January 17th, 2018

Lim Sekiong Bok-su
Committee of Retired Missionary from Taiwan,
TCCCNA,
99 Campbell Ave.
Williston Park, NY 11596, USA

## Dear Lim Bok-su

Just yesterday I received the generous gift of the cheque for US \$250.00 from our dear Taiwanese friends in North America. It comes as a very welcome help at this time of year especially so I want to thank you all for your kindness. I do want to let you know that it had been mailed to my previous address. I had thought that I had notified you in my thank-you letter last year of my change of address. If I did not, I do apologize. Please note that I have sold my little house in Innisfil and now live in an apartment in the basement of my granddaughter's home here in Barrie. (see new address at the top of this letter) It suits me well not having lawns and gardens to care for, or SNOW to shovel. We have plenty of that this year, but my grand kids do the shovelling for me now. I celebrate my 81st birthday next week, so it is lovely to have family to help with these chores.

Family news is pretty much happy news these days. Ruth (eldest daughter) has moved to Vancouver. Anne works for Peter and Michael in their Human Resources businesses. We always miss our dear David and Murray, especially during Christmas seasons and holidays. I have two new great grandchildren this year, which means that daughter Anne and son Michael are now grandparents! Two of my grandchildren are in University now. Rebecca is finishing her B.A. this year in spite of her severe physical disabilities. Travis is in 2<sup>nd</sup> year Sciences at the University of Toronto preparing for Pharmacy. These are both Peter's children. Mike's youngest son Zachary starts College next week doing the Fire fighting program. The remaining 6 grandchildren are all working in various businesses or professions.

I keep busy leading an Aging Gracefully program for Seniors, and serving on our Mission and Outreach team and the Life Long Learning team at my church. I serve

our local Community Health Centre on the Governance Committee of the Board. I continue to belong to a group of retired women who meet together weekly to paint. I paint watercolours, and just recently have decided to start oil painting again. We are fortunate here to be able to get the HD operas from the Met in New York at our local movie theatre, and I do enjoy those.

I did not get back to Taiwan last year. It is a long flight and I realize that I am unlikely to be able to return there, though Taiwan always feels like home to me and likely always will. I continue to hold the needs of the people and the island before our Heavenly Father. I will always be grateful for the years spent there, for the PCT and our many friends. A number of my dear friends from the YWCA have now passed on, and while I do get to meet the new staff there when I am in Taiwan, I miss my old friends. It was my privilege and pleasure to spend time with Grace and Henry Tsai last time I was there. It brought back many memories of the Lu-soan-To-Hoe events. I was saddened to hear that Peter Kehler had passed. I was at Jack Geddes' funeral and it was a wonderful celebration of a life well lived. We also lost Grace McGill this past year (PCC) and I just recently heard that Harry Peterson (PCUSA) passed after a short illness. I do not know if you were aware of these transitions. Grace had returned to Taiwan and was living with her sons at Morrison Academy in Taichung.

Now I must close this letter. Please accept my grateful thanks for your support and love, and know that you are always in my heart and prayers.

Mary Helen Saswin
Mary Helen Garvin Go siōk-liàn bok-su niù.