THE CHURCH UNDER THE CROSS

Mission in Asia in Times of Turmoil
A Missionary Memoir: Volume Two

Wendell P. Karsen
This book is dedicated to the thousands of brave Christians in China and Indonesia who, although subjected to the fires of fierce persecution (some to the point of death), remained firm in their faith and, in so doing, serve as a “cloud of witnesses” to us today.
The Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America

The series was inaugurated in 1968 by the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America acting through the Commission on History to communicate the church’s heritage and collective memory and to reflect on our identity and mission, encouraging historical scholarship which informs both church and academy.

The publication of a memoir creates a readily available primary source. It is important to let the voice of this source speak with all of its conviction, passion, and understanding of the events, dynamics, and the people of its time.

Visit us on Facebook at “Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America.”

General Editor
Rev. Donald J. Bruggink, Ph.D., D.D.
Western Theological Seminary
Van Raalte Institute, Hope College

Associate Editor
George Brown, Jr., Ph.D.
Western Theological Seminary

Copy Editor
Laurie Baron

Production Editor
Russell L. Gasero

Commission on History
Douglas Carlson, Ph.D., Northwestern College, Orange City, Iowa
Mary L. Kansfield, M.A., East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania
Hartmut Kramer-Mills, M.Div., Dr.Theol., New Brunswick, New Jersey
Jeffery Tyler, Ph.D., Hope College, Holland, Michigan
Audrey Vermilyea, Bloomington, Minnesota
Lori Witt, Ph.D., Central College, Pella, Iowa
Contents

Illustrations ix
Preface xix

1 The Middle Kingdom 5
2 The Red Peril 17
3 A Suffering Church 95
4 The Tide Turns 119
5 A Mission Miracle 187
6 Growing Pains 257
7 Renewing Ties 305
8 Problems and Possibilities 371
9 Tribals, Troubles, and Triumphs 419
Fast Forward 467

Part IV The Cross of Fundamentalism: Mission in Indonesia, 1998-2000 513
10 Exploring Roots 517
11 Island Nation 537
12 Despots and Dictators 567
13 A Persevering Church 595
14 Mission under Pressure 647
Fast Forward 667
Conclusion: Encounters and Reflections 703
Bibliography 731
Appendix 743
Index 747
Illustrations

Map of China 3
Macao-Chinese border gate, 1976 7
Students at a Communist secondary school, Hong Kong, 1978 9
Song Emperor Tai-tsu, 960-976, on Taiwan (ROC) stamp 11
People enjoying a weekend outing, Peking, 1977 13
Three Gorges Dam, Yichang, 2009 15
Chinese peasants planting rice, Guangtong, 1977 19
Little Red Pioneers, Peking, 1977 23
Red Guards doing calisthenics, Peking, 1977 25
A play depicting peasants taking revenge on landlords, Peking, 1977 27
Ready to cross the border, Hong Kong, May 7, 1977 33
Reading propaganda poster, Canton, 1977 35
Stadium where mass struggle meetings took place, Canton, 1977 37
Damaged St. Michael’s Roman Catholic Church, Peking, 1977 40
Crowded street, Peking, 1977 42
Author at the Great Wall, Peking, 1977 44
Billboard at Temple of Heaven, Peking, 1977 46
Marx and Engels on Tiannmen Square billboards, Peking, 1977 47
Author with Shanghai Zephyr, Peking, 1977 49
People reading posted news sheets, Peking, 1977 52
Briefing at a rural commune, Peking, 1977 54
Classroom showing Mao and Hua on the front wall, Peking, 1977 57
Red Guards conducting exercises on the street, Peking, 1977 59
Crowd watching a circus in an indoor stadium, Peking, 1977 62
Ming Observatory with subway construction, Peking, 1977 68
Former gate of the East Cathedral, with a red star replacing the cross, Peking, 1977 69
Entrance to a Communist middle school for girls on the grounds of the North Cathedral, Peking, 1977 70
Hong Kong tour group in front of the gate to the Forbidden City, Peking, 1977 72
Street scene, Canton, 1977 74
Women workers at a pottery factory, Fushan, 1977 75
Former western office building on Shamian Island, crowned
with a red star, Canton, 1978 77
Joyce Karsen examining vegetables at a market, Canton, 1978 78
Rural woman riding a cow in a commune, Gungse, 1978 80
Crowd that the author addressed, Gungse, 1978 82
Memorial to the 1912 revolutionary martyrs, Canton, 1978 84
Roman Catholic Cathedral, Canton, 1978 87
Broken windows in the Catholic Cathedral, Canton, 1978 88
Young people in a park, Canton, 1978 90
Author greeting kindergarten children, Peking, 1977 92
The author with tour guides Yang, Chou, Lee, and Huang, Peking, 1977 93
The Silk Route from Syria to China 96
Ming Emperor Taizu (1368-1398) on a Taiwan (ROC) stamp 98
Portrait of Jesuit China missionary Matteo Ricci, Peking, 1984 100
Portrait of Protestant China missionary Robert Morrison, with
Pastor Leung A-fa 102
Reformed Church China missionary David Abeel, Amoy, c.1842 104
Long-time Protestant TSPM leader, K. H. Ting, Nanjing, c. 1978 106
Portrait extolling Mao Tse-tung, Canton, 1978 109
Defaced Trinity Church used as a Communist meeting hall
until 1981, Amoy, 1980 112
Protestant TSPM headquarters, Shanghai, 1980 115
RCA missionaries expelled by the Communists in 1950-1951,
Amoy, c. 1948 116
Three-Self Patriotic Movement leaders, Shanghai, 1980 118
A billboard depicting the Four Modernizations, Canton, 1980 121
Dong-san Christian Church, one of the first churches to reopen
after the Cultural Revolution, Canton, 1980 122
Chinese children, Shenzhen, 1979 123
Hong Kong church leaders meet with their Chinese counterparts 125
The Chou family, Canton, 1978 128
Factory (church) where Gilbert Baker was ordained as an
Anglican missionary priest, Canton, 1980 130
A spontaneous parade celebrating the downfall of the Gang of
Four, Nanjing, 1976 133
Gu Lo Church, Hangzhou, 1980 135
Christians pouring into the street after a church service, Shanghai, 1980 138
With Yin Xiang, general secretary of TSPM, Shanghai, 1980 143
Shen De-rong, TSPM acting general secretary, Shanghai, 1980 146
Commune farmer plowing with water buffalo, Peking, 1980 149
Mo An Church, Shanghai, 1980 152
Pure Heart Church, Shanghai, 1980 154
With pastors at the Pure Heart Church, Shanghai, 1980 156
Yangtze River Bridge, Nanjing, 1980 158
Sun Yat-sen Memorial and Tomb, Nanjing, 1980 161
Chi Hsiadian Buddhist complex, Nanjing, 1980 162
Han Wen-zau, K. H. Ting, Prof. Lo, Mwo Ru-shi, Hsu Lei,
    Chan Ze-min, Prof. Soo, Nanjing, 1980 166
Bishop K. H. Ting, Nanjing, 1980 169
Local pastors, Nanjing, 1980 172
Ms. Chia, Nanjing, 1980 174
Playing chess with Chinese friends, Peking, 1980 178
Confucian temple, Peking, 1980 179
Study group pastors and priests meet with Roman Catholic
    counterparts.  183
Mao’s portrait on Tienanmen Gate at the Forbidden City, Beijing, 1977 188
Three-Self principles 190
CCC delegation led by K. H. Ting, Hong Kong, 1981 192
People’s Republic of China emblem, Hong Kong, 1981 195
Chiang Kai-shek propaganda poster, Taipei, 1971 198
Curious crowd gathers around Joyce and Andrew, Xiamen, 1982 201
Reformed mission family Xiamen, 1938 203
Chu Chiau-gi’s family with Joyce and Andrew Karsen, Gulangyu
    Island, 1982 205
Trinity Church with its cross restored, Gulangyu, 1982 206
Christians pouring out of Trinity Church, Gulangyu, 1982 207
The Lo brothers, Gulangyu, 1982 210
Hope Wilhelmina Hospital, Gulangyu, 1982 211
Tek Chhiu Kha Church, Xiamen, 1982 214
Pastor Tiu Han-kheng, Gulangyu, 1982 215
Andrew and railroad worker, Fujian, 1982 218
Newly constructed seminary, Fuzhou, 1982 220
Christian friends, Miss Lee and Mrs. Wu, Fuzhou, 1982 222
CCC team (led by K. H. Ting, speaking), Hong Kong, 1982 225
Joyce, Steve, Andrew, and Wendell in the Forbidden City,
    Beijing, 1984 228
Tombs of Matteo Ricci, Adam Schall, and Ferdinand Verbiest,
    Beijing, 1984 231
Nestorian monument, Xian, 1984 236
“China Connection” poster, Holland, 1985 237
Mountains along the Li River, Xian, 1985 241
Mao Tse-tung’s bier, Beijing, 1985 242
Describing Matteo Ricci’s tomb inscription to Reformed Church
    group, Peking, 1985 243
Union Theological Seminary, Nanjing, 1985 245
Union Seminary student, Nanjing, 1985 248
Translating for Pastor Ho, Gulangyu, 1985 252
Pointing out RCA cornerstone to China Connection tour group, Xiamen, 1985 253
RCA China Connection tour group, Beijing, 1985 254
Chinese pastors in front of a church board reading, “faith, hope and love,” Shanghai, 1980 255
Bishop K. H. Ting, Nanjing, 1987 259
A rural lay leader, Fujian, 1987 263
Union Seminary class, Nanjing, 1983 265
National People’s Congress Hall, Beijing, 1985 268
Rural house church, Fujian, 1987 270
NCCCUSA China delegation, Nanjing, 1992 273
Renske and author with Bishop Shen Yi-fan, Shanghai, 1992 274
Karsens with Bishop Sun Yan-li, Shanghai, 1992 276
Bishop Jin Lu-xian, Shanghai, 1992 278
Franklin Woo, author, Jin Lu-xian, Mac Jones, and Kathy Kandeler-Bannister in front of Roman Catholic cathedral, Shanghai, 1992 281
Preaching at Gu Lo Church, Hangzhou, 1992 284
Signing bulletins after service, Hangzhou, 1992 286
Karsens with Peter Cai, Hangzhou, 1992 287
Presenting stamp book to Amity Press manager Peter McInnes, Nanjing, 1992 289
Union Theological Seminary professor Li Hong-yu, Nanjing, 1992 291
The Karsens with K. H. Ting, Nanjing, 1992 294
Seminary students preparing for the ministry, Nanjing, 1992 296
Amity midwifery students, Nanjing Medical College, 1992 298
Wu Mu-jia, Beijing, 1992 299
Street scene, Shanghai, 1992 302
SWAP China site, Ngo Kai, 1992 307
Worship at Trinity Church, Gulangyu, 1991 308
RCA-built Yok Tek Primary School, Gulangyu, 1991 311
Author and Zhu Si-ming, Gulangyu, 1991 314
Renske Karsen welcomes Zhu Si-ming to Albany, New York, 1992 315
Zhu Si-ming presenting Chinese scroll to RCA General Synod president, Lou Lotz, Albany, New York, 1992 320
Retired China missionaries at the General Synod 322
Bishop K.H. Ting, 1993 324
Celebrate China group en route to Guangzhou, 1993 328
National Peasant Movement Institute, Guangzhou, 1993 329
Harold Hwang Gwang-hsiao, author, and local pastor, Guangzhou, 1993 330
Author preaching at Dongshan Church with Harold Hwang translating, Guangzhou, 1993 331
Scenery along Yangtze River, 1993 335
Author on camel at Great Wall, 1993 336
Author, John Hiemstra, Bishop Michael Fu Te-shan, Bao Jia-yuan, Beijing, 1993 338
Worker at Amity Printing Co. sorting Bible galley sheets, Nanjing, 1993 341
Marvin Hoff, John Hiemstra, K. H. Ting, author, Norma Hiemstra, Renske Karsen, Nanjing, 1993 342
Shen Yi-fan addresses Celebrate China group, Shanghai, 1993 344
Bishop Shen Yi-fan and author, Shanghai, 1993 346
Bishop Jin Lu-xian with Karsens, Shanghai, 1993 347
Author preaches at Tek Chhiu Church, Xiamen, 1993 349
Congregation at Tek Chhiu Kha Church, Xiamen, 1993 351
John Hiemstra presents plaque to Chen Yi-ping at Tek Chhiu Kha Church, Xiamen, 1993 352
Author with Lucinda, Joseph, and Joanne Finley with pieces of Otte memorial lying on ground, Xiamen, 1993 353
John Hiemstra receiving commemorative scroll from Chen Yi-Ping at Trinity Church, Xiamen, 1993 355
Amoy Mission parameters when the last missionary departed in 1951 356
Celebrate China delegation on steps of a new hospital built on the site of Fagg Memorial Hospital, Leng Na, 1993 357
Author “directing traffic,” Leng Na, 1993 358
The Reverend Chen Sr. giving a benediction, Tong An, 1993 359
National People’s Congress Hall ceiling, featuring a red star—symbol of CCP power, Beijing, 1985. 362
Celebrate China group on church steps, Tong An, 1993 364
Local church congregation, Baiwan, 1993 366
New church, Baiwan, 1997 368
Congregation of St. Paul’s Church, Nanjing, 1992 375
Amity Printing Co. Bibles ready for shipment, Nanjing, 1993 377
Luo Guan-zong, chair, TSPM Committee, Shanghai, 1993 378
Ping-on Christian Church congregation, Fujian, 1993 382
Congregation of Mo En Church, Shanghai, 1993 384
Bible production at Amity Printing Co., Nanjing, 1993 386
Dennis Balcombe, Hong Kong, 1994 387
Karsens with Yang Zhou-huai and Kan Xue-qing, Beijing, 1993 389
Union Theological Seminary, Nanjing, 1993 391
Zhonggwo Christian Church congregation, Guangxi, 1995 395
“Christian presence” English teacher, Ruth Heyhoe, Shanghai, 1980 396
Completed Christian Music Academy, Gulangyu, 1998 398
Hong Kong Christian Council delegation with minority Christians, Guangxi, 1995 403
Author and Eric So with local Christians, Hechi, 1995 405
Christians at Yao church greeting HKCC delegation, Yunnan, 1995 408
Gordon Laman leads Tokyo Christian Union Seminary group in prayer, Hong Kong, 1995
New church building, Guilin, 1995
Tokyo Union group and Trinity Church young people in dialogue, Gulangyu, 1995
Flood victims with aid sent by Hong Kong Christian Council, Guangdong, 1995
Hong Kong Christian Council delegation, Yunnan, 1995
Lahu tribal people and church, Yunnan, 1997
CCC church congregation, Jinhong, 1997
Christians at Yao church greeting the HKCC delegation, Yunnan, 1997
Karsens with Hong Kong pastors in cart, Yunnan, 1997
With the Reverends Lu and Woo, Yunnan, 1997
Watchmen Nee Shu-tsu, Zhejiang, c. 1951
Rural house church, Zhejiang, 1995
Pastor Samuel Lamb (Lin Xian-gao), Guangzhou, c. 2004
Rural house church Christians, Fujian, 1993
CCC rural church, Fujian, 1993
Premier Chou En-lai on PRC stamp, Beijing, 1977
YMCA-YWCA building, Shanghai, 1992
Talitha Gerlock being interviewed by Bud Carroll, Shanghai, 1980
K. H. Ting, Nanjing, 1994
Dignitaries present at the Sin Koe Church’s 150th anniversary celebration, Xiamen, 1998
Combined choirs sing at Sin Koe Church 150th anniversary celebration, Xiamen, 1998
The Karsens at the Sin Khu Church, Xiamen, 1998
Main gate of the former American Baptist Mission, Shantou, 1998
Xiamen CCC delegation at the Karsens’ home, Holland, Michigan, 2006
China travel seminar group at the Forbidden City, Beijing, 2006
Stuck in a traffic jam, Beijing, 2006
Yan-jing Seminary campus, Beijing, 2006
Ms. Lee and author at Amity Foundation, Nanjing, 2006
Clarence Liang being greeted by his aunt, Nong-an, 2006
Dr. John Otte’s statue unveiled, Xiamen, 2008
China travel seminar group with primary school students, Sio Khe, 2006
Briefing by Ji Jian-hong, TSPM chair, Shanghai, 2007
China travel seminar group in front of the Potala Palace, Lhasa, 2007
Chinese monument to the “liberation” of Tibet, Lhasa, 2007
Tibetan pilgrim turning a prayer wheel, Lhasa, 2007
China travel seminar group, Shanghai, 2007
Suburban housing development, Shanghai, 2007
Chinese extended family, Zhejiang, 1992
Paramilitary policeman, Tiananmen Square, Beijing, 2007
Restored Roman Catholic North Cathedral, Beijing, 2006 502
Gao Ying, vice president of the China Christian Council 504
A large web press at the Amity Printing Corporation, Nanjing, 2007 505
Lausanne Congress closing ceremonies, Capetown, 2010 508
Church choir, Shanghai, 2006 511
Map of Indonesia 515
Dayak villagers, Borneo (South Kalimantan), 2008 519
Former Dutch Reformed Church, Jakarta, 1993 521
Jan and Amerentia Van Leeuwaarden, with Renske’s mother, Antina, Bandung, 1918 523
Hans Greve and Tina van Leeuwaarden at their wedding, Melbourne, 1945 525
The Karsens place flowers on Renske’s grandparents’ graves, Jakarta, 1993 527
Renske examines family church records, Jakarta, 1993 528
Renske in the entrance to Opa van Leeuwaarden’s former automobile business, Bandung, 1993 529
Karsens at baptismal font used for brother’s baptism, Bandung, 1993 531
Karsens at Borobadur, Yogjakarta, 1993 533
Bishop I. Wayan Mastra, Bali, 2001 535
Wesley Methodist Church, Medan, 1998 538
Renske on the pier from which her parents sailed to the Netherlands in 1950, Belewan, 1999 540
Batak Church, Samosir Island, 1999 544
Richard Daulay and author at Ludwig Ingwer Nommensen’s grave, North Sumatra, 1999 546
Richard Daulay and author with class at Methodist Seminary, Medan, 1999 548
Orangutan at Bohorok Orangutan Rehabilitation Center, Bukit Lawang, 1999 549
Minangkabau rumah gadang, Padang, 1999 551
The capital city, Jakarta, 2000 553
Indonesian high school students, Jakarta, 2000 554
Prambanan, Hindu temple complex, Yogjakarta, 1993 555
The submission of Prince Dipo Negoro to General De Kock, ending the Java War, 1830 557
A farmer plowing, Bali, 2000 561
A Muslim mosque, Medan, 1999 563
St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church, Denpasar, 2008 566
Rioters in Jakarta, 1998 569
Former Dutch East Indies administrative headquarters, Jakarta, 2000 571
Map of the Japanese invasion, Dutch East Indies, 1941-42 573
Farmers harvesting rice, Bali, 2000 575
Village children, North Sumatra, 1999 578
Sukarno on an Indonesian stamp, Jakarta, 1953 586
Suharto on an Indonesian stamp, Jakarta, 1975 592
Suharto resigns, Jakarta, 1998 594
Renske inside the former Dutch administrative building, Jakarta, 1993 596
Former Dutch Reformed Church, Jakarta, 1993 599
Roman Catholic Cathedral, Jakarta, 1993 601
Renske leading a Christian education workshop, Medan, 2000 604
Author greeting the leader of a blind community, Medan, 1998 605
Karsens with village leaders, Sukasari, 1998 606
Richard Daulay with Wesley Church young people ready to cast their ballots, Medan, 1999 609
Author in “Jesus Mobile” with Bukit Doa Church member, Seminyak, 1999 611
GKPB Church, Blimbingsari, 2000 615
Bishop Mastra conducting a marriage, Singaraja, 2000 617
Pastor Keminu greeting parishioners, Legian, 2000 619
The Revs. Ketut Arka (former MBM director), Made Suama (present MBM director), and author, Denpasar, 2008 621
Large statue of Hindu dieties Rama and Krishna near airport, Bali, 2000 623
Tetti and Kade Lolean and son at Bukit Doa Church, Nusa Dua, 2001 626
Renske with Balinese painter Ketut Lasia holding nativity painting, Denpasar, 2000 627
Bukit Doa International Church, Nusa Dua, 2000 628
Charred bodies of Christians burned inside their church, Ambon, 1999 631
People in a market, West Timor, 2008 633
PDI party flags along a road, Bali, 1999 635
Karsens boarding a helicopter, Sumbawa, 1999 637
President Abdurrahman Wahid, Jakarta, 2000 640
Smashed gate and rubble at Immanuel Church, Mataram, 2000 644
Hindu gathering, Bali, 2000 646
Bukit Doa with Muslim mosque, Roman Catholic church, Buddhist temple, and Protestant church, Nusa Dua, 2000 648
Author with the Revs. Ketut Sudiana and Nyoman Yohannes, Nusa Dua, 2000 651
Easter sunrise service on the beach at Grand Hyatt Resort, Nusa Dua, 2000 653
Renske’s Bukit Doa Church hymnbook team, Nusa Dua, 2000 655
Author leading the Udayana Lodge Bible study group, Nusa Dua, 2000 657
Hindus marching along the beach before Nyepi, Seminyak, 2000 658
Renske with Yasuko Haguchi after her baptism at Bukit Doa Church, Nusa Dua, 2000 659
Karsens with Craig and Lisa Marshall, Nusa Dua, 2000 660
Karsens with Henry and Irene Purba, Jakarta, 2000 663
Renske with Christmas card packaging team, Seminyak, 2000 664
Karsens in Bukit Doa congregation farewell photo, Nusa Dua, 2000 665
Mission education tour group, Nusa Dua, 2001 668
Prayer before worship at the Bukit Doa Church, Nusa Dua, 2008 670
Bali bombing memorial, Kuta, 2008 674
Women at the market, Denpasar, 2008 676
Town inundated by the tsunami, Sumatra, 2004 679
With the Revs. Priana and Arka at church headquarters, Denpasar, 2008 683
With Bishop I. Wayan Mastra and students at the John Calvin Seminary, Denpasar, 2008 684
The Karsens with Tetti Lolean, Tetti’s former teachers, and Lyle Predmore, Soe, 2008 687
Bukit Doa Church farewell, Nusa Dua, 2008 689
Karsens with Medan Evangelical Theological Seminary faculty members, Medan, 2008 691
With Rev. Wijaya and Wesley Methodist Church leaders, Medan, 2008 693
Muslim mosque, Banjarbaru, 2008 695
Scene along Barito River, Banjarmasin, 2008 698
Kalimantan Evangelical Church Synod officers, Banjarmasin, 2008 699
Maleh standing on the bridge he and the author crossed in the dark, Laksado, 2008 701
Kinurung Maleh with his wife and daughter, Banjarmasin, 2008 702
Author greeting Anglican bishop, Singapore, 1999 704
Author with participants at EACC Youth Resource Conference, Kuala Lumpur, 1981 706
Author with Cardinal Paul Joseph Pfam Dinh Tung, Hanoi, 1996 709
Tower of skulls at killing fields site, Phnom Penh, 2000 711
Author with Pastor Sirivanh, Vientiane, 2000 712
RCA missionary John Van Nest Talmage (served 1847-1892), Amoy, c. 1887 714
Archbishop Desmond Tutu, German Evangelical Church Day, Germany, 2007 717
Karsens at Angkor Wat temple, Siem Reap, 2000 719
Author addressing Purba wedding feast guests, Jakarta, 2000 721
Author with Bishop I. Wayan Mastra, Nusa Dua, 2000 724
Muslim mother with children, Banjarmasin, 2008 727
Author introducing GKPB synod to mission education tour group, Denpasar, 2001 729

All illustrations and photographs are the property of the author, with the exception of those on the following pages, which are used by permission or in the public domain: 11, 15, 98, 102, 104, 116, 125, 133, 203, 242, 387, 432, 435, 448, 479, 508, 523, 525, 557, 573, 586, 592, 594, 631, 640, 644, 679, 714, 717.
Maps prepared by Russell L. Gasero
This work has been almost eight years in the making. It began with an invitation in September 2003 by the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy to participate in a December conference on human rights and to receive an award for my involvement in the democracy and human rights struggle of the Taiwanese people during my missionary days there in the early 1970s. In preparation for this conference, I was asked to write a memoir of my experiences during what had become known as the “White Terror” period in Taiwan’s history. A number of people who read that memoir encouraged me to write about my subsequent experiences in Hong Kong, China, and Indonesia as well. It happened that I was called to minister in those places at critical times in their histories—times of turmoil that proved to be times of testing for the churches there. Thus the common thread that runs throughout the two volumes—the church under the cross. Although this memoir includes my story, it focuses on the wider church I served as my colleagues and the Christians for whom they were responsible struggled to come to terms with the sometimes terrible challenges they faced.

My goal in setting down my experiences, observations, and conclusions was to produce an account that was informative, interesting,
and inspirational. Even today, I find that many people do not know much about many of the events recorded in this work. I hope that this account will help fill those gaps in information. I also hope that readers will not fall asleep while plodding through the abundant pages of these two volumes, but will find them interesting, stimulating, and at times even humorous. Even further, I hope readers will be as inspired as I was when I encountered the courageous Christians described in these pages as they practiced their faith and offered prophetic challenges to “the powers.”

It has been gratifying to see the positive response to the memoir’s first volume. I hope this second volume will also prove to be a worthwhile read.

No work is ever the result of one person’s efforts. I am indebted to many friends and colleagues without whom this account would never have seen the light of day. The general editor of the Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America, Donald Bruggink, proved to be a wise counselor and a great source of encouragement. The cheerful and careful copy editor, Laurie Baron, spent many days pouring over the manuscript and making it better. The RCA’s archivist, Russell Gasero, diligently formatted the rough manuscript into a polished printable document. Willem Mineur, at Eerdmans Publishing Company, gave invaluable assistance in cover design and in the oversight of the publication process.

Additional thanks go to overseas colleagues Lim Chhiong-hua, Tso Man-king, Richard Dauly, and I. Wayan Mastra, who read the parts of the manuscript that pertain to their respective countries and offered invaluable corrections and comments. U.S. colleagues Charles Van Engen, Eugene Heideman, Roger Greenway, George Hunsberger, Charles Weber, Daniel Bays, and Kurt Selles were kind enough to read and comment on the entire manuscript. Long-time friend and supporter, Patrick Chen, provided a generous grant to the Historical Series of the Reformed Church in America to make the publication of this work financially feasible. Finally, my wife Renske was a constant source of encouragement and support.

I am also indebted to the Reformed Church in America for giving me the opportunity to serve overseas as a cross-cultural missionary for so many years. Gene Heideman, program secretary for world mission; and Asian secretaries Glenn Bruggers, Elaine Tanis, Ken Zorgdragger, and Bruce Menning were invariably supportive and encouraging during the vicissitudes of missionary life and work. I also thank the forty-two Reformed Church congregations that prayed faithfully for
our ministry and supported it financially over the years. Ultimate thanks, of course, go to God Almighty whose grace, patience, challenge, forgiveness, and strength made possible whatever may have been accomplished.

Wendell P. Karsen
Penney Farms, Florida
May 2011
A Note on the Use of Chinese Names

There are two ways to Romanize Chinese names for people and places in English—the Wade-Giles system used in Taiwan and elsewhere and the pinyin system used on the Chinese mainland. This book uses both. For the names of well-known figures (like Mao Tse-tung, Chiang Kai-shek, and Sun Yat-sen) the more familiar Wade-Giles designations are used except when quoting sources that render them in pinyin. Westernized Chinese personal names (like K. H. Ting, Peter Wong, and H. H. Kung) are rendered in the way the individuals prefer with the pinyin in brackets. Wade-Giles designations are used for place names (like Peking, Nanking, Canton, Amoy, and Manchuria) when the earlier years are under discussion, and pinyin is used for recounting the years after that spelling system became more familiar to English speakers.