



Andrew & Elena Au

Missionaries to Hong Kong

Sending Church:

North Valley Baptist Church
3530 De La Cruz Boulevard
Santa Clara, CA 95054
Dr. Jack Trieber, Pastor

"To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you" II Corinthians 10:16

Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

We wanted to update you on what has been happening here in Hong Kong, as I am sure you have been hearing a lot about it in the news. **The coronavirus has been spreading quite rapidly in both HK and China. There are 21 cases here in Hong Kong and 1 death as of Wednesday evening (February 5).** The virus has now begun to spread among the local people, rather than from people directly from the mainland. Schools are closed until March and many government offices, post offices and banks are working on a shortened schedule. Many churches have suspended their Sunday services as well. The government encourages people to work from home, which is not possible for most, and to stay home as much as possible. If people are traveling into Hong Kong from mainland China, they will be quarantined for 14 days. A high level of anxiety is pervasive since close to 300 people died from the SARS epidemic in 2003.



Due to the fear of the virus, all surgical masks, disinfectants (gels, sprays and wipes) and cleaning bleaches have all been sold out for several weeks now. People literally fight to buy whatever is available! We and our church members are unable to find any more of these items to continue to protect ourselves against the possible spread of the virus. This past Sunday, we had a just handful of people in church. Some had gone home to mainland China for the Chinese New Year holidays and voluntarily quarantined themselves. Some were fearful to go out and others just did not want to use a surgical mask, since supply is very limited. There have been people who waited hours, and even overnight, to buy a box of 50 masks.



On top of everything else, hospital workers are now on strike because they feel the government is not doing enough to protect them, as they are on the frontlines facing the coronavirus. Many of you remember **Mrs. Christine Lau** and how she has been battling cancer. **Please pray for her during this strike, as she needs much care at this point. She will need to go through a second round of bone marrow transplant because her body is not producing healthy white blood cells.** These are trying times.

At this time, we do not plan on leaving, though we know of some that have left already. **We truly covet your prayers and especially for wisdom to minister at this time. Pray that we can be an encouragement to our people.** We praise God that He knows the outcome of any situation we face and pray we will remain faithful and trusting.

In Christ,
Andrew, Elena, Alexander, Angela, Anthony, and Ashley Au