

It has been a good while since our last newsletter. I will try to keep in touch more often in the future.

We are beginning our 5th year of working on the American side of the China ministry and we are excited to continue. I am writing this as we prepare to leave Honolulu tomorrow for our fall trip to visit about 50 teachers in China. We will also visit former students and some house churches where we know some brothers and sisters to encourage them.

We have 85 teachers this year and we will see most all of them either on the spring or fall trips we make each year. Please remember them and their students in your prayers.

We have with us two suitcases filled with items that the teachers have requested we bring them or that their families have sent for them. Delta gives us two bags each for free, so pack our needs in one and use the other for the "freight". A few of our Chinese friends in America have given us items for their families in China which we can ship cheaply to them from within the country. We will then bring some things back for our friends that their families wish to send them or that they may not be able to find in America.

This summer has been a very busy one. We have been given the leadership responsibilities for the China Now dinner and program at Lipscomb's Summer Celebration which always fall the first week in July. We have 200+ to hear about the ministry, many of whom are congregation leaders who may be helpful in arranging presentations to their congregations.

Through contacts made a couple of years ago we were able to arrange China presentations at four congregations on two consecutive weekends in Alaska. We planned this trip as a combination work / vacation with my brother, Mike, and his wife. Mike helps us tremendously with "Buddy Passes" which require that we fly standby, but saves hundreds of dollars on all trips to China. We paid our own vacation expenses which were manageable due to the generosity of the KNLS at Anchor Point (the broadcast station for World Christian Broadcasting) who gave us the use of their guest house for the week. The response from the congregations at Wasilla, Soldotna, Homer and Anchorage was terrific. One hundred ten asked for our email newsletter to keep informed about the ministry. Thirty asked for more information about teaching in China. Three of those have already indicated that they are seriously considering going in the fall 2016.

Also in July we hosted the third summer retreat for teachers home for the summer. There are not a large number close enough to come for the weekend retreat, but we have developed a dedicated core group that not only make the retreat beneficial but they are very helpful getting teachers together in China when we are there for additional training and encouragement.

The photo attached is of a group of teachers meeting with us on our Spring trip this year. The teach at three universities near one another.

Thank you again for all the support and encouragement you have given to us personally and the China Now! ministry.

Blessings to you,

China Update from the McFarland's

