



Chinese Christmas: An opportunity for evangelism

Because rapid economic development impacts every aspect of Chinese society, Christmas has become a special time in China. Without believing in Jesus Christ, most Chinese, especially the young and city-dwellers, celebrate Christmas as a festive party time. Without experiencing a work holiday, Chinese people enjoy this festival's atmosphere. It is joked that Christmas sells even better than the Chinese Spring Festival.

On the other hand, Chinese congregations use Christmas as an opportunity to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, because they have most non-believing visitors during this time. Members are even asked to give their seats to visitors who have come to learn about Christianity. Based on the Blue Book on China's Religions published in 2010, the number of Protestant Christians is 23.05 million, roughly 1.8 percent of the population.

In this time, we remember that Christmas is good news of great joy for **all** people on earth. Because God loves the world, God loves the people of China.

I am so blessed and privileged to serve in China through our partnership with Beijing International Christian Fellowship—helping bring more and more people to know Christ. We work with the church in China to train pastors, lay leaders and seminaries so they are better equipped to serve God by serving the people in their local congregations. The need for leadership development is great. Please pray for us!



On behalf of Chinese Christians, I wish you 'Sheng Dan Kuai Le 圣诞快乐' (Merry Christmas).

The Rev. Dorcas Wang serves as an ELCA missionary in China, training leaders through the Beijing International Christian Fellowship.



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