

Dear Mission Partners of Joshua Lange:

The purpose of this letter is to share news about Joshua Lange's service to our Lord Jesus and provide you with information so you can make informed choices moving forward.

During Advent, Joshua informed the LCMS and the Office of International Mission of his decision to step down as an officially called missionary of the LCMS. His last official day of service was December 8, and he asked that we share his appreciation for you in this letter:

I pray that you and your family are doing well as you continue to celebrate, serve and worship the One who came to seek and to save each one of us. Coco and I want to express our gratitude for your love and support.

Thank you for the wonderful way you have supported our family and the unique work God has blessed us with through the LCMS and its International Mission team. We are grateful as we remember that 2020 will mark our 10th year living Shanghai, working alongside Concordia Welfare and Education Foundation (CWEF) in service to people living in material poverty in China and Cambodia. It is such a gift to be able to witness and participate in the work God is doing through your faithful prayers and gifts.

Although stepping out of an official LCMS missionary call, Joshua is continuing to serve in Asia, now as the director of Concordia Welfare & Education Foundation. He writes:

China is in a period of tightening in relation to the Church and the activities of foreigners like us. In spite of this current reality, God has provided an opportunity to continue serving here. In CWEF, God has given a unique government-sanctioned platform that provides opportunities to reach out in the love of Christ as we serve people living in material poverty in rural and underserved areas, as the Lord calls us to do. As we serve and connect with people, we have seen God work in wonderful ways to meet people in their spiritual need, and to bring them into a relationship with Himself.

As someone concerned with sharing the Gospel in Asia, I want to assure you that the LCMS understands and respects that it is <u>you</u> that chooses how you wish to fulfill the mission God gave to His church.

As God allows and as you desire, you can certainly continue to support Joshua, Coco and their family. If that is your preference, you will want to contact:

Mission of Christ Network, P.O. Box 533, Concordia, MO 64020 Telephone: (888) 495-9005 Email: info@missionofchrist.org or go online to: missionofchrist.org

If this is your preference, we only ask that you let us (LCMS Mission Advancement or Mission Central in Mapleton, Iowa) know you will be following Joshua and supporting him through



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If your preference is to support officially called or appointed LCMS missionaries, including but certainly not limited to those serving in Asia, both Mission Advancement and Mission Central can lift up one or more missionaries that best match your charitable intent.

God is good all the time. He continues to stir His mission work throughout Asia, with many opportunities for His disciples to make a difference. Thank you again for the vital role you play in HIS plan, and all this work completed by His grace. To Him be all glory and honor, both now and forever. Amen.

In service to our Lord Jesus Christ, and to you,

Mark Hofman, CFRE, MBA

Executive Director/LCMS Mission Advancement

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mission of Christ Network

P.O. Box 533

Concordia, MO 64020 Telephone: (888) 495-9005 Email: info@missionofchrist.org

LCMS Mission Advancement, St. Louis (Missionary Support team)

Toll-free: 888-930-4438

Email: mission.advancement@lcms.org

Julie Loehring (congregations and groups) – ask for extension 1651

Email: julie.loehring@lcms.org

Michelle Beckmann (individuals, families) – ask for extension 1047

Email: michelle.beckmann@lcms.org

Mission Central, Mapleton, Iowa (an extension of LCMS Mission Advancement)

Gary Thies: (712) 882-1029 Email: gary.thies@lcms.org

Rev. Dr. Brent Smith: (703) 713-2851

Email: brent.smith@lcms.org