

## Repeat Visits

On Thursday (26) the rest of our teachers arrived from North America (USA, Canada) in two large busses.



At our early dinner I met the two remaining (younger) members of our team. From the left around the table are Anna Kathryn, Alicia, Sharon, and Myron.

That evening I had three visitors. The first was Angela, whom I met on my 2012 flight to China after the late arrival of my passport made me miss the Team Leader group flight.

Two years ago she brought

her mother to the hotel to meet me. We have been corresponding by email since then. Our new photo in the hotel lobby is at the right. We had a long re-acquaintance talk in the lobby and as we walked to a Pizza Hut for a late snack and returned. The others were Lucy and her husband. Lucy was in my trip reports into the Colorado mountains and the trip to Moab, Utah, last Autumn. Their visit was brief in exchange for a longer visit and dinner Sunday, mentioned later.



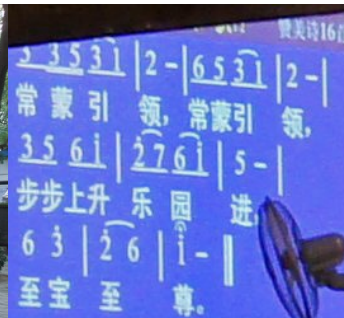
Friday morning the temperatures, humidity, and visibility were the best I have experienced for a trip to the Great Wall (Mutianyu site). Like last year, I rode up in a gondola and walked down looking at the birds.



The bird above is a Daurian Redstart, which was singing in the village at the base of the cable car system. Birds near the wall were the Eurasian Nuthatch, Japanese White-eye, Great Tit, Yellow-bellied Tit.



The last two are like the North American Chickadee. I made the last one large because it is a Lifetime Bird for me - the first time I have ever seen it.



Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Words: Robert Robinson  
Music: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music



On Sunday our group was assigned to the 7 AM service at the Chongwenmen Church. We arrived a half hour early, but inside the seats were nearly full.



A song leader with an excellent voice was giving the people practice in singing the hymns that were going to be sung in the worship service. The words and musical notes were shown on the blue screens. Notice how Chinese musical notes are written in numbers with a variety of lines and dots. The vertical lines mark the bars like in western musical style. Though the hymn that I illustrated in blue is not the same as that in the western style, the middle hymn of the service was indeed Come Thou Fount in Chinese. During the actual worship service only the words were shown on the screen in Chinese characters. The



Bible passages for the day were 1 John 1: 1-7 and Colossians 3: 1-10. The sermon theme was Connection With Eternity, expanding on the Bible passages to remind us to have our lives changed to prepare us for our eternal future. The titles of the first and last hymns were Gracious God Our Father, and Channels of Living Water. The final photo looks out the church window at the crowd ready to enter for the second of the four worship services of the day. In the rear building is a book store having an abundance of Bibles and literature for sale.

We had more cultural training sessions in the afternoon. We were on our own for dinner in any restaurant. Lucy arrived with family members and we went to a nearby restaurant for a large dinner and long conversation. In the photo center is Lucy (HongJuan, shortened to Juan in the American trip reports from Autumn). On the left is her husband, WuXi. Their son is TongTong. Her brother Chengfeng is on the right. TongTong quickly learned much English during a six-month stay in Utah where Lucy was teaching Chinese in the first grade of a public school. Lucy decided to return to China rather than teach for a third year in Utah. TongTong will enter first grade in a Chinese school.



This week we will be studying our curriculum in three groups. All materials were prepared by the same two Canadian authors whom we have seen for the past two years. I will be in the group that will be teaching Chinese teachers of English at the Middle School level (American junior and senior high school). Our two younger team members will teach teachers of the Primary School level. Two teams will be teaching university students like I did for the past two years.

On Thursday we scatter around Beijing to visit various parks and tourist spots. We meet our host school representatives at a banquet in the evening. Then we go to our assigned cities on Friday.

Ed Holroyd, 30 June 2014