

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

September 2023

When you have people over to your house for dinner, you need more than food. John 12:1-3 gives us an intimate look into a dinner with Jesus, the honored

guest, and close friends. Lazarus is there as the host, other friends gathered around the table. Martha is there in the kitchen, cooking and serving the meal... and Mary is doing what appears to be a non-essential to the meal. She is totally absorbed in pouring an expensive perfume on the feet of Jesus and wiping them with her hair. Inappropriate? A waste of money?

"And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume." John 12:3b

Yes, we want food at a dinner. Yes, we want friends to enjoy it with us. But the one who honors and worships the Lord has a profound impact on everyone in the room by spreading the aroma of love and sacrifice. As we prayerfully begin this new semester, let's determine to have that third part in our events as our central focus.

Everyone will be touched by our loving and serving the Lord as we serve our international guests!



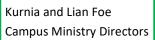
Brielle Marlow, our new Resident Life Manager, is a graduate of Liberty University. She has a degree in Modern Languages, and she was awarded the top honor in Academic Achievement in TESL (teaching English as Second Language). Her advisor says that she is in the top 1% of all the students he has ever taught! She has a passion to put her skills to work in our ministry, and we look forward to helping her succeed.

Javier and Zlatka Silva are from Venezuela. Zlatka is working on a doctoral graduate degree in Ecological Sciences at ODU, and she received the Mentoring Leader Award from the President of ODU. Javier is our new staff working alongside Kurnia. He is a graduate of Simon Bolivar University and has a degree in business management. We are so grateful that God brought these wonderful people to us!





Elaine Rodriguez Globe Business Manager





Evan Lature, our much loved Intern, and Elise were married and currently reside in California.

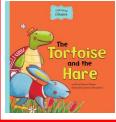
Please pray for all our staff as we join with you in Turning Foreigners into Friends who Become Family and May Become Followers of Jesus.

We opened our doors to our one and only student, Newman from Pakistan, in January 2019. At that time, we were in good financial shape except for a \$1.5 million mortgage. What would God do with that? Every year, we were amazed at what God did. Five years later, the debt was reduced by about \$1.2 million! We owe Towne Bank about \$285, 000!

So, we are asking if you would like to help us be

## **DEBT-FREE IN '23**

[A friend suggested that next year we could pray for "MORE IN '24".] globalfriendshipventures.org, donate by PayPal or send a check to 1241 W 43rd St, Norfolk, VA 23508



You may remember the story of the tortoise and the hare from childhood. About 12 years ago, a good friend gave me the brass tortoise to remind me of who was walking with me through the valleys of the Global Friendship House project...a faithful, purposeful God of Hope!





4th of July at the Ives home



Welcome bags for new students



A summer day at Lake Gaston

## Want to be involved?!?

When you go to our website, globalfriendshipventures.org, you will find many ways to get involved with students. At this time of year, new students have very specific needs: sheets and pillows, groceries and pots, go to the Social Security office, bank...many needs and no car. Just YOU! If you would like to volunteer now, please contact Ann Purser at:

annrpurser@gmail.com or 757-323-9353.

## Psalm 67

God be gracious to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us— that Thy way may be known on all the earth, Thy salvation among all nations. Let the peoples praise Thee, O God; Let all the people praise Thee. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy; For Thou wilt judge the peoples with uprightness, and guide the nations on the earth. Let the peoples praise Thee, O God; Let all peoples praise Thee. The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God blesses us. God blesses us, That all the ends of the earth may fear Him.

New Countries at the Globe This Year— Benin, Bangladesh, India, Gabon, Mexico, Ukraine, Colombia, Vietnam



Serving the Nations with you,

Kathy Hardison