

Greetings from Sunny Hong Kong. Temperature hangs around 30 to 33 during the day.

HONGKONG UPDATE

*Regarding covid 19, Hong Kong has been spared the worse. We only have occasional cases that are caught at the airport upon arrival. Everyone still wears masks when out in public, and probably will continue to do so as this city is very crowded. One day I forgot to wear a mask, and had to buy a pack of masks before I boarded the mini bus.

*Beginning this month, churches gradually re-open for Sunday services while observing social distancing. By tomorrow (Friday June 19) there will be no restriction for indoor gatherings.

* Paulus Cultural Center weekly prayer meeting has been held via zoom since early February. Gladly, more people could join prayer because we have more time being homebound, and we don't need to travel to get to prayer meetings. Several missionaries who are staying on the field say they are busier than ever teaching bible online.

*The Hong Kong Association Of Christian Missions have been able to gather missionaries online for a chat. Titus (See photo) was given the honor to speak encouraging words to more than 60 international workers sent by Hong Kong churches to Thailand, Philippines, Japan, Ukraine, UK, Holland, India, Middle East, etc. It was a most heart warming and fun occasion. Many requests to do that more often. Thanks to modern technology. These workers are at different time zones and are usually busy during the day. But because all are "shut in", we were able to gather online.

*Many of you are concerned about the political situation here. On the positive side, many citizens are reaching out to the young people as good neighbors. Some churches are filled by young people on Friday nights. Looking back, prior to 1997 there was a tide of migration. Years later, Hong Kong rose again. 2020 will likely see another multitude leaving their beloved homeland for political and economic reasons. For the majority, this will be a tough year economically. Yet Hong Kong people are vigilant survivors. As they say, tough times don't last, but tough people do. Let us pray that hardship will open hearts for the gospel.

CELEBRATIONS

A week ago our granddaughter Kaira celebrated her high school graduation. We got to join her important moment online. On that morning, her daddy drove her around the neighborhood (see photo), joined by several of her classmates all wearing caps and gowns. The shadow of Covid 19 might have robbed this class of fun parties and all, but at the same time they will always remember this very special graduation exercise. Kaira read her well thought through graduation speech to her family and relatives via skype: "... We can choose to focus on despair or focus on hope. It is during times of chaos where our weakness is realized and our dependence on God is amplified, and ultimately, we know that "all things work together for good to those who love God and are called according to His purpose." - Romans 8:28 This verse feels most relevant and alive in my own life than it ever has...." Amen!

This Fall, Kaira will begin her college life at BIOLA, where not only her mother was once an alumni, but also her great grand father Rev Ernest Loong, back in 1948! We gratefully celebrate this family legacy.

We wish you good health and abundant joy in Christ. Blessings to you and yours.

Titus and Helen