

Dear Family in Christ,

Peace be with you:

We sincerely apologize that this newsletter is arriving later than usual. Over the past two months, most of our coworkers have been traveling in Asia to attend missionaries' regional retreats, visit ministry sites, and build ministry connections. Many of us have only just returned to the US.

This has been a season full of challenges but also one in which we deeply experienced the grace of God. His hand was evidently at work. Below are some important updates from our recent journey:

I. What Have We Experienced?

1. Challenges Brought by War, Grace Shown Abundantly

On June 13, Israel launched an airstrike on Iran's nuclear facilities, triggering heightened regional tension and global upheaval. Airspace closures over Israel and surrounding countries led to the cancellation of many attendees' flights, including speakers and guests, and our original venue became unusable. As bad news continued to roll in, we wrestled with the possibility of canceling the gathering.

Amid much prayer and discussion, our team strongly sensed God's leading and ultimately decided to scale down the event, adjust the venue and schedule, and go forward. Facing last-minute venue changes and administrative restructuring, God's grace carried us step by step through every difficulty.

2. God's Glory and Healing Manifested in the Missionary Gathering

Each participant experienced God in unique spiritual ways. The theme of this retreat was "Laying Down Ourselves for United Missions." In times of worship, devotion, Bible teaching, and ministry sharing, we witnessed humility and unity in Christ. The Lord poured out His Spirit through His Word, leading to repentance, forgiveness, healing, and breakthrough.

We were especially moved by the ministry among MKs (missionary kids). These youth often face loneliness, pressure, and confusion. But through the dedicated care of the MK ministry team, many found comfort, encouragement, and a renewed sense of purpose and identity in God.

One of the most touching moments was when the children washed their parents' feet. In those tender moments—marked by tears, hugs, apologies, and blessings—many were deeply healed. One child, in particular, who had a strained relationship with her mother and couldn't even call her "Mom," opened her heart during the foot washing, apologized, reconciled, and received a personal missionary calling from the Lord.

3. Partnering with New Churches and Organizations to Respond to the Great Commission We've long desired to build connections with more Chinese churches and organizations. Global missions is a sacred calling given to the worldwide Chinese Church. During this Asia trip, we had the opportunity to share GIU's testimonies of God's work with many local Chinese believers and expressed our desire to partner in missions. Many brothers and sisters responded enthusiastically, expressing eagerness to be involved and have already begun taking action. "United in Missions" is not only the Father's desire it continues to be the focus of our prayers. II. What's Next? 1. September Staff Gathering to Wait on God's Strategy GIU coworkers will come together again in September to draw near to God, refresh the vision, and strengthen our connection as a team. We are seeking divine strategies to better support cross-cultural missionaries and global mission fields. 2. Ongoing Mobilization and Connection—Becoming a Kingdom Bridge We long to be a bridge between resources and those in need, bringing the provision of God's kingdom where it's most needed. Our greatest asset isn't money or equipment—it's the gospel warriors who are willing to offer their lives for the sake of the Lord. 3. Preparing for a Thanksgiving Gathering to Testify to God's Wonders We're planning to hold our "GIU Annual Thanksgiving Gathering" online in early November. At that time, we will reflect on God's incredible works throughout 2025 and hear inspiring mission messages from His faithful servants. We warmly invite you to set aside time to join us in giving thanks, witnessing His deeds, and being encouraged! Dear family in Christ, thank you for your continued prayers and support. May we remain united as one, rise up for the Lord, and respond to His calling for this generation! GIU Administrative Team August 7, 2025