



GLOBAL GATHERING
CHIANG MAI & PHUKET
THAILAND
MARCH 1 – 11, 2025
GRAND CENTRE ALLIANCE
CHURCH

OVERVIEW

This is the first ever Global Gathering of international workers in one place. Global Gathering will focus on God's global mission throughout the world, including vision for the future of missions with a unique emphasis on the next generation and leader development. This event is for our Canadian Alliance churches and all our International Workers to be encouraged and challenged to walk faithfully as we trust Jesus to reach our goal of doubling our reach.



SPEAKERS



The Church On Mission

Dr. Stanley John

Associate Professor of Intercultural Studies at Asbury Theological Seminary



Reaching the Next Gen

Dan Blythe

Global Youth Director for Alpha International

Follow link below for more information on these speakers.

<https://thealliancecanada.ca/global-gathering/#:~:text=Rev.%20Dr.%20Stanley%20John,reside%20in%20New%20York>

SPEAKERS – Cont'd



Reaching the Next Gen

Tim Teakle

National Alpha Canada Youth Director



Courageous Faithfulness

Darren Herbold

President, The Alliance Canada



International Missions

Damien Lee

Vice President, International, The Alliance Canada



Praise and Worship

Darrick Tam & Adam

The Worship Project



International Next Gen Panel

International Workers

The Alliance Canada

Purpose

These first days in Chiang Mai will be an amazing opportunity to engage in intentional times of fellowship, prayer, and worship with our International Workers. We will hear the stories of God at work in other countries, participate in the conversations about God's heart for missions in all places and participate in panels about reaching the next generation at home.

Our purpose in Phuket will be to connect with and be an encouragement to Tim and Nancy Moore and Kurt & Teesha Jones, and to better understand their ministries of For Freedom International <https://ffith.org/> and Justice Semester. <https://www.justicesemester.com/>

For Freedom International started with a dream by Alliance Canada to see the marginalized, vulnerable, and exploited set free from the injustice of oppression. Their vision statement is that *For Freedom International exists to break chains of oppression, so that people have an opportunity to encounter Christ, live in freedom, and change the world.* To work toward this goal, they concentrate their efforts in the areas of prevention, intervention and restoration.

Justice Semester is a 12-week immersive experience in Phuket, Thailand for those who want to adventure deeper with Jesus through exploring Thai culture, missions, Bible classes, and discipleship. It gives the opportunity to explore faith, a new culture, missions, and God's calling.

We will meet the rest of the people on the team and spend time learning about the culture, the ministry, the challenges

they face and see firsthand where God is at work in Phuket. We want to return home with a deeper friendship and understanding that will motivate us to engage and pray differently.

We always encourage our people to reflect on our motto of 'Pray, Give, Go.' We are convinced of God's great love for all people and believe that He is fully engaged and at work within His kingdom. Consider coming along on this adventure to breathe the air of Thailand, to smell the smells and to take some time out of a busy life to see firsthand where God is at work in another culture and how He may be asking you to be involved differently.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

I believe a trip like this should always begin with prayer. Here are some questions to ask yourself and to pray through.

- What makes me nervous or fearful about this experience?
- Am I willing to go and serve?
- Am I able to give up the required time to prepare for and go on this trip?

TIME COMMITMENTS

Exact dates have not been set but we would leave in the last week of February and be gone approximately 2 weeks, including travel days.

Our goal is to be well prepared, so with that in mind, we expect our teams to fully participate beforehand with

regular team training meetings and fundraising. Understanding before we leave why we are going and how we can best serve in a new culture is important. Taking time as a team to learn and pray together beforehand is crucial to building team unity and to being prepared to serve well when we arrive.

COSTS

Costs for this trip are still being calculated but will be approximately \$4000/person and will include airfare, accommodations, meals, and in country flights and ground transportation. As a team, we are responsible to raise these funds. Individually, each team member is required to personally pay \$500 toward the trip. The remaining costs will be raised through sending out support letters and by participating in team fundraisers.

In addition, the cost of meals while in transit to and from Thailand and spending money will be the responsibility of the individual. The currency of Thailand is the Thai Baht THB. Canadian or American dollars are easily exchanged. Credit Cards are not reliably accepted. ATMs are available but keep in mind that there is a service fee for each transaction.

DOCUMENTS & HEALTH

A current passport, travel vaccinations and Health Insurance are required and the responsibility of the individual.

Passport – A current passport is required. Your passport must be valid six months beyond the expected departure date from the country.

Entry Visa – A 30 day Tourist Visa will be granted on arrival in Thailand at no cost.

Vaccinations – It is advised that whenever you travel you visit a travel health nurse and make sure all your vaccinations are up to date. It is highly recommended you have Hepatitis A&B, Typhoid and Tetanus vaccinations.

We recommend taking **Dukoral** before the trip. It is an over-the-counter oral vaccine that helps with traveller's diarrhea.

You will need to bring along any prescribed and over-the-counter medications you need as they may not be readily available there. Your team leader must also be made aware of any prescriptions you are bringing or any health concerns, including anxiety or mental health concerns.

Some miscellaneous things to be aware of as you consider this trip.

- The average daytime temperature in March is 34 degrees C with high humidity.
- Our meals are being arranged for us so we cannot guarantee being able to accommodate all dietary restrictions.
- Thailand is 14 time zones ahead so there will be jetlag to contend with.

If you are still reading this, I hope it means you are considering coming along. I believe that a mission trip not only encourages our International Workers but also strengthens our faith and enables us to serve differently when we return home. It should be said that preference will be given to people who have not taken a trip with us before as we want as many as possible to have this experience and connection. If you have further questions or need to talk about if you should be considering this trip, please feel free to contact me.

Corinne Keith
Missions Coordinator
corinne.keith@gcalliance.org

