

# THE PANDA BEARER

友愛中華

China Outreach  
MINISTRIES

Giving Christ to China's Future Leaders

Winter 2017

Coming to America | Forever Changed

## For Such a Time as This

*President Dr. Glen Osborn and President-Elect Rev. Daniel Su reflect on COM's upcoming presidential transition.*

*Passing the Torch*

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*Car Class*

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# A Time for Everything

**A**FTER MORE THAN FIFTEEN YEARS of serving as the President of China Outreach Ministries, I am blessed to be able to pass the torch of leadership to Daniel Su, who will become the fourth President of COM at our annual Staff Conference in April of this year. I want to encourage you to support Daniel as you have supported me, and I'd like to share with you some key perspectives on him and the future of COM.

First, I believe that this transition is within God's plan and timing and that Daniel is God's man for this time. The opportunity for the future is greater than ever with 400,000 Chinese at universities in America. Daniel is committed to faithfully serving the Lord in leading COM. Second, Daniel has tremendous experience and has been faithful in serving the Lord. He has served as a

campus worker, started three new campus ministries, managed COM staff as an area director, served as assistant and advisor to the President, experienced God's blessings in church planting and pastoring in Texas, served on the COM Board and returned to COM over three years ago to serve as Executive Vice President. He knows this ministry well and has good insight and wisdom for



*Dr. Glen Osborn has served as COM President since 2001. He will continue serving full time with COM as Minister at Large, focusing on donor relations and volunteer mobilization.*



leadership. Third, Daniel appreciates the legacy and ministry of the past, but he also has a vision for the future. He is committed to seeing the ministry grow and reach more Chinese. He is called by God, confirmed by the Board and ready to lead. Fourth, Daniel is a Chinese national who is an American citizen having lived in the United States more than 30 years. He brings to leadership insights into Chinese culture with an understanding of ministry in America. COM has seen an increase in Chinese campus staff which now represents 25% of our staff team. Daniel is committed to a bicultural ministry team, with Chinese and Americans complementing each other for increased outreach to Chinese students.

For the past 58 years, God has richly blessed this ministry with fruitful outreach to Chinese. Today COM has more than 75 staff at more than 50 campuses. More than 8,000 Chinese students heard the gospel last year through this ministry. But the best days are ahead. More Chinese are arriving every year. God continues to bring new staff to COM, and we are praying for 20 new campus ministries and 35 additional workers by 2020. I ask you to pray with me for Daniel as he leads us into the future. ■

— Dr. Glen Osborn  
COM President

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February 2017

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*Italicized names have been changed to protect students and scholars.*

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*a higher standard  
a higher purpose*

## Snapshots

### Danny and Susan Forte, RPI and SUNY at Albany

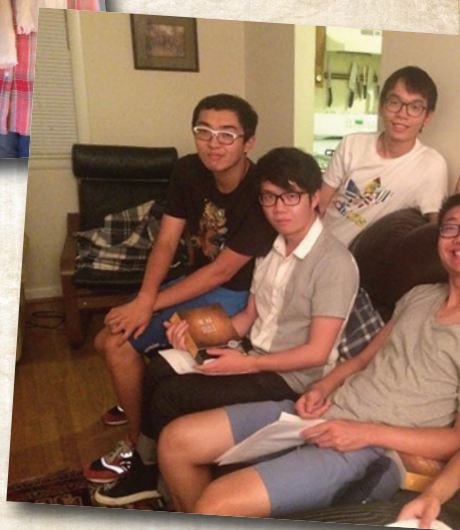
Our apple picking and picnic day was a success. Friendships were established, spiritual conversations occurred and great fun was had in picking apples, eating hot dogs, playing games and sharing a beautiful day outside in God's creation. Later in our home, Sue taught three of the day's participants how to make

apple pies. Each young lady was able to take her masterpiece home to share with family and friends. These types of fun events are so important in establishing friendships, trust and opportunities to share God's love and truth.



### From Greg Gainer, Iowa State University

"I now have a reason to believe!" This is what *Dawn* exclaimed during our Bible class as I was explaining God's just judgement in the great flood of Noah's day. During our discussion of Genesis, I was trying to help them understand the concept that we are all accountable to God and that even one act of disobedience means we are deserving of God's judgement. I then drew a connection between the ark as the only means of salvation and Jesus as our only means of salvation from eternal judgment. We are happy to say that *Dawn* received Jesus in late December. She has since returned to China with her family. Please pray with me for the Lord's provision for *Dawn* and her family.





**From Duane and  
Jodi Decker,  
Portland State  
University**

We had a Chinese scholar and his seven-year-old son live with us for the 2015-16 school year. This year we have two scholars with us! We really grow to love these guests who become life-long friends (and today, the woman became my sister in Christ)!



**From Dale Voelker, University of Maryland**

In September, the Mid-Autumn Festival, or Moon Festival, was celebrated at my house. It was a big party with about 30 students, many roommates and friends of friends. We had grilled steak, pork, hotdogs, bratwurst, iced green tea, cheesy potatoes, broccoli salad and brownies. I played two songs on the piano — Debussy's *Clair de Lune* and Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*. This time many students invited their friends, roommates and acquaintances who have expressed interest in spiritual things. Kyle, a new believer, shared his testimony. Thank you for your prayers for these students who have never heard the gospel, never been to a church and have had very little contact with Christians. There are now eight guys studying *Foundations of the Christian Faith* on Tuesday evening. Please pray that their hearts and minds would be open to the gospel as they seek the truth.



**From Rich and Joanna Fullner, Univ. of Washington, Seattle**

A student back in China writes: *Dear Rich and Joanna, Thanks for your reply and we are glad to know both of you are great! Hope one day, we will travel to Seattle to visit you. It's almost ten years since we left Seattle; however, we always remember you and your kindly contribution to Chinese students and the talk time. I think you are the models to encourage people how to be a good person and remember to do the right things. Thanks again for opening the door to lead us to follow God! Best regards and may God bless you all!*



# For Such a Time



**T**HROUGHOUT THE BIBLE, God's people felt unworthy when God called them to take the leadership role. That's what happened to Solomon, Moses, Joshua and many others. Yet, on the other hand, there was God's strong promise that he would be with them and be their source of strength.

I had been aware of these two parallel themes for a long time but had never "felt" it as strongly as I did on November 18 last year when the COM Board called upon me to take the leadership responsibilities as the President of COM. I still remember that morning when I entered the conference room, I was told that the Board had just unanimously voted for me to be the next President of COM. Immediately, I saw all the eyes looking at me as if expecting a speech. I was literally speechless.



# as This

## *Thoughts from the President-Elect*

I felt honored and humbled as I anticipated the weight of leadership. It was anticlimactic when all I could say to the Board was that I really needed to pray and seek God's guidance before I could give a reply. As I later prayed and sought God's will, I felt him speaking to me through this passage:

Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous [...] The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. — Deuteronomy 31:7-8 NIV

I know leadership means seeking God's guidance, taking responsibilities, dealing with challenges and serving people. What an assurance that, in the midst of the challenges, the Lord will be with me! What more could I have asked?

I'm deeply grateful for COM leaders before me, Rev. Earnest Hummer and Dr. Glen Osborn. I've served under them and learned from them; they have left a legacy that I will build on as I lead this ministry forward. Words fail to express my gratitude for those of you who have faithfully prayed and supported my ministry. More than ever, I will need and appreciate your partnership. Together, with many other friends of COM, you have helped make our ministry possible; you've been a blessing to us as we seek to be a blessing to the Chinese we serve.

What a strategic moment we have today when some 400,000 Chinese are studying on our university campuses and are interested to learn about God's love. Together, we are called for such a time as this; together, we can be God's blessing to these future leaders of China.

— Rev. Daniel Su, *COM President-Elect*

In this issue of the *Panda Bearer*, we take a special look at how COM mobilizes volunteers to help give Christ to China's future leaders.



# Car Class

*Building relationships sometimes takes a little elbow grease.*

**C**HINESE INTELLECTUALS who study in North America are impacting China's culture and future. COM serves these men and women by building Christ-like relationships with them. One of the best ways to begin to build these relationships is to offer programs and practical services that demonstrate Christian love and help these guests acclimate to life in the United States.

Every semester, Nick Romanin offers a hands-on automobile maintenance class at Purdue University. This past semester he says, "I was blessed to be able to advertise this pre-evangelistic service through the university!" Held on Saturdays, Nick says that they had about 40 people attend the first day. The automotive training series spans four Saturdays, and the group discusses topics like general car vocabulary, road side emergencies and some DIY tips. Nick not only lectures, he completes the classes with live demonstrations on his own car. "We even changed my oil in the parking lot," Nick says. I let some of the students crank on wrenches for that one."



This year, Nick and Lydia added a new level to the car class; they invited an Indiana State Trooper to come and talk to the students about traffic laws and etiquette during a traffic stop. The students were excited to get to meet and interact with a police officer as well as ask questions. Since this semester's car class was advertised by the university, they not only had Chinese students, but Russian, Indian and Iranian internationals as well.

Pray that these students would take interest in the gospel. As Nick says, "I've had a lot of students tell me how the class has helped them and how some of the skills have come in handy with either their cars or friends' cars. We make sure to let them know that it is the love of God that drives us to provide this." ■

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***"In the same way, let  
your light shine  
before others, so  
that they may see  
your good works and  
give glory to your  
Father who is in  
heaven."***

***— Matthew 5:16 ESV***

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Turn to page 11, to learn more about how China Outreach Ministries connects with Chinese intellectuals through service projects.



# Powerful Prayers

*How volunteering time, prayer and resources made all the difference in the life of a Chinese scholar.*

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*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”*

*— Philippians 4:6 ESV*

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**I**T HAS BEEN a little more than a year since Joe and Laura Sullivan made the move to the University of California, Davis. Joe and Laura have served with COM 12 years and in 2016, they welcomed a new brother in Christ, *Greg*. A visiting scholar with a wife and fifteen-year-old son in China, *Greg* first met Joe and Laura six months ago at a conversational class that they volunteer with at the Davis Library.

Laura explains how their pastor volunteered free lodging for *Greg*: “*Greg* was here for a year and only had lodging for the first ten months or so. I asked the pastor of our new church if he knew where *Greg* might stay for maybe a month. Our pastor replied, “Why not our house?” It worked out and *Greg* was able to stay rent free with Pastor Lujan’s wonderful family.

Strongly wanting to improve his English, *Greg* explored their *Jesus Story-book Bible* as well as another weekly Bible study. Seeing that he had so many questions, Joe started meeting with him individually. *Greg* was drawn to Christ through the friendships he formed with Christians, but, at the same time, he could not understand why God seemingly liked some people and not others in the Old Testament. For instance, why did God favor Jacob over Esau? Why did God harden Pharaoh’s heart?

*Greg* agreed that humanity has a sin problem, but he stumbled with the heavy concept that Jesus is both God as well as man. Joe and Laura are grateful for the prayers they received as they met with *Greg* and discussed many of these advanced questions about theology.

Five days before he was to return to China, *Greg* spent the day with Joe traveling to the coast and talking. During this time, Joe says that he was strongly aware of God’s presence. By the end of the day, *Greg* received Christ as his savior! Please pray for *Greg* as he returns to China and reunites with his wife and son.

As they welcome the New Year, Joe and Laura reflect on goodbyes to friends who have returned to China. Some of these friends have not yet placed their trust in Christ. Some have a tender new faith but are unable to verbalize commitment yet.

Please pray for these students and scholars. Pray that Jesus would dwell in their hearts through faith; that they would be rooted and grounded in love; that they would know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge; and that they would be filled with the fullness of God. ■

*Turn to page 11, to learn more about how China Outreach Ministries connects with Chinese intellectuals through the help of volunteers.*

# Volunteer Victories

*One of the many ways COM connects and builds relationships with visiting Chinese students and scholars is through mobilizing volunteers. In this section, we showcase how three COM staff members are working with volunteers to share the good news of Jesus.*

**T**HE PHONE RINGS. It is from an Uber driver. He has just dropped off a Chinese couple at the Day's Inn on the University of Minnesota campus. Their time at an Airbnb elapsed, and they have not been able to find another place to stay. Because the couple had nowhere to go, the Uber driver called a friend at First Evangelical Free Church in Minneapolis, a church with several volunteers involved in outreach to the Chinese students at the UMN campus. This friend in turn got in touch with COM to see if housing could be arranged for the couple.

After a few calls, one of COM's volunteer contacts stepped up on short notice. They picked the couple up the next morning, hosted them for several days and helped them find and settle into an apartment. The Chinese couple is now





involved in a Bible study and in many activities with the COM ministry at the University of Minnesota. Bob Kraftson is the volunteer coordinator at UMN. He says, “We never know who or what God is going to use. We just need to be available when He calls.”

— Tom & Kathy Lindstrom, University of Minnesota

**F**OR A SERVICE PROJECT, Bob Simon led a group of Chinese students from Kent State University to help build a house in the nearby village of Andover, Ohio.

When her trailer burned down, Kathy moved into a temporary trailer while construction began on her new home. However, the winter months caved in the trailer ceiling and the wall. With no insurance money, she moved into the shell of the new home, even though it lacked a bathroom and running water.

Bob volunteered to finish Kathy’s new house. The volunteer construction team included eight or more Kent State students every other weekend. The project was a great lesson in God’s grace for the students. Half of the project volunteers were believers who attended church or a Friday Bible study, but the other half were students who would not attend church or a Bible study. All told, 30 volunteers worked on Kathy’s new home. Bob’s team started working Labor Day weekend in 2015, and four months later construction on the 816-square-foot home was completed. Photos from the project are at [comkent.weebly.com](http://comkent.weebly.com).

— Bob Simon, Kent State University

**J**INGJING WRITES: “Our wonderful volunteers Jim and Terri hosted a Christmas Party on December 20 in their home. The house was full and we enjoyed fellowship with over 35 Chinese. Through games and prizes, the Chinese explored Christmas stories by asking the Americans many questions. We also set up a table of gospel books and many Chinese took some home based on their interests. Please pray that many visiting scholars and students will continue to be curious about what we believe.”

— JingJing Rachel Lin, North Carolina State University

*Photo at left: Bob Simon and crew at a recent project site.*

# Gift Annuities

## A gift annuity could be just what you're looking for ... and here's why

### **You may want to increase your income.**

Gift annuities pay good rates of interest, so you may want to donate your low-interest certificate of deposit or other low income asset in exchange for a higher cash flow that comes with tax benefits and a deduction.

### **You would like to support China Outreach Ministries without hurting your cash flow.**

You have assets you would like to give to COM but you need them for your income. A gift annuity allows you to give your assets and retain an increased income in many cases. It will also be a fixed income and a partially tax-free income for life.

### **You may want to provide for a spouse or another loved one.**

A gift annuity is a wonderful way to provide lifelong payments for another person, while simultaneously supporting COM. (This can also protect your loved ones from mishandling monetary gifts.)

### **You want to avoid or defer capital gains on an appreciated asset.**

Maybe you have a highly appreciated stock that you would like to sell for one reason or another, but, if you do sell, it would result in capital gains taxes. By contributing the stock to COM for a gift annuity, you may be able to avoid or spread out capital gains taxes, increase your cash flow and support COM.

**You are looking for tax-free income.** Gift annuity payments are partially tax free.

*Here are some sample gift annuity rates:*

ONE PERSON		TWO PEOPLE	
Age	Rate	Age	Rate
65	4.7	65 & 65	4.2
70	5.1	70 & 70	4.6
75	5.8	75 & 75	5.0
85	7.8	80 & 85	6.1
90	9.0	85 & 90	7.3

And if you defer your gift annuity payments, your rate will be higher. Please consult your financial advisor regarding giving a gift annuity to COM.

If you have any questions about gift annuities or any other giving plan, please contact Jeff Krimmel, V.P. for Development, at 717-591-3500, [jkrimmel@chinaoutreach.net](mailto:jkrimmel@chinaoutreach.net) or write to him at 555 Gettysburg Pike, Suite A-200, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

*Happy New Year!*



## Gift Bearers

### *Special gifts and contributions to the ministry of COM*

#### **In Honor of**

**Kelly & David Dorrough**

Mr. Wallace Mayton

**Mr. & Mrs. Don Hines**

Ms. Marquelle Adkins

**Mrs. Ruth Hummer**

Mr. & Mrs. Mel Blowers

Ms. Vera Glasgow

**Donna Swain**

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Dorrough, Jr.

**Dorcas Chung**

Dr. Aiyin Chen

#### **In Memory of**

**Mrs. Fay Hutto Black**

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Milster

**Leslie Wah-Leung Chung**

Dr. Deborah Chung

**Mrs. Helen Goon**

Mrs. Earnest W. Hummer

Dr. & Mrs. Glendon Osborn

**Tom & Helen Goon**

Mr. & Mrs. W. Austin Kenly

**Rev. Earnest Hummer**

Anonymous

Mr. & Mrs. Allen Syvertsen

**Mr. Bob Luther**

Ms. Patricia Luther

**Mr. & Mrs. Ed & Ruth McBride**

Mr. & Mrs. Crisman Myers

**In memory of the good work God has  
done during my time at PSU**

Yanni Cao

**Mr. Terry Taschner**

Dr. & Mrs. Glendon Osborn

**Mr. Daniel Zondlo**

Mr. & Mrs. John Zondlo

### **HUMMER MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

Mrs. Earnest W. Hummer

Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Ison

Mrs. Kathleen Woods

Mr. & Mrs. Mel Blowers

Mr. Arthur Fleser

## **Spring 2017 Banquets**

***Join us for challenging testimonies, beautiful music,  
great food and wonderful fellowship!***

### **Harrisburg-Area Celebration**

March 16, 2017  
Sheraton Hotel, Swatara  
Harrisburg, PA

### **Canton-Area Celebration**

March 27, 2017  
Hartville Kitchen  
Hartville, OH

### **DC-Area Celebration**

March 24, 2017  
Fairview Park Marriott  
Falls Church, VA

### **Erie-Area Celebration**

March 28, 2017  
Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel  
Erie, PA

### **Baltimore-Area Celebration**

March 25, 2017  
Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel  
Towson, MD

***To make your reservation for one of the following events,  
contact Kim in the COM office at 717-591-3500.***

China Outreach

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