

June 2008

My dear praying friends,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It is with a tinge of sadness coupled with a sense of relief that I write this my valedictory letter as General Director of the Mission. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all your love, support and prayers for me and the COCM these past many years. It has been a great privilege to serve together with you, our faithful prayer partners and friends. In reflecting on my years with the Mission, I thank God for you for your encouragement and support, without which I could not have lasted so long. As I retire from my active service with the Mission, may I urge you to accord the same support to my successor Rev. Henry Lu. I have served my generation and the baton is now passed on to a new and younger group of leaders who will take the Mission on to higher ground.

The staff retreat took place during the last week in May and we thank God for His presence and blessing upon the team. As the new leadership takes over, the team spent much time in bonding and in prayer. Many Council members also attended during the few days away in Shropshire. May God inspire and renew the vision for the team as they embark on a new era in the history of the Mission.

Many of you know that my husband Ernest Kong has been involved with me in the Mission since Pastor Stephen Wang's days. Ernest has been "behind the scene" as it were taking care of the administration and the finance of the Mission together with our co-treasurer. His role has been so varied and since 1999 when he retired early from his own profession, he took on these roles in a full-time capacity. Together with a team of advisors, he oversaw the building of our Mission Centre and managed it until now. I do not often mention Ernest's contribution but as this is my last letter, I must put on record our deep appreciation and thanks to him for all his service and contribution to the COCM.

As I close this chapter of ministry with COCM I pay God's blessing on each one of you, my dear praying friends and supporters. It has been a long journey but well worth it. As a dear friend once said to me when he knew I was retiring "Mary, there is life after COCM". Indeed, our time and service are in God's hand. May I also ask you to pray for me as I have not been well since my accident in March when I fractured my hip. Physically I am recovering well but I am still a bit down and need God's healing touch.

This comes with my personal thanks and deepest gratitude.

Your sister in Christ,

Mary Wang

My address for the time being is:
2 Pentland Gardens
London SW18 2AN
England