**The Dubuque Mandarin Ministry**

**History, Recent Fruit, and Future Opportunity**

**HISTORY: God’s Call as the First Step**

Over 15 years of UD Evangelism and Discipleship for Mandarin Speaking People (Tina Lee)

* 2002 – Moses Wu and Tina Lee begin weekly ministry to dozens of Mandarin speaking students as Moses earns his M.Div.
* 2006-2012 – Bonnie Sue Lewis and Beth McCaw work with Phyllis Garfield in growing the host family ministry to international students while Moses and Tina ministered in Taiwan
* 2013 – Tina and Moses return for Tina to earn her MAMC. Tina works with Phyllis’ office to minister to Mandarin speaking and other international students.
* 2015 – Tina and Moses receive a call from God through a woman lamenting the absence of a Mandarin speaking pastor within 100 miles of Dubuque. They are awarded 1001 New Worshiping Community internship grants to develop ministry among Mandarin speaking UD students and Dubuque-area residents.
* 2016 – Tina and Moses receive a 1001 Seed Grant to establish the first Mandarin speaking worshipping community in Dubuque. UD partners through Tina’s Graduate Assistantship devoted to international student ministry. Westminster Church partners through hosting the NWC in their fellowship and building, and funding along with JK Presbytery and First Presbyterian.
* 2017 – The NWC community takes root and grows; the first two baptisms are celebrated. A 1001 $25,000 Investment Grant is awarded to Tina and Moses to grow the NWC and its fledgling leaders over 18 months. WPC partners through strengthening interpersonal relationships and providing space for newly independent Mandarin worship services. UD partners through ongoing shared ministry to international students in the UD community and providing in-context housing for the Wu/Lee family.
* 2017 - Tina and Moses are granted U.S. Religious Worker visas allowing them to minister freely and receive support from the three-way partnership of the PCUSA 1001 Grant, the Presbytery and congregations of John Knox, and UD.

**FRUIT: Cultural, Spiritual, and Relational Footprints Along the Way**

* Cultural (Tina Lee, Moses Wu)
	+ Holiday celebrations: Thanksgiving, Moon Festival, Dragon Boat, Lunar New Year providing education and relationship building to Mandarin-speaking people, the UD community, and Dubuque residents; 75-140 attendees for each.
	+ Weekly table tennis fellowship started; 69 different participants to date
	+ English tutoring offered
	+ Identification of approximately 225 speakers of Mandarin in greater Dubuque; Tina and Moses have made contact with 150, including UD students, students at other educational institutions, employees and patrons of Chinese restaurants
* Spiritual (Tina and Moses)
	+ The first two baptisms of new Mandarin-speaking Christians celebrated in 2017
	+ The Sunday ministry for speakers of Mandarin graduated from post-English service interpretation to full services in Mandarin, with 22 attendees at the inaugural service in February 2017; 51 different participants to date.
	+ Mandarin language celebrations of Christmas Eve and Easter are established
	+ Tina and Moses host weekly Bible studies and fellowship opportunities in their home
	+ The Heavenly Feast is launched beginning of 2018: seven groups of six speakers of Mandarin gather for dinner and Scripture conversation over four weeks.
	+ Video Testimony from participants
* Relational (Phyllis Garfield)
	+ The robust host family program, engaging UD students, faculty and staff from diverse departments, along with members of Dubuque congregations
	+ Quarterly cultural celebrations and festivals – well developed and well attended with campus meeting wider community
	+ Fellowship offered to other international students along with speakers of Mandarin
	+ Reciprocal partnership with Westminster Church is strengthened as they offer space, hospitality, and host families for the international/Mandarin events, and UD provides trained leadership in Tina and Moses
	+ The presence of Tina, Moses, and talented UD freshman Sam Wu blesses those in classroom, townhouses, Worldview
	+ Press and testimony to this unique church plant has cultivated positive regard from the wider church for the creative, entrepreneurial, and multi-cultural undertakings at UD

**OPPORTUNITY: Future Steps – The Path Ahead** (Chris James, Beth McCaw and Phyllis Garfield)

* The further calling and discipling of Christians through the NWC
* The nurture of emerging leaders within the Mandarin-speaking community
* The potential call of new leader(s) seeking to serve and learn (e.g. YAM Scholar; 1001 intern; this is a unique opportunity and context for someone seeking ministry experience among an Asian community)
* UD’s possible partnership with the 1001 grant, and church sponsorship, through the grant period ending December 2018
* Benefits to UD from the proposed ministry of Tina, Moses and Samuel through fall 2018:
	+ Another class of host family relationships established through Tina’s administration
	+ Thanksgiving and Moon festivals planned and celebrated
	+ The cultural gifts and global perspective of the Lee/Wu family to both the college and seminary
	+ Wisdom and mature leadership from Tina and Moses as alumni and practitioners of mission in our midst
	+ Pastoral presence in the townhouses as Tina and Moses are available to neighbors
	+ Ongoing mutual blessing with Westminster Presbyterian Church as we share in resources and mission