



Karen Tsang &lt;karen.tsang@mcbc.com&gt;

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**Fw: Chiu on This #37**

1 message

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**SIMON YUEN** <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>  
To: Karen Tsang <karen.tsang@mcbc.com>

Thu, Mar 2, 2023 at 3:10 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Michelle Chiu <wingsi.michelle@gmail.com>  
**To:** Simon Yuen <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 2 March 2023 at 14:54:33 GMT-5  
**Subject:** Chiu on This #37

# Chiu on This

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## Hello,

It has been a while. I'm still alive! And still in my (less) new HR role. And still juggling like every working mom.

The longer I'm in this role, the more I realize that so much of Personnel work is not something I can disclose openly, especially in a medium like this. Details can only be anonymized so much before things become vague and meaningless, generic reports of "God showed up!" It has made writing these prayer letters well more difficult than before. And yet there's so much I want to share! Somewhat mysteriously, I can only ask that you pray for us as we employ our skills, knowledge, and care to exploring how our Canadian team can serve better together in fellowship. And as always, please pray for those who are partway through our candidate process for serving overseas. Oh and please don't forget our workers who have been patiently waiting to (finally) travel to their field or eagerly awaiting return.



Evan unabashedly hugging our friend's dog. His love for most animals has not diminished, and he especially likes dogs.

In addition, rotating illnesses at Evan's daycare means that our whole family is in survival mode once every two weeks on average. OMF work gets done at odd, unpredictable hours, sometimes while a fevering child naps, sometimes while a grandma is serving up a snack or making cars out of play dough (to Evan's great delight). I'm just about ready to start a friendly game of "Working Parent Bingo" to remember to laugh. Some days are long, friends.

But the years are certainly short. Just like that, Evan is nearly 2.5 years old. Just like that, we were at the airport, seeing our friends and OMF colleagues fly out to Japan for long-term ministry, their 9-month-old baby in tow. Just like that, 2022 is off the calendar, and the murmuring of Spring's arrival is on the wind (and in the official announcements that yet again, it's almost time to turn the clocks forward).



Bittersweet goodbyes to Kevin, Jessica, and Aria as they flew out to Japan for long-term ministry. By God's grace, Aria was an absolute delight on the 14-hour flight!

We are immensely grateful for the big and small ways God has shown up for us as a family trying to ride out wave after wave of illness. Especially when Alwin travels for work and I'm going solo. Our hearts and souls are full of reminders of God's love when we are (miraculously!) healthy and able to share a meal with friends. We are so grateful for coworkers, friends, and family who offer timely food, medication, childcare, compassion, encouragement. They look at us through eyes of grace and faith and love—cheering for us, hoping for us, praying for us, when we are too exhausted or unwell to do much other than push a toy car back and forth while lying on the floor. And only occasionally falling asleep.





Having some fun with cookies and OMF kiddos! (These were homemade gingerbread cookies, complete with separately baked clothing.)

We know that even in these days, a blur of weeks whipping off the calendar, unsure sometimes of how or where God is at work in the millionth load of laundry this week, or in the thousandth attempt (in vain) to teach Evan to say hello, or in being interrupted in the middle of a work day by the daycare with that dreaded photo of the thermometer reading 38.1°C

—these days too, the Lord has made.

And we are learning—slowly, if somewhat haltingly—to rejoice in them.

Shalom,

Michelle.



Evan decided to label all of us based on the first letter of our first names. We were not allowed to remove these for the next hour or so... :)

**Help Me Get to 100% Support!**





Karen Tsang &lt;karen.tsang@mcbc.com&gt;

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**Fw: Chiu on This #36**

1 message

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**SIMON YUEN** <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>  
To: Karen Tsang <karen.tsang@mcbc.com>

Wed, Feb 16, 2022 at 9:00 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Michelle Chiu <wingsi.michelle@gmail.com>**To:** Simon Yuen <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>**Sent:** Wednesday, 16 February 2022, 16:44:22 GMT-5**Subject:** Chiu on This #36

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# Chiu on This

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## Dear Simon,

Hello!

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones well, in every sense of the word. Since I last wrote, our days have been filled with the regular roller coaster highs and lows of work, chores, and caring for a no-longer-a-baby-but-not-yet-a-toddler, exaggerated by the forces of this persistent pandemic. The days are long, but the years are short—it shocked me to find that my last update to you all was back in August 2021! Somehow, it feels like every day is the same, and yet, suddenly, everything has changed.

In light of all this, it has been comforting to be reminded that God is seeing us through every moment of every hour. As someone recently prayed for us: Our

God is a God of seasons, and winter is a season where we learn resilience and discover new depths and breadths of God's faithfulness, patience, and providence. Amen to that!



Evan poking frozen condensation on the inside of our windows on one of those mornings when it was -20C.

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## Key Updates

- I'm back on two of the committees I was part of before maternity leave: the **Financial Provision Committee** (FPC) and the **Crisis Management Team** (CMT). Both these groups require clarity of thought, wisdom, and creativity to address the issues or changes that arise. Please continue to pray for us as we continue to review and propose changes to policy (FPC) and pivot and communicate well as the pandemic progresses (CMT). We're all too aware of our limitations and very much need the Lord as we look for solutions and/or next steps.
- **Adjustment to this HR role continues.** On some days, I miss working closely with our Mobilization team. More and more, I'm growing in appreciation for belonging to a team, being supervised by someone who



has experience and expertise in the same area of work, and taking a more active role in effecting internal change. Thank you for praying for me, even though I haven't been able to share many of the details (unlike when I was in Comms)!



My first "work shift" of the day sometimes involves drawing cars in the snow.





Parenting win: Taking your child for a "walk" in the underground parking garage when it's too cold and windy outside.

Unlike last year, Evan took notice of our Christmas tree. Hence the tree fence.

- **Working mom life** is a whole new adventure for our family. We would appreciate your ongoing prayers for physical, mental, and emotional energy, a spirit of endurance, and restful sleep for everyone—especially Evan's grandmothers, who regularly look after him! Please pray also for creativity... if you've ever been trapped at home for hours with a small child, you know intimately this very special blessing in disguise. :)
- Evan's currently *very* into **cows and chickens**. They're his waking thought, if his intra-crib monologues are any indication. Alwin and I are routinely surprised by how our hearts fill with sudden joy, delight, and pride when watching Evan. The pandemic took much away from us as first-time parents, but enabled us to be continuously present for Evan's every milestone. It won't always be this way, and we are thankful for this season of closeness as a family.



Evan "kissing" a cat I drew on a container.

I'd like to leave you with an excerpt of a liturgy from **Every Moment Holy** by Douglas Kaine McKelvey. Alwin and I have been very blessed by McKelvey's reflective writing and heartfelt prayers. Praying that this blesses you today:

When the cacophony of  
universal distress unsettles us,  
remind us that we are but small  
and finite creatures...  
justice and mercy,  
healing and redemption,  
are your great labours.

From "A Liturgy for those Flooded by Too Much Information".  
*Every Moment Holy Vol. 1*

Shalom,

Michelle.

**Help Me Get to 100% Support!**



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Karen Tsang <karen.tsang@mcbc.com>

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## Fwd: Chiu on This #20

1 message

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**Simon Yuen** <simon.yuen@mcbc.com>  
To: Karen Tsang <karen.tsang@mcbc.com>

Sat, Nov 27, 2021 at 10:33 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michelle Chiu** <wingsi.michelle@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Nov 28, 2017 at 4:44 PM

Subject: Chiu on This #20

To: MCBC <mission.missionarycare@mcbc.com>

[View this email in your browser](#)



# CHIU ON THIS

## AN OMF PRAYER LETTER

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**Dear MCBC,**

As we enter this Christmas season, I realize I've been at OMF for almost two years now. In many ways, I do not think my 27 year-old self would be able to recognize the current me—and I am thankful for these changes that God has wrought in my heart. I pray that this Advent will bring you back to the mystery of Jesus's Incarnation—with all the love, joy, and peace that it brings.

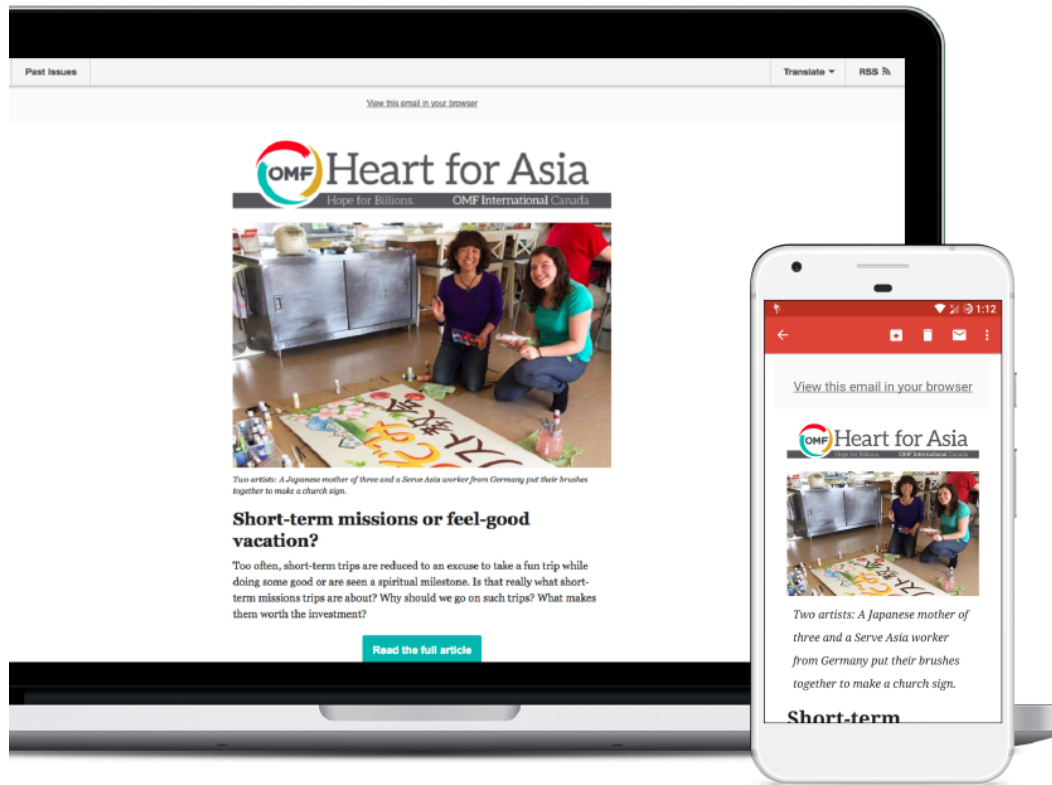
May you never be too busy to rejoice and give thanks!

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## Ministry Update

- **Heart for Asia mailing list clean-up. *WE'RE DONE!!!*** It is difficult to express the magnitude of the task and the speed at which it was completed. Enormously thankful for God's provision of timely volunteers who endured hours of tedious data entry. Thank you for praying for my team and me as we blitzed this past month.
- **Heart for Asia digital is finally launching!** You still have time to sign up! I'm quite excited to present this new format of the newsletter, which allows

us to pull stories and resources from all over OMF's ministries in East Asia, not just ones with Canadian workers!



Click [here](#) to sign up!

## Personal Update

- **We're engaged!** "We" meaning Alwin and I. (Some of you may recognize him from some of the photos I've included in previous letters.) We're delighted and thankful for the incredible way that God has joined our paths and futures. Thank you for praying for us—individually and as a couple. Alwin and I are looking forward to discovering how God will continue to mold us into a family unit that seeks his glory and kingdom purposes.





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## Praise and Prayer

1. **Praise** for the timely completion of the Heart for Asia mailing list cleaning!
2. **Praise** for an encouraging Sunday school teaching time at both CCAC and MCBC. I was able to meet and reintroduce a longtime prayer partner of OMF back to a local OMF prayer group; she was delighted to be able to pray with others for unreached peoples again.
3. **Praise** for all the wedding planning progress thus far!
4. **Pray** for God to lead as I revisit my approach to partnership development. We had a pre-training day in November that provoked much thought and reflection.
5. **Pray** for the wedding planning process, particularly in time management. Pray for joy throughout this leg of the journey!
6. **Pray** for a supporter's family; her uncle was diagnosed with late-stage cancer recently. Pray for family harmony and daily strength.
7. **Pray** also for my grandfather (mum's side), who has been diagnosed with cancer. He has declined strong treatment as his age precludes him from

remission. We will be visiting him in Hong Kong in February; pray for a rich time of reconnecting with relatives, and that we might be a blessing to those who are wrestling with my grandfather's decision.

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Thank you for all your prayers and your monetary gifts and notes of encouragement. Even though it doesn't always appear obvious, every gift you offer helps us bring the gospel to those who have never heard of Jesus. Thank you for your gifts in faith and gratitude.

Your fellow servant,

*Michelle  
Chiu*



Icons made by [Freepik](#) from [FlatIcon](#). Modified by me.

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I am currently working as the Communications Coordinator in the OMF Canada national office. My specific ministry is to tell the stories of what God is doing through OMF in East Asia through creative and culturally relevant mediums so the Canadian church can be informed, equipped, and inspired to go and make disciples wherever they go—"in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the Earth."

Feel free to forward this letter to friends whom you think would be interested!

They can always sign up to receive updates [here](#).



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To view this discussion on the web visit <https://groups.google.com/a/mcbs.com/d/msgid/Mission.MissionaryCare/42c17089978959afd52ef9039.b30fbff107.20171128214424.d9286c3ff2.f074f10d%40mail23.atl111.rsgsv.net>.





Karen Tsang &lt;karen.tsang@mcbc.com&gt;

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**Fw: Chiu on This #32**

1 message

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**SIMON YUEN** <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>  
To: Karen Tsang <karen.tsang@mcbc.com>

Wed, Aug 21, 2019 at 1:11 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Michelle Chiu <wingsi.michelle@gmail.com>**To:** Simon Yuen <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 August 2019, 16:18:17 GMT-4**Subject:** Chiu on This #32

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## Chiu on This

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## Hello friend!

*"The world is fairly studded and strewn with pennies cast broadside by a generous hand. But—and this is the point—who gets excited by a mere penny? But if you cultivate a healthy poverty and simplicity, so that finding a penny will literally make your day, then, since the world is in fact planted in pennies, you have with your poverty bought a lifetime of days."*

*—Annie Dillard, "Pilgrim at Tinker Creek"*

Hello! How are you? Last I wrote, I was sitting in the sun. It is almost certainly far too hot for that today. The cicadas in the trees outside our window are working hard; they can almost drown out the sound of the traffic. Our basil

plants are thick and bushy with leaves—a sign of heat and sunshine. In spite of the longer daylight hours, the days have flown by.

I spend a lot of time living in the past and future; when I was growing up, my parents and teachers always had to remind me to "try to enjoy the present moment". I'm not sure I ever managed! So it is with great satisfaction and joy for me to write that God has taught me how to do just that in this season. Sometimes, the Holy Spirit has gently but firmly pulled me to a stop and brought my attention to something I'd looked at a million times.

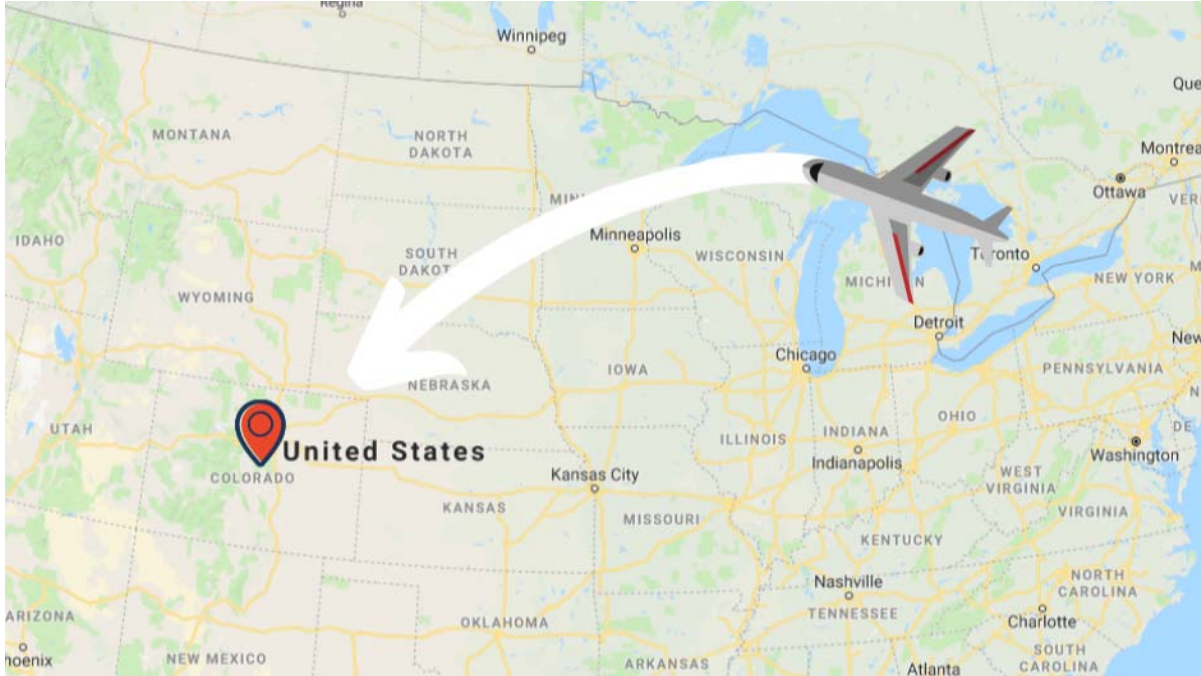
The shower faucet. Alwin dicing mushrooms. Berry smears on the pavement.

All sorts of things that make up the mundane, suddenly made awesome (and dare I say holy?). The rush of gratitude surprises me, takes the air out of my lungs as if there was suddenly less space in my chest. In hundreds of these moments, of seeing the "small" things, God has caused me to worship.



A white marked tussock moth caterpillar hanging out on a patio chair. It took me a few minutes to figure out which end was the head! Couldn't help but marvel at this little guy.

# Ministry Update



- **US GATHERING:** OMF US is hosting a gathering for International and North American Comms workers in their national office in September! The schedule is not out yet, but the general idea is to reconnect or connect with new members in the Comms community, to learn from one another, and look for ways to collaborate/share resources/know-how. Please pray for our planning committee—it's tough to do regular Comms work *and* plan a conference!
- **FINANCIAL PROVISION COMMITTEE:** Thanks for praying for us! It's hard to describe exactly what we're dealing with without going too much into the details, so I'll just say this—making good policy is *hard work*. Sometimes, it can feel like every decision is the wrong one. And unlike the Comms work, I can't set this aside even after I've shut my laptop. We would so very much appreciate your prayer for continued wisdom!
- **PUBLICATION SCHEDULES:** Ah yes, it's that time of year again! The Heart for Asia newsletter theme has been set and we're now looking for writers. Having encountered all sorts of hiccups in the production process, I don't take anything for granted anymore! Please pray for everyone involved in the writing, copyediting, design, proofing, printing, and delivery.





### The Money Minute

*I know, I know. It's an OMF prayer letter, and I've used the word "money". I was using "Finance" before, but I think you all just translate it in your heads anyway. :) Why not call a spade a spade? (Or a cat a cat, if you speak French.) Besides, alliterated phrases are catchy.*

Since the start of this year to end of July, I'm at an average of 54% support!

Yay! To those of you who donate, thank you for continuing to support my call to this ministry. And to those of you who have counselled me, cooked me delicious meals, messaged me funny GIFs, prayed for me (and then followed up with me), replied to my prayer letters, thank you too!

## Personal Update



Our lovely friends, sending us off at the Saint John airport.



- **RUN FOR THE HILLS:** Last time I wrote, we were about to head West to the Canadian Rockies to camp. The week before we flew out, Parks Canada issued a travel advisory for the Icefield Parkway, saying that it had snowed. (We quickly repacked.) Both of us were captivated by God's awesome creation: beautiful, rugged, wild. Such a humbling experience to wake up in the presence of these stone giants. It was a much-needed reminder that God is big—very very big—and his ways, mysterious as they are, are truly higher than ours.
- **VISITING OLD FRIENDS:** We recently returned from visiting some friends in the Atlantic. (Some of you may recognize them!) It was a joy to be with them again, catching up, meeting their new church community, and reconnecting with their daughter and granddaughter (they grow so fast!). The Sunday before we left, Alwin was asked to share his testimony and I was invited to sing with the worship team. We did so, feeling that this was God calling us to share our voices with this small rural church at this time.
- **HONG KONG & HEARTBREAK:** Hardly a day goes by without another headline about Hong Kong. The tension is not just political, but social. Differing opinions on solutions, characterizations, credibility of media outlets, motivations, and actions are dividing communities, churches, and even families. Would you please pray for wisdom, humility, and grace? Pray for our Christian brothers and sisters over there; it's complicated. Pray too, that the violence would de-escalate, and a clear solution would arise.

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## Thanksgiving and Requests

1. Thanking God that Alwin and I have both had a chance to slow down and pay attention to the all the ways that God shows his love for us.
2. I'd like to ask prayer for a friend who's in distress. They're facing a very difficult transition right now, and don't have much support. Would you please pray for them, that they'd get the help they need, and that they would feel the special presence of God in this season?
3. Please pray too, for FAC, our home church. We have many older adults in our congregation, and a number of them have been called home to the

Lord this summer. Our leadership is reviewing and revising policy as well —they need the Lord's guidance on how best to do that.

4. Please keep praying for Alwin and me as we grow deeper in faith and marriage together. It has not been perfect, but boy has it ever been good.

Don't hesitate to let me know how Alwin and I can be praying for you guys!

Shalom,

Michelle.



**Help Me Get to 100% Support!**



Karen Tsang <karen.tsang@mcbc.com>

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## Fw: Chiu on This #31

1 message

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**SIMON YUEN** <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>

To: Karen Tsang <karen.tsang@mcbc.com>

Cc: MissionaryCare MCBC Mission <mission.missionarycare@mcbc.com>

Tue, Jun 11, 2019 at 11:13 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Michelle Chiu <wingsi.michelle@gmail.com>

**To:** Simon Yuen <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>

**Sent:** Monday, 10 June 2019, 19:59:32 GMT-4

**Subject:** Chiu on This #31

# Chiu on This

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## Hello friend!

I hope this email finds you well! I'm happy to report that I'm sitting in the sun as I write this, and delighted that it almost feels uncomfortably warm. Ah yes, the

first tingles of Summer.

In this moment of quiet, I wanted to share something the pastoral teaching team at FAC has been leading us to reflect on in the past few weeks: the image of the river. It is mentioned in [Ezekiel 47](#), when Ezekiel is given a vision of the temple. This trickle of water begins inside the temple, and with impossible speed, grows into a river so deep that Ezekiel could not cross. Then "the man" explains to Ezekiel that the river continues down to the Dead Sea where it will turn the saltwater to freshwater; everywhere this river flows, life will be found in abundance. Fruit trees will grow on both banks of this river, and will bear fruit every month of the year. Their leaves will not wither. Their fruit will be food and their leaves for healing.

In Jesus' words: "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" (John 7:37b-38)

In Revelation, the river is flowing through the city of God, and growing on both sides of it is the tree of life, which also yields fruit every month, and its leaves are also for healing.

I'll let the Holy Spirit say what he will to you. For me, it was reassuring and encouraging to be reminded that Christ, our living water, is a mighty river that flows unhindered and unstoppable—where we drink deeply of his mercy, love, goodness, grace, we can expect that he will strengthen us, grow us, bloom us, and bring healing through us.

Amen to that!

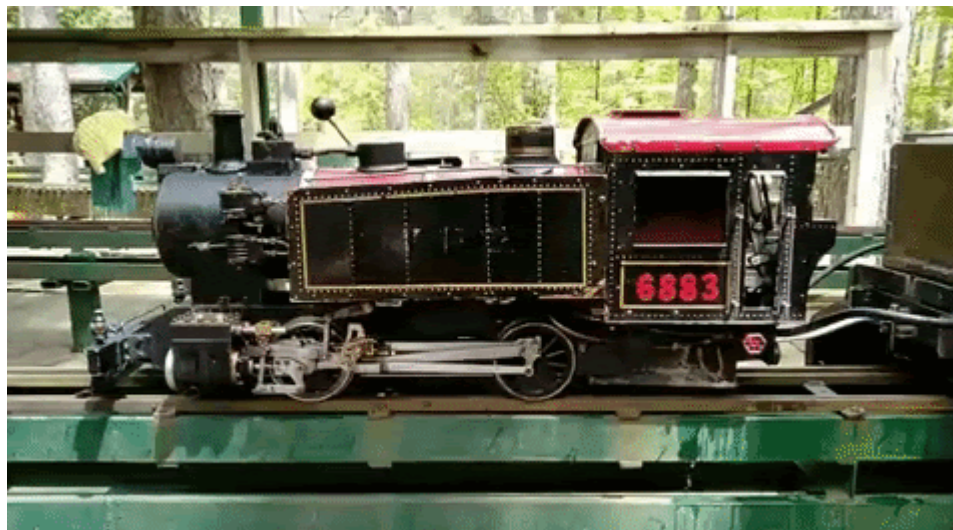




Living Waters by Keith and Kristyn Getty

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## Ministry Update



- **FINANCIAL PROVISION COMMITTEE:** One of the hats I'm wearing this year at OMF. I haven't written about this very much because most of the matters we deal with are internal, but the last meeting we had was fairly forward-looking and... sticky. *I would appreciate if you could ask God to give us wisdom and grace as we (the committee) work towards decisions that glorify God.*
- **OFFICE DAY AWAY:** Another hat I wore recently! Our office has a "day away" once a year; the program varies from year to year, depending on the goals and the planners. This year, after receiving feedback, we planned for a day of light-hearted, low-key fun. We weren't sure the rain was going to hold off, but God gave us beautiful weather for the day as we rode miniature trains, worshipped together, and played Crokinole. So so thankful for warm fellowship time filled with laughter.
- **LOOKING AHEAD:** Hard to believe it has already been four years since I stepped into the OMF CA office. (If I were an overseas worker, I'd be preparing to go on my first home assignment/furlough!) I've been reflecting on my journey so far, thinking about the bigger picture, taking stock of where I am, and where God is directing Alwin and me. I get the sense that there are decisions we're going to have to make in the future, and ask for your support in prayer.

### Finance Update

Since the start of this year to today, I'm at an average of **35%** support. Quite a fluctuation from last year's total year average,

which was 68 percent! Please pray that God would continue to  
lead and guide me through this roller coaster of partnership  
development.

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## Personal Update



Yayyyy! Married!

- **A WEDDING:** Alwin and I helped out at Mel and Vince's wedding in mid-May, which was equal parts fun and exhausting. (Hey, don't laugh—young people are aging too. That's how they get old...er.) They had a great time (both of them!) and most people felt like the day went without a hitch. :) (A



great relief when you're General Manager!) Thank you God!

- **ANOTHER WEDDING:** Alwin and I are both General Managers (or Day-Of Coordinators) for our friends as they get married next weekend. We have both been blessed to walk alongside them as they journey towards marriage, and we're excited for them as they make their marriage covenant. Please pray for them as they move into the final week of wedding preparations!
- **A BREAK:** We're both taking some time off in late June—to go camping somewhere new! Neither of us being particularly seasoned campers, we'd appreciate your prayer for safety, but more importantly, that we'd experience the presence of God as we turn away from the regular mundane schedule of our lives and deliberately turn towards him.

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## Thanksgiving and Requests

1. Thank you God for sustaining Alwin and me both when weekends have been jam-packed! He has been pacing us and lifting us up when we're at our limits.
2. Alwin and I would like to ask specifically for vision, grounding, and patience in this season of life—we're thankful for where we are, but are also aware that there are likely changes ahead. Seeking greater faith in the face of uncertainty, and deeper knowledge that Jesus will hold us fast.
3. Thank God for growing our Mobilization department—my end of the office has been filled with more life than ever, and it warms my heart

(even as I find it more difficult to concentrate some days).

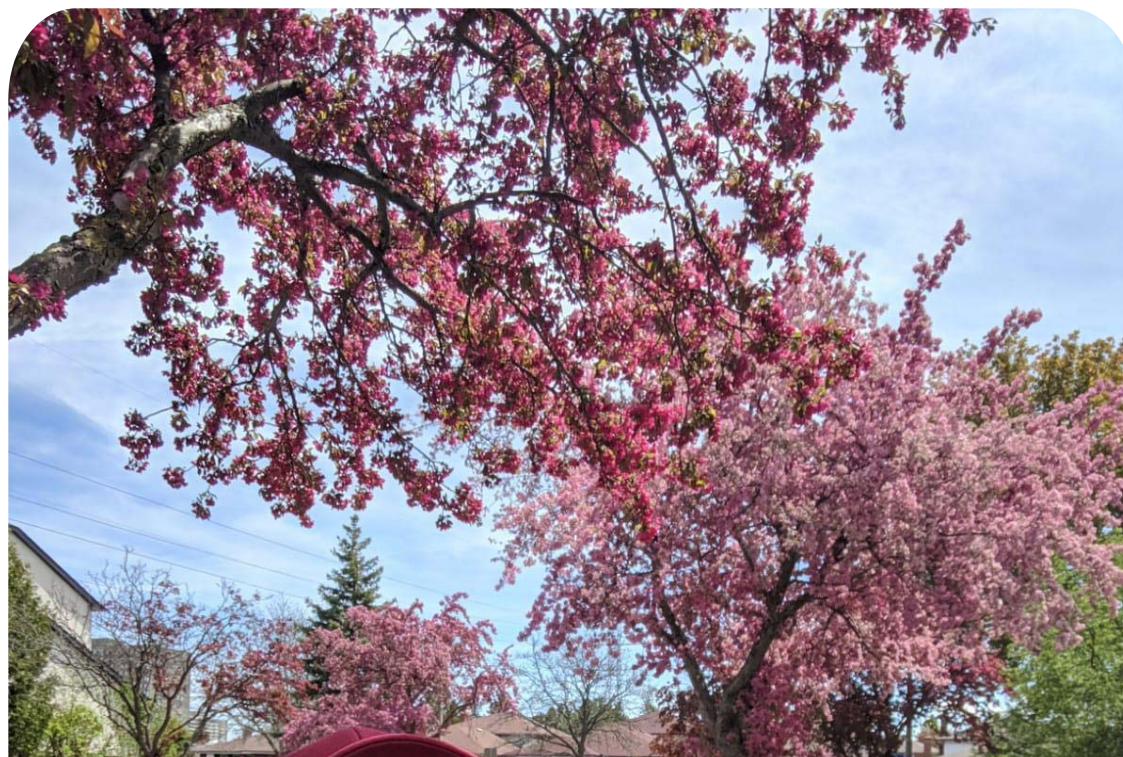
4. Would you remember our church, First Alliance Church? During the last congregational meeting, where they welcomed us as new members, there was mention of large repairs on the building that would require an increase in giving. Our building is used by multiple churches/gatherings and is a vital resource.

5. Thanking God for all of you who keep us in your prayers!!! :)

Don't hesitate to let me know how Alwin and I can be praying for you guys!

Shalom,

Michelle.





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Karen Tsang &lt;karen.tsang@mcbc.com&gt;

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**Fw: Chiu on This #30**

1 message

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**SIMON YUEN** <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>  
To: Karen Tsang <karen.tsang@mcbc.com>

Mon, Apr 22, 2019 at 11:14 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Michelle Chiu <wingsi.michelle@gmail.com>**To:** Simon Yuen <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>**Sent:** Monday, 22 April 2019, 15:59:42 GMT-4**Subject:** Chiu on This #30

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# Chiu on This

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## An invitation to reflect

I've begun to notice that every winter, sometime in mid-February, I wonder if spring will ever come again. It feels like it has been winter forever, and will continue to be winter forever. March feels like more of the same, and then, suddenly, April catches me by surprise with above-zero temperatures. The days grow longer, and I reach for one coat rather than two when I head out the door.

You'd think, after having experienced this dramatic turn of the seasons, for a few *decades* this would stop being a surprise. But when spring arrives, I'm always caught off guard. Rather than immediate excitement, I'm vexed and confused.

*Do I wear boots or not? Is it going to rain or snow? Will I need a scarf and/or hat? How about gloves? Will a hoodie be warm enough?*



Reflecting on this has surfaced two thoughts:

- Holding on to hope is challenging, even when you know that God's mercies are new every morning, when it's darkest before dawn
- We don't always thank God as he is answering our prayers, especially if his answer requires us to change.

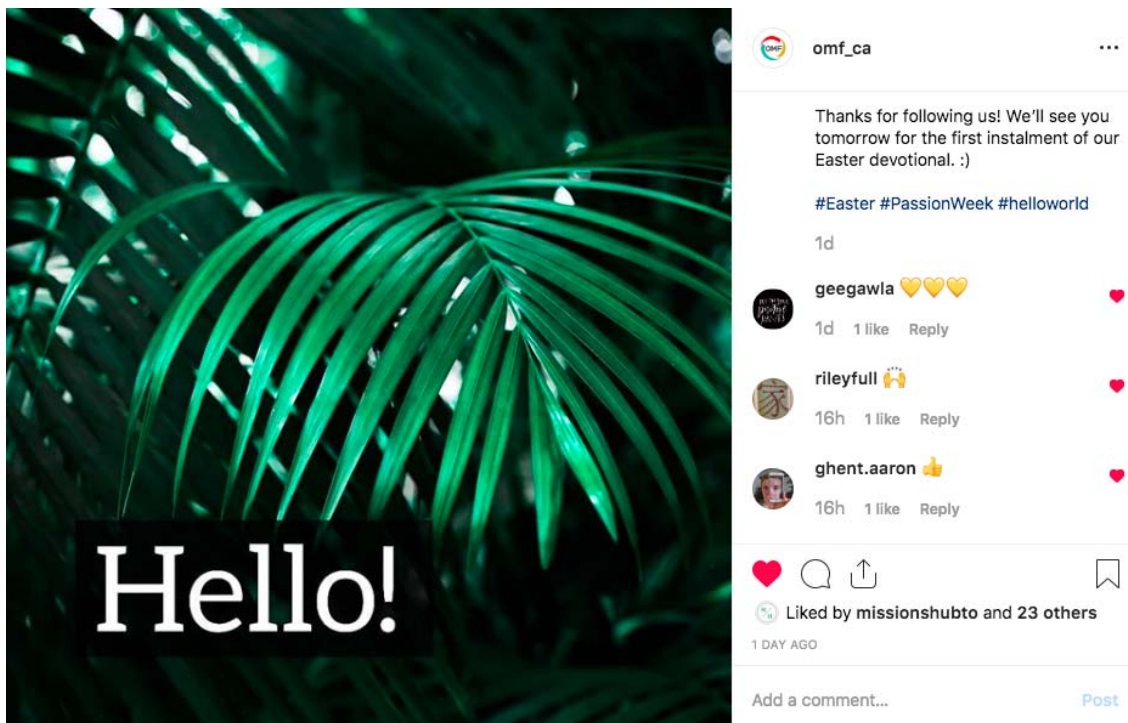
As the days continue to warm up, I encourage you to ponder these questions with me:

- How is God teaching me to hold on to his hope? How is he using others to show me how to do that?
- How has God answered some of my prayers in astonishing ways? What are some things that I'm wrestling with, and is God using those to answer my own prayers?

If you actually do this, I'm keen to hear about how God spoke to you during your time of reflection and prayer. Holding on to hope is a challenge that comes up again and again for me, and I'm open to the possibility that God might speak through your experiences. :)

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## Ministry Update



We're on Instagram!!! Come check us out at [omf\\_ca](https://www.instagram.com/omf_ca)!

- **FUTURE FIT:** I still remember the first time my former home church pastor asked me, shortly I started serving at OMF: "So, what's going on in the missions world these days?" At that point, I had no clue how to answer. These days, I can confidently say: "A whole lot of adventuring!" Being on the Future Fit implementation team, I get a small glimpse of the Canadian mission movement, and friends, it's worth getting excited over.
- **INSTAGRAM LAUNCH:** *WE'RE FINALLY ON INSTAGRAM!!!* It's been a whirlwind of preparation, but we've finally launched the [omf\\_ca](https://www.instagram.com/omf_ca) channel. J, C, and I are thrilled to see it all come together.

Follow us to see how God is doing work in his church beyond the book of Acts. :) We promise we're not here to sell you anything!

- **NEW TEAM MEMBERS:** We have two new Mobilization team members! (They're probably reading this right now—hai gaiz.) They're such joyful and timely additions to our Mobilization team, which has seen a lot of personnel shuffling in the past year due to circumstances well outside of our control. These days, the south wing (where I sit) is a lively and happening place. :) Thankful that God works harder than we do to accomplish his work—including mobilizing people and finances!

## Finance Update

I finished the 2018 year with an average of **68%** support. (Yay God!) Very very grateful to our generous kingdom partners who donate to our General Fund, which helped make up for the \$14,000 shortfall, which in turn enabled us to continue living in that MoveIn patch for as long as we did!

## Personal Update



Funny story: I was asked before the wedding which part of the wedding I was most excited about, to which I answered: "The signing! Because it makes it all legal and official." Dear friends—exhibit A.

- **CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:** Alwin and I are going to be members of First Alliance Church! It feels good to finally be officially part of this church, where we feel God has called us to serve and build community.

- **OWNING THE IMPACT:** Thanks so much for your continual prayers surrounding this group of emerging leaders at FAC I've been training on a monthly basis. It's very humbling and encouraging to see how God uses these sessions to grow his people and lead his church. In our last session, we talked about the figurative mountains the Canadian church is facing, and the kind of fear, confusion, frustration we experience just looking at them—because we have excellent canoes and had assumed that canoes were what we needed to continue our journey.

Looking at each person's face and watching them wrestle with the idea of letting go of their personal canoes and their church's canoes, I prayerfully surrendered each person to God, confident that the Holy Spirit would be their guide—and we would be able to put aside our canoes together and start a new adventure.

- **MARRIED FOR ONE YEAR:** Yep, it's already been a year. What a year it has been. Both Alwin and I are peaceful about where we are in our marriage, and learning how to take steps toward our future together, together. (That's not a typo!) Thank you for all your prayers for us!
- **MEETING NEIGHBOURS:** I wonder a lot about what God is doing in our building, having uprooted us from our previous apartment (and MoveIn patch). Thankfully, he's been slowly revealing to us more and more of his plans. :) Nothing concrete yet, but we've been intentionally attending building events and meeting the Board of Directors. Both of us feel God calling us to come alongside this Board... somehow! In the meantime, the (very likely) next President of the Board has approached us and asked if we would be interested in joining sub-committees/task forces in the future.

We also learned that one of the members who's running to be a Director again is a Christian. He admitted to us, somewhat sheepishly, that he's actually really busy (between work and serving at church), but a number of other believers in the building encouraged him to be on the Board. He prays regularly for this building community; he knows it's not all roses around here. We were really encouraged to see that God is raising up people in our own building!

Are you **curious, discouraged, or confused** about the state of the Canadian church? Are you **drawn** to the church and leadership matters



I've been writing about?

I'm happy to chat—drop me a line! (Just click Reply!) :)

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## For Praise and Prayer

1. Thanks for continuing to pray for my financial support. It's been encouraging to see how God has sustained OMF and me through a variety of faithful givers whom he moves to give. While I'm still looking for steady partners (re: prayer, finances, ministry), I recognize that God has been hard at work in his church, mobilizing people whom I don't even know to sustain his mission. YAY GOD!
2. Pray for the 4A's—assembly (local churches), agency (mission organizations), academy (Bible colleges/seminaries), and agora (professionals/business people). We need to foster partnership and collaboration, quenching the spirit of competition and quieting the fear of scarcity. Please pray for God to lead and guide leaders in each of these arenas.
3. Praise God for the community in our building. It's heartening to see older adults gather informally and live life in community rather than isolation. Still, it can get messy. Please pray for the Spirit to draw people together in harmony, and for God to work in the hearts of our Board of Directors.
4. Speaking of which, please pray for the annual members' meeting in our building! Pray that people would be gracious as they speak with one another, that there would be more building up.
5. Praise God for J finishing his exams! (Yayyy!)
6. The last Owning the Impact meeting is May 9. There's some talk of a leadership retreat in the Fall... (Eep.)
7. Please pray for discernment as we figure out what God wants us to have on our plates in this particular season, and for serenity and peace as we lay the other things down, in faith.

And now, one more wedding photo, because the first anniversary is the shiniest one. ✨

Your fellow servant,

Michelle.



Click if you feel led to partner with me financially





Karen Tsang &lt;karen.tsang@mcbc.com&gt;

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**Fw: Chiu on This #29**

1 message

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**SIMON YUEN** <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>  
To: Karen Tsang <karen.tsang@mcbc.com>

Wed, Feb 27, 2019 at 3:00 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Michelle Chiu <wingsi.michelle@gmail.com>**To:** Simon Yuen <skk\_yuen@yahoo.co.uk>**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 February 2019, 12:29:37 GMT-5**Subject:** Chiu on This #29

# Chiu on This

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## Hello, Simon

I have a story for you guys! Who knew the dead of winter could be so alive with adventure? I pray that as you read, you will be filled with a sense of awe for how God is continuing to work through his people: so very flawed and so very loved.

Truly, truly—to him be the glory.

Read on!

# Ministry Update



J (far left) and C (middle right) on an OMF Serve Asia trip in Hirosaki, Japan. They're my first volunteers in Comms. Both uniquely gifted, I look forward to seeing them work together as a team to mobilize on social media!

- **Future Fit:** Remember that conference I wrote about last May? Many attendees walked away feeling like it was something we need to continue—we need churches, Christian schools, mission agencies, and professionals to gather to talk, share, pray, and discern where and how God is leading all of us in the future of mission. Consequently two teams have formed under the Future Fit "brand"—one to clarify the vision and DNA of Future Fit-type events, and another to provide support for event planners/coordinators who want to facilitate deep discussions across multiple Christian institutions.

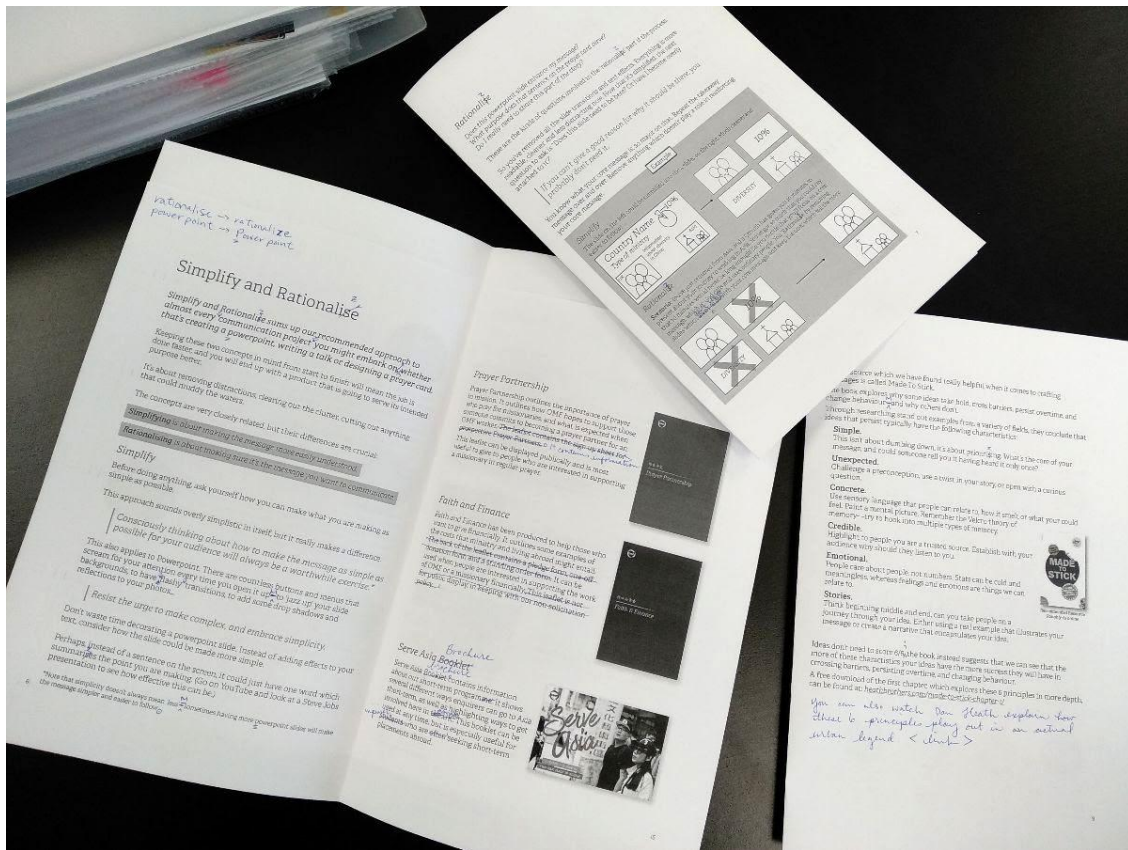
I've been invited to join the implementation team, and after some consideration, have agreed—despite it not coming with a clear time commitment or job description. (*Eep.*) Being reminded lately that the "adventure-or-die" mindset often puts us in positions where we can't endlessly calculate the risks (and therefore mitigate them). ***Praying that when Future Fit stuff arises, God will give me the capacity to do this***



***work well!***

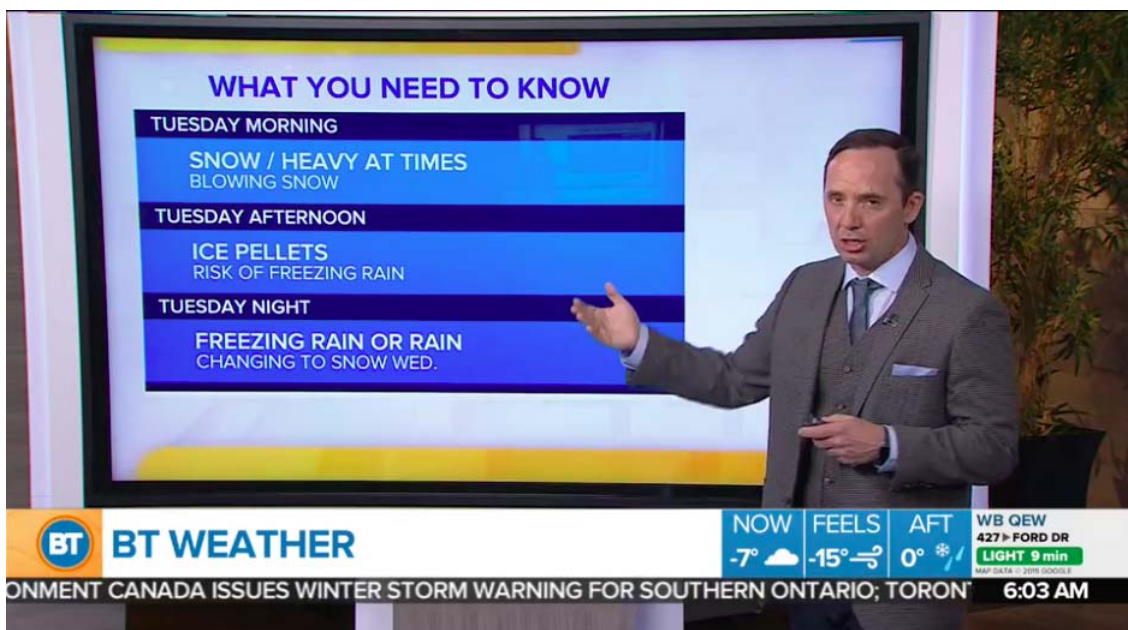
- **Volunteer onboarding:** As I mentioned in my last letter, we had our first ever social media volunteers join the Comms team! Due to their full schedules, we can only meet once a week to run training. It's a sweet time for all of us. We do a quick check-in, pray for and with one another, and then move into the material. Preparing training materials brought back many memories of when I learned these things for the first time, when I first joined OMF. Hearing and seeing them grasp all the nuances and different layers of OMF comms reminds me too that God put a whole lot of teacher in me when he made me. 🎓 ***Thanking God every time I see their faces light up as they grow in their confidence to do social media work.***
- **Candidate Course:** I don't often stand up and give presentations or run training sessions, but once or twice a year we run a week-long course for serious inquirers at OMF. It's intense! People fly in from across the country to attend. I think of it as an immersive dip into the OMF community. Being the Comms Coordinator, it's my job to equip our potential future workers with a good communication toolbox, showcase the tools, and explain how/when best to use which. Even though I've done this for a few years now, I've never been happy with my session.

This year, I took to the International Comms community and asked for input—something I'd never done before because prior to last August, as I didn't know who was actually out there and whether or not they'd respond! Thankfully, some of my coworkers in the UK got back to me quickly; we met over video conference and now I have loads of high quality material to sift through and adapt. Yessss. Teamwork makes the dream work! ***Praying that the revamped Comms session will help better equip and train our workers on improved communication as they share stories of God's work in their lives and ministries with churches, friends, family, neighbours, etc.***



Adapting and editing training materials for our candidates who're coming in for a week of training in March.

## Personal Update



A portrait of February. Click to relive the entire weather forecast (and check out the news ribbon at the bottom for all the nerve-wracking class/bus cancellations).

## Story time!

So it's February, and that usually means it's grey and wet. (I picked up a pair of knitting needles and just cast on something not knowing what I was actually knitting. It's *that* kind of weather.) Still, life goes on. At First Alliance, our February Owning the Impact meeting happened to land on a day when the forecast was so terrible the Toronto District School Board closed the schools, something they hadn't done since Feb 2, 2011 (February *again*). Pastor Tim and I had texts, emails, and phone calls back and forth—should we cancel the meeting? Should we not? There's snow! And ice! And wind! Isn't it time to call it quits when the precipitation is travelling horizontally rather than vertically?!

We didn't cancel. In the end, we simply felt that this meeting needed to happen on that day. We couldn't reschedule, and if we cancelled, the next time we met would've been in March—too late. So Tim ordered pizza, shovelled some of the front steps, set up the room, and picked up the pizza from the mall across the street; I showed up with my training materials and my eyelashes and eyebrows caked with sleet. (Our new office is just down the street from the church, so I walked.) Alwin brought books that I'd forgotten at home.

Then we waited.

Incredibly, *people showed up!* In the end, we totalled about 16 people, and we had a great time diving into leadership matters and learning together. And everyone got back home safely. Our hearts were full as we reflected on the adventures that God calls us on, and the way he waits patiently for us out on the water while we dither hither and thither. I personally felt like it was a litmus test, not about passing or failing but about substance or character—*whom do I actually trust when the wind is howling? Who am I when the odds seem dismal? What guides or grounds me when every path looks uncertain?*

My inner committee, motivated by fear, self-preservation, rationality, tends to be quite loud still, and silencing it requires heroic effort. I look forward to the day that the still small voice won't have to speak in the din of internal shouting. :)

No pictures taken because we were all too busy doing leadership stuff. :)

Maybe next time!

# For Praise and Prayer

1. Thank you for praying for my prayer and financial support! Praise God that FAC has invited me to write a proposal for submission regarding support.
2. Pray that we, as the church, would joyfully accept God's regular testing—that we can know what our faith is truly like, and give thanks for all the times that he is more faithful than we could ever imagine.
3. I realize that in this season of being in a new church with few connections that there are unique challenges. Please pray with me for God's leading in partnership development in my current circumstances.
4. Please pray for Future Fit, or the missions movement in Canada in general.
5. My dear volunteers, J and C, are still young and discerning God's call in their lives. Please pray for them as they seek His face in this uncertain season.
6. Please pray for me as I prepare for our next meeting with the Owning the Impact leaders. (March 12th)
7. Please pray for me as I prepare for the Comms module of the Candidate Course (also March 12th).

I do enjoy hearing from you, either through replying to these emails or just messaging me on Whatsapp or Facebook. Thanks for staying in touch, guys! Let me know how I can pray for you too.

Your fellow servant,

Michelle.





Want to help me get to 100% support?



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