

## 2021 Report to District Conventions

Since 2005, 316NOW has proclaimed *grace across China* by teaching church leaders there sound Bible interpretation, Christian theology, and practice. Our goal is to work with sister WELS organizations to raise up a Confessional Lutheran movement in China.



A Bible study in an underground church

### Challenges

Christianity in China faces multiple challenges.

- **Communism:** China's government impedes any religious faith. The government insists on increasing control of Christianity and its message.
- **Religion:** Forty percent of Chinese are Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims, or folk religion adherents. Fifty percent claim no religion.
- **Culture:** Over 1.2 billion souls in China (90%) are not Christians. Consequently, Chinese morals, goals, and world view are often at odds with Christian values and lifestyles.
- **Church:** The Christian Church is divided between the official church (the Three-Self Church) and independent churches. Their leadership is inadequately trained. They emphasize law over gospel.

### Our ministry

316NOW trains Confessional Lutheran leaders in China through our online Bible institute.

We invite any church leader to take our courses in Bible interpretation, theology, and pastoral practice. From our student body, we raise up leaders who will become standard bearers for Confessional Lutheranism.

Our Bible institute professors are all WELS and ELS pastors. We coordinate our work with the WELS ministries in China.

Learn more about our ministry at [316NOW.org](http://316NOW.org).



Through our students, we have reached nearly 40,000 souls.

### You can help

Partner with us in our *grace across China* ministry.

- Stay up-to-date on our ministry by visiting our website and following us on Facebook or Twitter.
- Sign up here to receive our emails and mailings: [316now.org/keepmeinformed](http://316now.org/keepmeinformed)
- Pray for our ministry. Include us in your personal prayers and encourage your congregation to pray for us. [316now.net/gallery/Prayers210100-Month.pdf](http://316now.net/gallery/Prayers210100-Month.pdf)
- Request a presentation for your church organizations or Bible studies. We offer in-person and online presentations. Email us at [316NOW@316NOW.org](mailto:316NOW@316NOW.org).