April 2025 Newsletter

[14] "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. [15] Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. [16] 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. Matt 5

It's been a good month remembering and celebrating the death and resurrection of our Lord. On Easter Sunday, we joined the sunrise service at Jones Beach. A Caucasian brother and another family, who are not part of our church, joined us. It's awesome to take the church outdoors and be the light on the beach!

Ma Yong, a Hui Muslim

Ma Yong came to our Easter Sun service. He witnessed the baptisms but had to leave early because his wife had the day off, and they were going out. He said he enjoyed the service and asked for the recording of the testimonies. May God continue to work in his heart.

Ministry Sharing in the "Love Neighbor" Fellowship

I'm thankful for being invited to the fellowship to share about my ministry. Several of the brothers and sisters in this fellowship are already coworkers in the ESL classes and outreaches. May more be involved through prayers and join out outreaches.

Church ESL class

We had a chance to share about Jesus' death and resurrection with our students. I shared by having an egg hunt and used resurrection eggs: https://resources.pcamna.org/resource/esl-ministries_holidayideas/ A few students seemed like they were hearing this for the first time and were interested. Praise God for the gospel seeds sown.

Sunharbor Manor Nursing Home

Stephanie is a Jewess who had a back surgery and needed rehabilitation. She hopes to be able to go home soon. Xing shared about the connection between Passover and Easter. She also shared that Jesus is the sacrificial lamb and the Messiah whom Jews were waiting for. Stephanie said that it makes a lot of sense. She asked for prayers for her health, her daughter's undiagnosed sickness and her husband's heart condition.

Myra, a Messianic Jewess, is a friend of Xing. She shared that her son and granddaughter are also Christians. She's getting better and would be able to go home on May 1st. We rejoiced with her and prayed together.

We shared with **Haque** about the judgement that each of us will face on judgement day, when all our thoughts, words and actions would be exposed. We shared that none of us would be able to stand in front of God because our sins would be totally exposed. We shared that we need Jesus to cover and save us. He agreed that Jesus is coming back but doesn't accept that Jesus is the son of God.

Annie Taylor, the Jehovah Witness, was sleeping and I couldn't read the Bible with her. I gave Easter plastic eggs with Bible verses to several people, and they were happy to receive them.

Outreach

A. Broadway mall

A group of 3 Afghan Muslim ladies walk in the mall frequently. I told them I'm from the local church. They said that Jesus is mentioned in the Quran and I asked them what the Quran says about Jesus. They shared that there is only one God and he has no wife and son. I said it's true that God doesn't have a wife, and we can think of Jesus as a spiritual son and not a son by physical birth. I shared that Jesus is sinless and there's no other human being who is without sins. I asked if they are sure about going to heaven and they said that they follow the rules and try their best. I shared that we can never follow the rules perfectly and God sent Jesus to help. One of the ladies, **Marzia**, asked me to pray for her.

Joe is a Roman Catholic. I asked him if he has the assurance of salvation, and he said that he tries his best. I shared that we often fall short, but it's only by God's grace and belief in Jesus that we can be assured of our salvation. I gave him "Our Daily Bread" and a gospel tract.

A family of 6 were shopping in Ikea and one of the women was dressed as a Muslim. I greeted them with "Assalamo Alakum" and the man was surprised and asked me how I know this. I said that all Muslims use this greeting. They are visiting from Pakistan and will be here for a month. I gave the "Peace" gospel tract to him.

We approached a man and asked if he spoke Chinese, but he turned out to be a Mongolian citizen. He realized that we're Christians trying to share the gospel and told us that he's on a religious visa and has planted a small Mongolian church in Queens. He shared that many missionaries went to Mongolia after it came out of communism, so there're many Christians there now. He even went to a seminary in Mongolia. His name is **Pastor Timothy,** and he asked us to pray for his church in Queens.

B.Tri County Bazaar

MJ is an exchange student from India. She's a Muslim but is open to discuss about religion. She tries to follow the Quran and do good deeds so she can go to heaven. I shared that we can never be good enough because God is perfect, so we need a savior. She agreed that Jesus is the Messiah, but only Allah is God. She's familiar with the story of Abraham offering his son to God and how God provided a substitute for him. I shared that's a foreshadow for how Jesus came to take our place to die for our sins. She said that they don't believe that Jesus died. She accepted an Easter devotional booklet.

Linda is a Christian and very friendly and encouraging. She said that we're doing good work for God. When I gave her "Our Daily Bread", she said that her grandma used to read it and she accepted it gladly.

A Persian lady claims to be a Christian because her husband is Christian, and she goes to church with him. But when I asked her if she's sure about going to heaven, she said faith is important, but it doesn't matter which God we believe. She thinks that it's all the same. I shared that Jesus is the only way, but she started to get impatient. She didn't want to receive our tract.

C.Cantiague Park

We prepared goody bags, Easter eggs with Bible verses and Easter Gospel tracts to give out. Most people accepted our gifts and were happy to receive them. A group of young boys playing basketball happily accepted the goody bags and one of them told us that his birthday is on Easter. We shared the meaning of Easter with some people.

D.Maharaja Farmers Market

Omara is from Afghanistan, and she's interested to attend our English classes. **Claudia**, from the Dominican Republic, is a Christian evangelist. She asked that we partner up in the future. But she speaks little English. Her friend was helping her to translate.

Sami, an Egyptian man, said that he believes in Bahai. I was able to use a few words of Arabic that I learned from Nashwa to greet him, and it helped to open our conversation. He believes that after death, the body will be no more, but the soul continues to live on and will get perfected over time. I shared that God's standard is absolute perfection and we can never attain it. So, God sent Jesus into this world to save us.

Some prayer items:

1. God will give all coworkers and ESL teachers wisdom and joy as we serve and help us to learn and grow in Him.
2. God to open the eyes and hearts of our ESL students, our friends in the nursing home, and friends we meet during the outreaches.

Thank you for your prayers! Please let me know how I can pray for you and your ministry. If you do not want to receive future communications from me, please let me know and I will take you off my mailing list.