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As the year comes to a close, we can say without irony that Hong Kong has been very ‘occupied’ over the past 3 months. You may have seen a lot of yellow umbrellas in stories about Hong Kong as it became the symbol of the Occupy Central civil disobedience movement fighting for more democracy for the city.



It has been a tumultuous event with tens of thousands of residents –mostly students and young adults –protesting (and sleeping) on the streets for genuine universal suffrage in electing our Chief Executive and Legislative Councilors. That would include the right of public nomination of candidates and a ‘one person, one vote’ rule for every office. It’s a bit complicated to explain here, but in short, the movement represents the yearnings of Hong Kong people, especially the younger generation, for a bigger say in how the city’s government is run and a better chance for decent housing, education, environment and livelihood. While Hong Kong enjoys one of the highest standards of living in Asia, it has one of the largest wealth gaps between rich and poor in the world. Also, Hong Kongers want to preserve the city’s unique heritage and particular culture that is different from the rest of mainland China. I guess one could say it’s a battle to work out the details of the ‘one country, two systems’ policy that was put in place after the 1997 handover.

For one perspective on the religious participation in Occupy Hong Kong, see <http://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/article/1625126/religion-occupy-central-front-line-puts-faith-practice>.

Please continue to pray for peace and justice for the city of Hong Kong, the nation of China and indeed the world.



My work at Hong Kong Christian Council continues to flourish in radio broadcasting, environmental concern and English publications. I am blessed with wonderful colleagues and faithful volunteers who give over and beyond the call of duty. One special joy was the publication of the *Creation Care Bible Study for Adults* which I had a hand in putting together. This was issued at the HKCC 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October. The translation and publication were sponsored by a kind grant from Presbyterian World Mission. Two training workshops for Christian Creation Care ministry in February 2015 and expanded bible study materials are being planned.

Another happy occasion(s) were the graduation ceremonies of our second and third daughters from universities in Hong Kong. Grace (in red hood) received a degree in nursing from University of Hong Kong and is working as a nurse in public hospital here. Amy (in yellow hood) graduated from HK Polytechnic University in Convention and Events Management and is working in a hotel in the city. Thank you so very much for your prayers and continuous support of our mission and ministry in Hong Kong through Presbyterian World Mission. May the Lord bless you and keep you in the coming year!

In the peace of Christ  
*Judy Chan*

