

Chairman's Message

Rev. Chow Wing Fu



Therefore, love the foreigner, for you were foreigners
in the land of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 10:19

The verse, 'Far, far in a foreign land, I am yearning for my old friends, hoping against hope, can I not be melancholy?' from Li Ling's letter to Su Wu in the Han Dynasty, though sorrowful, it resonates deeply with a man compelled to stay among the Xiongnu. The tears of homesickness of the Jewish poet taken captive to a foreign land are even more poignant as he reflects, 'By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion' (Psalm 137:1).

There is a group of foreigners imprisoned in Hong Kong Correctional Institutions for various reasons. Whether they know they deserve punishment or harbor resentment, they all share the same sentiment of loneliness and longing for home. Those who speak English have more opportunities to communicate, while those who speak other languages feel even more isolated.

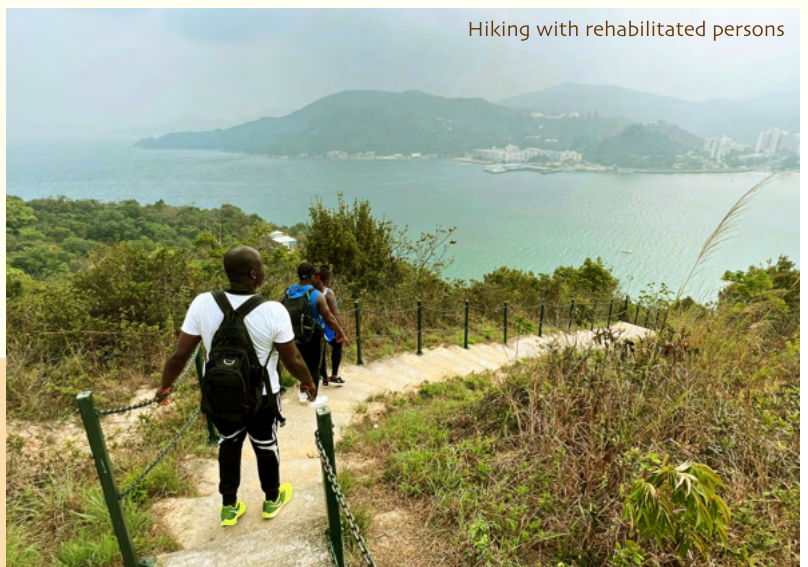
KSA has been shepherding these individuals in different institutions, offering care and solace. Those who believe are encouraged in their faith and hope, while those who do not we also hope that they too can experience God's love for peace and endurance. Several years ago, the Assistant General Secretary of KSA expressed a desire for activities to alleviate the emotions of foreign inmates, especially those who do not speak English. Thanks to the support of international churches, we have included different language songs and translated bible study material into different languages and, with the help of volunteers who speak other languages, organized group meetings for foreign inmates to find comfort.

Although local inmates are physically closer to their families, their connections are still limited, causing much distress, especially for female inmates. Recently, KSA and the Lo Wu Correctional Institution collaborated on a "Family Day" event where the inmates learned floral arrangements and then sent the finished products to their families. It's the thought that counts. "Seeing the flower is like seeing the person" This offered both a relaxing activity for the inmates and an opportunity to express love to their families. The floral arrangements instructor for this event was recommended by the staff of the correctional institution. This reflects a partnership between the institution and our organization!

Imprisonment is not just physical confinement but a severe restraint on the soul. Many released inmates, while physically free, remain mentally trapped, leading them back to their previous mistakes. Therefore, the success of correctional work is not measured by the number of institutions or inmates but by the recidivism rate. Years ago, a correctional director mentioned that one important reason for Hong Kong's relatively low recidivism rate compared to other regions is the involvement of many voluntary organizations, especially religious groups, in correctional rehabilitation efforts. The KSA has received support from numerous churches and volunteers, actively participating in correctional rehabilitation efforts, and guiding inmates to transform through the preaching of the Gospel and acts of love. In recent years, there has been a significant expansion of community work, with the Onesimus Training Scheme being a vital part of it. This program not only nurtures personal faith growth in participants but also equips them with a heart and skills for serving. During the pandemic, we led participants to serve in the community; this year, we took them on a short-term mission to Taiwan, broadening their experiences and perspectives in serving. It is known that many participants have been greatly inspired.

As I wrote, it was the Flag Day for KSA. While the economic support gained from selling flags is crucial for our work, it is equally important to let the public know that there is a group of Christians tirelessly working to diminish sin through the power of the Gospel.

Hiking with rehabilitated persons



Other Nations Ministry

Rev. Esther Tung

Assistant General Secretary

The Other Nations Ministry in KSA was started more than 20 years ago to minister to the inmates who do not speak Cantonese or Mandarin. The CSD and institutions were willing to open up Bible classes to specifically serve Other Nations inmates which could be conducted in English. This presented a great opportunity for KSA to be able to not only show love and care as believers to foreigners in Hong Kong who have no family and living in a very different culture but it was also an opportunity to be part of the great commission to bring the gospel to the ends of the earth right on our doorstep in the prisons. As the gospel changes their lives in the prison our prayer is that they will then bring the good news back to their families and communities.

As Hong Kong is an international city there are also many international churches who have provided volunteers from many different countries to join the ministry and serve the inmates.

Over the years the ministry has changed. Previously the ministry to the female inmates were held at Chi Ma Wan Correctional Institution and Lai Chi Kok Correctional Institution. Then the Lo Wu Correctional Institution was built to house the majority of female inmates and the inmates from these institutions moved to Lo Wu Correctional Institution. When the female inmates moved to Lo Wu we found that there were populations of inmates that spoke limited English so we needed to recruit volunteers who spoke those languages, at the time the needs were Tagalog, Indonesian, Spanish and Portuguese.

When we started the ministry to Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre there were many foreigners inside as that was when it was the peak of International travel and Hong Kong was a favored destination due to its proximity to China and Asia. We needed many volunteers who spoke languages other than English due to the diverse inmates that we were meeting.

Often we would meet people from literally the 'ends of the earth' as they had travelled from small country towns on the other side of the world and ended up in the prison. As inmates were convicted they were sent to other prisons to serve their sentences and we made sure that there were English speaking classes for them at these prisons so they could continue to be disciplined and grow deep in the word and in relationship with Jesus.

With inmates from so many countries it posed some challenges for us as we needed to find Bibles in rare languages. We were so grateful for volunteers and churches who visited family or went on overseas missions who were able to help bring back Bibles from these countries.

When the pandemic hit, the Institutions were closed to group visits so the Bible classes were stopped. This was a particularly challenging time for Other Nations inmates as they already have limited contact with family due to not being in the same country but also now they lose the chance to meet together and worship the Lord in their own language with other international inmates and volunteers. This made their time in the prison even more isolated and challenging. At this time the chaplains were able to visit them one to one, however there were so many to visit it was hard to provide enough support to each person. Keeping the faith at this time was truly tough for the inmates and they either learned to truly lean on the Lord and draw in to have a very strong and intimate relationship or they fell away and gave back into temptations and strife. This was a time of truly testing inmates' faith by fire and seeing who would come out as gold. As we could not go into the prison we encouraged inmates to study Bible correspondence courses and volunteers wrote cards and letters to keep exhorting the inmates to continue in the faith and grow strong. We also mailed Spiritual materials inside to ensure that the inmates continued to have steady spiritual materials available for them. We also found other means such as presenting Bible messages through radio stations that we knew inmates listened to. Thankfully we did hear feedback that these efforts were truly appreciated and the inmates were being spiritually fed through our support and it was helping them to be more directed in their own Bible reading and prayer. During this time we spent more time also focusing on building up the rehabilitated persons through having regular online fellowship, encouraging attendance at online Christian talks and conferences.

After the pandemic ended there have been some changes in the ministry as the borders were shut for a long time there have been fewer international travelers to Hong Kong which also meant that there were fewer foreigners inside the prison. Therefore the make up of the Other Nations classes changed to consist of more Other Nations people who were residing in Hong Kong already and also more Hong Kong born people who can speak English. As the borders opened up there have been more international travelers who have arrived to Hong Kong and are now being remanded and imprisoned. Sadly a large portion of the Other Nations inmates that have been convicted end up with long sentences. So we run many classes while they are in the remand stage to help build up their faith and foundation in order that they can be equipped either to be released to continue in their faith and bring their faith back home or if they are convicted to prepare for the challenges that arise if they are convicted. While they are inside we will aim to provide interest classes and practical programs such as Quit Smoking to help them put the gospel into practice as well as learn some new ways they can worship using music, drawing and dance.

When the inmates are released we changed our physical fellowship to online fellowship as started during the pandemic as we could continue to meet with those who want to continue to grow in faith who have returned back to their home countries but truly want to be used by the Lord in their family and communities. The fellowship provides accountability as members walk together as the family of Christ to help each other achieve their personal as well as spiritual goals in order to be lights to the ends of the earth.



An other nations rehabilitated persons share at volunteer training



An on-line Seeds Fellowship for other nations rehabilitated persons



Christmas Evangelism Volunteer Team



Exist For Love: A Place Where God Called Me

Chow Ying Fung

Onesimus Training Scheme Graduate,
currently a full-time staff at a church



I was once deeply trapped in sin, unable to break free from drugs despite numerous attempts to quit. It wasn't until I joined a Christian small group that I discovered the preacher was a former big shot in the criminal underworld. Witnessing his transformation ignited a desire for change in me. In this small group, my faith was gradually strengthened. I found companions for the journey and learned how to rely on Jesus. After about half a year, I became completely clean and sober. However, while I managed to overcome the physical withdrawal from drugs, my mind still occasionally craved them.

During a mission trip to Taiwan with my small group to a place called "Exist For Love," where individuals with physical or mental disabilities and ex-inmates live together, I encountered a teenager with intellectual challenges. I learned that his parents had kept him locked in a dog cage since childhood until he was rescued by the organization. They would mix sleeping pills into his food when he became noisy, leading to his intellectual impairment. The parents' actions were driven by their drug addiction. This revelation left me in tears as I shared it with my teammates back in our room. Those tears weren't just for the young man; they were a release from the chains of addiction that had bound me. I no longer felt the urge to use drugs; I knew it was the Lord who had helped me and set me free.

The following day, we were all set to run several kilometers to a dam with the residents. Despite my lack of physical training, especially after quitting drugs just six months prior, I thought the task was impossible. To my surprise, I was paired with one of the fastest runners among the residents! As we ran together, I kept asking if he needed a break, but in reality, it was me who wanted to stop. He reassured me he was fine, being a marathon runner himself. Following his lead, we ended up finishing first!

I thought it was time to rest, but then a voice echoed in my ears: "Turn back and strengthen your brothers!" Initially, I thought it might be a hallucination, but the voice persisted, urging me to go back. I saw the residents running towards me, some with physical disabilities, others in wheelchairs or with intellectual challenges. At that moment, I found the strength to run towards them, cheering them on, until I reached the last one and ran back with them to the finish line. When I later shared this with a sister, she mentioned that it was God speaking to me. Since then, I have made the decision to serve God.

In 2024, the Onesimus team decided to embark on another short mission to Exist For Love, and I immediately wanted to join, hoping to bring my wife and two-year-old daughter back to the place where I was called. I answered God's calling and chose to follow Him, experiencing a shower of blessings. I hope that my daughter will also walk this path of grace in the future.

Exist For Love has become a place where I find rejuvenation. This upcoming trip feels like a confirmation of my decision to serve God, reminiscent of the day of my calling. Currently preparing for further studies, uncertain of what the future holds, I am willing to respond to God's call and am grateful for His affirmation and love. I aspire to become a better version of myself, one that God can use for His purposes. I eagerly anticipate embarking on another short-term mission journey with the Onesimus team once again.



Serving the members of the "Exist for Love"

Celebrating My Birthday During the Short-Term Mission

Chan Wai Keung

Onesimus Training Scheme Trainee,
currently studying and serving in the
male dormitory of KSA

In July 2024, I participated in Onesimus's short-term mission journey for the first time. This time, our destination was the Exist For Love in Kaohsiung City. (Exist For Love is the name of a home for those with physical and mental disabilities. "The Home" will be used in this article in referring to the place.) During our four days at The Home of Exist For Love, Pastor Kong and his wife shared with us the origin of The Home, stories of the residents, and songs created by their team.

One of the most memorable tasks during these days was renovating a place for a new family at The Home—a husband and wife both with intellectual disabilities, raising a daughter. The area, originally a warehouse, needed to be transformed into their living space. Initially estimated to take three days due to the size of the room and the amount of clutter, we were grateful to have another short-term mission team from another church at The Home simultaneously. Together, we worked diligently to clear the clutter, paint the room, and remarkably completed the renovation in just two days. Not only that, the Onesimus team and the children of the residents painted a colorful mural on the new walls, featuring flowers, fish, and a dove symbolizing the Holy Spirit, adding warmth to the room. Witnessing the entire team coming together to accomplish the task and seeing the joy on the faces of the family of three as they saw their new room filled me with satisfaction and joy.

Throughout the short-term mission, our team performed skits for them, played games with them, held gatherings, sang and danced in worship. We lived together and cared for the residents of The Home. Everyone was deeply engaged, full of joy, and experienced the warmth and love within The Home.



After the short-term mission, the team celebrated my birthday. I remember my last birthday spent abroad was several years ago in a Macau prison. I thank God! Since coming to know Him, He has brought a great renewal to my life, given me a team full of love and inspiration, provided me with a safe and harmonious dormitory, helped me reintegrate into society, filled my heart with contentment and removed my fears, adding warmth to the walls of my once grey life.



My First Short-Term Mission

Wong Pui Yi

Onesimus Training Scheme trainee, currently working in the female dormitory of KSA



Mission Team and the "Exist for Love"

I am very grateful that I could finally participate in Onesimus's short-term mission. Four years ago, the Onesimus team had arranged for an overseas short-term mission, but it was canceled due to the pandemic.

During the short-term mission, one team member accidentally injured her hand and ribs. Despite the pain, she persevered and completed the entire short-term mission. After taking medication, she needed rest, so I learned to take care of her—delivering food, assisting her in walking, and helping her with various tasks. I appreciated the mutual assistance and collaboration within our team throughout the journey, which deepened the relationships among the team members.

The homes of Exist For Love accommodate various individuals who face difficulties and lack care in society. Pastor Kong, his wife, and their team work tirelessly to care for so many people, facing many complex issues with dedication and enthusiasm. They live alongside these individuals, persistently loving and believing in Jesus's power to change lives. This has been a great source of encouragement for me! In my service at the dormitory, there are times when I feel weary, and their example has inspired me.

Life at the homes of Exist For Love is simple and routine. Everyone has their responsibilities, and they care for each other. They even produce items like cake rolls, ice cream, and popsicles, providing opportunities for self-sufficiency for the residents. During lunch, all the residents and us gather together. We started with praise and worship with motions, followed by a prayer before the meal. This scene deeply moved me!

One afternoon, we held a gathering for the residents, and I was responsible for a role in a skit that required speaking Mandarin. This was a significant challenge for me, and the night before, I kept rehearsing the lines in my head. Thankfully, the Lord helped me remember and deliver them. During game time, we helped each other in tossing balls. I noticed some individuals struggling with coordination, so we assisted and encouraged them, helping them enjoy the games more. During worship, we led them in dancing. I was surprised to see how coordinated their movements were. It was a joyful worship experience where I truly felt God's presence.

On Sunday, we worshipped together at Nanzih Presbyterian Church. When Pastor Kong's wife led the worship, she suddenly invited me to lead everyone in dancing. Strangely, I wasn't afraid at that moment. Instead, I joyfully stepped forward, and many dance moves came to mind. I led everyone in dancing and praising the Lord. At that moment, I felt that our Heavenly Father embraced us like children, and without hesitation, we joyfully drew near to Him and worshipped Him.

This was my first time participating in a short-term mission, which expanded my horizons and taught me about working as a team in everything we do. Seeing the residents delighted with even the smallest things made me reflect on cherishing all that I have. Knowing that Exist For Love is moving to a new location, I pray for the Lord's guidance, blessings, and provision!



Drama "The Victory Stone"

KSA Family Day

Parent-child Floral Arrangement Activity

Lee Bo Ki, Floral

Art instructor

I would like to express our gratitude to the KSA and the Lo Wu Correctional Institution for allowing us to bring a positive impact to the inmates through floral art.

On June 20th this year, during the 'Blooming Flowers, Gathering at Luo Hu' event as part of the 'KSA Family Day,' I served as a floral art instructor, providing a unique flower arranging experience for the female inmates at the facility.

This parent-child flower arranging activity involved inmates working together with their parents or children, offering not only a lesson in floral art creation but also a spiritual cleansing. Through the creative process, the inmates and their families not only learned about flower arrangements but also experienced the power of beauty



and the hope of life. Floral art can stimulate inner creativity and a sense of peace, allowing them to find solace in special moments.

During the event, we felt the enthusiasm and dedication of the inmates and witnessed their progression from being unfamiliar to the ability to create something independently. Their sense of achievement and joy deeply touched each instructor. Floral art is an art form filled with love and care, and we hope that this love can take root in their hearts, providing them with the courage and strength to face the future.

We look forward to participating in more such activities in the future, continuing to contribute to communities in need. We appreciate the support of all participants and staff, and may each flower bring warmth and hope.

香港基督教更新會 2024年1-6月份財政報告

KSA Financial Report for the period from 1 January 2024 to 30 June 2024

收入 Income	港幣HK\$
奉獻 Donation	3,061,507
宿舍租金收入 Hostel Rental Income	501,587
其他收入 Other Incomes	81,810
賣旗收入 Flag Day Income	85,550
總收入 Total Income	3,730,454
支出 Expenses	
行政費用 Administration Overheads	1,002,948
事工費用 Ministry Expenses	3,156,624
賣旗支出 Flag Day Expenses	32,991
總支出 Total Expenses	4,192,563
本期事工不敷 Ministry Deficit for the period	462,109
扣減 2024年指定基金備用 Less Accumulated Reserve of Designated Funds for 2024	102,649
本期累積事工不敷 Accumulated Deficit for the period	(564,758)

備註：上述報告未經核數師覆核，只供參考。

The above reports presented without auditor review that the figures are only for reference.

奉獻方法 Donation can be made by

奉獻港幣\$100或以上者，將獲免稅收據。Tax-deductible receipt will be issued for donation of HK\$100 or above.

- 劃線支票抬頭請寫「香港基督教更新會有限公司」。
Crossed cheque made payable to "The Hong Kong Christian Kun Sun Association Ltd."
- 直接存入香港匯豐銀行戶口416-4-010375，並將入數收據連同此封郵寄/ 傳真/ 電郵/ Whatsapp 5409 5099至本會。
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感恩與代禱 Thanksgiving & Prayer

1

感謝主，9月14日的賣旗籌款活動順利進行。主賜下美好的天氣，參加賣旗的義工200多人，感謝弟兄姊妹當天盡心盡力的服侍，也感謝各位購買金旗券的踴躍和慷慨。願我們善用所得的款項，繼續作合乎主心意的事工。

Praise God for the successful flag day fundraising event on September 14th. The Lord blessed us with beautiful weather, and over 200 volunteers participated in the flag day. Thanks to the dedication of brothers and sisters who served wholeheartedly on that day. Also, gratitude to everyone who generously purchased the gold flag coupons. May we use the funds received wisely to continue ministries that are pleasing to the Lord.



男女宿舍舍友努力幫忙賣旗 The hostel's member worked very hard on Flag Day

2

感恩更新會和懲教署有美好的合作，在懲教署的「更生伙伴嘉許計劃」中獲獎，被表揚過去一直對更生工作的支持和貢獻。

Thankful for the fruitful collaboration between KSA and the Hong Kong Correctional Services, where we were honored in the Hong Kong Correctional Services' Rehabilitation Partners Award Scheme, recognizing our ongoing support and contributions to rehabilitation work.



3

勵顧懲教所於去年改為用作關押被入境事務處羈留人士的羈留中心，今年本會在該院所開展探訪事工，探訪成年女性羈留者。另本會也在羅湖懲教所為外籍囚友舉辦「Quit Smoking through Music Therapy」活動，請記念。

Nei Kwu Correctional Institution was transformed last year into a detention center for persons detained by the Immigration Department. This year, KSA initiated a visitation ministry at the facility, focusing on adult female detainees. Additionally, we organized the Quit Smoking through Music Therapy activity for foreign inmates at the Lo Wu Correctional Institution. Please remember them in your prayers.

4

中秋節期間，「阿尼西母訓練」的同學進入社區派月餅和物資，向街坊作個人佈道，關懷禱告；「深恩團契」一些弟兄姊妹自發在社區街頭 busking，唱詩歌、派福音單張、分享見証。祝福更生人士常常心裏火熱，見證服侍主。

During the Mid-Autumn Festival, some students of the Onesimus Training Scheme outreach to the community to distribute mooncakes and supplies, sharing personal testimonies and offering care and prayers to the neighbors. Members of the Full Grace Fellowship volunteered to busk on the streets, singing hymns, distributing gospel leaflets, and sharing testimonies. May the passion for the Lord continue to burn brightly as they serve as witnesses.



5

本年度的「天使樹聖誕行動」正招募在囚人士參加，義工將上門把聖誕禮物及由囚友親自寫的聖誕卡送給參加囚友的孩子或父母。願主祝福這愛的行動，也幫助這些家庭修補關係。

This year's Christmas initiative of The Angel Tree Program is recruiting inmate participants. Volunteers will visit homes to deliver Christmas gifts and cards personally written by inmates to the children or parents of participating inmates. May the Lord bless this act of love and help mend relationships in these families.

6

請記念本年度的聖誕節監獄佈道；求主開路，讓我們可進到更多的院所舉行聚會。又為我們預備合作的團隊，把福音遍傳各個院所。

Please remember this year's Christmas prison outreach. Pray for the Lord to open doors for us to hold gatherings in more institutions. Also, pray for the preparation of our collaborative team to spread the Gospel to various institutions.

7

感謝主賜我們兩位新同工，分別負責行政及事工。願主大大賜福和使用他們，成為監獄事工的祝福。

Thank the Lord for blessing us with two new colleagues, each responsible for administration and ministry. May the Lord greatly bless and use them to be a blessing in prison ministry.