

NATIONS FOR CHRIST  
INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENTS MINISTRY

# N4C

DECEMBER 2023, NO 6  
NATIONS4CHRIST.COM

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**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
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AN ATHEIST**

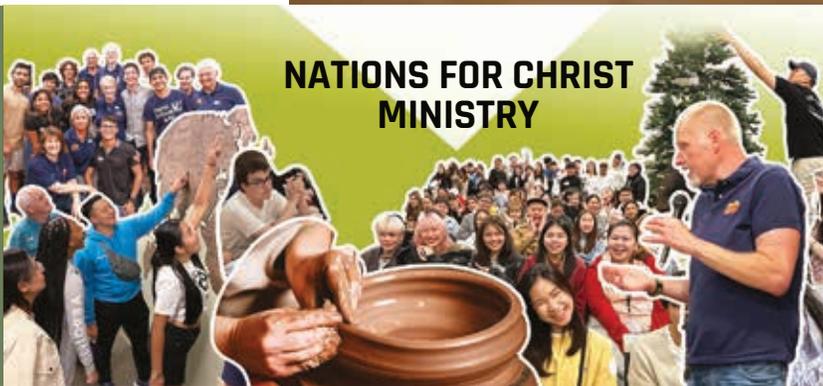
**SEASON  
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**INTRODUCING A NEW  
CHAPTER FOR THE  
WH EMBASSY**



**NATIONS FOR CHRIST  
MINISTRY**



WE ARE HAPPY TO PRESENT OUR LATEST 2023 SEASON N4C VIDEO. TO WATCH, PLEASE SCAN QR ABOVE WITH YOUR DEVICE'S CAMERA.



## Go reach the world!

### Make Disciples of All Nations Right in Your Backyard!

Since 2008 N4C Ministry has been able to reach with the Gospel 47 different countries. Some of these countries stretch over vast distances, and our students live in different time zones.

Most of our students come from countries that have no Christian influence, are not represented by Western missions, and have no Bible experience.

If you would like to join our ministry team, please scan QR below.

**Let's do it together!**



**Nations<sup>4</sup>Christ**.com

International Students Ministry

# THE FIRST WAVE

After a busy and fruitful 2023 season, our J1 students have returned home to their native countries. Our next wave of 2024 students from Peru is arriving this month. Because N4C recently became a yearlong outreach, there has been an active student cycle in Pigeon Forge. Since last December we have been working with students who travel to Pigeon Forge and plan to stay until March of that year. Here you can see Alexey exploring downtown Knoxville with a group of young Peruvian technical and medical professionals, witnessing to them about his faith in Christ. None of them had any



Our first wave of 2023 students arrived from Peru last December.



church experience, and the only girl in the entire group (studying physiology) only visited Catholic mass once. While they were enjoying lunch together, Alexey shared about a church service with modern worship, Bible study, and youth ministry, and some students asked if they could join the Kochan family to see that church service.

The following Sunday morning, Alexey arrived at Pigeon Forge to pick up his new Peruvian friends for their first ever church encounter. After a busy week at jobs that require hard physical labor, it was not an easy task for the students to get out of their cozy beds so early in the morning. Thankfully, they did, and they were richly rewarded with an amazing day!



**PERUVIAN STUDENTS  
HAVE VISITED THE  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH FOR  
THE FIRST TIME EVER**

The East Maryville Baptist Church family always welcomes our international guests with open arms!



So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

**W**e went to church to experience a glorious time of worship, Bible study, fellowship over a meal, discussion, and a trip to the mountains. Wonderful seeds were sewn in a great soil.



While the first wave from Central America was heading home, a new wave of students came in late March. In the photos below, Alexey picked up new guests from Thailand.



**T**hese two students asked Alexey to call them Nook and Lee, as their real names are in Thai and are pronounced with five tones. Their language almost sounds like birdsong and is very difficult to replicate no matter how hard you try, so those nicknames worked for us! Nook and Lee flew in at night, and Alexey picked them up at 7 AM. It turned out that they were starving, so they made an emergency stop at McDonald's. Because they were going to work at a Steak and Shake for the next 3 months, the girls were excited to try their first - but not last - burger on American soil!

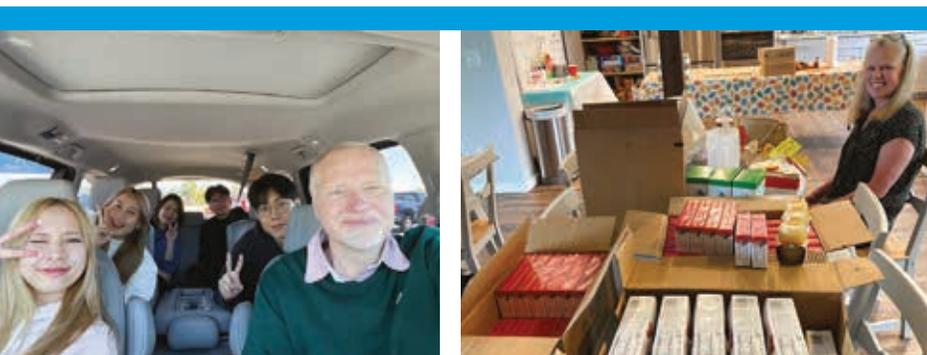
The next stop was at the Embassy. When students first land in Tennessee, they are wide open to the presentation of the Gospel as they are away from home and out of their comfort zone.

The girls were excited to see the Embassy, especially the kitchen, and said that they were looking forward to cooking a Thai meal for one of



our international outreach nights. That same day on his way back to Knoxville, Alexey gave a ride to Peruvian students who arrived in December of 2022 and were now traveling back home. On the way to the bus

station, they also asked to go to McDonald's, where they had a great time of fellowship and prayer. Thank you for all your financial support, as it puts gas in our vehicles and makes these types of evenings possible!



**B**eth and Jennifer from Evergreen Church worked hard to pack welcome bags for students. These had snacks, a bottle of water, some Christian tracts, and information about the Embassy. Thank you for your hard work and for showing such great Christian hospitality to these kids! Being served in this way is a very new experience for students and it helps to open them up to the Gospel.

**L**ate spring and the beginning of summer are still our peak season, as most students arrive in this wave. In the last two years, many of these have been Mongolian. One of our outreach evenings started with our seasonal volunteer prayer meeting, with fellowship and a dinner. Shortly after this meeting ended, the Mongolian students arrived. We were very happy to give them welcome bags, drinks, and light snacks, and while the students were very tired from their travels, they also didn't want to leave. That night we established great connections and friendships with them.



MONGOLIAN STUDENTS ARRIVED

# CHURCH ON WHEELS

This year 2,000 students arrived in Pigeon Forge, and our goal was for all of them to hear the Gospel at least once.

In addition to our weekly outreach events in June and July, each Tuesday we would take students for a trip to Knoxville to help them with their social security needs and then presented the Gospel right after. Visiting the social security office is a necessity to work in the US, so we got a very wide reach to students who might not have shown up to the Embassy otherwise. These trips really helped us with our goal, as students would show

up hungry and leave spiritually fed, and often, they ended up coming with us to our outreach events afterwards.

Transporting large groups of students is very important, so we are very grateful to our

amazing volunteers. Pictured above is Herb from the East Maryville Mission committee, who drove their church van to give students a ride to Knoxville

and back, and then swapped with Kelvin to bring the students' home. In recent years, students' living places have spread out between Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg, and since they didn't have their own means of transportation, they needed help getting to and from outreach events.



The Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached to all the world.

Matthew 24:14



# CHRISTMAS PREPARATION

Students love to eat! Our Christmas event menu featured traditional baked turkey courtesy of Alexey, and jambalaya gumbo, as our chef Beth is from Louisiana and wanted to share her family traditions with us. Our table was buckling under the weight of all the delicious food we had that evening! We are incredibly grateful to our team

and supporters for your contributions and for putting food on our tables!

While our team was preparing dinner, a group of Mongolian students led by Tanya decorated the Christmas tree. They did a fantastic job and hosted a photo session to share the experience with their families at home. Here are just a few samples of their photos:



Preparation for Christmas with international students.





# MERRY CHRISTMAS ALL YEAR ROUND!

All our activities are tied to the Gospel. Christmas is not celebrated in most of the countries that our students come from, so to them, experiencing this different holiday and culture is a very big deal. A few years ago we decided to split up our Christmas in June event into two parts - preparation, where we invite students to decorate the Embassy and tell them what Christmas is about, and the celebration itself. We held the preparation half in the first week of June with Thai, Mongolian and Dominican students.

... The angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:9-11

  
CHRISTMAS EVENT  
AT WH EMBASSY



> **A**fter dinner, we started our evangelism program with brief worship. Later, a student from Mongolia approached Alexey and told him that he was a professional musician who played guitar and drums, and that he wanted to join our worship band.

**M**ost of our students have never read or owned a Bible, so Alexey always starts his presentations with an explanation of the Bible. In this photo he showed them what the Bible app is, how to install it, and how to use it. All the students in the

group installed the app and got to read the Bible in their native language. **T**hat day they studied the first chapter of Luke, where Gabriel appeared to Mary. This is how the students learned that Christ is the true meaning of Christmas.



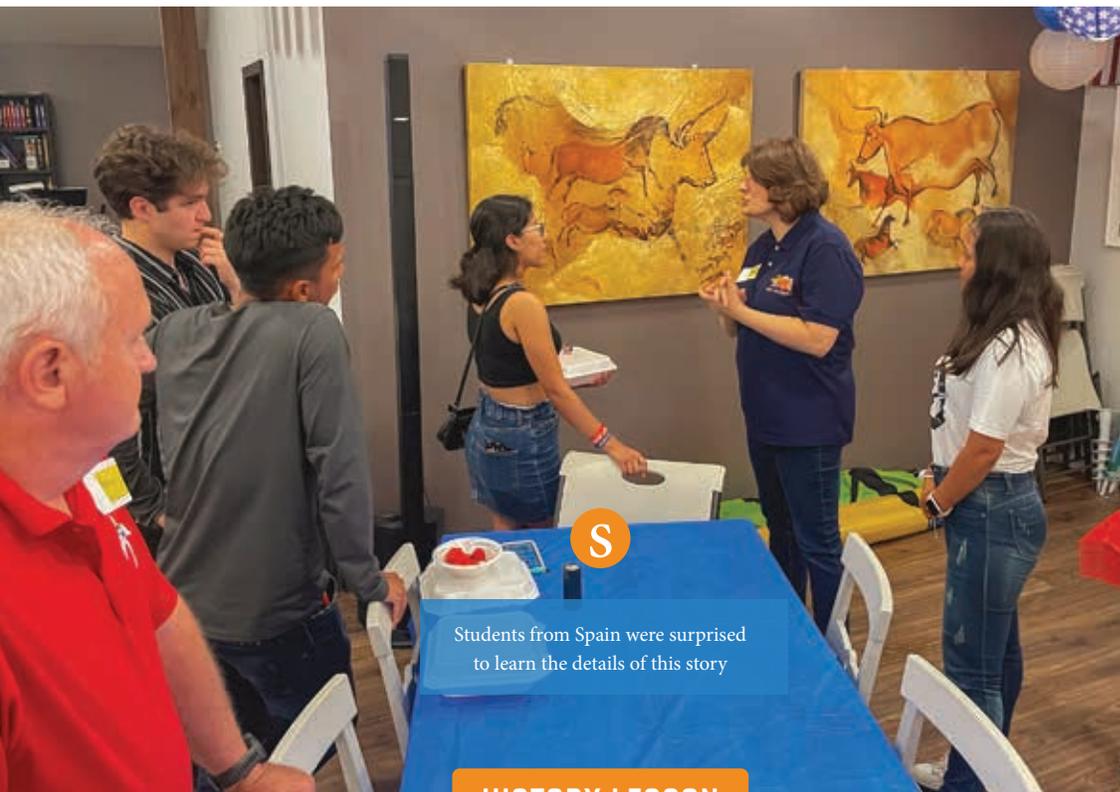
Look at how beautiful the Embassy looked! We left the decorations up throughout the month and hosted the second half of our Christmas celebration on the 20th of June. Many more students got to experience it - especially the ones from Turkey, Jordan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan that arrived just in time to participate!



### WORLD OUTREACH

This year we have shared the Gospel with students from Jordan, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Thailand, Mongolia, Peru, Ecuador, Russia, Belarus, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Japan, Netherlands...





Students from Spain were surprised to learn the details of this story

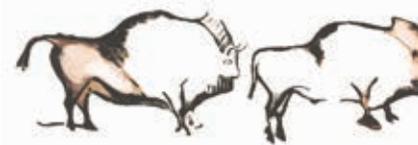
### HISTORY LESSON

# APPROACHING AN ATHEIST

"THE SISTINE CHAPEL OF CAVE ART" IS A COMMON NAME FOR ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS CAVES IN THE WORLD - ALTAMIRA, LOCATED IN NORTHERN SPAIN. IT WAS A STUMBLING BLOCK FOR THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY AND A CHALLENGE FOR THE CONSCIENCE OF ITS REPRESENTATIVES.

The Altamira cave was discovered by accident in 1868. A hunter who lost his dog was searching for his pet and heard it whining underground. Upon moving a large stone, the hunter found a crevice, and soon after, the cave. The discovery was reported to the landowner - archaeology-loving Marcelino de Sautuola, who then decided to unearth Altamira himself. Many different objects were found inside, but most amazingly, ancient bison, horses, boars, mammoths, members of the cat family, deer, and even handprints were all "dancing" on the ceiling...

The drawings were done masterfully - the ancient artist carved out the drawings with a chisel, then painted on top with natural paints - the result was a colorful bas-relief. A small dip was found in the ground nearby, which served as a palette for the artist. Amazingly, the ancient masters were already using techniques that were "discovered" by the



impressionists in the 19th century! This was sensational! "After Altamira, everything is decadence - no other modern artist can create something like this!" exclaimed Pablo Picasso upon visiting the cave.

The scientific community, however, did not receive the discovery as warmly. The scientific world stubbornly ignored the cave's existence. How could it be that the ancient man was creative, talented, capable of planning, and possessing an aesthetic taste? These drawings completely flew in the face of their theory of evolution.

My whole life I was taught that these drawings were created by prehistoric people who looked more like monkeys than me. So I decided to replicate these paintings myself, like a little challenge - it wouldn't be too hard for a professional artist to replicate what monkeys were able to do, right?



Paints were made using animal and plant oils, and pigmented with ocher, kaolin, manganese, and coal pine. In theory, paint was applied with a finger wrapped in fur. So, I decided to follow the precedent set by my ancient colleagues and created some paint with my own fingers. Well, as you can probably guess, nothing worked for me at first. I quickly realize - It takes no small amount of talent and imagination to make stylized images. I was simply copying an already created image, but even that was already very difficult! My copied lines, the original so easily created by an ancient artist, could not at all convey the style or the charm of Altamira. I would get angry and restart the work. But the ancient artist didn't have that luxury - he just made the drawing with one move of his brush. After this experiment, I had no other conclusion that whoever drew this was just as smart as I was.

For twenty long years, the scientists did not recognize the drawings as authentic.

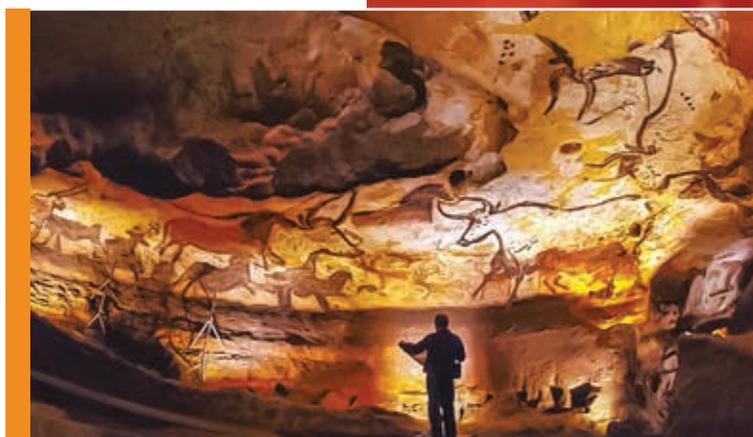
Sautuola and Madrid University professor Don Juan Vilanova, who supported the archaeologist, became a laughingstock in offices and scientific conferences. But one beautiful day, Kartalyak, who was afraid to admit the truth before, finally repented.

**K**nowing the atheist mindset of European college graduates who most likely have never had the chance to hear about the Creationism, I tell this story with one goal - to force young smart people to start thinking about an alternative. The seed is planted and God will find a path to their hearts.



### THE ALTAMIRA CAVE

LOCATED IN NORTHERN SPAIN





"THIS IS THE WORD THAT CAME TO JEREMIAH FROM THE LORD: GO DOWN TO THE POTTER'S HOUSE, AND THERE I WILL GIVE YOU MY MESSAGE.

SO, I WENT DOWN TO THE POTTER'S HOUSE, AND I SAW HIM WORKING AT THE WHEEL. BUT THE POT HE WAS SHAPING FROM THE CLAY WAS MARRED IN HIS HANDS; SO THE POTTER FORMED IT INTO ANOTHER POT, SHAPING IT AS SEEMED BEST TO HIM.

THEN THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO ME... LIKE CLAY IN THE HAND OF THE POTTER, SO ARE YOU IN MY HAND."

JEREMIAH 18:1-6





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# THE POTTER'S HOUSE

## INTRODUCING A NEW CHAPTER FOR THE WH EMBASSY

Over the last 15 years, we have been blessed with the opportunity to make Christ known to young professionals from areas of the world where traditional missions have very little impact. For many of these students, this is the only exposure to the Gospel message they will ever have, so we always take our presentations very seriously. Imagine yourself standing in front of a large group of young intellectuals from all corners of the globe, a kaleidoscope of cultures where the only similarity they have is a total ignorance of the Bible.

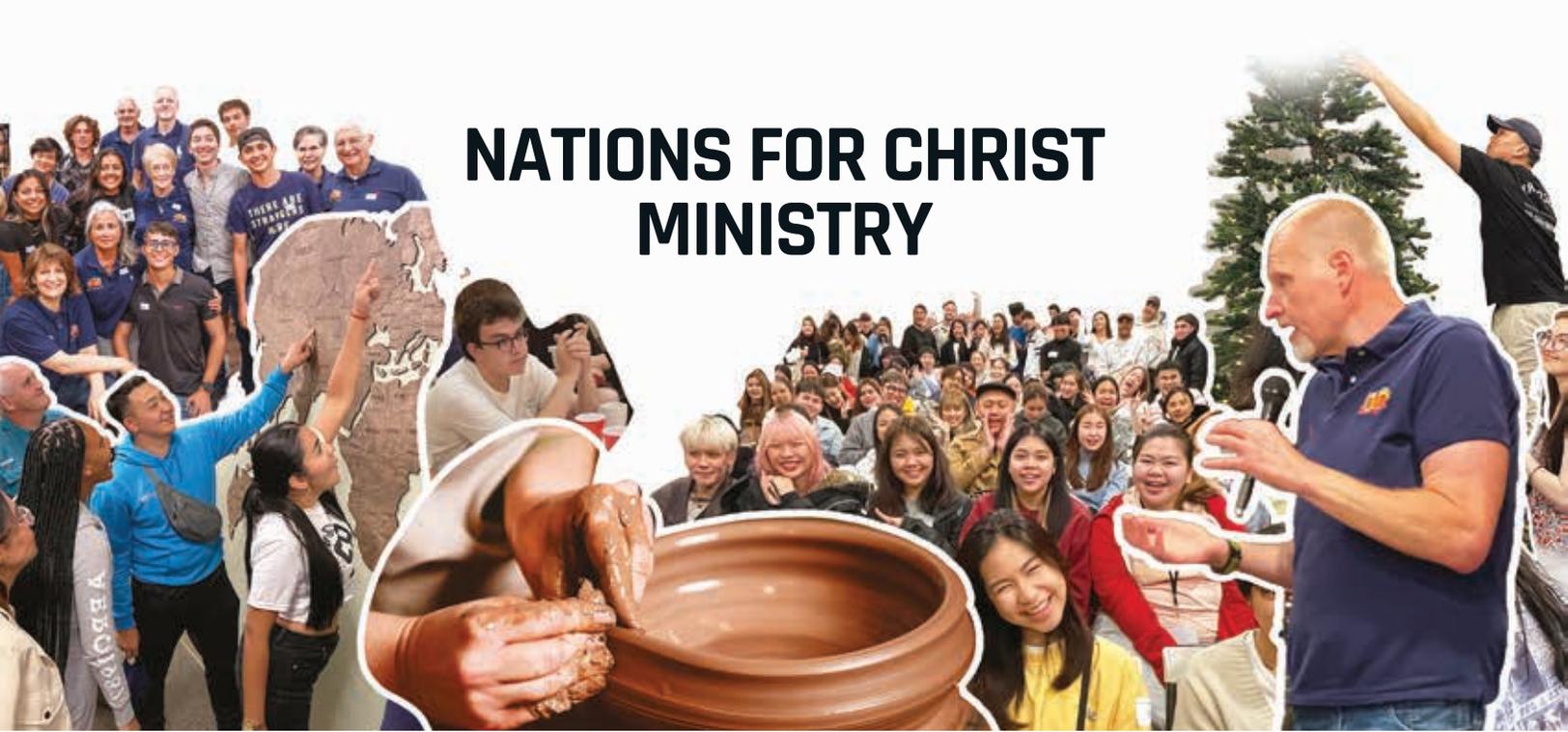
It is extremely important for a speaker to make the Bible message simple

and well-understood so that an intelligent discussion for Christ can be made. As you can see, cross-cultural evangelism is a complicated task, which is why our team is always prayerfully seeking ways to take our outreach to the next level.

For many years Tanya has been using her artistic talents in this matter by creating unique evangelism tools, like a 17-and-a-half foot salvation plan mural, various art pieces that hang on the walls of the Embassy, and many videos. In the middle of our outreach this summer, God laid Jeremiah 18:1-6 on Alexey's heart:



# NATIONS FOR CHRIST MINISTRY



**WE REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT AND PRAYERS MAKING A HUGE DIFFERENCE IN LIVES OF FUTURE LEADERS OF MANY DIFFERENT NATIONS.**

**G**od gave Alexey an amazing image of how to show His salvation plan to students through a live pottery demonstration at the Embassy - something that they could easily see in front of their eyes in a simple but still deep way.

**A** few days later Tanya shared with him that God inspired her to study pottery for the ministry. Alexey was speechless - they were in unison about this vision, and this topic had never come up before this point!

**T**anya was asked to share a testimony about what God laid on her heart with you all. "International students, like most people, respond very well to visual information. So, we started brainstorming on how to show a multinational, multicultural, and multilingual audience simple but difficult things about God. We did not have to ponder this dilemma for long because God, having foreseen all these questions already, gave us a hint in the Bible. That is how we got the idea to host a special series of presentations for our international students, called 'The Potter's House.' Through live demonstrations at the

Embassy, we will show them a pottery wheel in action and make all sorts of pots right in front of them - big ones, small ones, useful ones, ones you can't go without, ones that aren't so common in use, all with different types of clay. We will break these pots, just so that after removing the stones they can be remade... To visually show that we are all made from the same dirt. That for us to live right, trusting and listening to God is mandatory, and that God tempers us like clay in a furnace! That following the Lord may be difficult, but it is worth the results! And so, this was the complex and multifaceted task that was set before us.

So, I went to a ceramics school and took a 2-month

“..Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand.”



We are thrilled about this vision that we believe will impact many lives! If you are interested in being a part of this new chapter for the WH Embassy, then please consider donating, sharing this information with your friends, and praying.

course, and to the surprise of all the teachers (they asked me if this was really my first time doing pottery) and to the glory of God, I finished as the top student. Now I have the skills and they are being practiced to perfection - I am ready for the next step!”

The first wave of 2024 students is arriving this month, and we would like to begin this project as soon as possible! All that is left now is purchasing the necessary equipment. The estimated cost of this project starts at \$9000 - this starter kit includes the pottery wheel, clay, supplies, and a kiln.

If you would like to participate by giving online, please scan the QR code with your phone's camera.



If you would like to send a tax-deductible check instead, please use the enclosed envelope. Thank you very much! We really appreciate your support and prayers for making a huge difference in the lives of future leaders of many different nations.



We also created a special webpage where the fundraiser process is reflected in real time. As soon as your donation is received, the website will be updated. Please check the QR code.



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE N4C TEAM

Whether on the road while transporting students, at outreach events in the WH Embassy, during field trips to the mountains, or in our homes - we share the Good News with hundreds of international students at every opportunity. This report would be quite large if we wrote even a few sentences and published a single picture from each of our many back-to-back outreach events throughout this year. That's why we asked our N4C volunteers to share brief highlights from their experience of the 2023 season to include in this magazine.



HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING





Beth and Marty Huddleston  
Evergreen Church.



**I**magine you have been invited to dinner on Tuesday evening, with folks you barely know. When you approach the house, you hear the sounds of greetings in many different accents and laughter as the door swings open, welcoming you inside. The warm smells of cinnamon, rosemary, garlic, and another aroma you can't quite place, tingle your senses. The tables are decorated festively with some old-style dressed figurines and colored leaves. You see the smiling faces of volunteers working around an overflowing table of mouth-watering food and the biggest baked chickens you have ever laid your eyes on are getting carved. Above all the talking and kitchen noise, you hear, "Shut the door! The air conditioner is on!" Yep, welcome to Thanksgiving in June at the Embassy!

**T**his meal is one of my favorites that we host for the J1 students. Just like preparing for your own family Thanksgiving, we dust off the old recipe cards to give them a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings and fixings. And those 'biggest baked chickens' are brined and smoked turkeys. >

> **B**ut it's more than the food! The Thanksgiving holiday gives us an opportunity to share the true historical story of the Pilgrims and how God miraculously planned for Squanto to be there at just the right time to help the Pilgrims survive that first winter. We tell the students what was served on that first Thanksgiving, that it lasted for 3 days - ours won't, haha! - and 90 plus American Indians and 50 Pilgrims - kind of like our numbers tonight - gathered, played sporting games and enjoyed food together.

**T**he Pilgrims prayed and thanked God for their new friends, for His provisions, and to be able to worship God and His son Jesus! And as the Pilgrims thanked God for their new friends, we let the students know that we thank God for allowing them to be here with us in Sevier County, TN. That it is not by accident, but that He has a reason for them to be working here this summer, to join us for this meal, and that our prayer is that they will want to know who God is too! From these shared meals together at the

Embassy, it gives us the opportunities to invite students to our homes, to ask how we can pray for them, to thank God for them by name, to plant Gospel seeds, and to ask Him to watch over them and guide their steps with career choices.

**G**od has blessed us to be a small part of this incredible ministry of growing the Kingdom! "...God has given each of you a gift from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another..." 1 Peter 4:8-11.



**MONGOLIAN STUDENTS SINGING THE CHRISTIAN HYMN TOGETHER.**

**P**.S. from Alexey: Marty and Beth smoked 3 large turkeys for the Thanksgiving celebration. They live in the mountains, so when the turkeys were done, a black bear wandered into their backyard to see what was cooking. It came too late though - the delicious cargo had already arrived safely at the Embassy!



Kelvin and Tukta Kuwik  
East Maryville Baptist Church

**W**e have enjoyed working with the 2023 Nations for Christ ministry events just like we have over the previous 3 or 4 years. The Bible directs us to share the Gospel, or share the “good news” - with EVERYONE! I don’t know if there is a more efficient way to share

the Gospel around the world than to share the Gospel and Jesus’ love with all the international students that come to Sevier County Tennessee to work each year. Most of these international students are limited in their ability to interact with Americans outside of their work environment, and most Christian

Americans are not likely to share their Christian faith with workers in the tourist industry. What a great opportunity God has provided for us to share our faith with these international students through the ministry that Alexei and Tatiana (Tanya) have been led to start in Sevier County!





# HAWAIIAN DINNER IN THE MOUNTAINS





From Jennifer Love  
Evergreen Church



“At the same time pray  
also for us, that God  
may open to us a door  
for the word, to declare  
the mystery of Christ”

Colossians 4:3

This was my favorite event of the summer because of the special atmosphere that night. The evening started out with a stop on the Foothills Parkway to enjoy scenic views of the mountains and then we made our way to BridgeMont camp where it was everything Hawaiian!

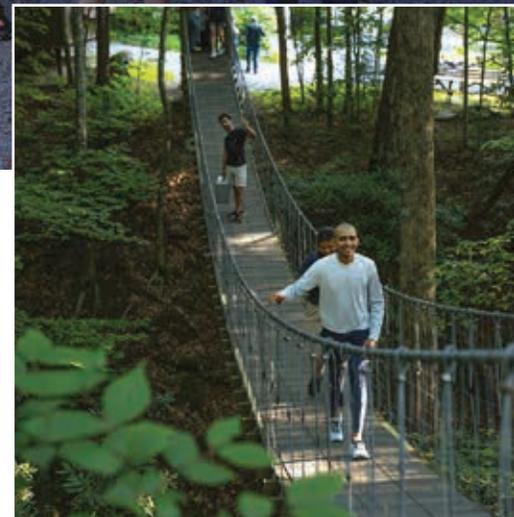
The students enjoyed several dishes with pineapple and then watched a beautiful hula dance performed to “This is how we worship”. The students seemed mesmerized by the style and beauty of this dance. Several conversations were had throughout the evening.

My husband, a medical doctor, spoke with 2 Uzbekistan medical students about his experience as a Christian physician. Also, several Mongolian girls wanted to know about my marriage experience, and I had the



opportunity to tell them about a Christ-centered marriage.

God gave us many open doors that night! As the evening grew dark, the students enjoyed playing games of ping-pong, relaxing around the campfire and posing for Tanya’s photography. It was a great escape for them to a peaceful setting, where rest and renewal



could take place. At the same time pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ” Colossians 4:3



# FIRST ENCOUNTER



A sower went out to sow his seed..



Every time we gather at the Embassy, we give praise to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with a song or two. Worship sessions like this break down spiritual walls and cultural barriers, as international students love to participate.

Our daughters Masha and Sonya have been deeply involved in the ministry from a very young age and lend us a hand even during the busy school year. Sonya likes to help in the kitchen and Masha is involved with our worship band. Our oldest daughter Liza likes to help when she gets the chance, and this time she cooked an outstanding creme-brûlée dessert for our team to enjoy.



From Ron and Jackie Collier  
East Maryville Baptist Church



**W**e are not sure how the summer of 2023 passed so quickly, but here we are, just a few days until 2024! As both of us are getting older (82 and 75), we are so thankful that we can still be a part of Nations4Christ as volunteers.

**A**fter the 2023 farewell event with the students in September, it was such a blessing to be a part of a

special prayer time with some of the students who seemed open to hear more about what it means to be a follower of Christ. At the close of prayer time, one of the students from Thailand was able to send a contact message to our missionary friends in his country. He lives in the same city where these missionary friends are serving. We pray that the spiritual seeds planted throughout the summer will be

cultivated and reap a great harvest in the life of this talented young man, and in the lives of others who heard the name of Jesus for the first time in their lives. When one gets to be our ages, it is exciting to see how God is connecting what seemed to be random “dots” over the years. A backward look at those dots brings great joy as we get to see a picture that includes so many special lives and experiences

with students from around the world.

**I**t is our privilege to help cultivate the soil, plant seeds of faith, help to tend the seeds planted, and watch God bring in a great harvest of souls for His Kingdom in His perfect time. Thank you, Tanya and Alexey, for the example you both set reminding us to live, by faith, the truths found in Luke 8:4-15.



**T**hese young beautiful faces come from all parts of the world in many languages and colors. They are future teachers, doctors, lawyers, businessmen, and leaders of their countries - people of a very wide range of influence. When we plant seeds of the Gospel by constantly exposing them to the Good News

through our personal testimonies, worship experiences, prayer, and Bible studies, we make a huge difference! We really appreciate your prayers and cherish your generous support - what a great investment for His Glory and His Kingdom!

## TATIANA KOCHAN'S TESTIMONY



### PLEASE PRAY!

During these three months, students were constantly exposed to the Good News message. Please continue to pray for the many good seeds that were planted and for their continued transformation back in their native countries.



YOU CAN PURCHASE THIS PAPERBACK BOOK ON AMAZON - PLEASE SCAN THIS QR CODE TO VISIT THE PAGE:



**T**atiana Kochan finally published her testimony - First Encounter, Death of an Atheist. This is a real story about the daughter of a Soviet general and an ardent atheist. After an unfortunate accident, she turns to God, whose existence she now would be foolish and fearful to deny.

**Y**ou can purchase this paperback book on Amazon - please scan this QR code to visit the page.

**E**very time Alexey presents the Gospel to a large group of students, he makes sure to let them know that our team is always available to answer any questions they might have during the presentation. We also have the best quality Bibles in their native languages that we

give out as gifts. After our presentations, students like to stay late and chat over a cup of tea or coffee. Some have asked for their own copy of the Bible, which we were able to provide!



**T**he door to the Embassy stays open late into the night, and students don't stop coming as some of them have to work night shifts. We are always happy to meet them and serve them a nice meal, coffee, and sweets.

The others like to play games, chat over the table, play guitar and sing, or go outside to play ball or table tennis. What a blessing for the students and a great testimony of God's love and care.



## PLANTING ON YOUR SOIL

**E**very year, more than 250,000 J1 students come to the USA. Some of them are likely in your area right now! We can visit your church with our team and evangelize to international students with

you, training you in action. If you are interested in partnering with us, please get in touch with Alexey via email.

# BEST PRESENT

a

After our presentations, students like to stay late and chat over a cup of tea or coffee. Some have asked for their own copy of the Bible, which we were able to provide!





# LIFE LASTING MEMORIES

A special thanks to Evergreen church for hosting this amazing event and to Herb from EMBC for leading the mountain hike.



We are extremely blessed to have the best team working hard to reach our international guests.



**T**aking students to the mountains takes a lot of preparation and coordination. Students live in different locations all over Pigeon Forge, Sevierville, and Gatlinburg, so putting together a pickup schedule can be challenging.

**T**he park pavilion needs to be rented ahead of time to host a large party, the sound equipment needs to be set up, and food has to be purchased and prepared. We are extremely blessed to have the best team working hard to reach our international guests. In the pictures above you can see Herb Payne driving the church van and leading a group of students on a hike.





**M**ost of our students live and study in large capital cities like Bangkok and Istanbul. Visiting the Great Smoky Mountains National Park gives them an opportunity to experience God's beautiful creation and make them think about the Creator! The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Psalm 19:1 We were also blessed to have great weather, as last year it was pouring rain when we visited the same location.



**A**fter a great hike where many pictures were taken to send to friends and family, the hungry students arrived back at the pavilion where our team had just finished cooking dinner on the grill. By the way, all the gorgeous photos you see here were taken by Tanya - she is a camera master! During dinner, a student from Mongolia who happens to be a national chess champion said that this was his best day in the USA so far. Another girl from Mongolia sitting next to Alexey said that she will remember this trip for the rest of her life! She also asked Alexey about how she could become a Christian, and he had the opportunity to share the Gospel with her.



The heavens declare  
the glory of God; the  
skies proclaim the  
work of his hands.

Psalm 19:1





**A**fter a delicious dinner, Alexey shared the story of the Prodigal son with an international student twist. Each of these students could relate to traveling far away from home, being disconnected from family and missing loved ones. Being out of our comfort zone really

opens us to changes and to paradigm shifts. What a great moment to present our God as a Loving Father, so different from the gods of their native religions of Islam and Buddhism.





# THE WORLD OLYMPIC GAMES

Calvary Baptist Youth visited  
WH Embassy and hosted  
a great event - the World  
Olympic Games!

**C**alvary Baptist Oak Ridge, the Kochan family's home church, has a huge heart for world missions and supported us generously for many years. Pastor Steve and Sister Faye visited some of the countries our students come from, and have been deeply involved with our ministry, making a tremendous impact on many lives! Whether your church is located near Pigeon Forge or is in a different state like our other ministry partners, there are plenty of ways for you to join our team. Please mail us back if you are interested!





“

Share with  
the Lord's  
people who  
are in need.  
Practice  
hospitality.

Romans 12:13





# CALVARY IN ACTION

**I**n the New Testament we see Jesus spending a lot of time in a boat, speaking to crowds, traveling places, using other people's boats. We are very grateful to our team members who never hesitate to share their boats, planes, and vehicles to transport students to outreach events and who open their homes to share Christian hospitality with our international guests. For many years, Michael and Debbie Jenkins from Calvary Church have hosted international students at their gorgeous colonial style home.

**T**heir daughter Amanda McAmis and her husband Clay also invite international

students to their beautiful home in Oak Ridge. At every event, Amanda shares her powerful testimony on how Jesus helped her to win her battle with cancer. Students have often told us that this experience is exactly what they come to the United States for. These nights make lifelong memories and show the importance of having a relationship with a living God.

Instead of going overseas and facing many challenges on top of high international travel costs, Calvary Youth comes to the World Harvest Embassy to share their faith in Christ to many nations! What a great opportunity to reach the world right in our backyard.



## BITTER SWEET

**B**ittersweet moments: After a long and exciting season spent together, it was time to say goodbye. Some of our students have already gone, and this was our last outreach gathering. The EMBC student pastor spoke to our students, emphasizing the providence in their lives of being able to visit Tennessee

and the WH Embassy. This is also their last chance to say goodbye to Pastor Keith and hear his blessings. Tanya shared her testimony about the near-death experience that led her to faith and a new life in Christ. We will likely not see these students again in our earthly lives, so we must speak the most important words from our hearts before the students depart.



## STAY CONNECTED!

As 2024 approaches, we are excited about even wider opportunities to fulfill the Great Commission and invite you to explore how you and your church can get involved. Please feel free to contact Alexey for more information!



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Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

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