

2017

Praying for Panama 為巴拿馬禱告(1)



巴拿馬, 我們又見面了

We are here again, Panama!

實在是神的恩典今年又能回到巴拿馬。這是我們第四次到這國家。每次的感受都有點不同。由好奇到新鮮到興奮。這次是熟悉。有一點本地居民的情操。雖然語言能力及對街道的熟習仍差一大段,但在大部份的生活起居都能自理,來去自如。加上本地弟兄姊妹的愛戴及關切,使我們更有賓至如歸的感受。雖然這次因其他事工的需要只能在此住兩個月,盼望珍惜分分秒秒與本地弟兄姊妹加入神的工作,彰顯祂的大能與榮耀。

It is indeed God's grace that we can return to Panama. This is our fourth time in this country. Every time our feeling is different, from curious to refreshing, to exciting. This time we start to feel like the locals although we are still very poor in speaking Spanish and in finding direction around town. Generally, we can manage on our own on a day to day basis. Of course, the brothers and sisters here are very helpful. They treat us like V.I.P. Due to other commitments, we can only stay here for two months. We treasure every moment we serve with the local brothers and sisters in expanding God's kingdom and displaying His power and glory.



今年初, 君王區開始每週五晚上固定聚會。內容包括詩歌, 見證及分享。形式比較輕鬆簡化。基本聚會內容由信徒領袖主持, 牧者從旁協助。聚會地點是君王區 King's Park 小區的會所。時間由晚上 8:30 到 10:00。使我們興奮的是有新朋友來參加, 基本人數在 20 左右其中一半來自活泉堂。更使我們鼓勵的是信徒領袖熱烈的擔起事工的擔子, 滿有傳福音建立教會的異象。

In the beginning of this year, we started to have a regular Friday night meeting in our Condado del Rey neighbourhood. The program is relatively casual, including praise & worship, testimony and sharing. It is mostly led by church leaders with some assistance from the pastor. We meet in the social room at King's Park from 8:30-10:00 pm. There are about 20 people attending. Most of them are from Agua Viva Alliance Church. Nevertheless, we are excited to see some newcomers from time to time. We are so encouraged by the vision and commitment of the

church leaders in spreading the gospel and establishing churches.

堂會中的服事

Different serving opportunities



因為愛華堂的傳道要短期陪同愛妻回國醫病治療，牧師被邀請負責隔周講台信息，師母幫敬拜司琴。教會租借一基督教學校在早上聚會，雖然人數不多但敬拜熱力充沛。

主日下午我們回活泉堂聚會。重見久違的弟兄姊妹倍感親切溫馨。于梁牧師邀請不時負責講台，師母有時協助司琴。事無論大小都樂意參與。

Due to the temporary absence of the pastor from Obarrio Alliance Church, Pastor Matthew is invited to preach every other week and Stella playing the piano. They meet on Sunday morning in a Christian school. Though there aren't too many people, yet the worship is full of life and energy.

On Sunday afternoon, we go to Agua Viva Alliance Church. It is such a warm feeling to see so many familiar faces. Pastor Matthew also preaches there on invitation by Pastor Michael Liang from time to time. Stella also fills in as pianist on an ad hoc basis. We love to serve no matter how big or small the task is.

第一隊短宣隊

The first short-term mission team



我們興奮的歡迎溫哥華主愛堂的三位弟兄姊妹。其中兩位去年已來過。他們自費來這裡服事兩週分別在巴拿馬市及三個外地的水埠。在繁忙的兩週裏，他們有多元化的服事，如領詩，分享信息，查經，兒童手工，短劇，健康講座，烹飪班及探訪。

We are so excited to welcome our first STM from the Lord's Love Church in Vancouver. Two out of three members were here last year. They pay their own way here and volunteer two weeks of their time in serving the churches in Panama City, and three other nearby cities. During these two busy weeks, they are involved in different types of ministries, such as leading songs, sharing, bible study, children craft time, skit, health talks, cooking classes and visitations.





接寶鎮查經班

Chepo Bible Study



接寶鎮離開巴拿馬市約有一小時的車程(如果不堵塞的話). 每周二晚店舖8:30 打烊後, 一群弟兄姊妹便會聚集在店後面的廚房一起查經. 每周由弟兄姊妹輪流帶領, 每月有一傳道人或牧師進來帶領, 有時順便探訪信徒或未信的朋友. 查經由九點半到十一點. 回到家十二點半. 身體雖然疲乏, 心中興奮鼓舞.

Chepo is an hour's drive from Panama City (if no traffic jam). Every Tuesday night at 8:30 pm, a group of Christians will meet in the kitchen at the back of a super market for bible study. They take turns leading. Once a month a pastor from the city will come to lead the bible study as well as doing some visitations. The bible study lasts an hour from 9:30 to 10:30 pm. Usually we won't get home till after midnight. Though we are exhausted physically, yet our hearts are leaping with joy.

車患的祝福

Car Trouble becomes a blessing

本地教會為我們預備了一輛 2011 年的 Yaris. 車型不是很大, 適合在城市中駕駛. 教會已事先驗過車認為一切妥當才給我們. 但當去年我們開始的時候就發現有時踩油門車子不走. 其他幾位牧者用這車時, 發現有同樣的問題. 我們由去年開始就解決這問題, 因為這問題使我們在交通繁忙的巴

健康講座

Health talks



陳醫師為君王區, 活泉堂及奇特利三個聚會預備精彩的飲食健康講座, 也在婦女天地討論保健問題, 極受歡迎.

Dr. Chen conducted numerous informative health talks on healthy diet. She also answered many questions related to woman's health during the lady fellowship time. It's well received.

拿馬市極其危險。但是一直找不到解決的方法，修過數次仍有此患。今年來時好像這患已過，車操作的不錯。但本周舊患重來。我們禱告求神保守平安，開車時膽戰心驚。偶然機會想起我們一位作保險的弟兄。我們問他知不知道又可靠又近又會說中文的車房。他馬上介紹給我們符合以上三個條件的車房。隔天在兩小時內，車患解決了，而且也可以為我們下個月更新註冊時作驗車報告，哈利路亞！

The local church has given us a 2011 Yaris to drive. It is a small car which is suitable for driving in the city. Though the church had made sure the car was safe to drive, yet our mission assistance team faced the same problem repeatedly last year. The car would not go even we pressed the gas pedal all the way to the floor. It is very dangerous to drive under such condition in Panama City. The team attempted several times to resolve the problem, but no success. When we first arrived this year, the car seemed to run okay. Unfortunately, the problem reappeared this week. We were so scared when we drove. We prayed for safety and protection. Incidentally we thought of a brother who has an insurance company. We asked him to recommend a trustworthy, nearby and Chinese speaking repair shop. The next day our car was fixed in two hours. The problem was resolved. Next month we can take the car there for inspection before renewing the licence. Praise the Lord!

結婚周年

Wedding Anniversary

本周禱告會正是我們結婚 42 周年。奇妙的是梁思進牧師師母在兩天前慶祝他們 24 周年。所以弟兄姊妹與我們一同感恩慶祝。全是神的恩典。

Coincidentally our 42th wedding anniversary fell on the same day as the Wednesday prayer meeting. Amazingly Rev & Mrs. Liang's 24th wedding anniversary was two days before ours. So we celebrated together with brothers and sisters after the prayer meeting. We thank God for His abundant grace.



探訪社區/會友

Visitation of Community /congregation



周四下午聯同梁牧師師母及一位弟兄去活泉堂附近的華人商鋪去探訪及派發基督教報紙和書刊。藉此機會認識社區，有時可以分享福音及邀請來教會聚會。同時也去會友商鋪探望並祝福。這區治安很差，晚上更是危險，白天治安還行，但是交通很雜亂。感謝主，有本地弟兄開車，幫我們省了不少心。我們親身體驗到部分會友的生意和住家的不容易。相片中是探訪一會友的店鋪和巴拿馬的大蕉。

On Thursday afternoon, together with Rev & Mrs. Liang and one other brother, we distributed Christian newspapers and magazines to the Chinese stores near the Agua Viva Alliance Church. By doing so we get to know the neighbourhood better. Sometimes we have the opportunity to share the gospel and invite friends

to church. At the same time, we can visit our church members and bless them. This neighbourhood is not safe at night. Though it's okay during the day, but traffic is chaotic. Thank God that the local brother does the driving. We experience some of challenges that our members are facing in regard to their business and home. The above photo was taken in front of a member's store. Do you recognise the Panamanian 'big' bananas?

婦女事工

Lady's Ministry



Stella was invited to share at the lady fellowship from Obarrio Alliance Church. Though there was a huge down pour of rain, yet the ladies came faithfully and were eager to share. We had a great time of singing, learning God's word and eating (of course).

愛華堂姊妹團契邀請師母今天去分享。聚會前傾盆大雨，但姊妹們仍忠心冒雨出席並熱烈分享，我們享受了一段美好的時光，唱歌，學神的話，當然也有甜美的茶點

感恩與代禱

Thanksgiving and Requests

1. 感謝神，君王區福音站周五崇拜弟兄姊妹全心合力的忠心事奉。

請代禱，聚會人數可以穩定，有新朋友來並接受主

Thank God for the faithful commitment of the brothers and sisters serving at King's Park Friday night worship

Please pray for a steady number of attendees and newcomers to accept Christ.

2. 感謝神，主愛堂短宣隊不辭辛勞的多方服事教會及福音事工，平安健康的完成短宣，成為多人的祝福。

Thank God for the STM from the Lord's Love church and their tireless ministries.

Please pray for their safety & health, and being a blessing to many

3. 感謝神，下一短宣隊是芥菜種使團將在八月中來兩周。他們也有一連串的福音外展事工，主要以粵曲帶出福音的信息。

請代禱，隊伍平安到達及多結救恩的果子。

Thank God for the next STM from the Mustard Seed Gospel Group. They will arrive in the middle of August for two weeks. They will use classical Cantonese music to bring out the gospel message in several concerts.

Please pray for their safe arrival and bearing many gospel fruits here.

4. 感謝神，車患解決，又認識附近一家可靠的車房為車作保養。

請代禱，車患不復發，並每日出入的平安

Thank God for resolving the car problem and having found a trustworthy repair shop.

Please pray for no recurrence of car trouble, and safety in everyday comings and goings.

5. 感謝神，讓我們能去巴拿馬各地服事神及祂的家。

請代禱，我們在八月初去奇特利，聖地亞歌，及甜水埠一周末的服事

Thank God for letting us serve in different churches in Panama.

Please pray for our ministry in Chitre, Santiago and Aguadulce during the first weekend in August.

6. 請代禱，牧師在多處講台的服事，師母在婦女群體的講座及司琴的服事。

Please pray for Pastor Matthew's preaching ministry, and Stella's talks for the lady fellowship and serving as pianist.

7. 請代禱，願神賜給巴拿馬更多救恩的果子

Please pray to God that Panama will reap more fruits of salvation.



(由我們陽台上望出的景觀)

(View from our balcony)