

Yuanchuan Ye and Ming Gao Canadian Baptist Ministries Field Staff Germany



by Ruth Anna Dana

Yuanchuan Ye and Ming Gao, one couple who are part of the Canadian Baptist Ministries Chinese Ministries team in Germany, began the February Chinese New Year trusting the Lord for "new things" (Isaiah 42:8–10a). Small in-person gatherings have been allowed in the churches in their state. The country reached the peak of the Omicron variant and began lifting restrictions in February 2022. After almost two years of individuals staying alone at home and following online Sunday services, Yuanchuan and Ming are encouraging



Christian brothers and sisters to reach out to others. This ministry team asks for prayer for a renewed spirit to rebuild the bonds within the community and nurture new believers.

On December 18, 2021, they held an in-person Christmas service for believers to invite friends and relatives to come to, and this has become a treasured experience. Some newcomers expressed their desire to hear more about the gospel. Another outreach before Christmas brought believers together to sing carols and give out welcomed gifts of gospel tracts, Christian magazines, and calendars.

Cases of COVID-19 have been very high in Germany, and over 124,000 people have died as of February 2022. Yuanchuan and Ming pray that those who have lost beloved friends find God's presence and comfort.

The pandemic has decreased the enrolment of Chinese students from China to Germany. Negative social interactions have also influenced some students' decisions to not remain in Germany after graduation. Fewer student leaders on the ministry committee has led to a serious shortage of manpower. Yuanchuan and Ming ask for wisdom and creativity for different ways to contact as many students as possible. They have turned this statistic of lower student registration into a goal to reach out into the greater Chinese population in the city where they work. At Christmas, they also took the gift packets to Chinese restaurants, doctors' offices, and other locations. They ask that hearts will be touched by the good news of Jesus Christ shared through the 50 calendars and over 200 magazines distributed.

Limited attendance for in-person church services will

continue, abiding by government regulations. Simultaneous online delivery of worship services has continued through the combined efforts of the Chinese Ministries team in Germany, which also



includes Lewis and Felain Lam, and Xiaodan Fröhlich. The team has been able to assist each other by sharing pulpit responsibilities and collaborating to serve the different locations.

Prayer items from Yuanchuan and Ming:

- Pray that God will continue to open doors for them to follow up with the families they visited at Christmas.
- Pray for them and their two young children. "May God grant us good health both physically and spiritually, so we are able to serve in the way pleasing to Him."
- Pray for the field visit of Conrad and Fiona Kwok, CBM's Chinese Ministries team leaders, planned for this spring. May it be an encouragement to all those in the Chinese fellowship groups.

Lamentations 3:22b-23: "... his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."



Sources: www.cbmin.org; and, with thanks to Fiona Kwok for translation work.