands during our time of needs. One day, our faithful Heavenly Father surprised us by placing you in our path as a channel of blessing by finding us a place to serve at the House of the Lord – CBCM.

Since then, we cannot THANK YOU enough for all your love, kindness, encouragement, prayers, and support. It has been a privilege and honor to have known you throughout these years. We will really miss you. May the Lord reward you and continually bless you enormously.

In HIM, Francisco and Violeta Chang CBCM Finance Assistant

I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ~ Eph. 1:16 劉牧師一開始給我的印象是很嚴肅的,所以有點害怕坐在他旁邊。及至後來一起共事熟絡了,才知道他其實是一位很風趣、幽默的慈祥牧者,特別是他喜歡用廣東話來講笑話的時候,實在令人覺得開懷與親切。劉牧師在真理的教導上,充滿屬靈洞見,解釋神學的觀點能夠由淺入深。每逢有他的主日學或特別的講道聚會,我都會盡量出席參加。現在有機會坐在劉牧師旁邊,是很自然和榮幸的事。謝謝你,劉牧師。

劉師母是一位和藹可親、細心關顧、巧手廚藝、 歌聲繞樑三日的師母,她更是一位庭園高手。我有機 會參觀過她家後花園及庭院,實在讓我讚嘆不已,久 久不能忘懷那些美艷花卉。

現在你們真的要離我們而去,實在很捨不得。願 神今後更多的賜福帶領你們,成為更多人的祝福。

~ Raymond Tong, CBCM Building Operations

**劉牧師**:有原則,言行一致,樣子嚴謹心底裡卻充滿愛,一個很好的聆聽者,慷慨,幽默的講員。

**劉師母**:裡外都充滿愛,熱情好客,和藹可親,慷慨,一個好導師。

~ Kathy Cheung, CBCM Staff Accountant



Pastor Liu baptizing Clement

Since my childhood days of growing up at CBCM, Pastor Liu has always been a man that I have deeply admired for his godly character, faithful leadership and sound biblical preaching (for which, in the Chinese-speaking Christian world, he is world-renown). In the handful of one-on-one meetings that I've had with him in his office over the past three and a half years that I've been on the pastoral staff, Pastor Liu has always been affirming, encouraging and prayerfully supportive of my ministry and pastoral calling. As a young minister, to have the endorsement of this legendary great has been an empowering gift from the Lord that I will always treasure. Very few churches enjoy the kind of growth, stability and consistency that Pastor Liu's leadership brought to our church. I heartily celebrate Pastor Liu's faithfulness to God's call at CBCM over the last 30+ years. I'm thankful for and greatly inspired by the way that Pastor Liu has finished well the race that was set before him at our church, and I look forward to hearing great things when it comes to how the Lord will continue to use him and Mrs. Liu in the advancing of His Kingdom, post-CBCM.

~ Clement Wen, CBCM Youth Minister

These are some of the qualities that immediately come to mind when I think of Rev. Liu:

**Principled** - it is an obvious one: he will say and do what needs to be said and done, even if it means people will be offended.

**Gracious** - he gives people chance to serve and, when they mess up, chance again. He takes risks on people.

**Steadfast** - does anyone think it is easy to serve as a pastor in a church? And for 31 years!?

**Heart for missions** - why does anyone think he goes overseas so much? For fun? For vacation? No, it is to serve, out of a heart for missions. He doesn't just give money but his life. Missions is what he is going to do after concluding his ministry here. He cares about God and His Kingdom.

**Generous and Caring** - he does give money and time generously, and not just for missions, but also to people who are in need because he cares for their tangible needs as well.

Thank you, Pastor Liu!

~ Vitus Cheng, CBCM Cantonese Pastor

## What I learned from Pastor and Mrs. Liu

I feel so blessed to have Pastor and Mrs. Liu to be part of our church family for 30+ years. One of the biggest lessons that I have learned from Pastor Liu's example is he is a person of moral courage. He takes his position seriously as a prophet of God in proclaiming God's Word and biblical principles. He preaches with conviction, encouraging and challenging us, and at times reminding us of our sins. He has no fear in preaching against controversial issues such as abortion, divorce, sexual immorality, and same sex marriage, and addressing issues such as materialism and greed, even though he might offend some people. These are things that need to be said at the pulpit, so that the church can continue to be the salt and light of the world. He fully understands the true purpose of the pulpit, and I have been praying that our next CBCM senior pastor will have this same moral courage. One can tell his motivation for his "bluntness" is to please God instead of men, and to be faithful to the Word of God. I will always admire and respect him for his courage in defending the Truth.

I will always have fond memories of Mrs. Liu's love and care for CBCMers. In addition to raising a family, at times working part-time outside her home, serving in ministries such as choir, teaching Sunday school, visitations, etc..., she and Pastor Liu have frequently hosted many fellowship groups at their home through the years, and she cooked many meals for us. She is a very busy lady for The Lord. Her use of time, energy, and resources in joyfully serving us through the years truly reflects where her treasure is.

~ Amy Liu



## 我用嘴唇傳揚 你口中的一切典章。 With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth.

~ 詩篇 Psalm 119:13 (NRSV)



I first came to CBCM in December 1983, exactly 30 years ago this month. I was a new Christian and CBCM was a new church. We were like a family. Most of us knew each other. From that first Sunday until now, I've had the privilege of getting to know Pastor and Mrs. Liu from his sermons and attending their classes. Many times Pastor and Mrs. Liu opened their home and invited us to dinner and fellowship. I watched Pastor Liu's children grow up, and he and Mrs. Liu's prayers were with us when my husband Keith and I traveled to Shanghai, China, to adopt my baby girl.

Keith and I met here at CBCM. We attended Pastor Liu's pre-marital counseling class. We also had the privilege of attending several of Mrs. Liu's classes on parenting. Her classes were full of practical advice but most of all she taught us the importance of following God's teachings in being a godly and responsible parent, raise up our children in a godly home, and fill our children's lives with God's words from the Bible. I also remember Mrs. Liu telling us that we have a very small window of time in which to influence our children for the Lord.

I have seen this church grow from several families to what it is today under Pastor Liu's leadership, and how it became a missions oriented church because of Pastor Liu's vision and passion to fulfill God's Great Commission and send out more workers into the fields for harvest. Indeed CBCM has sent out its own missionaries and grown in the support of missionaries around the world. This has impacted my life.

My family celebrated a number of important events at CBCM. Keith and my daughter were both baptized here, and Pastor Liu presided over my daughter's baby dedication on Father's Day in 1995. I am grateful to Pastor and Mrs. Liu for their dedication, devotion, service and leadership at CBCM. Their legacy will remain a part of this church.

~ Wai-Soo Koo

# 我役劉牧師和師母身上學到了…

我從劉牧師和師母身上學到了如何用神的話語教養兒女,如何忠心事奉神、服事弟兄姊妹,在生活中活出基督的樣式。 ~ Vincent Tong

我从刘牧师和师母夫妇身上学到了他们如何活出一个基督徒的新生命,如何真诚待人,如何爱人如己,如何在平凡中坚持基要真理。 ~ Helen Jiang

我们一家从芝加哥转到马里兰圣经教会已经十二年多了。对牧师最敬佩的是他能在这个人才济济的大教会里团结兄弟姐妹专心、忠心事奉神。我对牧师印象最深的一句话是他在很多人要求他给施洗时,他说:「重要的不是谁施洗,而是奉谁的名施洗。」这句话给我深刻的印象不是因为这是他最近才讲的,而是因为它反映了一个牧者的谦卑的品格。

我对师母印象最深的是她总会找到恰当的话 安慰和鼓励人。最感动的是听她唱「空谷的回 音」,希望有更多的慕道友能通过这首歌认识 神,就像流浪的孩子终于找到温暖的家。

真心希望牧师和师母带着教会兄弟姐妹的关 爱退休,而且退休后的心志和退休前一样,永不 改变。

~郑茵

## 謹順衛教證道的劉牧師 江明億

劉牧師常說主的講台是傳主福音神聖的講台,當嚴格審核講員,不可輕易讓不明底細的人站講臺。

2002年前後的一個主日有數位從不同福音機構來的來賓到教會介紹他們的機構及他們的事工,然而其中有一位來賓介紹完他代表的機構的事工之後,接著開始講道,當時坐在台下的劉牧師一個健步上台攔阻他繼續講並將這人請下台,並說「我請你來介紹你們的事工,沒有請你來講道。」當時場面有點尷尬,不過對劉牧師監護主的講臺的堅持留下深刻的印象。

在另一次主日,劉牧師講道後介紹來賓,那天來了一位中年女子手中提了一大袋書,她走向講台,當時劉牧師站在台上問她要做什麼,那女子說她要介紹書,並且堅持不說她的來歷,劉牧師當場制止她並且吩咐招待弟兄將這女子帶出去。這是另一次劉牧師護衛教會免於外來干擾的作為,值得所有服事神的弟兄姐妹來學習。

## 我們從劉牧師和師母身上學到了...如何竭誠爲主及忠心事奉 溫英幹/吳桂英

一晃眼,劉牧師和師母來到我們教會已經超過三十年,他們竭誠為主及忠心事奉的榜樣值得大家效法。這些年來,他們給我們各方面的教導真是數算不盡,這裡只提三點:

一、屬靈的教導。劉牧師在講臺的供應對我們來說是屬靈 大餐,供應我們三十多年的靈糧。劉牧師和師母的信仰純 正,能將聖經原則活用在日常生活中,他們在主日學的教 導也使我們受用不盡。除了聖經及神學上的課程外,他們 夫婦合開家庭、婚姻及親子教育方面的課程,使我們學習 遵行聖經的教導來鞏固婚姻及教導孩子走正路。

二、行為的見證。劉牧師和師母都是正直誠實的人,在處理各樣事情,不管是屬靈或是日常生活方面,都可以見到他們夫婦誠實無偽的品格,而且大有智慧。我們從他們的為人處世學習到許多寶貴的功課,幫助我們過討神喜悅的生活。

三、門徒的培養。劉牧師來了之後不久就提出本教會的三

項使命:高舉基督、造就信徒及廣傳福音,也繼續加強本教會作為重視差傳的教會。在他的帶領下,教會注重差傳,使會衆胸懷世界福音的需要,全教會也因此蒙神大大賜福。在短宣方面劉牧師和師母也是我們的榜樣,他們每年都外出短宣,多次到偏遠且生活艱難的地區,除了佈道外也培訓門徒,供應他們屬靈的需要。我們也因此參加多次短宣,對自己屬靈生命的長進很有幫助。劉牧師在本教會也善於培養人才,揀選合適的弟兄擔任長老及合適的弟兄姐妹擔任執事及其他同工。劉師母對家庭事工很有負擔,除了在主日學的教導外,也從事許多家庭輔導事工。最近在她的建議下,教會成立關懷單親的團契,幫助許多單親家庭。

劉牧師雖然從本教會的主任牧師職位上退休,但他和師母仍然會在宣教工場上繼續事奉,造福更多的信徒。我們在此獻上我們的感謝及祝福。

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#### 我所知道的刘传章牧师和刘师母 仇杰飞

刘牧师和刘师母是两个个性很不同的人。

牧师严谨,理智,逻辑性强,同时不失智慧的幽默。第一次听刘牧师讲道,内容关于做 为新移民的三代人面临的矛盾和挑战,以及各自的立场、行为、态度。他把圣经观点融合到 我们每日面对的生活问题,深入浅出,理论联系实际,教给大家如何行事为人,让人感到信 仰的生命力。我很喜欢,于是决定把这个教会做为自己属灵的家。

至于师母,有谁能不折服于她的亲和力?师母感性,爱交谈,友善温暖,真情外露,对 人充满关爱。我喜欢听刘牧师讲道,更喜欢听刘师母与人交谈。师母在我们小组讲过几次教 养子女的专题,我了解到他们两个孩子个性不同,她和牧师也个性不同。

这是我听到的一些故事: 牧师的东西有条有理。一次,师母不经意间把牧师毛巾挂错 了,惹得牧师大声抗议。他们去家访,牧师有严格时间和工作计划,而师母和人亲密交谈起 来,时间不知不觉就溜走了。牧师去一个地方,用的是地图和地址,而师母可以按照这样奇 妙的方法找路: 见了红绿灯往左拐,到加油站往右拐,再过两个路口,第三棵大树下就到 了。房子的门是绿颜色的。

我有次午饭坐在师母旁边,牧师坐在她的另一边。牧师吃完饭,把饭盒递给师母,说: 「我吃完了。」我发现里面还剩一些米饭。师母对我说: 「他要吃菜,我要吃米。没办法。 神把这么不同的两个人放在一起。」

难道牧师和师母也有矛盾?牧师常讲勤俭节约,很对我的心意。但是剩饭不是一种浪费 吗?我结合圣经教导,观察、思考他们的关系,逐渐体会到一点名堂。

首先,牧师和师母有共同的世界观、人生观,终身奉献神的事工。牧师是全职神仆,师 母有自己的专业和工作。但是,无论是教会还是生活当中,她都与福音事工有份。他们基本 面是完全一致的。

其次,牧师和师母相同点恐怕要多过不同点,更多的是相互欣赏:他们都喜欢读书学 习,都喜爱孩子。师母喜欢种花,牧师就跟在后面观赏。牧师传福音要四处奔波,师母就不 辞劳苦相随相伴。牧师在台上讲道,师母总是在下面全神贯注。至于师母在台上唱歌的时 候,连我这个乐感不强的人都无限享受,你说牧师喜不喜欢听?

最后,他们个性的差别,其实往往是一种互补,而不是矛盾冲突。我们需要牧师在台上 讲明明白白的道理,我们也享受师母在台下传递丰丰富富的爱。牧师做家庭的头,带领全家 走爱主的路。而师母也常常向他传递圣灵的声音。一次,牧师大声吵了孩子,这是从来没有 过的事。要不要给孩子道歉,牧师在父亲的自尊里苦苦挣扎。这时师母给了他关键的鼓励和 督促。在日常,师母又会告诫他如何保健、如何饮食。牧师牧养教会几十年,师母默默辅助 一辈子。对了,牧师剩的米饭可以让师母吃,师母剩的菜也可以让牧师吃。太好啦,没有浪 费!神的作为真是奇妙。

我猜师母讲孩子和丈夫有不同的个性,意思是她愿意调整自己来配合他们,而不是强调 大家应该坚持自我。无论是家里还是教会,圣经不是反复教导我们要合一吗?是的,他们正 是神所配合的完美的一对。教会弟兄姐妹都熟悉牧师的家。在本地,他们的房子实在是很普 通。但是,山不在高,有仙则名,水不在深,有龙则灵。房屋不在华丽宏大,若有神的恩典 在其中,那里就有温暖的真爱,就有美满合一,就充满了鲜活的生命。