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April 2017

Dear mission partners,

Britain has officially requested to leave the European Union. On Wednesday, March 29th 2017, Prime Minister Theresa May sent a letter to the EU president Donald Tusk in Brussels to formally invoke Article 50, which begins the two-year process of negotiations on trade, immigration, security and other issues.

It was a historic day that marked the start of the Brexit process; a day that some breathed a sigh of relief and others felt a great sense of sadness. From this point on, there is no turning back. Meanwhile, leaders of Scotland voted to seek a new referendum on independence from Britain within the next two years, as a majority of Scottish voters favored staying in the EU. The fear is real that Brexit could force the breakup of the United Kingdom. Not only Britain and Europe, but also the world as we know it will never be the same again after Brexit.

We live in an extraordinary time when nations and people around the world are facing an identity crisis. Countries are trying to move into positions that give them greater power to claim more land and more rights for their own benefits. Many ethnic groups are also raising their voices to protect their identity. Immigrants are finding it harder and harder to fit in and be fully accepted in their newfound homeland. Who are we? Where do we belong? Knowing our identity has never been so relevant to our daily life.

In the month of March, I visited Chinese churches and fellowships in Birmingham, Leicester, Belfast, Hertfordshire and Paris. It was amazing to see the diversity of our Chinese Diaspora community in Europe as I talked to people from all walks of life. There were those who were born and grew up here and there were some who had just arrived. Mingling in the midst of the old and new immigrants, there were many students who would stay for only a short period of time.

At the COCM Mission Centre, we have been reading Paul's letter to the Ephesians in preparation for the upcoming Mandarin Easter Camp. One of the most assuring messages is our new identity as sons and daughters adopted by God through Jesus Christ. Paul went into great details to describe the profound truth that it is by God's grace we are given this new identity in Christ. We are reminded that even though we live far away from our homeland and people group, our new identity in Christ is secured and can never be taken away by the changes of the world.

"You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness" (Ephesians 4:22-24). In this Easter season, let us once again focus our eyes on our Lord Jesus Christ, so we can be strong in His mighty power and live to be like Him.

Serving together in Christ,

Rev. Henry Lu General Director



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二零一七年四月

親愛的宣教夥伴們,

英國正式啟動了脫歐程序。2017年3月29日星期三,英國首相文翠珊女士(Theresa May)寫信給歐盟主席唐納德·圖斯克(Donald Tusk)並啟動《里斯本條約》第50條,這意味著為期兩年的脫歐談判正式開始,談判內容將涉及貿易、移民、安全及其他議題。

脫歐進程開始的這一天是具有歷史性意義的一天。有一些人鬆了口氣而另外一些人則萬分傷感。從這一天開始,就再不能回頭了。與此同時,蘇格蘭的領袖們則正在謀求在未來兩年可以再次進行獨立公投,因為大部分的蘇格蘭選民都傾向於留在歐盟。因此,脫歐可能會造成英國的分裂也並非空穴來風。而且脫歐不僅僅只是影響英國和歐洲,也會對整個世界產生影響。

我們如今就生活在這樣一個特殊的時代,世界上的國家和人群都面臨身份認同的危機。不同的國家都試圖通過各種方法來擴大自己的影響力,從而獲得更多土地並實現利益最大化;很多少數民族人群開始發聲維護自己的民族身份;移民們則覺得越來越難在他們新的家園中被認同和接納。我們是誰?哪裡才是我們的歸屬?認識自己的身份從未像現在這樣與日常生活如此緊密相連。

這個三月,我去到伯明罕、理斯特、貝爾法斯特、赫特福德和巴黎,探訪在那裡的華人教會和團契。我也有機會和來自各行各業不同背景的華人交談,在歐洲的華人群體實在是非常多樣化。有些是在這裡出生長大,有些才剛剛來到這裡,在這些老移民和新移民的群體中,還有一群只會逗留短短一段時間的學生群體。

在 COCM 宣教中心,我們藉著一同閱讀查考保羅給以弗所人的書信來預備即將到來的國語復活節營會。其中最確實的一個信息就是,我們如今新的身份就是藉著耶穌基督成為神的兒女。保羅花了大量的篇幅來描繪這個意義深遠的真理,那就是本著神的恩典我們在基督裡得著了這個全新的身份。從中也提醒我們,雖然我們遠離家鄉和親人,但是我們在基督裡的身份是確實的,是這個世界所不能奪去的。

"要脫去你們從前行為上的舊人,這舊人是因私慾的迷惑漸漸變壞的;又要將你們的心志 改換一新,並且穿上新人,這新人是照著神的形象造的,有真理的仁義和聖潔(以弗所書四章 22-24 節)。"在這個復活節來臨之際,讓我們再一次將眼目定睛耶穌基督,靠主剛強,更像基 督。

在主裡與你們同工的,





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二零一七年四月

亲爱的宣教伙伴们,

英国正式启动了脱欧程序。2017年3月29日星期三,英国首相特蕾莎·梅(Theresa May)写信给欧盟主席唐纳德·图斯克(Donald Tusk)并启动《里斯本条约》第50条,这意味着为期两年的脱欧谈判正式开始,谈判内容将涉及贸易、移民、安全及其他议题。

脱欧进程开始的这一天是具有历史性意义的一天。有一些人松了口气而另外一些人则 万分伤感。从这一天开始,就再不能回头了。与此同时,苏格兰的领袖们则正在谋求在未 来两年可以再次进行独立公投,因为大部分的苏格兰选民都倾向于留在欧盟。因此,脱欧 可能会造成英国的分裂也并非空穴来风。而且脱欧不仅仅只是影响英国和欧洲,也会对整 个世界产生影响。

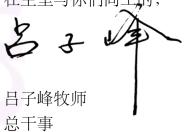
我们如今就生活在这样一个特殊的时代,世界上的国家和人群都面临身份认同的危机。不同的国家都试图通过各种方法来扩大自己的影响力,从而获得更多土地并实现利益最大化;很多少数民族人群开始发声维护自己的民族身份;移民们则觉得越来越难在他们新的家园中被认同和接纳。我们是谁?哪裡才是我们的归属?认识自己的身份从未像现在这样与日常生活如此紧密相连。

这个三月,我去到伯明罕、理斯特、贝尔法斯特、赫特福德和巴黎,探访在那裡的华人教会和团契。我也有机会和来自各行各业不同背景的华人交谈,在欧洲的华人群体实在是非常多样化。有些是在这裡出生长大,有些才刚刚来到这裡,在这些老移民和新移民的群体中,还有一群只会逗留短短一段时间的学生群体。

在COCM宣教中心,我们藉着一同阅读查考保罗给以弗所人的书信来预备即将到来的国语复活节营会。其中最确实的一个信息就是,我们如今新的身份就是藉着耶稣基督成为神的儿女。保罗花了大量的篇幅来描绘这个意义深远的真理,那就是本着神的恩典我们在基督裡得着了这个全新的身份。从中也提醒我们,虽然我们远离家乡和亲人,但是我们在基督裡的身份是确实的,是这个世界所不能夺去的。

"要脱去你们从前行为上的旧人,这旧人是因私慾的迷惑渐渐变坏的;又要将你们的心志改换一新,并且穿上新人,这新人是照着神的形象造的,有真理的仁义和圣洁(以弗所书四章22-24节)。"在这个复活节来临之际,让我们再一次将眼目定睛耶稣基督,靠主刚强,更像基督。

在主里与你们同工的,





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Birmingham Chinese Methodist Church Children's Ministry 伯明罕華人循道會兒童事工



With host family in Belfast 在貝爾法斯特接待我的家庭



Students of Hertfordshire CCF 赫特福德華人團契的學生們



Students from different backgrounds praying together in preparation for Easter camps 來自不同背景的學生們一起攜手為復活節營會禱告