Winter 2019

KINSHIP



## KINGCREST INTERNATIONAL NEIGHBOURS



## **Upcoming events**

#### Graduation

#### Thursday, March 21, 2019 6:00 pm

You are invited to come to celebrate with our students the completion of their Winter Term. Bring a dessert to share and come ready to meet some new people and enjoy a great evening!

Location: 659 East 52nd. Avenue

Peace Church on 52nd will be hosting the dinner.

#### Spring Term 2019

#### Registration

April 9 & 11 6:00-8:00 pm

#### **English Classes**

April 16 to June 20 Tuesdays & Thursdays 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Registration Fee	<u>\$80</u>
Text Book	<u>\$40</u>

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# Winter 2019: Highest registration of students in five years



Picture: For the first time we had our January's birthdays in the basement at Peace Church on  $52^{nd}$  because we wanted to join the group and celebrate together.

The number of students attending Kingcrest International Neighbours (KIN) has been increasing in the last few years and this winter KIN has broken a record with 88 students registered. Due to the high demand of students, we opened two classrooms for English level 1 and also opened a level 5 group. Before, our school usually had one classroom for levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively.

In previous years, winters have

had the lowest number of attendees, partly due to the low temperatures of the season. According to our statistics, in 2015 we had 41 students, in 2016 the number decreased to 29, in 2017 we had 57 registrations, and in 2018 the number increased to 59.

From these registrations, KIN always subsidizes the fees for some refugee claimants, as part of our mission to serve to those in need. Therefore, we are always flexible to any case that requires our support. Also, we continue to offer every class free snacks (tea, coffee and cookies) for everyone. The coffee break is always an opportunity for the students to mingle and stablish friendships in a new country.

The hallways of our building and the kitchen are always crowded during our breaks. Laughter and lots of stories are shared during this time; while in the classrooms, the students focus their time to learn a new language, that in the future, will open new opportunities for them. Having 88 (or more) students is a wonderful challenge for our school! The most important factor is our teachers, who are now working in 6 classrooms. Currently, we have in total 8 volunteer teachers: Three for level 1; two for level 4; and one teacher in level 2, 3 and 5 respectively. This is a blessing, because with their support it is possible for us to deliver the knowledge that the students are eagerly looking for.

Our other challenge is the kitchen space, so we have divided the break time into three groups. The only time that all of the students have a break together is for the monthly birthday celebration, when we invite everyone to celebrate in the lower level of Peace Church of 52<sup>nd</sup>. This is a great opportunity to appreciate what God is doing in KIN's Ministry.

On behalf of our students and in our school, we appreciate all the support received by the volunteers and donors. Thanks to them we can open our doors each term to new immigrants and satisfy an important need like learning English.

<image>

## Peace Church on 52nd hosted graduation for Kingcrest students



The Fall Term 2018 graduation was very special, for the first time we had this event on the same day as the community kitchen organized every month by Peace Church on 52<sup>nd</sup>. The church hosted a special dinner for our students and at the same time their members wit-

nessed the graduation ceremony and celebrated the achievement of our students.

The students along with teachers were very pleased for this initiative to which more than 80 people attended. The result

had such a good acceptance that we have decided to join our events again and this coming March 21 we will have the Winter Term graduation. This time the students have been asked to bring desserts to share with the host and everyone is welcome to attend.

### Meet our newest volunteers

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Joseph Lewis started his volunteer work this Winter Term 2019.

#### Joseph Lewis

My name is Joseph Lewis and I am from South Carolina. My experience so far at Kingcrest is wonderful. I have met some wonderful friends and everybody is nice. I volunteer at Kingcrest because I am a teacher and I love to help people learn a new language. As an immigrant myself, I know it can be difficult moving to another country. As a follower of Jesus, I want to help others to know the love of God and therefore I want to share this experience of English with everybody in class.

#### Madhab Bajgai

My Name is Madhab Bajgai. Currently, I am working with Level 4 students at Kingcrest. I am originally from Nepal, a country of Mount Everest. In addition to my 10 years teaching experience I have earned Provincial Instructor Diploma (PID) from Vancouver Community College, Vancouver.

I completed my education from Tribhuban University in Nepal, and Chonbuk National University in South Korea. Soon after I came to Canada, I worked at UBC with several

## **God's life for the World**

As Easter approaches, I start wondering what Christianity is all about. I believe Christianity is about the life God shares with the world and that we encounter that life in Jesus Christ. One of the things that makes us human is our desire for life. We want life. We want the things that make for life, but get confused along the way about what those things are. We want joy and peace. We want good friends. A warm home. Stability. We want to sit around a table and share coffee and laughter and good food.

One of the ways I remind myself is by reading the Gospel of John. When you read John, you encounter Jesus rattling on about eternal life straight through the story, everywhere he goes. Nicodemus. The woman at the well. Mary and Martha. Most of the images Jesus uses to describe himself are about life: light, bread, water. Most of his actions are about life as well: water to wine, healing and giving sight, raising Lazarus, etc. And life is

research projects for more than 4 years. These days I am tutoring English lessons to private students and volunteering at South Burnaby Secondary (Success Program) and Kwantlen Secondary (Pathways to Education). I have a passion to work with learners from all over the world. I love helping others to learn. what Jesus offers. Jesus can offer life because he is life. He is the very life of God given for the world, life spilled out from his cross.

And all of us are in need of God's overflowing life because we simply do not have life in ourselves. John tells us the story of how God is ridiculously preoccupied with sharing his overflowing and abundant life with his world. With You. With me. The very life of God is on offer to everybody in Jesus Christ.

The Gospel of John reminds me at Easter that Christianity is about God's desires for his creation, that we would find our lives in the flourishing life of Jesus. Life that goes through death and comes out the other side as Resurrection. Life that finds us wherever we are, however we are, whatever we are, inviting us to know our own lives within the always new life of Jesus.

Adam Back, Co-Pastor of Peace Church on 52nd.



Madhab Bajgai has been volunteering with us since Fall Term 2018.

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## **Immigration Categories, Winter 2019**



#### **Kingcrest Vision Statement:**

Kingcrest International Neighbours is a Christ-centered Organization that supports and empowers immigrants, refugees, temporary workers and visitors through English Language Learning (ELL) and community-building. All are welcome to come, learn and be loved.

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## **Find Us**

Stay up-to-date with KIN, ELL classes, Evening group opportunities and Special Events.

Like us on Facebook: Welcoming Newcomers Kingcrest

Read previous editions of Kinship @ www.kingcrest.ca

Join or update our mailing list @ info@kingcrest.ca

660 East 51st Avenue Vancouver BC V5X1C9

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Hours of operation: 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays (604) 327 6262

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## Kingcrest International Neighbours

Check out CHIMP, an online option to contribute to Kingcrest!