

A Practical Opportunity to Serve the People of North Korea

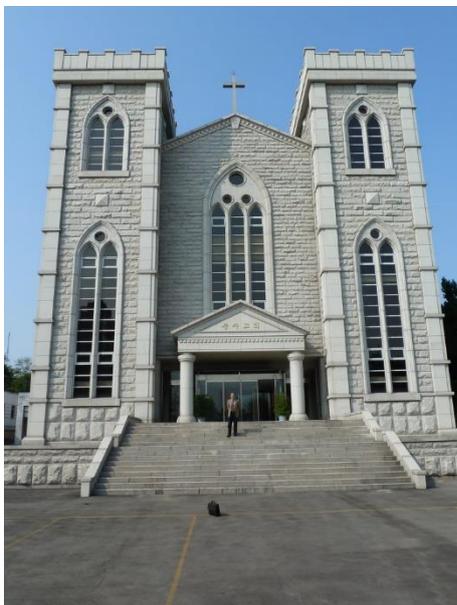
North Korea, which is formally known as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, has been in the news a lot lately.

In October 2018, Rev. Richard Lawrence and the Rev. Dr. Stuart Vogel will make a private visit North Korea in October. They are both ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand and have visited the DPRK previously. Rev Lawrence currently teaches at the Waikato Institute of Technology (WINTEC). Rev. Dr. Vogel is the minister of the Auckland Chinese Presbyterian Church.

The aim of the visit is to enhance our personal contacts with the education institutions and the Korean Christian Federation in the DPRK. We hope to discern ways to encourage mutual interaction and exchanges between our churches and educational institutions.



Photos of the Bongsu Bakery in Pyongyang, North Korea, which we support



Background information:

The late Rev Don Borrie of the PCANZ first visited over 40 years ago. New Zealand Christians have been continually active in promoting contacts. Also, last year the World Council of Churches General Secretary visited New Zealand. Discussion about links the KCF was high on the agenda with the New Zealand National Dialogue on Church Unity.

There is a service of worship every Sunday at **Bongsu Church**, in Pyongyang every Sunday. Christians in North Korea who worship God under very unusual, unique and difficult conditions.

Humanitarian Needs in the DPRK

The situation in the North is both acute and challenging. In January 2018, UNICEF issued a projection that 60,000 children in North Korea would suffer acute malnutrition this year. A quarter of children are stunted because of a lack of adequate food. 3.5 million people need access to clean water. Tuberculosis is on the rise. **20% of children suffer from malnutrition.**

But we can make a small but significant contribution:

We can assist the Bongsu Bakery and Noodle Factory, which is in Pyongyang city. Its products are distributed to the vulnerable and need – old age homes and pre-schools. The bakery is run by the “Korean Christian Federation”, which is the recognised Christian body in North Korea. Richard has visited the Bakery and took these pictures.



A prayer from Korea, that we can make our own

“Lord, through the North-South summit meetings,
Let there be a peace settlement,
And please help us to realize lively civilian exchanges
between South and North.

Lord, through the North-South summit meetings,
Bring reconciliation and peace to this land,
And please open up an era of peaceful coexistence on
the Korean peninsula.

Lord, through peace on the Korean peninsula, Help us to realize peace all over this world.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray, amen.”

Richard and Stuart will present a financial gift to the Bongsu Bakery and Noodle Factory. This includes a gift from the Methodist Church of New Zealand. Money that is donated will be used to buy ingredients for the bread and noodles and to produce healthy food for children in kindergartens and people in old age homes.



**If you would like to add your own
financial gift to the Bakery,**

**Bongsu Bakery Appeal,
Pyongyang, North Korea**

BNZ – 02 0800 0701884 00

This is an account of the

Airedale Property Trust of Methodist Mission Northern

The Demilitarised Zone at Panmunjom – as the North Koreans see it.