

W5 on Missions



Conrad & Fiona Kwok

Who? Conrad & Fiona Kwok

Conrad Kwok began serving as the Mandarin pastor at Brampton Chinese Baptist Church, ON, in 2004 and his work led to the planting of two churches in Milton and in Burlington. He became a well-known and highly respected leader in Chinese church life in Canada and served on the Executive Council of the Toronto Chinese Evangelical Ministerial Fellowship.

In 2000, Fiona Kwok began work as office manager with Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec. Both Conrad and Fiona speak Mandarin, Cantonese, and English. While in Canada, the Kwoks began work with a unique and needy people group from China and the Golden Triangle (Burma, Thailand, and Laos), an area known as the heroin production and consumption capital of the world. The Kwoks have continued this work on an itinerant basis since being appointed by CBM. Conrad and Fiona have two adult children, Terrance and Elaine. (www.cbmin.org)

When? The Kwoks were appointed to serve as CBM Global Field Staff in May 2012 and left Canada in November 2013 after raising their team support.

Where? “Northern Thailand begins where the flat rice-growing countryside above Bangkok rises slowly to the mountains that border Myanmar and Laos. It’s a vast region... that bears striking geographic and cultural differences from the south. The mountains that are the distinguishing feature of the north contribute to the region’s distinctly different character, protecting its mostly rural people, and particularly its hill tribes, from too rapid an advance of outside influences.” (www.fodors.com)

What? Conrad and Fiona serve in Thailand alongside CBM’s Chinese Ministries team in the areas of leadership formation and community development. They work with the Bethel Bible Institute (BBI) to provide training for young Chinese church leaders from mainland China, northern Thailand and Burma. Conrad teaches theology and mentors students and young leaders while Fiona serves in various roles consisting of teaching at BBI, helping with translation of integral mission resources into Chinese and participating in community development projects. (www.cbmin.org)

In March 2014, the Kwoks led a team of 16 students to the mountainous regions of Northern Thailand. “We witnessed God working through the teams to bless the tribal villages. In one week we visited 5 villages. Every day... we would head

out to the village, go door to door to proclaim the gospel and invite the villagers to the acupuncture clinic and evening service. Many villagers love the acupuncture service because there is no other medical help in the village. Most villagers are too poor to go to the doctor and even if they can afford to... they need to travel very far. I also saw how God uses acupuncture to help the villagers in a very special way. Acupuncture is a kind of continuous and long process treatment; however, a lot of the villagers felt so much better or were even healed after the one treatment. While the villagers waited for their turn and then had their treatment, the team members would go and talk to them about the Gospel. Throughout that week, many people responded to the altar call, accepted Jesus Christ to their heart, and many also recommitted themselves to the Lord. On the last day, one man decided to accept Jesus Christ as his Savior. He then requested us to go to his house to help him destroy all the idols he worshipped for years. What a wonderful sight to see his faith and decision. Praise the Lord!” (Kwok’s Ministry Update, April, 2014)

During Thailand’s summer holidays (April and the first half of May), the Kwoks serve in other parts of East Asia. Conrad attended a four day Chinese Churches Revival Conference in Myanmar and then he travelled to China for three weeks, teaching in three different cities. “In China there is such a big need to train disciples. We were told that one church in China baptized over 200 people at Easter, but the church has only one pastor. You can imagine the need for well-equipped church leaders! As a result, BBI’s Pastoral Bachelor class is designed to help pastors in Thailand, Myanmar and China further in their studies. It is an intensive two-month class that runs twice a year.” (Kwok’s Ministry Update, July 2014.)

Pray for the Kwoks as they have taken on more responsibility at BBI this school year, including becoming counsellors for the first and second year students. Fiona is now teaching an English class and helping out in the library. In addition to his responsibilities at BBI, Conrad is teaching at the Discipleship Training Centre of Operation Dawn, a drug rehabilitation centre.

Why? As the Kwoks continue to adjust and adapt to ministry in East Asia, time and time again God has blessed them with these words of reassurance: “Do not be afraid. I know your need. My grace is sufficient for you.”

Lisa Lohnes

Corresponding Secretary for UBWMU/ABW