



Craig Lee Molitoris

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EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor of Theology, Concordia University Irvine

2004-Present

Teach New Testament Theology and encourage interest and participation in Missions at Concordia University in Irvine California, while continuing to serve as a China Specialist for LCMS World Mission, traveling to China at least twice per year for teaching and networking.

Area Director for Greater China, LCMS World Mission

2000-2004

Developed and implemented a strategy to reach the largest people group on earth; managed a \$1.5 million budget; empowered 10 career missionary units, 75 volunteer and 2 national missionaries to reach 20 million Chinese with the gospel by the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

- Identified and filled a unique need in the PRC by setting up a multifaceted support system to train village church leaders in China.
- Championed the development of a curriculum for lay training centers in China.
- Integrated two national Chinese missionaries into our team of LCMS coworkers.
- Led the formation of a united Greater China strategy for work among the Chinese in Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan and the PRC.
- Realigned mission personnel to better fulfill mission goals.
- Developed and coordinated ministry partnerships for outreach in Greater China.
- Instituted a legal platform to perform extensive human care ministries in the PRC.

Director, China Ministry Team, LCMS World Mission

1995-2000

Provided leadership and continual refinement (in those days of rapid change) for a bold yet prudent strategy for ministry in the PRC; empowered 9 career units and 20 volunteer missionaries for the fulfillment of our strategy.

- Established LCMS as a known and trusted partner with the China Christian Council throughout China.
- Reestablished meaningful relations with the Lutheran Church Hong Kong Synod (LCHKS) after several years of neglect.
- Enhanced ministry in the PRC by placing two LCMS missionary families in that country.
- Partnered with LCHKS to start a new ESL ministry in local Chinese high schools.

President, Concordia Theological Seminary, Hong Kong

1996-2000

Provided leadership for the rebirth of the programs at Concordia Seminary after years of virtual non-existence. My service as president was at the explicit request of the LCHKS.

- Established a critical partnership with Lutheran Theological Seminary for training full time pastors for the LCHKS.
- Devised and implemented a new program to train evangelists for the LCHKS.
- Reopened the Education Department of CTS for the training of parochial school teachers.

Associate Director, China Ministry Team, LCMS World Mission

1994-1995

Worked with the Director of the CMT to devise a strategy to enhance ministry programs in the PRC; primarily responsible for the expansion of the ESL ministry in China, equipping and caring for 10 ESL teachers annually.

- Involved in the establishment of a new partnership with English Language Institute China.
- Began a new summer ESL ministry program that currently averages 70 people annually.

Country Director, Taiwan, LCMS World Mission

1990-1992

Provided leadership for effective mission strategy and the healing of partner church relations after a particularly difficult period under the previous MC; empowered 7 career units and 10 volunteer missionaries for the fulfillment of our strategy.

- Reestablished a relationship of mutual respect between the CELC and the LCMS.
- Orientated the new Asia Area Secretary to the ministry in Taiwan

Evangelistic Missionary to Taiwan, LCMS World Mission

1986-1992

After two years of full-time language study, I planted a Chinese Lutheran congregation in downtown Taipei. I also cultivated positive working relationships with other Chinese Lutheran pastors and their members in Taipei.

High School Teacher, Lui Ming Choi Lutheran College, Hong Kong

1980-1981

I served for one year in this Chinese Lutheran High School immediately after my college graduation and before my seminary studies. I taught English and Christianity.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate – Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena **2006-Present**
School of Intercultural Studies

Master of Arts, East Asian Studies, Washington University, St. Louis **1992-1994**

Master of Sacred Theology, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis **1985-1987**
Major: Exegetical Theology; Minor: Systematic Theology
Thesis: The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

Master of Divinity, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis **1981-1985**

Bachelor of Science in Education, Concordia College, Seward Nebraska **1978-1980**
Secondary Education. Major: English; Minor: Theology

Languages:

Besides the normal theological languages, I am fluent in Mandarin Chinese and quite functional in Cantonese Chinese

SHORT BIOGRAPHY & ACADEMIC INTERESTS

I was born and raised in suburban USA, but lived for 18 years of my adult life in Chinese cities in Asia – first in Taiwan for 7 years and then in Hong Kong for 11 years. I have traveled and worked extensively in the PRC, both in large cities and in small rural areas. My wife Joyce is an ethnic Chinese, born and raised in Hong Kong. She helps me continue to navigate and appreciate the challenges of cross-cultural life and work. We have three sons, born in 1985, 1990, and 1992 respectively.

The area in which I have done the most work and research has to do with the China Christian Council in the PRC. I was the key liaison for the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod with the China Christian Council for over a decade, and have visited numerous Chinese churches, Bible Schools and Seminaries in the PRC, oftentimes with the opportunity to speak and share in Mandarin. I have also planned and participated in English teaching projects and human care projects throughout China.