

Mission Opportunities with the LCHKS



Good News for Hong Kong!

Will you come to help share it? Almost 7.5 million people live in Hong Kong. At most, about one in five believe the Good News of Jesus. In these pages and pictures you can find descriptions of three different possibilities for working with the Lutheran Church Hong Kong Synod (LCHKS) to help more people in Hong Kong join Jesus in mission.

Sharing the Good News of Jesus in our families and neighborhoods? Wonderful! But sometimes, for some people, the call is to serve cross-culturally, even “cross-globally.” Take a look at these options for serving, or supporting those who serve, in Hong Kong.



I Vacation Bible Schools (VBS)

VBS is a form of holistic education based on the Bible. It is a life-transforming event which equips and empowers children to serve God and the neighbor in the church and in the community with joy and gladness. “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6 [ESV]). Furthermore, VBS aims to connect parents and children to Jesus, to bring the Gospel to entire families. VBS activities, which include worship, Bible stories, team games, handicrafts and elements of science, are conducted in English and last one week during the summer and winter holidays. Involvement of native English speakers, who are mature Lutheran Christians, helps to attract more children and more families. Airfare for VBS teams is to be covered to a considerable degree by the LCHKS.

In the summer
of 2019,
God blessed us with

55 VBS missionaries
from more than 10 US states

350 VBS volunteers
from Hong Kong

14 LCHKS participating
congregations and schools

2200 participating
students and their families

For the summer
of 2020,
we pray for

100 VBS missionaries
from the US

to serve **4000**

students and their families

in **30+**

locations in Hong Kong



LCHKS President Rev. Dr. Allan YUNG,
school principals and VBS Teams



2019 VBS Graduation in
One of Our Schools



VBS Class

To VBS Teams

- VBS can establish long-term partnerships in Gospel work
- VBS can broaden the spiritual and ministerial horizons of VBS team members, make them aware of the needs in a mission setting and expose them to a different culture
- VBS improves the ability of team members to adapt to different contexts and cultures, allows team members to master the art of collaboration and to enhance their social and interpersonal skills

To the Church and Its Schools

- VBS enhances cooperation among LCHKS schools located in the same VBS cluster and makes LCHKS ministries more visible in society
- VBS helps to connect students and parents with the church
- VBS advances the spiritual life of the church and helps the church to intensify its mission endeavors



To Local Volunteers

- By helping to lead VBS activities, local volunteers can get a stronger sense of belonging to Jesus
- VBS stimulates volunteers' spiritual growth, allows them to experience fellowship, and empowers them to love Jesus and to serve the neighbor
- VBS enables volunteers to practice English while making friends with Westerners and teaches volunteers how to work in teams

To Students

- VBS helps students to improve their English, and gives them an opportunity to interact with Westerners
- VBS expands students' knowledge of the Bible
- VBS helps to build relationships among church members, and allows students to make friends outside of their schools and to further their social skills

To the Community

- VBS builds bridges between students and parents in a local community
- VBS gives local people an opportunity to interact with Westerners and to understand their culture, while improving English communication skills
- VBS fosters positive attitudes in the community

Contact

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2019 VBS Theme

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Short-Term Missions

Short-term teams can have from three to more than twenty Christians who serve alongside LCHKS congregations, primary and secondary schools, kindergartens and social service centers. They come to Hong Kong to share God's love for all people through His Son, Jesus Christ. The teams come for one or two weeks during the school year (from September to June). Teams can be formed by congregations, families, friends, small groups, etc., and the team members may include missionaries, teachers, college students, church members, professionals and retirees.

In short-term teams, volunteers will have an excellent opportunity to build lasting relationships, use God-given gifts in His service, experience church and life in another culture, and become a beacon of light in the world.



Fellowship with a big church family

A History of Short-Term Missions in Hong Kong

Since 2005, the LCHKS has been inviting a great number of volunteers and mission teams from congregations and colleges of the Lutheran Church from the United States and other countries. They come to serve in our Synod congregations, schools, kindergartens and social service centers.

In 2019,
God blessed us with

- 82 Short-term missionaries from the US
- 6 LCHKS Schools engaged
- 2800 students served



Leading activities in a kindergarten



Fellowship with youth



Participating in youth activities

Short-Term Missionary Contributions

The missionaries serve people in Hong Kong in the following ways

- Sharing the Good News through English activities
- Exposing people in Hong Kong to authentic American culture and values
- Diversifying the learning experience of people in Hong Kong
- Building relationships between missionaries and local people
- Helping people in Hong Kong by listening to them
- Working with primary and secondary schools and kindergartens to conduct various activities

People in Hong Kong can benefit from short-term missions in the following areas

- Learning from seeing missionaries willing to come and serve Jesus
- Building up long-term relationships through short-term missions
- Experiencing different aspects of Western culture and learning English
- Broadening their experiences and enhancing their creativity
- Learning from each other and becoming mindful of one another's needs through service learning

Contact

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Long-Term Missions

Long-term missionaries are college graduates, strong Christians (with knowledge and support of Lutheran teachings), with good English speaking skills, who come to serve under our LCHKS with a caring heart. They are placed in one or two schools and an associated congregation. Their goals are to work with the schools and congregation in sharing Jesus primarily but also to enhance spoken English. These are done by building relationships with teachers, students and congregational members. They are here to work as a team with Hong Kong people. Building relationships is a big focus. This means our missionaries are to let God's light shine through them on the street, in the MTR trains, or while shopping. They are here to help and serve but they are not here to be classroom teachers. They are here to be missionaries who can help with spoken English. They can serve for a year or two or even longer. Besides the length of time in service, a big difference between short-term and long-term missionaries is that short-term people come with a program to lead which gives a big burst of enthusiasm to our schools and congregations. Long-term people are not coming with a program to teach and to lead. They are coming to work together and live among the people of Hong Kong.



Helping with school activities



Having a class with students

A History of Long-Term Missions in Hong Kong

In the past we have had up to 8 missionaries at one time. These missionaries have served in some of our congregations, kindergartens and in nearly all of our primary and secondary schools. Missionaries find that it is a joy to build relationships and to serve the Lord here in Hong Kong.



Daily life with youth

Long-Term Missionary Contributions

Missionaries can be very helpful in sharing a lesson, working in small groups or one-to-one, offering a Bible study, and in just building those relationships. It is important though that this is done as a team with LCHKS workers so that when the missionary does leave, the work continues and grows.

If you are interested, there is a complete handbook about the LCHKS Long-Term Missionary Program. Please feel free to contact us to get an online copy or to ask some questions.

Contact
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IV LCHKS Support

Stipends, smartphones and visa assistance for long-term missionaries

Accommodations

General care

A platform for cross-cultural communication

A good environment to experience basic Chinese

A mission network

Local teachers and congregation members to work as a team

V Preparing to Serve

Willingness to bring the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ to people in Hong Kong

No sexual conviction record

Respect the work, mission, and confession of the LCHKS

A letter of reference from a pastor for long-term missionaries

Prepare the materials or curriculum for mission activities for VBS and short-term volunteers

Be mindful of possible jet lag in the case of VBS and short-term mission teams

While serving, conduct yourselves in such a fashion as to “live peaceably with all” (Romans 12:18 [ESV]), avoid situations or activities which could be offensive or cause embarrassment to LCHKS, or misuse LCHKS resources

Final Word

Your engagement as a volunteer is a matter of vital importance to the ministry of the LCHKS in various areas. Your contribution can make a difference to the lives of the church members and those who are entrusted to their care in Hong Kong. These forms of Christian service to the neighbor are interrelated and express the same love and commitment which act as a beacon to the world. All the ministries described in this brochure are fully endorsed and supported by the LCHKS.

We, as the Synod, treasure our volunteers and value their services. Numerous connections and long-standing relationships between the LCHKS and Lutheran volunteers from the US prove that we know how to take good care of volunteers, how to encourage them and how to offer the guidance and assistance necessary to make their service a fruitful and joyful experience for them and for those who receive it.

Cordially in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Allan YUNG
President of the Lutheran Church Hong Kong Synod

More information on
<http://www.lutheran.org.hk/en/>

