

Annual Report 2018

# A Bridge Between China and the Global Church

A Season of Growth and Change



華源協作  
CHINASOURCE

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# Letter from the President

Dear Praying Friends,

Over the past twenty years, it has been our privilege to serve with ChinaSource and to see God raise up this organization to serve many who are involved in China ministry. You have journeyed faithfully with us through your friendship, encouragement, prayers, and support, for which we are deeply grateful.



Now, as ChinaSource enters its third decade, we find ourselves in a season of transition. Over the past year, as I talked with the ChinaSource board and team about the future of the organization, the Lord has made it clear that it is time for me to step out of this current role. At my initiative the board has started a search process for ChinaSource's next leader.

In October, Jasmine and I began a ten-month sabbatical, which will include some time at a missionary retreat in Colorado Springs for the purpose of debriefing our years with ChinaSource and preparing for what lies ahead. In stepping away from our day-to-day involvement with ChinaSource we are not "retiring," but rather recalibrating as God prepares us for our next assignment. While we anticipate remaining engaged with ChinaSource in the future, we are aware the Lord may have other opportunities for us to consider as well. We trust our sabbatical will be a time to step back and listen for his voice as we discern our next steps.

Please join us in praying for:

- God's direction in choosing Brent's successor
- Wisdom for the ChinaSource board as they navigate this organizational transition
- A smooth transition to new leadership
- The Lord's direction for our future service

At the start of this year a former board member joined our team to provide ongoing leadership during this transition and sabbatical. We have been working with the staff team since the start of the year preparing for this transition. We have had three face-to-face staff meetings where the entire team continues to move forward on the initiatives we have started.

Thanks for your prayers and partnership!

Together for His glory in China,  
Brent and Jasmine Fulton

# Vision and Mission

China's ascendency is having global implications—economically, culturally, and spiritually. As China continues to grow and change, the church in China reflects this. Some estimate that by 2030 China will have the world's largest Christian population. At the same time China still contains one of the largest concentrations of unreached peoples on earth. Its sheer size and complexity make China one of the most challenging places in the world to engage effectively with the gospel.

Those seeking to advance the kingdom of God in China need solid, up-to-date knowledge and expert analysis in order to make sense of the issues impacting China and its church. ChinaSource is uniquely positioned to help individuals and ministries make a difference in China—a difference that will ultimately reverberate around the world.

Last year was our twenty-year anniversary and also an opportunity for the leadership and board to pray, reflect, and imagine what the next twenty years should look like for ChinaSource's work. Having served as a trusted resource and catalyst for collaboration, ChinaSource is positioning itself for continued impact on the leading edge of China ministry. This refocusing is reflected in our updated vision and mission statements.



Our refocused vision is to see:

*China's Christians engaging the society inside and outside of China as they contribute to and influence the global church conversation for the advancement of God's kingdom.*

Our new vision recognizes that China's Christians are having an impact not just in their own country but increasingly around the world.

In our revised mission statement we moved from being a trusted source and generating most of our content in-house to becoming the trusted platform and bridge for Christian communities inside China and around the world:

*ChinaSource is a trusted platform facilitating the flow of critical knowledge and leading-edge research among the Christian communities inside China and around the world and engaging them in collaborating to serve the Chinese church and society.*

Undergirding these aspirational statements is the need for ChinaSource to transform organizationally by developing new processes, strengthening our leadership, and enlarging our relationship networks inside and outside China. The board and leadership of ChinaSource are in the process of building out the capabilities and capacity needed to fully realize ChinaSource's purpose in a manner that is sustainable into the future.

# Facing a Changing China



In the last five years, the leadership and directional changes brought about by Xi Jinping's New Normal have drastically changed China's global impact and initiated a much tighter environment for Christians and churches in China.

These changes have made the work of ChinaSource more challenging but, at the same time, even more critical to assist the global church in knowing how to understand, how to pray, and how to serve with Christians in China. This has been a year when a number of foreign workers have had to leave China and long-standing projects and ministries have been affected. During this year, we have also seen over three hundred Chinese pastors and workers signing letters to their government explaining that new policies on religion and their implementation were having a strongly negative impact on their churches' normal lives and practices.

In response, we have expanded our engagement with China to continue to provide a fair and balanced view for our readers and subscribers. We have expanded the amount and number of articles coming from Chinese believers that we translate into English. We have expanded our discussions with ministries that work with China. We have also organized public events in both the USA and Hong Kong to help provide a current overview of the situation for Christians in China. Our twenty-year history; experience of our board, staff, and volunteers; and commitment to being the trusted platform bridging the church in China and the global church puts ChinaSource in a unique and important position. We will continue to expand our services to help Christians worldwide connect, engage, and collaborate with brothers and sisters in China.

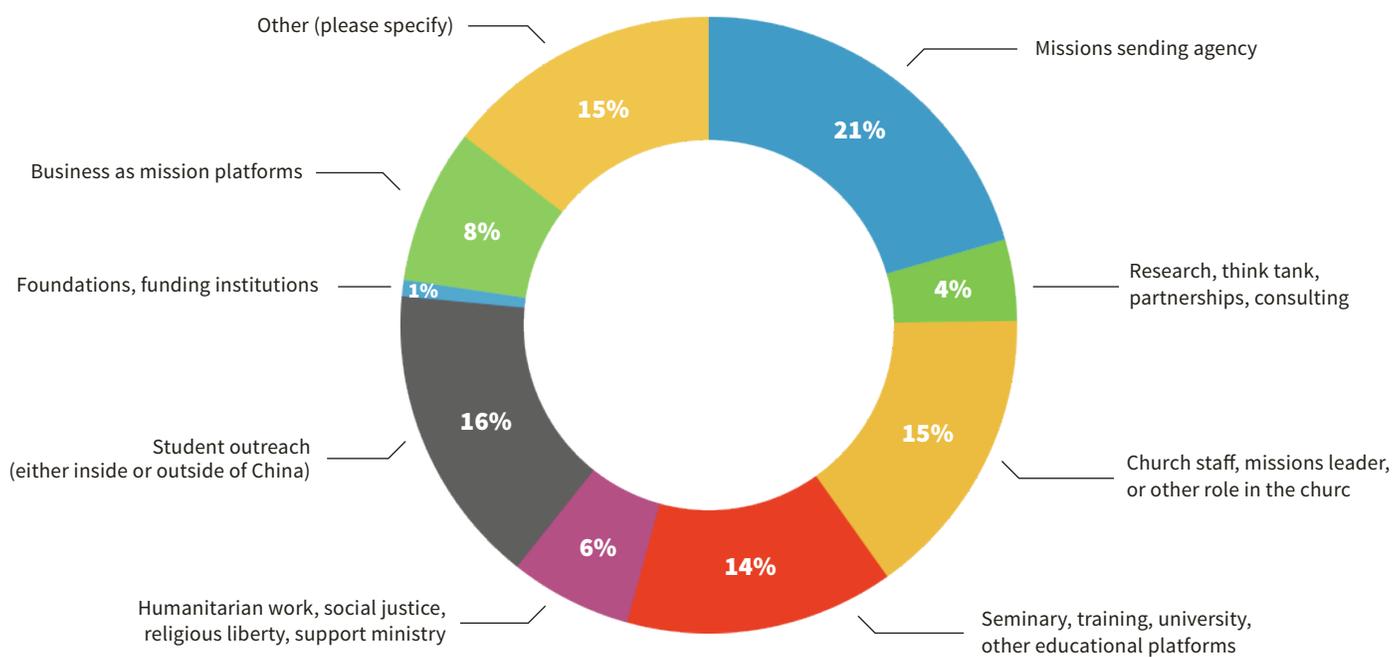
# Ministry Impact

Effective Christian engagement with China is only possible when undergirded with the perspective and wisdom that comes from a deep understanding of China’s overall climate and present issues. With over one hundred years of collective experience in China, ChinaSource is strategically positioned to be the premier source of English-language knowledge on Christianity in China for the evangelical world.

We do this by serving agencies, churches, and individuals who need to be equipped with context and understanding as they serve China in various capacities. We work with Christian academics to bring together the best in evangelical Chinese scholarship, and keep our ears to the ground in China so that we can accurately reflect the voice of the Chinese church. To help the China-ministry community leverage expertise and serve effectively, we act as a catalyst, bringing together the right people, asking the right questions, and influencing Christian thinking about China.

ChinaSource makes sense of China from a Christian perspective. As we inform and engage individuals and organizations impacting China, ChinaSource serves as an often unseen partner, providing the internal “operating system” for Christians who are advancing God’s kingdom purposes in China.

In 2017, we completed a health survey as part of our strategic overview. This revealed the unique position that ChinaSource has had serving a broad range of Chinese ministry stakeholders.

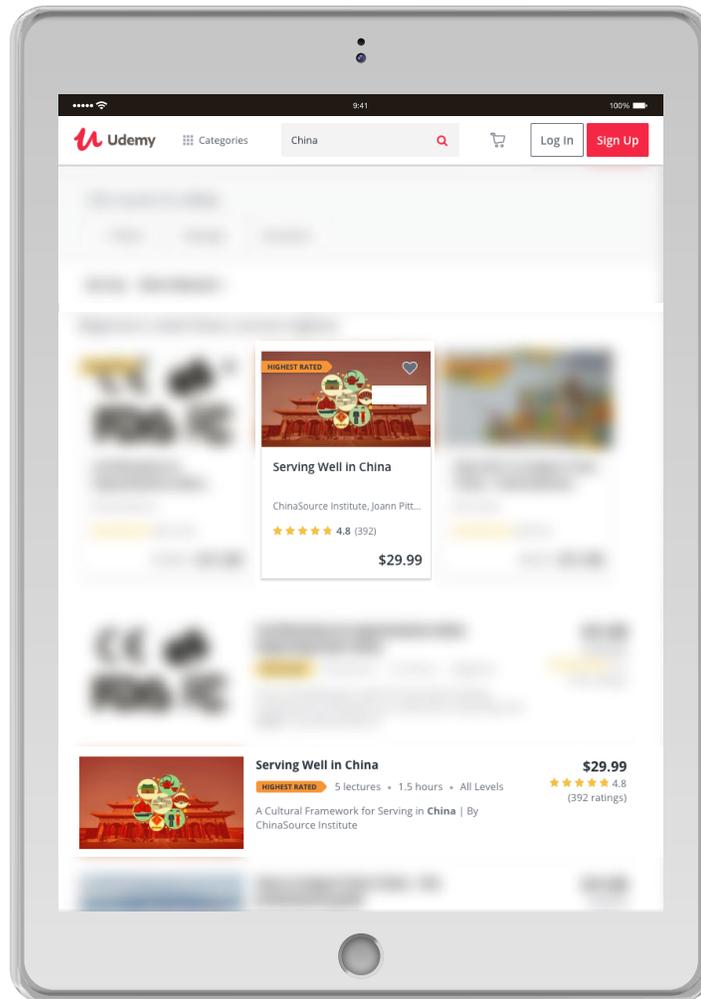


Responses to 2017 ChinaSource health survey

Over 2,058 (as of September 30, 2018) students have enrolled and started our courses offered on the UdeMy online-course platform:

- The Church in China Today
- Serving Well in China

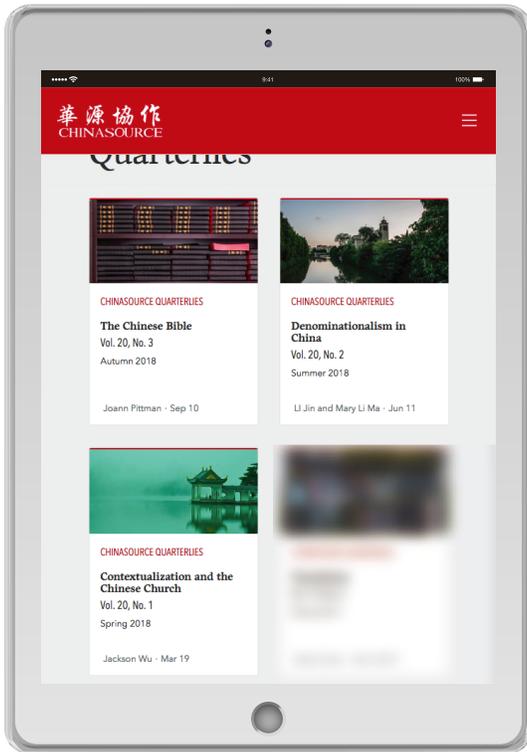
Searching for “China” on the UdeMy online-course platform shows “Serving Well in China” on the first page of results with a “Highest Rated” evaluation by participants:



Our other course “The Church in China Today” can be found on the second page of results. Each month we have new students signing up.

In 2019, we are hoping to launch at least one new course to supplement our existing courses and address the needs of those who are serving in and with China.

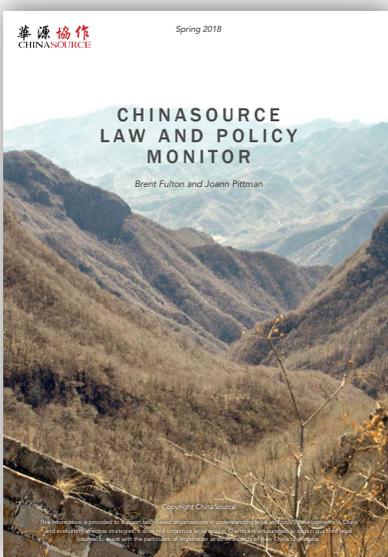
# Regular Publications



Publication	Monthly readers (average of last 6 months)
ZGBriefs	4,674
ChinaSource Quarterly	1,570
ChinaSource Blog (daily, including Chinese Church Voices)	1,155
The Lantern (monthly newsletter)	6,961
Twitter	2,287
Facebook	1,257

During 2018 (3 issues to date), we have had a total of 31 individuals contributing 36 articles to the *ChinaSource Quarterly*. Of these 31% of the articles were written by mainland Chinese contributors.

# China Law and Policy Monitor



With the changes in China's law and policy environment as seen in the Overseas NGO Law and the new Religious Regulations, ChinaSource provided a service to organizations ministering in China to provide up to date information and case studies on how these new laws and regulations were being implemented.

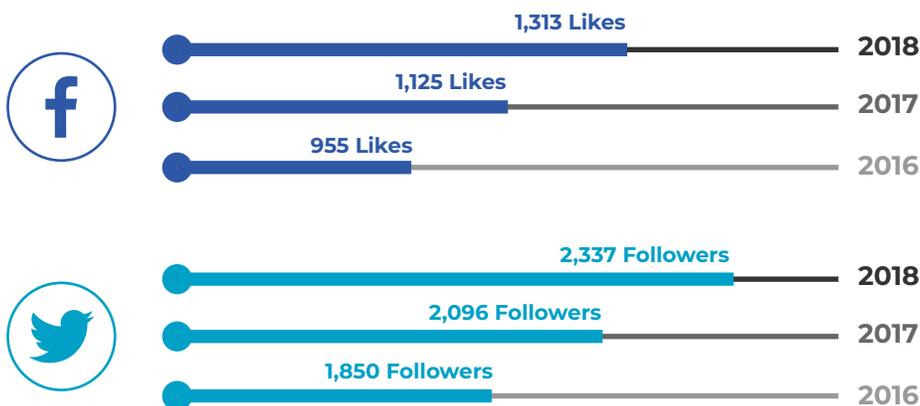
ChinaSource leaders also met with organizations to consult and advise them on how to best adapt to the changing conditions and policies.

# Readership

Over the past year, ChinaSource has seen a monthly average of over 12,000 web visitors to [www.chinasource.org](http://www.chinasource.org). ChinaSource readers also find our content through email and various social media channels.



Our presence on social media is an important part of making sure our content reaches as many relevant audiences as possible. Each of our social media channels acts to amplify our content into spaces we may otherwise not be able to speak into. For many of our social media followers, this is their only contact point with ChinaSource.



# 2019 and Beyond

Even while ChinaSource goes through a leadership transition, the board and staff team are moving ahead to implement our new vision and mission.

We have started engaging a new category of volunteers, ChinaSource Associates. These are experienced China ministry personnel within and outside China who want to participate with ChinaSource staff in being a bridge between the church in China and the global church. We will have our first cohort by the end of 2018 and expect to expand further in 2019 and 2020.

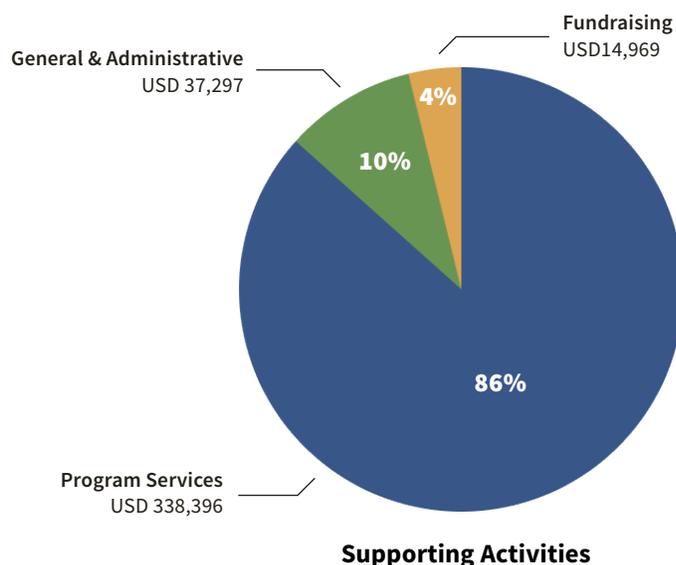
We have started a more intentional engagement with organizations ministering in China to make sure their personnel are benefiting from ChinaSource resources and information.

We are also expanding our contacts in China to better serve as a bridge between the Chinese church and the global church. We have already started assisting a consortium of researchers and organizations looking at researching church growth in contemporary China. As a trusted partner ChinaSource has a unique role in connecting and bringing together individuals and organizations both in China and from around the world.

## Finances

Support and Revenue	USD
General support contributions	186,084
Personnel support contributions	107,485
Project income	26,355
Other income	11,464
<b>Total</b>	<b>331,388</b>

Expenses	USD
Salaries	147,375
Professional fees	62,685
Telecommunications/Website	32,703
Travel and hospitality	19,872
Project expenses	95,389
Other expenses	32,638
<b>Total</b>	<b>390,662</b>



Find out all the ways you can get involved with what ChinaSource is doing by visiting our website at [www.chinasource.org/about/get-involved](http://www.chinasource.org/about/get-involved).

## Donations

Donations can be made online at our website:  
[www.chinasource.org/about/get-involved/donate](http://www.chinasource.org/about/get-involved/donate)

For donations in the US, please make checks payable to **ChinaSource**, and mail to:

**ChinaSource**  
**PO Box 2160**  
**Orange, CA 92859**  
**USA**

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the issues that impact its church



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