

Timothy and Linda Zebell Missionaries to China

Global Fundamental Baptist Missions
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We are currently at 35% of our \$4,000 monthly support need.

Our Family Has Grown!

Vanessa Tammy Zebell was born into our family on January 10, 2013. We have also given her the Chinese name, Song En Hui (phonetically: song un h-way) which means "One Who Delivers Grace." She entered the world with a full head of black hair, weighing 7 pounds 7 ounces and registering 19.5 inches long. She is a beautiful and healthy baby girl!

As I write, Olivia is walking around the house kissing a bottle of soap and calling her "My Baby Vanessa." Olivia has taken to the new baby better than expected. She has not suffered from jealousy. Instead, she enjoys being a big sister and has proven to be mommy's littler helper.

As for Linda, she has recovered well from her c-section, and she is thoroughly enjoying having two children. She has also been especially touched by the tremendous support we have received from friends and family throughout this entire process.

An Expanding Vision

Since we began keeping track of the number of Bibles that our ministry has carried across the Chinese border, we have successfully placed more than 467,000 Bibles into the hands of Chinese believers. Many of these Bibles are distributed among the rural areas of China where a single Bible may be shared by as many as 12 people. Distributing God's Word has always been a focal point of our efforts.

Today, we are expanding our vision and our efforts. While we are still determined to get the Bible into the hands of Chinese Christians, we have also begun focusing on getting solid teaching material into their hands. Most of these churches do not have a trained pastor to lead them. They do not have access to Bible commentaries, devotionals, sermon outlines, or Christian books on doctrine. The churches who have received Bibles from us are growing older, but they are not growing in their faith at nearly the pace they desire. They have been regularly contacting us and pleading for solid teaching material.

Understand that as the standard of living continues to rise in China, the people are turning to books. People wish to be educated, and they now have time to read. Book stores are springing up where there was never before any book store, and (Cont. A1)

Trying Times for Our Church

Our church in China continues to go through the fire. This last year has been difficult. China held national party elections, and many key leaders were replaced. Among these leaders was President Hu Jing Tao. During the approach to these elections, our church experienced increased pressure and surveillance by the police. Due to police pressure, the owner of the restaurant where we were meeting informed us that we could no longer use his facilities. Our church broke into smaller groups and tried unsuccessfully to find other meeting places. Today our church is divided between multiple locations with a different leader assuming the preaching responsibilities at each location.

In
September,
our school
lost Zach and
Amanda.
They were an
American
couple who
were serving



as our school principal and the teacher of our English program. They had worked with us in the school for one year and had just begun their second school year when Amanda learned that she had Acute Leukemia. They returned to the (Cont. B1)

(A1) there are even vending machines which will rent books to customers in much the same way as the DVD Red Box in America. At this point in China's history, if we place a book in the hand of a Chinese Christian, they are almost certain to read it.

For the last three years, Brother Gene and I have slowly produced a number of books which have been translated, printed, and distributed free of charge among the Chinese underground churches. The response was overwhelmingly positive. Unfortunately, we were only able to print 3,000 copies of each book. Our church supplies over 200 churches. Thus, we only had enough books to send less than 15 copies to each church. This is not enough to supply those churches, let alone the many other churches that they know and supply. (Many of these churches are supplier churches who further distribute materials.) Instead of 3,000 copies of each book, we truly needed 50,000 copies. Nevertheless, this is a start, and we hope that many of these churches will further reproduce and distribute these books.

While in the States, I have not been idle. Instead, I've been diligently researching and writing study material to help meet this enormous need in China. Here in the States, I have unrestricted access to internet resources, bookstores and libraries, pastor's libraries, and learned men. This has afforded me the opportunity to greatly expand my research and writing efforts. It has also helped Brother Gene and me to formulate a plan on how to create and run a thriving print ministry to meet the Christian educational needs of pastors and their congregations.

We are beginning small, but we hope to steadily increase this ministry. At present, we have recruited a full-time translator, and we are attempting to raise \$2,000 USD a month to finance the ministry. This will allow us to pay our translator a monthly salary and to print approximately 1,000 copies of a book each month depending upon its size. When Brother Gene is in the States, he has begun focusing on raising the money needed to run this ministry, while I am focused on creating the materials. Together we hope to establish a ministry which truly possesses the potential to impact the entire country of China. Please pray for us as we endeavor toward this goal! \Diamond

If you would like to receive regular e-mail updates of our ministry, e-mail me at Timothy.Zebell@gmail.com

Prayer Requests:

- 1) Increased financial support for our family
- Wisdom as I study and write materials for China
- 3) Safety for our church
- 4) A safe meeting place for our church

The House

We have just moved into our new house after working to renovate it for the last year! Downstairs we gutted nearly everything—taking it all back to the studs, cutting out all electrical and plumbing, and laying a new sub-floor in four rooms. This process has been fraught with unforeseen delays,

but we are finally reaching a point where we can officially purchase the house from my parents and have moved into it. Of course, there is much left to be done—

With another \$10,000 we can purchase this house debt free

primarily upstairs—but these are projects we hope to tackle while living in the downstairs portion of the house.

This house is a true blessing. My parents are selling us this house for the same price that they purchased it. The total cost of purchasing and renovating the house will be \$35,000. My parents have also invested an unreal amount of time and energy into renovating it with us. Ultimately, we hope to use this house as a base of operations until Linda finishes her naturalization process and acquires a U.S. passport.



God has been faithful, and His people have been overly generous toward us. Nearly everything that we anticipate needing in the house has been given to us by

our friends and family. However, we could still use financial help. We could still use about \$10,000 to finish paying for the house while remaining debtfree. We ask that you prayerfully consider contributing toward this need. Checks can be sent to us directly at 109 S. St. Joseph Ave, Niles, MI 49120, or to our mission board if you need a receipt for your taxes.◊