

YEOS MISSION TO East ASia 東亞宣教

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Happy New Year!

This is our first Chinese New Year after twenty some years living in the States. For Toon and Pam, it has brought back many childhood memories. For kids, they experienced the first real New Year at the Orient, and they were quite excited to receive Hongbao, hear the fire crackers, watch lion/dragon dances, and more. Certainly, Pam's parents were very happy to have us celebrating New Year with them. One thing surprised us the most was the multitude of the traffic; it seemed that everyone was leaving Taipei, and all pre-booked tickets were sold out during the first hours of pre-booking.



Besides the joy of Chinese New Year, one more item has increased the joy. What is that? A dehumidifier. What? Due to the effect of Taipei humidity on our kids' health, we recently bought a dehumidifier. The quality of the air at home is much better now. We can suck many liters of water in our rooms. At least it has reduced some of our concerns. 😊

Toon and Pam's Ministry

After returning from the States on Jan 18th, Toon started his winter session, and he enjoyed the class very much. The class was about "Spiritual Leadership", and it was a three-week intensive class. During these three weeks, Toon was quite busy in preparing lectures. After the course, he had to grade examinations and papers, and these were something that he never did as a pastor in Virginia.

This coming Monday will be first day of the spring semester in CRTS, and it means Toon will start getting busy again. This semester Toon will teach II Corinthians and two courses in China - one for the beginning of the spring and one for the late spring. Also, he will continue to mentor 10 students and he also will involve more in promoting CRTS among churches in the presbytery (Reformed Presbyterian Church of

楊敦興, 焦如品
Toon H. & Pam Yeo

台北市中正區汀州路三段 60 巷 2 弄 6 號 7 之 1
No. 60 (7F-1), Dingzhou Rd. Sect.3, Lane 60, Alley 2
Taipei, Taiwan

Telephone:

886-02-2364-3542

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Taiwan). In other words, he will preach about twice a month in different churches.

Pam's internship is in progress, and she still works in two locations - Wesley Counseling Center and Women and Children Hospital Taipei. Sometimes she helps in Anna and Praisye's school too. Her schedule is very busy, and sometimes she told Toon that she missed doing ministry as a pastor's wife. Her internship will be ended in the end of August, and that means she has many months to go. Recently her boss asked her whether she would stay and continue her ministry there after the internship. This is an uneasy question to answer. Also, she is thinking of pursuing a Taiwanese counseling license, and this will add many challenges to her and the family as well. Her dissertation has a little progress; as you can imagine, working almost full-time and writing dissertation at the same time is quite difficult. In addition, she intentionally put family and Toon's ministry before her dissertation. Last week, during the New Year, she has more than one week break, and it's quite refreshing for her.

Zephaniah, Anna, and Praisye's update

Zephaniah starts to have homesick, and he does not want to return to Taichung whenever he comes home (Taipei). Dad and mom are quite comforting to see him viewing home as a sweet place for him 😊. Recently, he started to care more about where he will go to college; his dream is not ivory league colleges, but the colleges that his good friends will go to. Certainly, colleges in Virginia are on the high priorities. Why? I just told you the main reason, and another reason is that he spent his 16 years there. Please especially remember Zephy's mission trip. He will travel the whole Taiwan to do the mission work around his Spring break. Please see the acted letter for more detail.

Anna's study is quite busy, and she has to stay late almost every night. However, Toon and Pam do not need to worry too much about her study. In months, she will be joining her brother to stay on Taichung campus. Not only Toon and Pam will miss her, but her leaving home will also increase the expense for the family. Among three kids, Anna has missed her old friends and things in the US the most. Well, relatively she needs longer time to get adjusted to new environment.

Praisye get adjusted much easier, and maybe because she is the youngest. She loves to read books, and recently she learned how to knit. She has spent most of her time in reading books and knitting her first scarf during this Chinese New Year break.

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Sometimes she will complain about being alone after her big sister, Anna, going to Taichung. Please remember in your prayer that the parents know how to handle this big issue ☹️

Prayer requests:

1. Pray for Toon's ministry. He has many responsibilities at CRTS, pray that God gives him wisdom to manage his time well. Also, Toon has seen some dying churches in Taiwan, and his hearts is burdened heavily by those churches. Please pray that with his involvement, many churches will be benefited through his ministry. He will travel back to Malaysia for a few days to apply his China Visa, and certainly he plans visiting his parents for a few days. He will fly to China for 10 days for his teaching ministry. Please pray for him and the church to have a fruitful result.
2. Pray for Pam. She needs a lot of prayers in her dissertation. She does concern about the progress due to her internship works. Pam's boss appreciates her performance, and she keeps adding her more work load. It's both a good and bad signs. The bad sign is that she will be getting busier and busier. Pray that she knows how to say "no" in a right moment.
3. Pray for children. Besides for their study, pray for their walk with the Lord. Toon and Pam hope that they will appreciate the experience being in Taiwan and learn new culture here. Indeed, they have so much to learn here. Toon always describes them as "Banana". Why? Outwardly, they are yellow (Chinese), yet inwardly they are white (American). Besides their outlook, everything is "American" for them. Pray that God gives them grace to change - not to be more Chinese, yet to be more like Christ.



We pray that you and your family will have a fruitful year.

Sincerely,
Toon and Pam

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