Sep 2026 Newsletter

[1] Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. Psalm 127

We have started recruiting students for our new semester of ESL classes. In the past years, a simple handwritten poster posted on the church doors would draw a lot of interest. This year, I made a beautiful professional looking poster, but no one has called so far. Only God can bring the people and I'm at peace if our classes are scaled down this year. That's the beauty of working for the Lord - He knows best and He's in control!

A Holly Paterson Nursing Home

Mr Zhao enjoys talking to us, but he avoids talking about God. He has listened to Buddhist teachings and Christian sermons but doesn't believe any of them. We shared a hymn "Wild flowers of the field" with him and shared about God's care for nature and for us. He likes the melody but didn't care about the lyrics. He refused our offer to pray for him.

Mr Lin has been listening to the audio Bible. He doesn't always understand what he hears, so we would discuss it with him when we visit. He said that he doesn't know how to pray, so we read the Lord's prayer with him and explained how to apply it. We also talked about the book of life and read the relevant verses in Revelation 13:8 and 20:15. We explained that those whose names are written in this book would be drawn to God and the Holy Spirit would help them to understand the Bible and persevere in their faith journey. We encouraged him and prayed for him. Mr Lin says that he shares hymns and reads the Bible to **Jiang Hong**. She seemed to be better as she was sitting quietly in the common room and not pacing up and down the corridor like before.

We met sister Jessica from our church who was visiting her mom, **Mrs Feng**. Mrs Feng, who's 91 years old, fell recently and had a brain hemorrhage. She wasn't expected to live but managed to survive. Jessica is very anxious that her mom doesn't know the Lord yet. I quickly shared about Jesus with her, and she held on to my hand and looked intently at me while I shared. We're not sure if she heard or understood since she's hard of hearing. She tried to talk but we couldn't understand what she was saying. I encouraged Jessica to continue telling her mom about Jesus and show her Bible videos and hymns.

We sang "The Friend who knows us best" by Xiaomin in the common room and it brought comfort to the people.

Sunharbor Manor Nursing Home

Lizet had hip surgery and is there for rehab. She hoped to be healed and go home. She said that she's a Roman Catholic. We encouraged her to trust in Jesus and commit her difficulties to Him. We prayed for her healing.

Haque was moved to Edward's room after he passed away. After his surgery, Haque's speech and mobility got worse. We brought him out onto the deck to get some sun and share with him. When he had surgery, Haque prayed to Allah but refused to say if he got any response from him. He believes in a creator and a higher power but denies that His name is Jesus. We continue to pray that God would soften his heart.

Syosset Park

A little girl and her dad were walking and we approached them. The girl turned out to be **Phyllis** who sometimes comes to our church, and her dad was the driving instructor of Ruoli's daughters. We invited them and Phyllis came with her grandma a few weeks later.

Matt who came from Iran shared that he respects all religions. He shared that Zoroastrianism was the first monotheistic religion. He thinks that all religions have their merits and cherry picks the parts that he likes. We shared that there's one true God and we need to follow the right path to go to Him and be spared from the final judgement. We shared about Jesus being the light of the world and those who follow Him will not walk in the darkness but have the light of life. We gave him a tract "Who is the fourth man in the fire?".

Amart Supermarket

We gave out flyers for the Chinese school, ESL and citizenship classes and the Rainforest butterfly event. We invited **Mrs Lin** from Liaoning to come to church and shared about the importance of eternal life in Jesus with her. She listened and took our tracts to read.

A young man, **Xiao Liao**, said that he's looking for a church. He used to attend one in Manhattan but it's too far away. He asked what kind of church we were in and we explained to him. He has started coming to our church.

Broadway Mall

Gracea, from Ecuador, was with her grandson. She used to attend church and even teach the children. She reads the Bible daily. Her husband left her 30 years ago and she still prays for him. We prayed with her to encourage her and she was touched.

Shefat, a Muslim lady from Bangladesh, shared with us for a long time. She shared that the Quran, the last of the Holy books, is the best while the Torah, the Psalms and the Gospels have been changed. We shared that the Bible is God's Word and it has been preserved through the ages. She said that Muslims believe that God is one and that's the criteria for being saved. We shared that we believe God is one too but He's a complex one with three beings. Even though Shefat insisted on her own beliefs, she was patient enough to listen to our sharing and received a Gospel tract.

Some prayer items:

1. Thank God for the people whom He brought across our paths. May God continue to work in each of their hearts.

2. Please pray for the preparation of the ESL classes, that we'll have enough teachers and new students who are open to the Gospel.

3. Thank God that sister Judy has the wonderful idea of starting a citizenship class. Please pray that God will draw unbelievers from the community to this class.

Thank you for your prayers! Please let me know how I can pray for you and your ministry. If you do not want to receive future communications from me, please let me know and I will take you off my mailing list.

莉芬二零二六年九月代祷信

[1]若不是耶和华建造房屋，建造的人就枉然劳力；若不是耶和华看守城池，看守的人就枉然警醒。詩篇127

我们已经开始为新学期的英语课程招收学员了。往年，只需在教堂门口贴一张简单的手写海报，就能吸引许多人关注；而今年，我制作了一张精美且看起来专业的宣传海报，至今却无人致电咨询。唯有神能把人带到这里来；即便今年课程规模缩小，我也感到平安。这就是为主做工的美妙之处——祂是全知的，且一切尽在祂的掌管之中！

A Holly Paterson 疗养院

赵先生喜欢与我们交谈，但回避谈论上帝的话题。他曾听过佛教教义和基督教讲道，却并不信奉其中任何一种。我们与他分享了赞美诗《野地的花》，并谈到了上帝对大自然及我们人类的眷顾。他喜欢这首诗的旋律，却对歌词不感兴趣；他也拒绝了我们为他祷告的提议。

林先生一直在收听有声圣经。由于并非总能听懂内容，我们便在探访时与他一同讨论。他说自己不懂如何祷告，于是我们与他诵读了“主祷文”，并讲解了如何在生活中实践其中的教导。我们还谈到了“生命册”，并阅读了《启示录》13：8 和 20：15 节的相关经文。我们解释说，名字记在生命册上的人会被上帝吸引，圣灵会帮助他们理解圣经并使他们能在信仰之路上坚持到底。我们鼓励他并为他祷告。林先生说，他常给**江红**播放赞美诗并读圣经给她听。江红的情况似乎有所好转，她安静地坐在公共休息室里，不再像以前那样在走廊里来回踱步了。

我们遇到了教会的 Jessica 姊妹，她正在探望母亲**冯老太太**。91 岁的冯老太太最近摔倒导致脑出血，虽一度被认为生命垂危，最终却奇迹般地活了下来。Jessica 非常焦急，因为她的母亲尚未信主。我抓紧机会向冯老太太讲述了福音；在讲述过程中，她紧紧握住我的手，专注地注视着我。由于她听力不佳，我们不确定她是否听清或听懂了内容。她曾试图说话，但我们无法听懂她的意思。我鼓励 Jessica 继续向母亲讲述耶稣，并给她播放圣经视频和赞美诗。

我们在公共休息室唱了小敏创作的《最知心的朋友》，这首歌给在场的人带来了安慰。

Sunharbor Manor 疗养院

Lizet 接受了髋部手术，目前正在那里进行康复治疗。她希望能早日康复回家。她提到自己是罗马天主教徒。我们鼓励她信靠耶稣，并将自己的困难交托给祂；我们也为她的康复向神祷告。

Haque 在 Edward 去世后被转到了 Edward 原先的病房。手术后，Haque 的语言表达和行动能力都变差了。我们带他到露台上晒晒太阳，并与他交谈分享。手术期间，Haque 曾向真主（Allah）祷告，但他不愿透露是否得到了回应。他相信有一位造物主和至高力量的存在，但不承认祂的名字是耶稣。我们继续祷告，求神软化他的心。

Syosset 公园

我们走向一对正在散步的父女。原来那个小女孩是 **Phyllis**，她偶尔会来我们教会；而她的父亲正是若利女儿们的驾驶教练。我们向他们发出了邀请，几周后，Phyllis 便和她的祖母一同来到了教会。

来自伊朗的 **Matt** 表示他尊重所有宗教。他提到，琐罗亚斯德教（拜火教）是世界上最早的一神教。他认为各种宗教各有其长处，并会从中挑选自己认同的部分。我们则分享说，只有一位真神；我们需要走上正确的道路，才能归向祂，并免受最终的审判。我们谈到了耶稣是世界的光，跟随祂的人就不在黑暗里走，必要得着生命的光。我们还送给他一份福音单张，题为《火窑中的第四个人是谁？》。

Amart 大华兴超市

我们分发了关于中文学校、英语课程、公民入籍班以及"雨林蝴蝶"活动的传单。我们邀请了一位来自辽宁的**林女士**来教会，并向她分享了在耶稣里得永生的重要性；她认真聆听，并带走了我们提供的福音单张。

还有一位名叫**小廖**的年轻人表示他正在寻找合适的教会。他过去曾在曼哈顿的一家教会聚会，但路程太远了。他询问我们教会的性质，我们向他作了介绍；目前，他已经开始来我们教会参加聚会了。

Broadway Mall

来自厄瓜多尔的 **Gracea** 当时正与孙子在一起。她过去常去教会，甚至还教导过儿童。她每天都研读《圣经》。尽管丈夫在 30 年前就离开了她，她至今仍为他祷告。我们为她祷告以示鼓励，这让她深受感动。

来自孟加拉国的穆斯林女士 **Shefat** 与我们进行了长时间的交谈。她认为《古兰经》是诸圣典中最后且最好的一部，而《妥拉》、《诗篇》和《福音书》的内容则已被篡改。我们则分享说，《圣经》是神的话语，历经世代流传，始终得以完好保存。她提到，穆斯林相信神是独一的，这也是得救的条件；我们回应说，我们也相信神是独一的，但祂是包含三个位格的独一真神。尽管 Shefat 坚持自己的信仰，但她仍耐心地聆听了我们的分享，并接受了一份福音单张。

祷告事项：

1. 感谢神让我们在外展和探访中遇见许多人。愿神继续在他们每个人的心中动工。

2. 请为英语课程的筹备工作祷告，求神赐予足够的老师，并让愿意接受福音的新学员前来参加。

3. 感谢神，Judy 姐妹提出了开设公民入籍课程的美好构想。请祷告求神吸引社区中尚未信主的人来参加这门课程。