## Annual Report 2023

# Staying Connected in China's New Era

The Church in China and the Global Church Serving Together



- 1 Letter from the President
- 2 Resourcing and Connecting for Greater Kingdom Impact
- 4 Introducing Andrea Lee
- Content Highlights -Empowering Minds, Bridging Hearts
- **6** Where to from Here?
- 8 2023 Finances
- 9 Support

## **Letter from the President**



In 1998 our founder, Dr. Brent Fulton, introduced ChinaSource as the new name for what was previously known as the China Service Coordinating Office established in 1995 as a joint effort of several missions "umbrella" organizations to promote co-operation and networking among those engaged in Christian service with Chinese peoples. Twenty-five years later, the mission and calling God has given ChinaSource has expanded and deepened significantly.

The mission of ChinaSource is to be a trusted partner and platform for educating the global church on critical issues facing the church and ministries in China, and for connecting Christians inside and outside of China to advance God's kingdom globally.

God has given ChinaSource a vision that vitally contributes to a united Great Commission effort:

The vision of ChinaSource is to see the church in China and the global church, learning and growing together, engaging in ministry that powerfully advances the kingdom of God.

The Lord is using ChinaSource to help the global church hear and learn from the church in China and the diaspora. And so, ChinaSource leads with timely and relevant content which is increasingly informed by Chinese church voices.

This past year we said goodbye to our beloved Content Manager, Narci Herr. She leaves behind a ten-year legacy of responsible and balanced content management and editing, as well as a passion for hearing directly from the Chinese church while celebrating and representing the breadth and depth of the body of Christ in China.

By far the most important heritage imparted to us by Narci has been her commitment to ask the Holy Spirit where he is leading and to seek the pre-eminence and glory of Jesus Christ in all that we do. **Thank you Narci!** 

**Welcome Andrea!** Just as we were preparing to say goodbye to Narci, the Lord led us to Andrea Lee who joined the team last August. Andrea was able to work together with Narci and Assistant Content Manager, Rachel Anderson, for a full month before Narci's departure. We are very thankful that Andrea is our new Content Manager. She is called, experienced, gifted, and qualified to lead us in this vital season!

**Sparking Partnerships:** ChinaSource publications are intended to inspire missional Christ followers throughout the world, to pray informed prayers for his church in China, as well as to ask the Holy Spirit how they might engage, collaborate, and serve the Chinese people for the sake of the gospel. ChinaSource partners with scores of ministries, and a network of hundreds of contributors for the glory of God in China. If you and your church are not already involved, but would like to be, please keep reading and contact us. And to those who already are, thank you for your friendship, prayers, and financial partnership in this kingdom building effort!

Warmly in Him,

Kerry Schottelkorb



## Resourcing and Connecting for Greater Kingdom Impact

by Dr. Brent Fulton and Joann Pittman

ChinaSource pursues its mission in two ways. As an information and resource ministry we welcome a wide variety of contributors to provide helpful context and biblical analysis on issues impacting Chinese Christians. Our calling is also to relational ministry and oneness in Jesus Christ. Substantive partnerships are formed through timely introductions and collaboration. This organic and complimentary ministry structure enhances participation in the Great Commission and fuels the expansion of our Lord's kingdom.

### ChinaSource as a Resource Ministry: Words that Unite and Mobilize!

Last year, the *ZGBriefs* weekly news summary and the *ChinaSource Blog* connected people around the globe to top headlines about China while providing key updates, analysis, and research reports on China's church. Delving deeper into issues that directly affect Chinese Christ followers, the *ChinaSource Quarterly* provided thought-provoking articles on relevant themes, serving to engage the global missional community and activate a collaborative kingdom response. Last year a third-party survey revealed that 59% of readers use the content to better inform their prayers. More publication highlights can be found on page 5.

Whether through online content, print publications, or virtual and in-person events, ChinaSource brings awareness to the global Christian community, helping believers worldwide to learn, serve, and grow together in Christ with the Chinese Christian world. ChinaSource also builds understanding across denominational, political, linguistic, and ethnic boundaries. This exposure to diverse perspectives helps those we serve to better live out their calling to unity in Christ.

#### ChinaSource: A Global Partnership Hub.

Through formal and informal strategic partnerships, ChinaSource leverages resource ministry work into expertise that convenes, develops, and facilitates partnerships serving the Chinese church around the world. Over the past year, these collaborations included joint publications, events, speaker exchanges, and conferences. Some partnerships are public; for example, the *AsiaBriefs* newsletter produced together with Arise Asia, a Lausanne-affiliated ministry. Modeled on *ZGBriefs*, *Asia Briefs* covers top headlines from across Asia. Other partnerships remain private due to security concerns. These include connecting Chinese ethnic minority ministries, supporting youth work in China's new era, and assisting in caring for Chinese missionaries being sent out from the mainland.

A major partnership last year involved helping to plan and lead the Beijing Brief Conference, attended by representatives from more than 80 organizations. The conference provided timely updates on the ministry climate in China and advised organizations on opportunities to serve Chinese in China and beyond. By catalyzing diverse leaders around new ministry opportunities this conference alone has exceptional potential to produce much fruit through ongoing collaboration.

#### **ChinaSource and the Great Commission:**

Strategically working to resource and connect, ChinaSource uniquely participates in Great Commission work. The ministry informs and equips missional believers while also facilitating mutually beneficial relationships that promote unity in the body and advance Christ's kingdom.

ChinaSource measures its ultimate success not by outputs, but by transformed lives, fresh perspectives, informed decisions, and unified efforts to the glory of God.

As Christians grow in understanding the complexities of the church in China, they are fueled to pray more fervently and serve more wisely. When unity transcends differences, the body of Christ is strengthened to advance the kingdom, in China and beyond.

A kind friend recently said of ChinaSource,

"I hear the heart for prayer and focus on speaking into the divide between the US and China. They work hard to give another angle other than what is coming in the news."

## **Introducing Andrea Lee**



Following an extended and prayerful search process, we welcomed Andrea Lee to the ChinaSource team in August 2023 as our new Content Manager. With a wealth of experience as a wordsmith, online creative, and relationship builder, Andrea is well-suited to develop the community of volunteer writers ChinaSource depends on to bring diverse perspectives and insights into the present realities of China.

As a native Mandarin speaker, Andrea helps ChinaSource to hear the voice of the Chinese church with increasing clarity. Her deft editing and joyful manner bring out the best in contributors, as she shepherds blog posts from first draft to polished final article.

Since Andrea took the helm as Content Manager, she has been building on existing relationships with current partners while also seeking out and nurturing new content partnerships. She manifests a spirit of generosity and openness, bringing new questions and observations that move these conversations in a fruitful direction.

Please see the November 2023 Lantern to get better acquainted with Andrea.

Andrea says of her work at ChinaSource,

"In this chaotic world, God doesn't dismiss every noise and discord; he turns them into beautiful songs. I'm thrilled and honored to be part of the team, working with unique individuals, and hearing their voices. I'm excited for what's to come!"

We are so grateful to God that he led us to Andrea!

## Content Highlights - Empowering Minds, Bridging Hearts

Last year ChinaSource publications were enriched by work from 76 different authors, 45% of whom are Chinese. From the bustling streets of China and around the globe, these voices illustrate different experiences and project new perspectives, deepening our grasp of Christianity's multifaceted landscape.

In October 2022, Chen Jing called for missiological reflection in his piece, "When the 'Golden Age' Is Over." Several practitioners answered his call, sparking our series "Reflecting on the End of the 'Golden Age'." Jolene Kinser's series

"Peacemaking in China" and Xiaoli Yang's poetry have also sparked global reflections. Numerous narratives continue shaping our perspective, inspiring the present generation, and nurturing future ones.

In the *ChinaSource Quarterly*, themes from "Christian Responses in China's New Era," "The Pentecostal Church in China," and "Digital

Engagement" ignited spirited discussions, uniting readers across continents. More than mere publications; these issues became dynamic forums for nurturing discourse and broadening collective understanding.

In 2023, **Chinasource.org** attracted thousands of visitors, reflecting substantial engagement with the information we offer. Fostering genuine connections, the platform shapes perspectives and nurtures a global community of shared wisdom, empathy, and action.

"Whenever I think of ChinaSource, I thank the Lord for you because you have provided invaluable resources in mobilizing/encouraging the wider Christian community to persevere in praying together for God's purpose to be fulfilled throughout the rather chaotic time."

— Joyce Wu





## Where to from Here?

#### by Kerry Schottelkorb

Even after decades of fruitful "golden years" of missions in China, there are still 1.3 billion people in the mainland and Chinese diaspora who do not know Jesus Christ. This, at a time when the number of foreign Christian workers in the PRC has decreased by 80% over the last six years.

By God's grace, ChinaSource has an outsized impact in the China ministry space. He has positioned us in unique and strategic ways to introduce his people throughout the world into this timely ministry. Going forward our Father is calling ChinaSource to:

- Seek out and serve the next generation of Chinese church leaders, supporting them however our Lord leads, as they engage the people of China and the world with the gospel.
- Identify and build into the lives of the next generation of global missional Christians reaching and serving Chinese friends around the world.
- Inform global English-speaking churches and encourage them to develop a prayerful, strategic, kingdom focused ministry plan to learn from, and work with, the Chinese church in the mainland and around the world.





I recently had the privilege of meeting with a man in Asia who, along with his wife and family, has lived and proclaimed the "Good News" with ethnic minority friends in China for many years. He said,

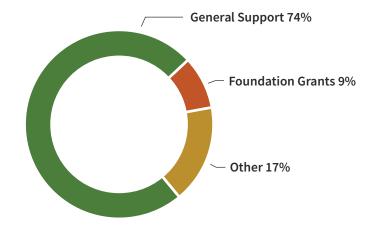
"I can't tell you how much ChinaSource has meant to my wife and I through the years. I believe that ChinaSource is the premier think tank for China ministry, and we are very thankful for you. I especially want you and the ChinaSource team to know, because I imagine there may be times when you get discouraged and wonder if you're making any difference. So, I want to say thank you and let you know that you are making a big difference for the gospel."

I want to pass this encouragement on to you, who are helping to make this difference! It's through a network of hundreds of praying, supporting, contributing volunteers that God is reaching so many lives for his glory. Thank you for your friendship and generosity. We're looking forward to partnering with you in 2024!

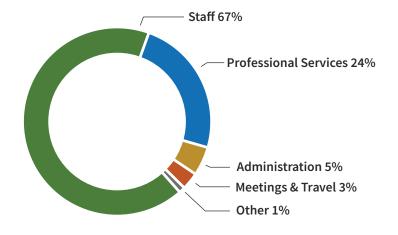


## 2023 Finances

Income	(USD)	
General Support	\$503,253	74%
Foundation Grants	\$62,500	9%
Other	\$110,174	17%
Total Revenue	\$675,927	



Expenses	(USD)	
Staff	\$410,465	67%
Professional Services	\$144,283	24%
Meetings & Travel	\$31,348	5%
Administration	\$21,273	3%
Other	\$4,400	1%
Total Expenses	\$611,769	





## **Support**

Find out all the ways you can get involved with what ChinaSource is doing by visiting our website at <a href="https://www.chinasource.org/get-involved">www.chinasource.org/get-involved</a>.

**Donations** 

Donations can be made online at our website: <a href="https://www.chinasource.org/get-involved/donate">www.chinasource.org/get-involved/donate</a>

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

ChinaSource PO Box 631032 Littleton, CO 80163-1032 USA For donations in Hong Kong, please make checks payable to **ChinaSource Partners**, **Ltd.**, and mail to:

ChinaSource Partners, Ltd. Flat A, 15/F, Teda Building 87 Wing Lok Street Sheung Wan, Hong Kong

For donations via bank transfer, please note the following details:

Bank: Hang Seng Bank Limited Bank Code: 024

Bank Address: 83 Des Voeux Road, Central, Hong

Kong

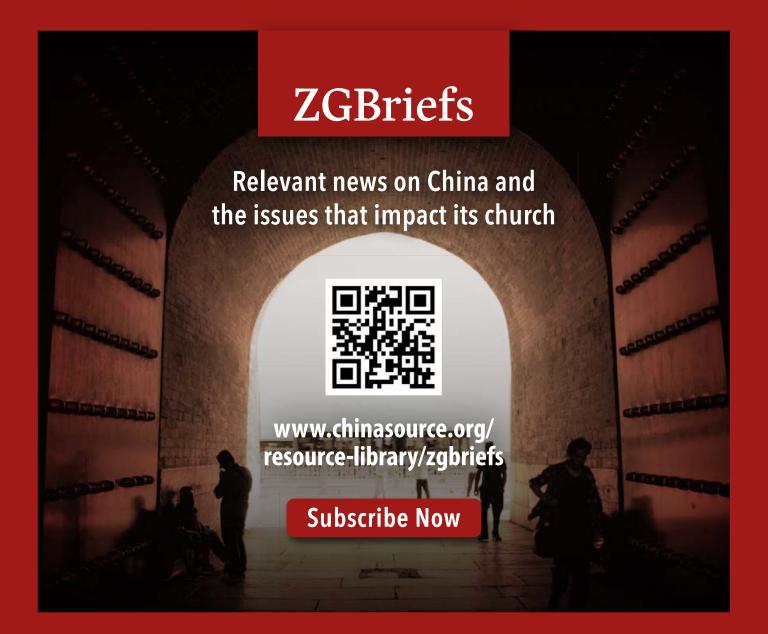
**Swift Code: HASEHKHH** 

Account Number: 283-536761-883

Another way to support ChinaSource is to make a gift of stock. Giving stock can be a tax-smart way to invest resources into God's work in China. If you have any questions, please reach out to Peter or Eunice for assistance.

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