

ULLSTROM TAIWAN UPDATE

Church Planting in Semi-Rural Taiwan

OMF Taiwan Vision:

Through God's grace we long to see spiritually and numerically flourishing communities of disciples among the working-class peoples of Taiwan.

Summer Camp Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJcEclPgCXo>

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Dear friends,

We live in a four storey building. The church uses the first two floors, we live on the third floor with our foster son, and we have guest rooms and a storage room on the fourth floor. Partly because of the guest rooms we get a lot of people staying with us. A pastor from Singapore plans to visit with his wife and three year old daughter from April 20 to May 5, to explore the possibility of moving to Taiwan as missionaries. Later in May we will have an OMF member from the Philippines



staying for three days after she helps teach a course here. A week later a couple and single lady from the USA plan to stay for five days as part of a vision trip to better understand what OMF is doing in Taiwan. Our lives are all the richer for the people we get to host and meet staying with us.

Another person we are really looking forward to seeing is our son Peter. Peter has bought tickets for a visit from April 20 to May 29. In addition to staying with us he will be traveling over the island to see friends. We wonder how many changes he will notice since his last visit almost seven years ago?

Recently we have been asked to consider taking in more foster children. The sad fact is that there are not enough foster families in Taiwan, and very few families are willing to take in teenagers. Hence it appears that we are in demand. Of course we need to consider whether a child is a good "fit" for us. Our main stipulation is that they must be able to speak Taiwanese. All of our conversations with Jimmy are in Taiwanese. He can speak both languages well but Taiwanese is our better language. We have learned from experience that it is really important to be able to communicate clearly with

Prayer & Praise

1. Thank God for providing such an ideal building for the church, and for us to live in. Pray that we will be a blessing to those who stay with us, whether they are here for a short visit or for foster care.
2. Ask God to give us wisdom and discernment as we are asked to consider taking in more foster children.
3. Pray that the foster care training courses will help equip us well. The last course we took was very good, "Sexual Education for Children Who Have Experienced Trauma".
4. Pray for more opportunities to speak about foster care and to promote David's book.
5. Thank God for those who plan to come June 26-July 16 to help run four camps. Pray for others to sign up soon to join this Serve Asia team with OMF.
6. Pray for those affected by the recent earthquake near Hualien. Especially pray for churches and Christian organizations providing help and relief. May people be touched and moved by seeing God's love in action.



our foster children.

Speaking of foster care, every year we must take thirty hours of training to keep our license. We have completed eighteen hours so far this year, and still have two six hour courses to attend to complete our training. We were really happy when the last instructor agreed to teach speaking in Taiwanese (instead of Mandarin) so that we could participate fully.

Being a foster parent has its unique challenges, which is why so many people quit after the first year or two. We hope that David's book will encourage foster parents to keep going, and also inspire others to become foster parents. Two foster agencies recently accepted the book to give to all of their foster families in Kaohsiung. Hopefully it can be given to families in other cities as well as we are introduced to more people. The public Taiwanese language TV station broadcast a program interviewing us recently. Click on the picture to see the program on YouTube (our part starts about 9 minutes 30 seconds into the video). Sorry there are no English subtitles!



Summer camps in July are very much on our minds these days. We met with the pastor of a church that has started a new church in a rural community north of us. We offered to help them run a summer camp and they have talked to the elementary school about having a camp at the school. The school says that they cannot give an answer until May, but if we can't have it at the school we will have it at the church. So far we have six people confirmed coming to help with our camps. Twelve would be ideal. The deadline for signing up with OMF to help with our camps is the end of April. Do you know anyone who might be available to help?

Finally, we forgot to mention earlier that the full amount of our TSF (Total Support Figure) came in to OMF for our support last year. Once again God, through His people, has richly supplied.

With thanks for your prayers and support,

David and Ruth
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