



Dear brothers and sisters,

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:28

Thanks to God's blessing, the younger generation of brothers and sisters who have started families and careers in Germany are welcoming this baby boom. Recently I heard news that many young families have had babies. The Giessen Fellowship has already had three new babies (in February, April, and May), and recently a mother gave birth to a daughter on Mother's Day. This was the greatest gift she received on Mother's Day! The sister who gave birth in April already has three young children. With the addition of another baby, there are six people in the family, and they are too busy to handle it. The sister, who gave birth in May, already has a four-year-old son. Because she married a German, who doesn't know how to cook or take care of her after she gave birth. But thanks to God's provision, there is a retired couple in the fellowship who are willing to serve our brothers and sisters. They used to run a restaurant, so whenever there is a need in the fellowship, they go to help. From time to time, they would go to the home of the family of six to make a large number of buns for them and cook a few large portions of dishes to make the sister less tired! They also taught the young sister who had just given birth to a daughter how to take care of herself after the baby is born and prepared some food for her.

Last week, I was invited to share at the membership meeting of the Forum for Mission Among Chinese in Germany (FMCD) in Hanover. I saw some members whom I hadn't seen for a long time. One of the sisters told me that she was 84 years old and came from Berlin to attend the meeting with her old German husband. I was even more grateful to see Pastor Siegfried Glaw, the founder of FMCD. Although he had experienced multiple cancers, he seemed to be in good health that day and his energy was as strong as usual. It turned out that he was already 89 years old this year. Thanks to the Lord's grace, he lives in a senior apartment, but he still shares God's word there every week. Many of our missionaries who come to Germany from outside are working with FMCD, which currently has nine units. We are very grateful to have such a platform to take care of and help us. There was also an elderly couple who shared their experiences that day. They immigrated to Germany early on. When the brother was almost 60 years old, he was deeply moved when he heard Pastor Calvin Chu shared that one of the founders of CEM also went out to study theology at an old age. Later, the couple had the opportunity to receive theological training and have been serving for 20 years. The brother has just turned 80 years old. He said they had signed a contract with God to continue serving as long as God used them. Pastor Glaw and other senior colleagues have become good role models for several of us who are about to reach the legal retirement age. Although FMCD is aging, thank God that it has also raised up some young people. This year, three young people joined as members. They all started serving in the second generation youth camp.

Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

1. Thank God for His grace, which enables all pregnant sisters to give birth to their babies smoothly! Thankfully, even though they don't have their own parents to help take care of them, God sent the elderly couples in the fellowship to serve them!
2. There was a young couple who had just arrived in Giessen. The wife was not a Christian and they had only come to the fellowship once or twice. His wife is also pregnant and is due in July. The brother's mother is a Christian and has come from China to take care of them. A sister in the fellowship met this mother and invited her to the fellowship, and she came to the fellowship on her own. May the Lord protect her daughter-in-law and help her give birth smoothly! Pray that the Lord will enable the brother and his mother to bear good witness and that his wife will be able to know the Lord soon!
3. Thank FMCD for her continued help to missionaries, which provides a platform for missionaries from different places, different missions or churches to serve the Chinese ministry in Germany together! Thank the Lord for protecting Pastor Glaw's health and his ministry in his senior apartment building!
4. Thank the Lord for keeping the pastor couple who are over 80 years old healthy to serve the fellowship in their area!
5. Thank the Lord for raising up the second generation of young brothers and sisters to serve! Thank God for inspiring several young members to join FMCD, so that there will be no gaps in FMCD!
6. I have had some new pain since the beginning of the year and saw an orthopedic doctor last week. I am thankful that I do not have osteoporosis, but my hip joint has degenerated and the doctor prescribed me some painkillers! May God have mercy on me and slow down the degeneration process through physical exercise!

Thank you for remembering us in your prayers!

God bless!

Serving Him,
Karen Tang