

January 31, 2022

Happy New Year!

Once again, we send 'New Year' greetings to all our faithful prayer partners and supporters as we celebrate the Lunar New Year. We pray that you would enjoy good health and would always be filled with the grace of our Lord.

Even though we may feel threatened and weary with the resurgence of COVID through the rapid spread of the Omicron variant, we also can sense a faint expectation that we may soon see the end of the Covid.

When COVID started 2 years ago, many ministries had to be suspended, and we were puzzled about what was to come. However, even in the midst of the pandemic, God showed us, little by little, possibilities for online ministry and in 2021, there was a significant increase in online ministry.

- The IMM team in the Middle East had expanded from E country to T country in the midst of the pandemic. However, the scope of their ministry was extended beyond expectations as church leaders from different ethnic backgrounds from surrounding countries also participated in the team's online missions awareness training.
- Similarly, online mission awakening training and mission conferences in Vietnam opened a new momentum for IMM mobilization ministries as many pastors, who had not participated in such programs before, joined the online training and showed a good response.
- In the Philippines, IMM team initiated a 'Prayer Band' which is an online prayer meeting for unreached peoples and a growing number of people are participating in it.
- The IMM team in Seoul has been doing ministry for mission awareness among the foreign students who are studying theology in Korea. Those who went back to their home country with the awareness for missions organized, together with IMM, online mission conference or seminars among the churches in the country. IMM conducted the online conference in several countries, including P country where people had not imagined to have such a program.
- In 2019, we were unable to run a CO (Candidate Orientation) to accept new members into WEC due to the Covid situation. But in 2021, by God's grace and amazing provisions, we were able to conduct two CO programs in NE India for 10 weeks each in a 'hybrid' way, a combination of 'in-person' and 'online' methods. Topic presenters from countries outside India conducted their sessions online, and on the ground in India, IMM missionaries lived with the missionary candidates for 10 weeks, leading the CO program and sharing their lives with them. Through these two COs, we were able to accept 28 new missionaries from NE India into WEC international.
- Our Burmese national IMM missionary is currently within Myanmar where many people are suffering due to the political situation and the COVID. He is helping those who are struggling to survive in this situation, and he is also teaching theology and missions through online programs.
- In addition, IMM missionaries in Thailand and Romania are doing mission mobilization through various means, such as mission awareness training, training for mission mobilizers, and other creative ways both online and offline.

Last year, we experienced God opening the door for a new way of ministry through 'online' means. Even when the COVID situation gets better and we resume offline in-person ministry in the future, we will most likely continue to combine online and offline ministry methods.

We'd appreciate your prayer for the following prayer requests:

1. While we can do some ministries online in the COVID situation, some workers still struggle with the many restrictions on their activities, and sometimes even their health is affected. Pray that our

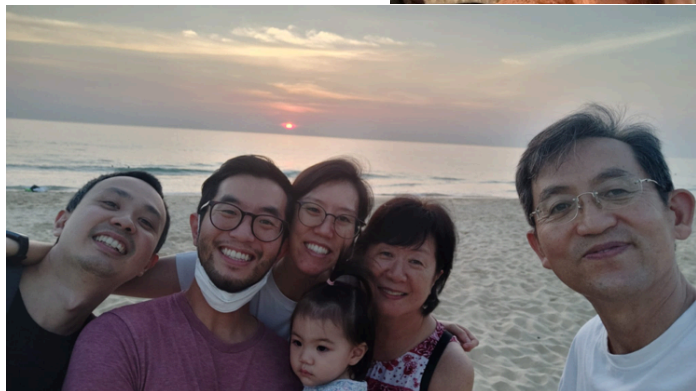
co-workers would continually abide in God's presence and experience the strength of the Lord which holds us even in the COVID situation.

2. Pray that the various online mobilization ministries, which will continue for the time being, would become more active among the churches of all the countries where IMM is working so that the Spirit-led mission mobilization movement would grow and spread, and pray for our workers to be sensitive to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and that many local church leaders and believers would rise up for the mission mobilization movement.
3. Pray that each IMM team would be built up as a community of genuine disciples of Jesus pleasing to God, experiencing God's grace, love, forgiveness, healing, and renewal within the team first so that God's grace would be reflected in our lives and ministries to the people around us.
4. Pray that the IMM worker in Myanmar would be protected from the danger of COVID and political situations, so that he could continue do his ministry of helping those in physical and spiritual need.
5. Pray for God's guidance as we discuss the possibility of doing Candidate Orientation (CO) for missionary candidates outside of India who have been waiting for 2 years to take CO which is needed to join WEC.
6. Many newly accepted missionaries from NE India were unable to go out to the mission due to the COVID situation. Thankfully, five new workers were able to go to the mission field last year, and about 10 new workers are in process of preparing to go out within the next 2 months. Additionally, about 30 other new missionaries are preparing to go to the mission field. Continue to pray that the doors will continue to open so they may enter the countries where they have been called to serve, and that all the necessary visa process will go smoothly, and that there will be no difficulties in traveling.

We left Singapore in September 2019, but our entry into Thailand was delayed due to COVID. However, in October last year we were finally able to enter Chiang Mai, Thailand, unpack our moving boxes which had been in storage for two years, and settle in. At the end of last year, our oldest daughter Joy and her family, and our son Joshua were able to come to Thailand to spend time together with us. Our youngest daughter Kara and Max were also supposed to come, but could not come at the last minute as they came down with COVID. Although this was quite disappointing, we were thankful and really enjoyed the time we could have with our granddaughter, Chloe, whom we saw for the first time.



Please pray that we can settle well in Thailand, and get alongside and encourage the IMM team in Thailand. Also pray that we may plan and implement this year's ministry well even in the midst of ever-changing conditions.



We are always grateful for your prayers, and we pray for God's abundant joy and blessing as you continue to walk with Him and serve Him.

In Christ,

Young-Choon & Elaine Lee from Chiang Mai, Thailand