

Missions Update

From bulletin: January 16, 2022

## **MISSIONS FOCUS: Paradise Short Term Missions Trip, October 2021**

*Our Missionaries, their health and ministries affected by Covid-19*

### From today's bulletin

The team left for Paradise CA, which was devastated by the 2018 Camp Fire October 24 until Friday. October 29, 2021. Our BACBC team consisted of: Jody Wong, Dennis Ong and Alicia Lu

"Paradise trip was great and we're definitely glad we went! Although we experienced torrential rains on the drive up and intermittent heavy rains on Monday, the rest of the week was sunny and warm. Our BACBC team of Jody (leader) and Alicia and Dennis were all "challenged" by the nature of the work, due to inexperience and lack of skills. The Paradise team was patient with us on the job and extremely encouraging and loving during our stay. We learned about building "burn piles" for disposal of tree debris, using a chainsaw for felling and chopping trees at risk to existing homes or homes being rebuilt, putting up external siding, installing nail plates to new construction, painting, caulking, putting up soffits, developed measuring and hammering skills, and proper use of a lot of different power tools.

What we enjoyed most was the fellowship we shared with our resident co-workers and hearing their stories of surviving the fire and their spiritual journeys in dealing with their losses and rebuilding basically from scratch. Their faith in God was truly inspiring and humbling for those of us who have never experienced major loss.

We also had a great time of bonding between ourselves, learning more about each other, and just kidding around - no "slackers" in this group as everyone worked long and hard. The Paradise group was amazed at what we were able to accomplish despite being quite a bit older than most volunteers they see! All in all, a great time of work, fellowship, and God-honoring prayer. Many tears shed by us and the Paradise team when we left, knowing that God is faithful and always provides.

A side bonus of the trip was the opportunity to meet up with one of our own church family's missionaries, Derek Jung (College campus ministry in Northern California/Oregon with InterVarsity). We were so blessed to spend time with him to encourage each other and celebrate his recent birthday.

This experience was definitely out of our comfort zone but well worth the "risk" in spite of feelings of inadequacy - no different from spiritual work, really. One thing we were encouraged to do was to leave our names and Bible verses or words of encouragement on the internal framing of all the houses we worked on so that we could remember our small role in the rebuilding and for the homeowners to feel the Christian love demonstrated by our labors.

Our ministry and relationship with our brothers and sisters in Paradise continues: An additional team of Jody Wong, Nathan Law and Ran Shen returned to Paradise in November to spend a day helping install a fence in Paradise. A few weeks ago, some of those same brothers and sisters from visited BACBC during a worship service.

Attached are some pictures from the trip and a Christmas card the church received from the Paradise Team from Reachglobal.

For more updates, visit [bacbc.org/missions](http://bacbc.org/missions).

*Thank you for reading about and praying for our missionaries, countries and people locally and globally!*



Jody Wang Phil. 4:13

DENNIS ONG

BAY AREA CHINESE BIBLE CHURCH

ALICIA LU Philippians 4:6-7

10/26 - 10/28/21

BAY AREA



CHINESE BIBLE CHURCH

ALAMEDA, CA

JODY WONG  
ALICIA LU  
DENNIS ONG



OCTOBER 24 - 29, 2021



*Anna*

*Peggy*

# Thank You!

FROM THE PARADISE TEAM

*Michelle*

*Patty*

*Dan*

*Kristi*



## reachglobal

crisis response

*Pat*