# Mobilizing for the Kingdom

Together, Giving Christ to China's future Leaders

Fall 2018

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CHINA

OUTREACH

MINISTRIES

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Together, Giving Christ to China's Future Leaders

We encourage you to keep this issue of IMPACT in your favorite prayer place that the content may guide you to pray steadfastly for our work together in giving Christ to China's future leaders.

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A higher standard a higher purpose

COM is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. IMPACT is published three times a year by China Outreach Ministries. Daniel Su, President Tara Miller, Editor Geoffrey Isley, Designer

### Write to the Editor

We'd like to hear from you! If you have feedback or ideas for future issues of *IMPACT*, please email Tara Miller: tmiller@chinaoutreach.net.

# The Urgency of the Mission

By Daniel Su, COM President

**S I REFLECTED** on our annual COM Staff Conference, quite a few key words came to my mind—worship, fellowship, Bible teaching, training. It was a time both uplifting and joyful. But in the end, I was grasped with a sense of urgency to share God's love with the Chinese while they are still here in America.

When we look at their growing number and size—approximately 400,000 today—we might get a false sense of complacency, as if the ministry opportunity will always be here with us. In fact, it may not. The trend could quickly reverse as tension rises between the US and China over trade and other issues.

Tensions come and go, but God's love for the Chinese remains unchanged, and so does our commitment.

We need to seriously consider the limited time each individual student or scholar has in America. Each soul is precious to God's heart. Student visas in America are limited depending on the academic degrees, and a visiting scholar's visa may be limited to one year. It is therefore urgent that we seize this window of opportunity and share the gospel with them.

Jesus had a sense of urgency in his ministry when he said, "As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work" (John 9:4). So must we seize the day!

Thank you for partnering with us on this urgent mission for his glory.

# Volunteers in Action

Volunteers are a vital part of ministry with Chinese students and scholars. COM staff members are thankful for the many ways that volunteers are using their gifts in Kingdom work.

Recently we took a trip to DC to visit the Museum of the Bible. Similar to other trips, the most impressive part of the trip was the **reception of the host families**. The scholars discussed this the most. An immediate result of this trip has been that many of the scholars are now coming to our Friday Bible study more frequently than before.

> - Xin Luan & Ying Deng Pennsylvania State University

■ Two Chinese seminary students have expressed their eagerness to serve the unsaved Chinese students and scholars. I invited them to **take turns teaching** the seekers' Sunday school. It is just wonderful to have more teachers with more perspectives on the same Truth, and the people are able to see a bigger God revealed in the Bible.

— Yaofang Sunny Zhang Philadelphia Chinese students were welcomed to a major outreach event with a wonderful menu of rice, bokchoy, spicy green beans, tea eggs, chicken, spicy fish, and dumplings, followed by cake and egg tarts. This was a service of love from the many champions who **provided and prepared food**! Thank you for loving the Chinese with us.

> — Bob Simon Kent State, Ohio



■ Volunteers lighten our load and bring love and joy into our lives. They serve as Friendship Partners. They plan fun, creative recreational activities with students. They participate in Bible studies and movie night, take turns driving, and help out with our English Cafe and Walking Club.

> – Danny and Susan Forte Albany, New York





# Small Towns with Big Vision

By Vanessa Magnus, COM Staff, North Dakota and Minnesota

**BEGAN TO DREAM** about the idea as soon as I first heard of China Outreach Ministries. Finding COM's website was, after all, the answer to my earnest prayer. What if, after spending eleven years serving as a missionary in China, the Lord would allow me to welcome Chinese studying abroad in the United States?

Reading *China in Our Midst* by Daniel Su and Glen Osborn sparked my curiosity. *How many Chinese were studying in the universities in North Dakota or nearby in Minnesota?* I discovered that during the decade or so that I had been living in China, more and more Chinese had been coming to my home state. What an opportunity to reach China's future leaders with the gospel! God was giving me the vision for Chinese students and scholars studying at the University of North Dakota and the University of Minnesota Crookston. *Would local churches catch this vision?* 

On the day of my interview with COM a conversation triggered an idea—perhaps after joining staff, I could launch the new ministry by organizing luncheons to share the vision with local churches. I prayed and brainstormed with my family while discussing the possibility with COM leadership. In the end, Cavalier Baptist Church planned to host a COM luncheon with Daniel Su as the guest speaker.

My family and church community came together in so many ways to make the luncheon happen. They served on planning committees, wrote articles for the local papers, and decorated the church fellowship hall. Then they donated, prepared, and served food. People from at least nine churches in the community attended. My pastor, Rev. Steve Daggett, was a key part of the event. He described the response as a "tremendous turnout" of people who were "obviously excited and interested."

I continue to see tangible evidence that people in this community have caught the vision. In fact, some already had the vision before I did! There have been so many who have come alongside me to pray and give, both joyfully and sacrificially. All of these efforts would come from believers willing to open their hearts and their homes that Chinese might experience the love of Christ in tangible ways.

Many volunteers have approached me with ideas: hosting Chinese for a day trip or a weekend away, introducing students to local attractions, offering tours of a family farm or historic home, and going kayaking on the Pembina River. All of these efforts would come from believers willing to open their hearts and their homes that Chinese might experience the love of Christ in tangible ways. The families would also have the opportunity to learn from the Chinese they welcome.

I wholeheartedly agree with Pastor Daggett when he says, "I know that China has been closing the door to Christian ministries, and I know of people and organizations who have had to leave China recently. But until China stops sending students here, the door is still open to China—it's just a different door."

Please pray that God's people will continue in their excitement about Vanessa's ministry and support her as she takes this step of faith. Together, we can impact the lives of many young Chinese studying in North Dakota and Minnesota.



# What in the World Can You Do?

By Glen Osborn, Minister at Large

O YOU EVER FEEL OVERWHELMED with the need of the world for Christ? You pray, and you give to missions, and these are important. Yet you still feel that you could do more. You want to be faithful to the Lord's calling on your life, and you desire to bring others to Him.

God is giving Christians in North America an avenue to impact the nations in great ways, and we don't have to go overseas. There are currently over one million international students at universities in the United States, and 40% of them are Chinese approximately 400,000. These students and scholars will be in positions of influence in the future, and they need Jesus. Most of them come with little or no awareness of God's love for them in aiving His Son for their sins. This is an amazing opportunity for the gospel to be shared as they come to a country where there is freedom and openness. Unfortunately, though, the majority will never get to know a Christian and hear the gospel while they are here.

#### This opportunity is not just for professional ministry workers.

When a Christian befriends a Chinese student, God uses this to touch their hearts. We have heard many testimonies from Chinese believers of how Christian hospitality was a key item in their coming to know Christ as their Savior.

"They gave me the kind of love this world and society could not give."

"Their selfless love and care was something I never saw in China."

"Being kind and generous, I wanted to be like they are, devoted to God."

## So you may ask: **"How can I volunteer in this ministry?**

If you are in an area where COM has campus staff, start by making contact with the staff member, and they will be glad to help you get involved. If you are not near a COM campus ministry, find churches or other Christian organizations that are currently reaching out. You can also go to your local university's International Student Office and offer to help. Encourage your church friends to get involved, too.

These are a few of the ways you can volunteer:

- Providing or serving meals
- Assisting with English classes
- Taking students to the grocery store
- Helping with cultural adjustment
- Driving for events and trips
- Welcoming guests to your home
- Hosting a special event at your church
- Sharing life together

A good question to ask is "What do I enjoy doing?" Perhaps this is something that a Chinese student or scholar would be interested in learning more about or experiencing with you.

As relationships develop, God will open the door to sharing your faith. You will be greatly blessed. Your life will be changed. You may become friends forever with someone you never thought you could have met. You will pray differently. You will learn new ways to love others. You will be more dependent on the Lord than ever. And you will have made a difference in the world for Jesus!

For more information on ministering to Chinese, read Chine in Our Midst by Glen Osborn and Daniel B. Su. This is available on Amazon or through the COM office.

# Belonging to Christ,

# Following His Call

By Fangying Nong, Philadelphia

OR MANY CHINESE, "god" is a good education. Many Chinese parents, including my own, instill in us that if we succeed in school, we will be happy and respected. I thought being accepted to the University of Pennsylvania, one of the top universities in the world, would help me to get to the "heaven" of my dreams and cure the emptiness in my heart. However, like many international students, I struggled academically and relationally in America. I was used to getting good grades in China, but taking graduate classes in a foreign language and different teaching style caused me to question the identity I'd had my whole life. *If I wasn't an excellent student, who was I*?

Seeking the answer to my identity question, I accepted offers from Esther, a COM staff member, to go to church and outreaches. I was touched by the love from Esther and the people in the church. Through the Bible and sermons, one thing hit me: *God knows me, and He is the ultimate standard in this world.* I didn't want to give up on the idol of a great education just to start another that would fall

apart. I no longer wanted to follow the false gods that my friends believed in: money, power, education, relationships, family approval, or a so-called great career.

I learned that although sin separated me from God, He still loved me and came to earth as Jesus to die and take away my sin. I became a Christian four months later. I confessed to God that I am a sinner, "I no longer wanted to follow the false gods that my friends believed in ..."

and I couldn't save myself. I asked Jesus to come into my life so that I could be His child for eternity, and I could start living for Him. My identity in Christ has made me feel safe and joyful, and I know now that my hard work aims to glorify God instead of proving my ability to other people.

I feel strongly called to spread the gospel to Chinese students and scholars through my testimony. When I was at the University of Pennsylvania, there were 75 Chinese students in my department, but none of them were Christians. When we graduated, around 50 of them went home, but most of them had not heard the gospel. This breaks my heart.

From the moment I first belonged to Christ, God has been preparing me for future campus ministry. He has guided me to pursue a solid biblical foundation through the Biblical Counseling program at Westminster Theological Seminary, and now I will serve the Lord through COM as a full-time campus staff member in the Philadelphia area.

I am blessed to witness the work of Christ in the lives of so many Chinese students and scholars. Their life-changing moments encourage me to serve and work for the kingdom of God.



"We get to share the good news of Jesus Christ with precious Chinese souls."

# Around the World and Back

## By Ray Zook, COM Board Member for 29 Years

FIRST LEARNED ABOUT China Outreach Ministries when I providentially met Rev. Earnest Hummer in the post office in Fairfax, Virginia. (He always liked to talk about providential encounters.) At the time I was focused on my career, but Earnie began teaching me about Kingdom business. I didn't know then how much my life was about to change.

I grew up on a farm in Pennsylvania during the Depression. We didn't realize we were poor, and we always had food and a loving family. When I finished school, I left home to join the Army. Sadly, I left God behind, too.

In my military career, I was assigned to the White House where I managed secure communications. In my free time, I was also helping a friend who had a small restaurant. One day an attractive lady named Doris came in. I realized a good thing when I saw it and got her phone number. The rest is history, and soon began our lifelong marriage.

After I completed Army service, I joined the White House Telegraph and Travel Office as a civilian member of the permanent staff. I remained there 24 years, handling logistical arrangements for presidential travel, serving seven presidents: Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, and Carter.

As you can imagine, I witnessed some amazing moments in history. I was on the USS Hornet with Nixon when the first astronauts returned from the moon. Our team traveled around the world in 96 hours with Johnson, attending the memo-



**At left:** Ray served on the COM Board of Directors for almost three decades, until his 90th birthday.

**Above:** Doris and Ray ministered among international students as volunteers at Fairfax House.



During his White House career, Ray (seated) was featured on the cover of Parade magazine in 1977.

rial service for Prime Minister Holt in Australia, visiting troops in Vietnam, and meeting the Pope in Rome. I've been around the world four times, accumulating more than two million miles and visiting 82 countries and all 50 states. Twice I visited China, once with Nixon and also with Ford.

With this much action, a successful career, and a happy family, I didn't think I needed anything. But then the Holy Spirit began to work in my life in a new way. Part of this was my growing friendship with Ruth and Earnest Hummer, who were serving international students at Fairfax House. Earnie invited me to help with landscaping on the property and to serve meals to visiting Chinese groups. He also taught me about Faith Promise and the blessing of giving. At a revival meeting after I retired, Doris and I went forward and re-dedicated our lives to the Lord.

Doris and I had been married 52 wonderful years when she went to live with Jesus.

It has been a great honor to serve on the COM Board of Directors for 29 years, and each year the ministry gets more exciting. COM is a God-honoring organization. No decisions are reached without serious prayer and research. The best thing is that we get to share the good news of Jesus Christ with precious Chinese souls. Our campus workers and headquarters staff are the greatest dedicated, loving, and talented. I encourage you to meet them.

I also appeal to you, don't hesitate to give COM your full support both in prayer and finances. **You will be blessed many times.** 

## A Gift Annuity Plan Just Got Better

By Jeff Krimmel, Vice President of Development

Effective July 1, 2018, gift annuity rates increased for the first time in more than six years. Below are examples rates.

Single Life		Two Life		
Age	Rate	Younger age/Older age		Rate
65	5.1	65	65-66	4.5
75	6.2	75	75-76	5.5
85	8.3	85	85	7.3
		95+	95+	9.3

Keep in mind that the donor also receives a charitable deduction, and a portion of the income generated is "tax free." Payments to the donor can be scheduled as monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual.

For annuity gifts to COM, when the annuitant is deceased, the remaining corpus of the annuity is passed to COM. The gift may be used by COM to continue its mission, or it may be designated by the donor to a special project. For example, the remaining principal may be left to COM's general fund to help ensure its ongoing support of missionaries, or it could be designated to continue support of a specific missionary, for as long as the account has a balance.

For a customized illustration, please contact Jeff Krimmel in the Development Office at 717-591-3500 or email jkrimmel@chinaoutreach.net.

These calculations are for illustration purposes only and should not be considered legal, accounting, or other professional advice. Your actual benefits may vary depending on several factors, including the timing of your gift. Please consult your financial advisor when considering a gift annuity.

## Gift Bearers Special gifts and contributions to the ministry of COM

#### In Memory of

#### Mike Hogye

Mrs. Michael Hogye **Hweidar Jian** 

### Ms. Ju Hsiu Jian

Dottie Kurzeja

Mr. Stan Kurzeja Ms. Joyce Scordy Rev. & Mrs. Daniel Su

#### Wesley Moritz

Mr. Garnett Eddington **Vie Shim** 

Mrs. Earnest W. Hummer Dr. & Mrs. Terry Snyder Mr. & Mrs. Robert Walz

### In Honor of

#### Bidelspach 50th Anniversary

Ms. Beatrice Kern Mr. & Mrs. Robert Walz Mr. & Mrs. John Zondlo

#### UCSD CSF

Christy Liang & Yuxin Liu

#### Kelly & David Dorrough

Mr. Wallace Mayton

**Gao Du** Yiyun Gao Nancy Smyrl and Linda Laudenslager Mr. & Mrs. David Chalikian

#### Nancy Smyrl's Birthday

Spruce Street Baptist Church

## Hummer Memorial

Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Ison

# Pray for Our New Missionaries



#### Mike and Brianna Reynolds—Kentucky

Mike and Brianna Reynolds have served on several international short-term missionary teams, including work in the Dalian and Hunchun areas of China. Mike recently graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary with both Master of Arts and Master of Theology degrees, and Brianna holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Johnson University. Mike is currently a director of youth ministry in Wilmot, Kentucky, and plans to serve with COM full-time following his initial period building his support team. Brianna will partner with Mike in ministering to the students and scholars at the University of Kentucky. Mike and Brianna live in Lexington with their son, Elliott.

#### Ray Marshall—Ontario, Canada

Joining COM as an associate staff member, Ray Marshall will serve at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. Ray has worked alongside Nuke Shim, also a COM associate staff member, for almost four years. Ray previously served as a missionary to Ecuador and Ireland and has experience as a church planter and associate pastor in Ontario. He has a strong background in communications, including social media and internet radio. He has also spent time as an ESL teacher in the Shandong province of China. Ray is supported in his work by his wife Kelly, to whom he has been married for over 34 years.



#### Pauline Lim—Pennsylvania

Pauline Lim is actively involved in serving and ministering to Chinese students and scholars at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and will continue her work at F&M while serving with COM. Pauline has been awarded her BA of Theology in Christian Education from Singapore Bible College, as well as a Master of Arts in TEFL and Intercultural Studies from Columbia International University. She has studied and served worldwide, including France, Israel, Switzerland, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Japan, and Australia. She has spent time teaching English to children in Shanxi Province in China and has conducted ESL workshops in numerous countries.



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COM staff recently gathered for our annual conference. You serve the Chinese with us through praying, volunteering, and giving. Thank you!

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## Following His Call

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