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鍾少溪宣教士代禱信 Prayer Letter from the Desk of Barnabas



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May 15th, 2021

Dear prayer partners,

Although some countries have commenced the injection of vaccination and the pandemic began to stabilize, there are severe outbreaks in other countries. This is worrying. It is apparent that it takes more time for the pandemic to die down.

In the sermons on Exodus 32:1-14 delivered by Barnabas during the recorded Sunday Services, an event that broke God's heart was shared- worshipping the golden cow statue! Although God had saved, blessed and led Israelites for many times, Israelites were still unfaithful. While Moses was still in the mountain, Aaron spoiled Israelites to follow Egypt and the most popular idol to produce a golden cow statue! The people kneeled before and worshipped the statue, and said that this was the god who led them out of Egypt, degrading glorious God as a



grass eating cow! Aaron even declared celebration of the festival, and Israelites celebrated the festival through sexual behaviors.

The Israelis' evil doing broke God's heart. He called the people as "Moses' people"(not His people), and prepared to destroy them. Thanks be to God! Moses became a model for a prayer who was close to God. He reinstated that Israelites were "God's people"(not Moses' people) based on God's love, reputation and faithfulness so as to counsel Him and stop Him from destroying Israelites. Let us follow Moses' example to worry for human evilness, heart-brokenness of God, to pray for the reconciliation of God and man, and to be a prayer partner who is close to God's heart.

Many incidents happened in South Africa recently, making an unstable South Africa worse. First of all, the progress of injection of vaccination is behind schedule due to insufficient supply of vaccines. It is estimated that the injection of all population cannot be realized at the end of this year and it is not possible for herd immunity to actualized by then. Recently, a cargo ship from India parked at the port of Durban, and after Covid-19 cases were

confirmed, there were at least four people infected with the mutated Indian Covid virus. In fact, most Asian population in South Africa are Indians and the close relationship between South Africa and India was obvious! Moreover, the third wave of Covid-19 broke out as winter approached. Every province is on high alert.



In addition, one of the leaders of the ruling party of South Africa ANC – the General Secretary was suspended from his job due to the charge of corruption he faced. He swore to fight against the President, thus causing division within the party and even the country. The situation is worrying.

The third event is that crisis of reign by the new Zulu Kingdom. There were three deaths in the royal family of Zulu, arousing much suspicion. The Regent (the Queen) died after only 35 days of succeeding the throne and the will by the Regent (allegedly revised) declared the successor of the King. There was severe struggles within the family. This province is where the Kingdom resides, hence the instability of the Kingdom may cause instability within the province and even the country. On the surface, the leader declared that the struggle



南非祖魯王室半年內3死疑云引外界懷疑 攝政王即位35天猝逝駕崩

is over and hope this is true.

Please pray for South Africa. But do not worry for us. Though we live in such an unstable country, we reside in the church property where all necessary facilities are in place. The neighbourhood is safe and friendly. Hence, we make steady progress in our life and ministry.

Extension of visas

Our visas expired in August last year. Due to the pandemic, Barnabas submitted his application in November, but there is no follow up.

Peggy was listed on "undesirable status list" twice as she left

The screenshot shows the VFS Global online tracking interface. At the top right is the VFS.GLOBAL logo with 'EST. 2001' below it. The main heading is 'ONLINE TRACKING'. Below this, there are two input fields: 'AURN Number*' with the value 'TRR3101720' and 'Last Name*' with the value 'CHUNG'. There are 'Submit' and 'Reset' buttons below the last name field. A status message at the bottom reads: 'Application for Siu Kai Chung has been received at DHA on 09 Nov 2020.'

South Africa without a renewed visa. Although she appealed successfully. She might risk being rejected to go back to South Africa if she failed to renew this time. Hence, Barnabas will apply for Peggy's accompany visa renewal after his visa is renewed. We are worried that the Home Affairs Department would regard her as overstay and delayed submission of application. Thanks be to God! On 30 March this year, the Home Affairs Department announced that due to the pandemic, the validity of overdue visas was extended to end of July 2021. However, Peggy's

application cannot proceed if Barnabas' visa renewal is not successful. Please pray for us, as our visas renewal affects our two plans this year.

Furlough

September – November 2021

Sharing and delivery of sermons in 14 churches have been scheduled:

Date	Church	Date	Church
5/9	Engraving Grace Baptist Church	24/10	Evangel Baptist Church
12/9	AM- Heng On Baptist Church PM – Tin Yue Baptist Church	31/10	Heritage Baptist Church
19/9	Shun On Baptist Church (Chapel)	7/11	Luk Yeung Baptist Church
26/9	Abundant Grace Baptist Church	14/11	Cheung Hong Baptist Church
3/10	Tsuen Shing Baptist Church	21/11	Un Chau Estate Baptist Church
10/10	Garden Estate Baptist Church	28/11	Wo Lok Baptist Church
17/10	Shun On Baptist Church		

However, "whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow.

"For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appeared for a little time, and then vanished away. Instead ye ought to say, "If the Lord will, we shall live and do this or that." (James 4:14-15). If Barnabas' visa renewal is still pending, or the renewal is successful but Peggy's visa renewal is pending, the furlough has to be delayed. Moreover, even if our visa renewal is successful, the following conditions may also affect Barnabas' furlough. Please pray for us.

Short-term mission trip in South Africa

12-people short-term mission trip from the Chinese Morrison Church scheduled in 1-16 Oct 2021: the trip originally scheduled in last Easter holidays was extended to Christmas. It was extended to Easter this year, and further extended to October, which is the final date of validity of flight tickets. Thanks be to God! Team members still insist on coming to Durban despite the hiccups. However, the date of the short-term mission trip clashed with Barnabas' furlough in September. We hope that the trip would be extended to Easter 2022 before June this year. If the flight tickets cannot be postponed to June next year, the furlough has to be postponed so that Barnabas may receive the team. If the tickets cannot be postponed and the pandemic cannot be controlled, the schedule has to be adjusted. Moreover, if the short-term mission team have to be quarantined after they return from South Africa, the mission trip has to be cancelled. The flight tickets which cost over hundred thousands Hong Kong dollars would be wasted. Please pray for us.

Judy, the missionary from OM who was forced to stay in South Africa for over a year due to the pandemic, has her birthday as Barnabas in March. Hence we celebrated together. She even made a birthday cake to share with us. Judy has flown to Thailand and is now in quarantine. Hope that she can fly back to Hong Kong and reunite with her family. Please pray for her.



The situation of the church

Since Feb. 9th last year (except Oct-Nov) real Sunday Services have been suspended for a year and a month. Sunday Services are recorded and broadcast online. We cannot count the attendance which is frustrating. However, Peggy said, "If we count the attendance but it is too few, isn't it more frustrating?" Hence, we disregard the attendance and try our best to produce the recorded Sunday Services and entrust everything to God. On 4/4, we were suddenly told by a sister who has returned to mainland China that she and her son participated in the recorded Sunday Services. We were pleased to hear that!

Although the injection of vaccines has commenced since February and the level of alert has been lowered to level one since March, the Chinese are still alerted that the pandemic may be worsened. Hence, apart from working, people refrain from

participating in large gatherings. In addition, many brothers and sisters have been back to home land to avoid the pandemic. Therefore, only few of the congregation can attend the real Sunday Service regularly and those who can drive people to church were even less. The Deacon chairman Kenny is the most enthusiastic, who can drive people to the church. However, he is now in Taiwan and plan to return to South Africa in July. This also depends on the recovery of his displacement of cervical spine, the progress of renovation of his house, and the pandemic. Hence, we are waiting for his return to resume the real Sunday Services.

Although there is very limited interaction among the congregation during recorded Sunday Services, more and more brothers and sisters participated in the hymns dedication, making the recorded Sunday Services more vibrant. Moreover, the chairman and singers have been making progress.



On May 9th, the second recorded Sunday Service on the Mother's Day, there were 12 brothers and sisters joining the hymn dedication and sharing, bringing warmth to the congregation who were in isolation!

Peggy's sharing

"And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward." Matthew 10:42

Our neighbour committed suicide in May last year because of hardship, leaving behind his wife and two kids (an 8-year-old son and a 4-year-old daughter). Barnabas and I became their greatest support. As the wife is of the same age as my eldest daughter, her son and daughter have become our grandchild. Apart from monthly financial aid, we stand by every day to take care of the family. The children fancy playing and eating at our home. We designed a two-week Bible class for them late last year, and encouraged their mother to continue joining the church nearby.

In February this year, the older brother could not concentrate as he missed his father. He had to meet a counsellor and in need of a father like figure to play with. Hence, we designed Wednesday activities for the siblings every week, thus allowing their mother a chance of taking rest.

The activities include:

1. to pull wild grass or trim the branches to earn pocket money with me
2. together with their mother, to enjoy a half-an-hour afternoon



- tea (to store chocolate/ mashmerrows/ juice for them)
3. to play soccer with Barnabas for an hour (we specially bought a big gate for this)



During the recent 10 holidays, we invited the family to watch a movie and have a meal in the restaurant. The kids and their mother enjoyed the activity very much!

Thanks be to God! Although PCCC has not resumed real Sunday Services, and there are limited chances for paying visits, the



interaction among the congregation is mainly conducted online and via telephone, we could still serve our neighbour. A cup of cold water offered is a demonstration of Christ's spirit. This is a beautiful service!

Prayer requests

1. Thanks be to God! Though we live in such an unstable country, we reside in the church property where all necessary facilities are in place. The neighbourhood is safe and friendly. The congregation actively participate in hymn dedication and their standards are improving.
2. Thanks be to God! OM missionary Judy has arrived at Thailand where she is in quarantine. Please pray for her safe journey, negative test result and her reunion with her family.
3. Please pray for the Indian variant virus invasion into South Africa and the third wave of pandemic. Pray that God may grant wisdom to the government to control the spread of virus and accelerate vaccine injection.
4. Please pray that the conflicts within ANC may be resolved soon, no division and causing instability in the country while proceeding anti-corruption.
5. Please pray for the succession of the new Zulu King and the stabilization of the Kingdom, hence our province will remain safe.
6. Please pray that God may help accelerating our visa renewal applications, Barnabas' furlough in Sept-Nov. May God guide our way.
7. Please pray for the short-term mission trip of the Chinese Morrison Church and that the trip can be postponed. May God's will be realized.

Thank you for your prayer!



If you want to support us, please draw check payable to "Hong Kong ABWE Mission Limited" and send to P. O. Box No. 70834, Kowloon Central Post Office, Kowloon, Hong Kong or deposit cash in Bank of China (Hong Kong) account number 012-589-00017737, **Faster Payment System- Bank of China(Hong Kong): 161520218** or **Hang Seng Bank : 369-439-153-883** and send or fax (fax number (852) 27864786) the deposit slip to Hong Kong ABWE Mission (at the back of the check or deposit slip please write down to support missionaries: "Barnabas and Peggy Chung"). If you would like to receive prayer letters or make enquires, place call (852) 34223350 or email to Hong Kong ABWE Mission at mission@abwemhk.org. Thank you very much!