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## The Calling from Worcester

Dear Co-workers in the Family of God, Peace in the Lord,

We greet you from Worcester, Massachusetts, and bring to you the calling of the Christian Gospel Church in Worcester (CGCW).

### *About Worcester and CGCW*

CGCW is located about 40 miles west of Boston, Massachusetts. Worcester is the second largest city in Massachusetts and has a long history, developed culture, and outstanding people. There are seven universities in the city, as well as medical schools, research institutes, biopharmaceutical research centers, and computer technology companies within the city and surrounding area. These facilities attract many Chinese people to work and settle here and attract many international students and visiting scholars to study and research here. God has prepared a vast harvest field for us in this area.

As early as the late Qing Dynasty and the Republic of China, many Chinese students came to Worcester to study. Former Tsinghua University President Mei Yiqi and the famous poet Xu Zhimo studied here. Today, there are more than 4,000 Chinese people in Worcester County, and more than a few hundred children in the Chinese schools learning to speak Chinese. The youth ministry and children's ministry are crucial to attract and retain Chinese families, as well as the key to passing on the faith. CGCW currently has more than 100 adult members, more than 20 teenagers, and more than 40 children who regularly attend the church.

### *Our Ministry to Youth and Children*

The church leadership team is united in the understanding that a thriving youth and children's ministry is critical to the future of the church. In the past 20+ years, we have encountered over a thousand students, over 300 were baptized in the Lord, and we established campus groups and several fellowships. We worked with other Chinese churches to start the regional New England Winter Student camp (NEWS camp). Additionally, the youth and children are active in the church with outreach programs, conferences, hosting VBS, AWANA, and weekly fellowship meetings.

Therefore, we have decided to continue vigorously developing our youth and children's ministry, not only to retain our next generation to pass on our faith to them, but also to attract more young people to come to us and even to build a future English worship ministry for everyone, children, youth, and adults. Although our church is part of the Lord's ministry to a growing community of Chinese-speaking people in the Worcester area, in many cases their children were born here in the United States and are primarily English-speaking. To minister to this younger generation, we are



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called to provide English ministries for the youth and children in addition to our services in Mandarin Chinese.

### ***Our Vision and Calling***

CGCW answers the Lord's call, follows in the footsteps of the Christian pioneers, cares for the souls of our fellow citizens, spreads the gospel, and shepherds the flock. Based on our values, with the whole community regardless of nations in mind, it is our common vision to build the church of Christ to become a city on a hill and a lamp on a stand, and to build brothers and sisters to become the salt and light of the world. Based on such a vision and consensus, we appeal to all the co-workers who are interested in serving the youth and children of the Chinese church, asking God to move and raise you to serve this group of Chinese youth and children, to shepherd them and accompany them to grow together, build the future of the kingdom of God, and cultivate a new generation of elite Christian soldiers.

When Paul heard Macedonia's call, he decided to go to Macedonia to preach the gospel of God. We hope that our call will reach the brothers and sisters who are prepared, moved by the Holy Spirit, led by God, and willing to come to this vast field. Please pray for God to hear us, pray for God to provide for us, and pray for God to lead us!

Please see the enclosed attachment for specific details on the available positions.

In Christ,

Christian Gospel Church in Worcester

Youth and Children Ministries Pastoral Search Committee



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## ***Announcement***

The Christian Gospel Church in Worcester, Massachusetts, announces openings for a youth ministry director and a children's ministry director. These positions require the candidates to be fluent, preferably native, English speakers. Knowledge of Mandarin Chinese is useful, but not at all required. These positions are available immediately.

### ***The Youth Ministry Director***

The youth ministry director is responsible for the weekly preaching in the English worship service for teens and adults, arrangement and teaching of Sunday School classes for the youth, organization of the youth fellowship meetings and other youth activities, pastoral care of the youth, and coordination of the youth ministry within the oversight of the board of elders. Preferably, the youth ministry director candidate will be ordained or eligible for ordination and available for full-time work, but candidates also will be considered if they intend to pursue training in the ministry and are willing to fill the position at least part-time while completing their studies. Qualifications include: theologically equipped, clearly called, having youth ministry experience.

### ***The Children's Ministry Director***

The children's ministry director is responsible for organization and teaching of the younger children in the church ranging from preschooler to Grade 6. The director shall oversee and formulate the Friday AWANA program and Sunday School program with the goal of preparing children to have a smooth transition to the youth program. The director shall coordinate the children's ministry under the oversight of the board of elders. The children's ministry director may be related to the youth ministry director, such as the husband and wife, and the position may be full-time or part-time, depending on the availability of the candidate. Qualifications include: theologically equipped/trained, clearly called, having children ministry experience.

### ***For more information***

Please contact Elder Songheng Li, by email at [songhengli68@gmail.com](mailto:songhengli68@gmail.com) or by phone at 774-641-0601, for more information about these positions and our ministry.



### 来自吾思德基督福音教会的呼声

亲爱的牧者、主内同工，

我们在麻州的吾思德（Worcester 也译作“伍斯特”）向您问安，同时也带去吾思德基督福音教会（Christian Gospel Church in Worcester，简称 CGCW）的呼声。

吾思德基督福音教会所在的吾思德市，位于波士顿以西约 40 英里，为麻州第二大城市，历史悠久，文化发达，人杰地灵。市内有七所大学，还有医学院、研究所、生物制药研究中心和电脑科技公司等，吸引了大批华人到此工作定居，也吸引着大批留学生和访问学者来此学习和研究。神在这块土地上为我们预备了广阔的禾场。

早在晚清民国时期，就有大批留学生来吾思德留学。前清华大学校长梅贻琦、诗人徐志摩曾就读于此。吾思德基督福音教会听从主的呼召，追寻先贤脚踪，关心同胞灵魂，广传福音，牧养群羊。立足吾思德，胸怀全天下，建立基督的教会成为山上之城、台上之灯，建造弟兄姊妹成为世上的盐、世上的光，是我们共同的异象。

吾思德地区现有华人 4 千多人，中文学校有几百个孩子学习中文。青少年事工和儿童事工对吸引和留住这些华人家庭至关重要，也是传承信仰的关键。吾思德基督福音教会现有成人会员 100 多人，常规参加教会的青少年 20 多人，儿童 40 多人。在过去 20 年间，我们教会接待过的留学生和访问学者超过 1000 人，其中有 300 多人在此受洗归主。我们建立了校园团契，连同其他 12 家华人教会一起建立了新英格兰学生冬令营（NEWS camp）。此外，教会积极开展青少年和儿童服侍项目，举办了 VBS，AWANA，每周有团契聚会。通过这些活动，我们吸引当地华人，广传福音。教会领导团队一致认为，青少年和儿童事工的蓬勃发展对教会的未来至关重要。因此，我们决定要继续大力发展青少年和儿童事工，不仅要留住我们的下一代、传承我们的信仰，还要吸引更多的年轻人来到我们当中，建设未来的华人英文崇拜。

基于这样的看见与共识，我们向所有有志于服事华人教会青少年和儿童的同工们发出呼吁，求神感动和兴起你们来服事这一群说英语的华人青少年和儿童，牧养他们、陪伴他们一起成长，建造神国的未来，培养新一代的精兵。

当年保罗听到马其顿的呼声就决定去马其顿传神的福音，我们盼望我们的呼声抵达有预备的弟兄姊妹，并有圣灵感动和带领他们来到这广袤的禾场。求神感动，求神预备，求神带领！

具体招聘信息见以上英文附信。

吾思德基督福音教会青少年与儿童事工寻牧委员会