

# Mission News of Pastor Michael Parris

June 2015

## So What Are We To Think?

“The Bible says to us, ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.’ The Bible makes it clear that there is only one God. Yet, the Bible speaks of a Father, Son and Holy Spirit. So what are we to think? Is there one God or three gods?”

On Friday nights we have Bible study for both adults and children. Recently, the adult lesson was about the Holy Trinity. There were about six in class. We talked about (1) God is Triune – three in one (2) Can we understand everything in life (3) Can we understand the concept of the Trinity.

Over the centuries it has been common for cultures to recognize various gods. An example would be both the Romans and Greeks. The Chinese have traditionally done the same. They have a god for this, a god for that, a god for everything.

As we teach the Trinity we have to take great caution to carefully explain that the Bible does tell us that the Father, Son and Spirit are each God. But, yet, there is only ONE God.

Easy to understand? Not really! We talked about life and whether we can expect to understand everything. We discussed as whether we should expect to understand everything about God.

Then we discussed trust. The Bible says it is so. We simply trust in God and His word.

Adults and children on Friday night at “Learning English Through the Bible.”



## CONTACT INFO

Pastor Michael Parris

Macau

To support the LCMS through the work of Pastor Michael Parris, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church– Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or LCMS. Include “Parris – Macau” in the memo line. Gifts can also be given securely through the LCMS website at [www.org/parris](http://www.org/parris).

OR

Mission Central  
47018 Highway E16  
Mapleton, Iowa 51034  
712-882-1029

Family, friends and contributors will be on the newsletter list. If you would like to be on the mailing list contact Michael.

My email

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Worship on Trinity Sunday, May 31, at the Concordia Lutheran Preaching Station in Macau.

#### Work Permits

The “blue card” saga continues. A year ago I was granted a work permit to stay in Macau to administrate the Center and serve the preaching station.



Now, a year later I had to reapply to have the blue card renewed. Easy? Wrong! My application was denied. So in a few days I have to leave Macau. I will still be able to serve but it will have to be long-distance.

I am appealing the government denial by supplying additional documentation that we hope will help. We need your prayers!

*“...but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God...”*

- We are having serious concerns about work permits. The government is becoming stingy about granting “blue cards.” Four LCMS missionaries, including myself, are waiting to see if our cards will be renewed or granted. Pray that the Macau government will grant to us the permits we need to stay here and work.
- Frequently Chinese unbelievers will visit the Center. For example, a young man who lives on the Mainland but works in Macau often visits worship and Bible study. Pray for him and others that the Holy Spirit will create faith through the teaching of the Word
- Without donors and partners we would not be here working. You are vital to God’s work here. I often thank God for the donors He has raised up to provide for us. Join me in praising God



The casino business in Macau is huge. Gambling has brought a lot of money and jobs to Macau. However, along with the money and jobs come the behaviors of corruption, prostitution, drugs and gambling addictions.

Eventually these behaviors result in despair. Can we make a difference in people’s lives? Not us! But Jesus can! What an opportunity to share God’s message of hope in Jesus with all who will listen.