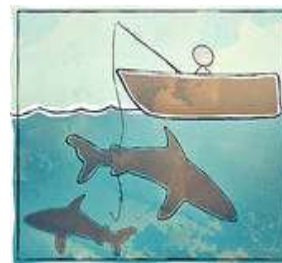


# Fishing in France

March 2014



Missions at our doorstep

Paris - Granada – Madrid - Malaga

Oct 12-15 + Nov 12-14 2013



February 15-20, 2013 was the 1<sup>st</sup> STMTrip for the Marbella-Spain (non-CMA) Chinese church. I took a team to Morocco -- an historical event for Pastor Jun and the 4 other teammates. This 1<sup>st</sup> trip opened their eyes beyond their 4 walls. In November 2013, the Spain leaders independently launched a 2<sup>nd</sup> STMT adventure back to North Africa -- to follow-up with those we visited the 1<sup>st</sup> time.

There is a continued great outreach need to Diasporas in North Africa. It is estimated that in Algeria, alone, there are approximately 80,000 Chinese labourers. How exciting it is to see how God continues to use His churches as a special and effective vehicle to accomplish His plan.

This Marbella-mission-minded church's daughter plant in Granada church celebrated the dedication of its building facilities in November. What a privilege to be invited (together with the new pastor of the Madrid CMA Church, Tao) to share in this joyful occasion.

Media-Television outreach

Toronto - Paris

Oct 17 – Nov 4, 2013

The STMT crew of 4 came to Paris to film testimonies. We arranged for them to interview 8 Paris individuals from our churches. Voila the link to view 1 of the featured Paris documentaries about Kitty: [Showers of Blessing Evangelistic Ministry \( sobem.org \) or](#)

[电视节目 TV1257 历练成器 \(HD 国语\) \(欧洲系列\)](#)

[電視節目 TV1257 歷煉成器 \(HD 粵語\) \(歐洲系列\)](#) [电视节目 TV1257 历练成器 \(HD 国语\) \(欧洲系列\)](#)

If you can't read/understand Chinese ... no worries ... at least you can watch and enjoy the scenes of Paris and a few "cameo" shots of moi! 周張潤嬌從小不務正業並與黑幫為伍，成為江湖大姐，曾經在歐洲國家叱吒風雲，為了賺大錢而從事各樣非法勾當。她在人眼中壞到極點，但神卻不離不棄的愛她。後來女兒不幸去世，改變了她的一生。神從她過去糜爛的生活，把她重新陶造，成為有用的器皿，在社區服務有需要的人。

Kitty is one of our teammates in Paris. She runs a Community Centre -- reaching the vulnerable and disadvantaged (more about her below -- see February 2014). Kitty's testimony is quite a journey of God's grace and power -- she was formally involved in unlawful activity; convicted; imprisoned for 2 years; daughter accidentally killed; became a believer.

Edmonton CMA STMTeam

Amsterdam – Eindhoven – Maastricht - Paris

Oct 23 -25, 2013

Pastor Gus led a team of deacons from Canada to Europe. Both continents were blessed during the team's visits -- as leaders exchanged and shared life + ministry experiences, ideas, and plans. Pastor Gus was formally an architect in Montreal; served as a deacon and elder at Montreal CMA Church; dedicated his life to full-time ministry following a STMT to Europe; and now pastor at Edmonton CMA church.

Endian (Grace) Building Dedication

Paris - Dortmund

Nov 3, 2013



Over 150 guests attended the special celebration to dedicate the newly purchased building. The Germany church pioneer project, pastored by Mark Yu (from Mainland) was planted only 4 years ago -- with the support of CMA -Canada + U.S.

During the purchase negotiations last summer, unexpected legal and financial challenges came up. God's will and faithfulness opened the doors to effective solutions (e.g. timely changes to the church constitution, procurement of a loan, and gracious love offerings from North American churches).



Pray that God continues to grant wisdom to this vibrant church, so that the facilities will be used to reach their community, and beyond!

Sophie is a journalist-reporter in Israel. She serves with GoodTV (<http://www.goodtv.tv/>), an outreach media organisation based in Taiwan. Sophie also actively acts as an advisor to the Tel Aviv C&MA church and regularly trains leaders (short-term labourers from the Mainland). We were blessed during Sophie's short retreat in Paris. She preached at our Paris-St. Maur church, and gave us a few preliminary lessons on how to use I-movie and Final-Cut-Pro. Pray for Sophie as she discerns what ministry direction God wants her to prioritize/focus more on (Chinese, North Africans, and Jews).

Internship student

Mainland – Kenya - France

Nov 12 – Dec 12, 2013



Wu and his wife, Ming, are originally from the Mainland. When we first met in 2011, they were in the garlic import-export business, based in Kenya. At the time, I encouraged Tan Wu to stay open to his growing desire to respond to God's call to full-time ministry.

Wu is now completing his final term at Singapore Bible Seminary! After connecting Wu to the Jiu En Paris Church (one of the largest Paris CMA churches) to complete a required internship, Wu was so well received that this Paris church wants to hire him back as their full-time leader!

Pray for Wu as he completes the last stretch of a heavy seminary study load. Pray, also, for the Paris visa application process -- that French authorities would grant favour in this long and complicated administrative procedure. But, oh, how exciting to see how God provides new young workers for the harvest throughout Europe!!

Cambridge CMA Church: Installation of Elder Kwong

Paris - Cambridge

Dec 14-15, 2013

Edward and his wife, Rosa, have been serving as volunteer pastoral leaders/tent-makers in Cambridge since 2006. In view of Edward's growing ministry roles and responsibilities, the church, together with the CMA-UK national office, completed drafting-procedural-administrative due processes --- and celebrated the official appointment of Edward as an Elder in December.

Pray for the Kwong's pastoral ministries, as they lead the CMA church to do outreach to mainland scholars and their families in Cambridge. Pray also for Edward's partnership roles with **FACCES (Fellowship of Alliance Chinese Churches in Europe & Surroundings)**, and with AFC (Ambassadors for Christ).

Missions Rendez-Vous : Youth Leadership Conference

Hong Kong, Mainland, Taiwan

Dec 23 to Jan 2, 2014



Over 70 CMA multi-cultural-lingual-generational young leaders (18 to 30 yrs) from different countries (Australia, Canada, France, Hong Kong, Macau, United Kingdom, and Vietnam) gathered to learn about mission work, and then to prepare for their own STMT (note: the 1<sup>st</sup> Missions RdV conference was held in Bangkok, 2011). From Paris alone, we escorted 7 youths (Chinese and Caucasian) from our Paris CMA Chinese Churches.

Everyone stayed at Breakthrough Youth Village, located in Sha Tin, Hong Kong ... (just how Chinese Christians in Hong Kong -- who were reaching street-youth ... were given this property by Hong Kong government authorities ... is a testimony-story in itself!).



Our main speaker, Pastor Vinh, was a young Australian-born Vietnamese (now serving at Foothills CMA Church, Calgary). Other organised events included workshop speakers; day visits to Hong Kong; evangelistic events with various local CMA churches (e.g. Christmas carolling on the streets of Hong Kong; and outreach to the many Filipina and Indonesian domestic helpers gathered at Victoria Park and Statue Square). If you visit Hong Kong on a Sunday you are sure to see thousands of maids enjoying their one day a week off. Go up and introduce yourself and listen to their stories. For full story, read Maids day off in Hong Kong <http://www.thingsasian.com/stories-photos/44565>.



Following the main conference in Hong Kong, delegates then split up into STMT teams to Wu Han, Qing Yuan and Taiwan.

We praise God for how RdV is a forum to influence our millennial leaders:

- 3 responded to the call to become a career missionary
- 6 committed to be tentmakers
- 9 committed to a period of discernment while serving medium-term/1 year in a mission field
- 6 decided to enroll in seminary to equip for future ministry

<b>Installation + ordination of 2<sup>nd</sup>-generation pastor</b>	<b>London</b>	<b>January 5, 2013</b>
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Pastor Brad was actually born in Canada. He has been serving at the London CMA Church since 2008 and ordained in January. He and his family are taking a sabbatical leave this summer ... We are happy to connect 1 of our retired-lay-leaders from Ottawa who will substitute Pastor Brad during his absence.

<b>Collaboration with FACCES</b>	<b>(Fellowship of Alliance Chinese Churches in Europe &amp; Surroundings)</b>	<b>January 9-10, 2014</b>
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Last May 20-23, during the Chinese European Field Forum, we formed FACCES and nominated a Committee. The mandate of the Committee members is to represent and help direct our growing network and movement of reproducing national churches (from 4 to 27 CMA Chinese churches; from 1996 – 2013) across Europe and the Middle East.

The primary goals of FACCES are (1) to foster a network of care and support; (2) to develop 2<sup>nd</sup> generation work; (3) and to continue outreach work, locally and abroad. Pray for the FACCES committee: Daniel Nguyen (Paris - Chair), Edward Kwong (Cambridge - Vice Chair), Sam Sham (London – Communication), Mark Yu (Dortmund - Secretary), Kam Kuan Chong (Amsterdam – Vice Chair).

One of the focus projects of FACCES will be to help local churches support ministries that build Christ-centred relationships, marriages, and families (spouses, parents, and children).

- Many churches remain without full-time pastors;
- With the financial support of Canadian churches and the assistance of, for example, Family Life + Chinese Family for Christ, we will develop family-related ministries (marriage retreats, follow-up cell groups, training seminars, workshops, etc.).
- This October, we have invited 2 experienced marriage-ministry couples from Ottawa to help us.



Bob and Fay-Chao Li will be coming to Europe this Fall (STMT schedule below). They are active members and lay leaders serving at the Emmanuel C&MA Chinese Church, Ottawa. Their main ministry involvements are with children, family, and marriage ministries. They have been part of the Chinese branch of FamilyLife Canada, since 2007. Bob has been a civil servant for over 25 years. Fay worked in applied health research until she decided to stay home with their then 2 young children (now two adult daughters and a son-in-law).

October 3-5	Amsterdam, NE	Workshops (partnering with local Amsterdam C&MA church)
October 6-9	Dublin, Ireland	Seminars (at European Chinese Pastoral Conference -- for CMA/non leaders); hosted by COCM, Herald Europe, Herald U.K., COWE
October 9-12	Madrid, Spain	Seminars (partnering with local Madrid C&MA church)
October 15-16	Paris, France	Training (partnering with local Paris C&MA churches)
October 17-19	Paris, France	Retreat (partnering with local Paris churches)

<b>Chinese students in Toulouse</b>	<b>Mainland - Paris – Toulouse</b>	<b>Jan 18-19, 2014</b>
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Toulouse is located south of Paris, only an EasyJet 1-hour-20 minute flight away. The pastor of the Toulouse CMA church, Michel Viguiier, is also the newly elected France national C&MA president (and whom I escorted on his 1<sup>st</sup> visit to the French Territory-Island of Martinique -- to attend the Martinique CMA Church inauguration).

At Pasteur Viguiier's invitation to visit Toulouse, I shared with a group of Chinese students. Overseas students are a growing sub-group across Europe. The France CMA national churches have a vision to continue to actively plant churches in France, and to mobilize our CMA churches to do multi-cultural outreach, both inside and beyond France, to nationals, as well as to the emerging Diaspora students and families settling outside of Asia. Pray for new workers to reap the harvest!

Rev. Yu Du Bing is a respected (and most elderly) Chinese CMA pastor in France. His church, Jiu En Tang, is now undergoing construction and will be functional this spring. In February, we were privileged to be guests to celebrate Rev. & Mrs. Yu's 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and his 80<sup>th</sup> b-day. One of the highlights of the night was when Rev. Yu officiated the baptism of his eldest "prodigal" son (who flew in from WenZhou Province, China). There was an added sense of reconciliation and renewal of relationships, too, as former church leader-foes were able to join in the celebration, put aside their past conflicts, and exchange greetings, enjoy good company, and appreciate special presentations – all over fine French cuisine ... like in the film, *Babette's Feast* (1987).

## Chinese Community Service + Outreach Centre

Paris

February 17, 2014

The Centre's new rental facility has permitted more outreach to the community. Different short-term teams have been able to host workshops and courses at the centre.

- For example, last Oct 26-Nov 11, 2 brothers from Ottawa went to Cambridge (Oct 26-30; 70+ scholars attended) and then came to Paris to hold workshops at the centre (Oct 30 – Nov 11; on apologetics and Christian ethics, and Christians and Social caring and responsibility).
- On March 4, a CMA-U.S. group (ENVISION), started to partner with the Centre; an American couple has committed to teaching English classes to non-believers (8 students) for 3 months.

The Centre's coordinator, Kitty (featured in [video link above: sobem.org](#)), has a special ability to reach the marginalized individuals or people who would not normally attend our traditional church meetings. Using her own personal story and background (prior to becoming a believer, she was imprisoned for illegal dealings), Kitty is able to draw people to Christ.

With her volunteer helpers, she helps non-French speakers with legal and other administrative paperwork, acts as translators, accompanies the elderly to medical appointments – while always sharing the gospel and leading people to a decision to follow Christ.

During the Chinese New Year, Kitty coordinated an inter-church outreach banquet. The speaker, Pastor Siu Kei Yan (from Hong Kong CMA Church), shared a gospel message during the banquet, and also held workshops at the Centre on his church ministry and experience with gambling addicts.

Pray that through the Centre, we can offer a "cup of water" to the people in our neighbourhood. Pray also for the outreach that Kitty even has among the prostitutes in Chinatown (during the Autumn Moon Festival, Kitty and her volunteers would make hundreds of **Zongzi** (粽子, sticky rice dumplings) : a traditional Chinese food, made of glutinous rice stuffed with different fillings; wrapped in bamboo, reed, or other large flat leaves; and cooked by steaming or boiling.

Dec 9 (photo): special visitors at the Centre: Gerald + Dorothy (Canadian Regional Developer), Brem (Canadian Vice-President, Missions), Brett + Celine (France-U.S. CMA Field Director), Allan (U.S. CMA IW serving International Paris Church)



## Oxford "connection"

Paris – Dusseldorf – Shanghai

February 17-24, 2014

I first met Li in Dusseldorf when she and her husband were medical scholars studying and working in Dusseldorf. Only Li became a believer whom I baptised prior to their return to Shanghai. On a recent business trip to France, Li reconnected with us. She shared about the vibrant church that she has been attending (together with her seeker-husband).



When she attended our Paris Sunday service, she desperately wanted information to order copies of "Hymns of Life" for her Beijing church (how much we in our churches take for granted ... we have so many resources just under our nose! Ottawa Chinese CMA Church also provided links of all the music scores and Chinese/English lyrics online and which their church had also typed out ... before these were available online!!) We were also glad to connect Li to believers in Oxford where their daughter (also a seeker) is studying. Li learned a new English word as we chatted: "providentially" (to replace "luckily" or "fortunately").

I was invited to share at the church's thanksgiving 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. The group was originally pioneered by U.S. CMA Chinese IWs (John & Loraine Young), who have now returned to the States. The church recently welcomed its new pastor and family (from the Mainland). I first met Pastor Tao in Paris, when he attended our FACCES Chinese European Field Forum last April, 2013.

Pastor Tao is adjusting well and learning Spanish. He would appreciate having a mentor (even via Skype) and collaborating with a Canadian church who would be interested in "adopting" the Spanish congregation for a few years (to regularly send STMTs, lead retreats + workshops, train leaders, etc.). We are excited to co-work with them as we help to develop the Marriage Ministries among European-wide families.

## Leadership Matters Course

Switzerland + Edmonton

March 9-22 + March 30 – April 12, 2014

For 2 weeks, I attended a leadership training program in Europe (3 other leaders from 2 CMA churches in Toronto and Ottawa attended the following retreat, held in Canada). See details of this worldwide-held course at [www.lmccourse.org](http://www.lmccourse.org).

1. Originally a 1-month course catered to OM staff (Operation Mobilisation).
2. Now condensed into 2 solid week of practical training; and open to non-OM lay + pastoral leaders.
3. Program and Christian content can be catered to audience/country.
4. Focus (1) To sharpen speaking-preaching-presentation skills (in a personal, story-telling, creative and concise way); (2) To improve leadership-management skills (to coach-mentor; to plan; to evaluate); (3) To be a supportive team builder-player (to encourage and resource others).
5. After the 2 week course, there is also some small group follow-up sessions (via Skype) + regular newsletters sent.

God-willing, we hope to see the LMC materials translated into other languages so that trainers can offer it beyond English/French speakers. With many Diasporas moving around the world, there are many opportunities -- to equip lay leaders, and especially the younger generation -- to become even more effective as servants in their church (many of which remain without full-time IWs/pastoral staff).

Mandarin CMA church (7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration)

Amsterdam

March 29-30, 2014

This mandarin-speaking church was a daughter-church plant (2007), from the Cantonese-speaking Amsterdam Chinese CMA church (pastored by Manjohn & Christina Wong, former CMA-Canada IWs). It is now led by a part-time national pastor, Weng Bei Bei (originally from Mainland). The congregation has grown to 30+ adults and is financially independent. It was my honour to count God's past blessings with them during this weekend celebration. We look forward to partnering together this October to develop Marriage Ministries across Europe.

## Additional praise &amp; prayer items

1. **Field Forum (Turkey, April 14 – 20, 2014):** We will be meeting with CMA-Canada IWs in the Spice and Silk Regions; we will also meet with an independent Chinese church worker in Istanbul for the 1<sup>st</sup> time (who is very interested in attending our October conference in Dublin + to connect with other European co-workers).
2. **Outreach & Revival Camp & STMTrip (Russia, April 28 – May 9, 2014):** I have been invited to attend this special revival + outreach STMT to Russia (as a trainer and counsellor and team member). Praise God that I got my visa and ticket. Pray for safety, especially in light of the current political situation.
3. **STMT to Dortmund (May 2014):** team organised by the Montreal Chinese CMA church.
4. **STMT to Paris and Cambridge (July + August 2014):** Ann & Wing Sung (from Ottawa Chinese CMA Church) will serving at the Paris Massena CMA church + Cambridge CMA church.
5. **STMT to Paris (July + August, 2014):** STMTs from ENVISION CMA-U.S.A will be coming to our Paris churches to help us with VBS, street evangelism, summer retreats, etc.
6. **Canada summer (July + August, 2014):** Our family will be able to return to Canada to attend CCACA meetings, Pre-Assembly + Assembly (Ottawa); Home Ministry Seminar (Calgary); and re-connect with churches in Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa area.

## Merci pour vos prières, encouragements + soutiens !

Your fishing partners

