



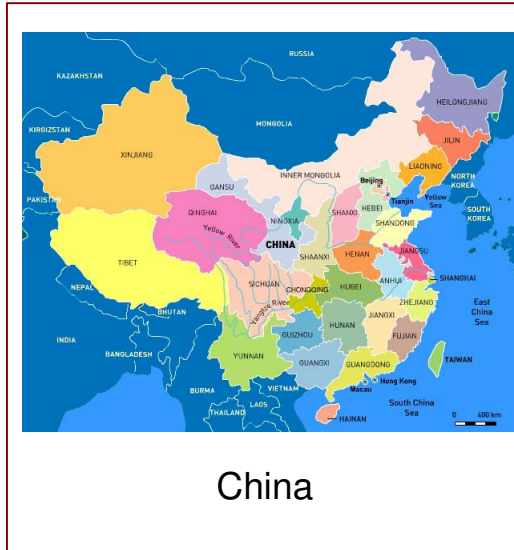
March 2009

MAKE ROOM FOR CHINA!

A phenomenon with interesting possibilities has come our way. This school year has seen a noticeable increase in Chinese student enrollment at the University.

No one seems to know why but, amazingly, the enrollment is **DOUBLE** the typical numbers for incoming students of this nationality group. What does it mean?

Though we don't have adequate answers to the "whys" of the sudden and marked rise in population, we believe strongly that another **ANSWER** is awaiting this wave of questioning Chinese young scholars. **HE** is, after all, the Answer to life's really valid questions.



China

Many of the new students at TU have gladly picked up Bibles, including bi-lingual Chinese-English New Testaments provided them. A good number are regularly participating in the Friday night discussion time - currently centering on Old Testament Survey. One visiting Chinese professor expresses keen interest in discovering the correlation between Jesus and the saga of the Old Testament. He returns home in May. Our hope is that his search will lead him to the Cross, to your Savior and Mine.



Jesus the Lamb of God / Sinbearer

A few weeks ago we were introduced to the Mom of one of the undergraduate students from China. Yang was visiting her daughter and had begun to spend time with ICO friends. One day after our free weekly international lunch she asked to talk with me. She said she had some questions about the testimony which Jerry had given earlier during mealtime. Her English is still improving so she had missed some of the story.

I filled her in but there were still questions like, "Why do you do these activities for the students?" I explained that it wasn't because we were particularly good people, but that, as followers of Jesus, we find our pleasure in serving him in this way. I shared that the Bible instructs us that we are to welcome foreigners and also that we wish the visitors to know the same joy that we experience as God's children. Our conversation continued as she listened attentively to the story of Jesus' sacrificial death to remove our guilt and shame. I was able to share with her the plan of salvation, of receiving freely the gift of forgiveness and eternal life through him. (Continued on page 2)

[More](#) →



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PRAYER-

ICO OPPORTUNITIES



Jerry & Ann Lout

**“Reaching Out
to the World
at Our Doorstep”**

- **Thanksgiving** .. For you, our supporters.
- **Praises** - New believers.
- **Prayer** - for ongoing fruit.
- **Guidance** - ICO vision planning.
- **FIL Weekly Lunch** - more volunteers.

ICO Mission Statement

ICO exists to glorify God by meeting practical and spiritual needs of international students through acts of service and through the proclamation of the gospel of Christ.

- Bible Studies
- Cricket/Softball Cultural Exchange "Clinics"
- CAR CARE CLINIC
- FIL (Free International Lunch). Including Gospel and cultural presentations.
- Summer Road Trips
- Summer Furniture Collection Drive - June & July 2009
- FurnitureFest
- New Student Welcome Party/Receptions
- Fall Retreat
- Bear Trap (Trip to Colorado) - Int'l Student New Year's House Party

(Continued from page 1)

The following Sunday this poised and gentle Chinese lady was attending an ethnic church where a song was being sung about the Lamb of God. The reality of who Christ was and of the marvelous gift of dying in our place came home to her. The pieces had come together in her heart and mind by the Holy Spirit's prompting. She received Jesus into her life there on the spot. The following Sunday we had the joy of witnessing her water baptism.

Pray with us please for Yang who is going back to China this week, also for her daughter Annie, as well as the other Chinese who witnessed this conversion and saw Yang's beaming face as she gave her personal testimony.. She told Jerry that she came to the US to see her daughter but realizes the greater purpose was to meet Jesus. We also learned that she had attended some Bible studies in China. I thought of the scripture about seedtime and harvest. We usually are seed planters... what joy to participate first hand in the harvest! -Ann

COWBOY COUNTRY

Where the Oklahoma plains host Cultures from Afar

The athletic teams at Oklahoma State University are affectionately known as the Cowboys. The Stillwater, Okla. campus is located a hour and a half west of Tulsa. Excitement is brewing in Cowboy Country.

We had recently met up with an (Asian) Indian couple, Joe and Savitha. Joe had been working in the tech department of the Salvation Army while Savitha moves toward completion of a Masters program at OSU. They both have hearts bursting with the love of God. This has propelled them into an English-tutoring outreach there in Stillwater, OK.

The vision came about largely due to their exposure to our TU ministry which focuses on meeting practical needs of international students and allowing Christ to open avenues of deeper witness.

With the first run at hosting and instructing Iraqi, Chinese, Iranian and Indian students, Joe and Savitha's team is receiving great feedback from the eager learners. In such settings a predictable pattern often ensues. Openness increases as teachers/learners become better acquainted. Defenses diminish. Relaxed and genuine laughter punctuates the friendly dialogue.

Our new friends have since hosted their first friendship dinner with their 20-plus students. Your prayers for them and their outreach team are greatly valued. Imagine, Cultures encountering Christ in Cowboy Country. Yes!

