

# MFIS Winter 2021 Newsletter



So Grateful  
For *All* Our  
Volunteers  
Both New  
and Returning



## "Teaching through the pandemic"

For several years we have been teaching beginning English to international students under the auspices of MFIS. Then, Covid 19 hit. We had 8 eight students when classes were called off. Through patching together some Facetime and Zoom meetings we continued. Later, when Spring came, we moved our teaching to a local park. Students brought lawn chairs, gathered 6 feet apart in a circle wearing masks and we taught. By the middle of that semester, most of our original group of students had gone back to their native countries, and we were down to three "regular" students (one in California, another in China, and the third, a Chinese local woman.) We augmented our teaching by adding a one-on-one time with several of the students. We continued our new way of teaching throughout 2020. It was immensely satisfying to see the student progress. With the rise of the Delta variant, it was impossible to go back to the classroom, so we are teaching remotely until conditions change. The students are extremely grateful for our support and their English improves daily.

As one of our current students said,  
"we started out with teachers and  
now our teachers are also our friends".

Marilyn and Polly

A BIG,  
warm,  
welcome  
to our  
**40**  
new volunteers!

**Global  
Friends**



**Creating  
Memories**

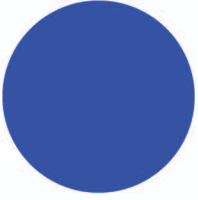
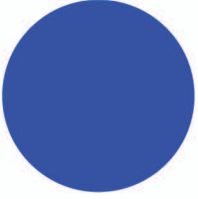
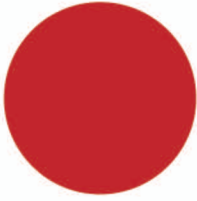
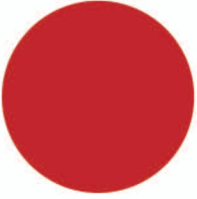
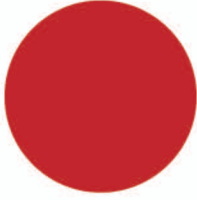
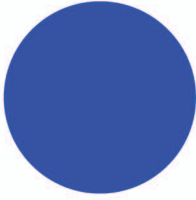
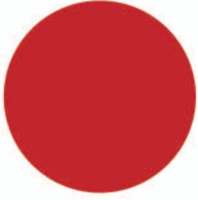
**Over 100  
matches  
this Fall!**



**Lasting  
Friendship**



# Welcome Picnic 2021



Thank you *so much*  
to those of you who  
generously donated  
this year!

It's never too late  
to contribute

<https://mfismadison.org/donate>



"I still remember my first day in Madison. I reached my apartment around noon and MFIS were having their furniture sale. I went with my roommate and got all the basic furniture I required for \$100 in total. Today I've graduated with a well paying job and can't help but think what an impact MFIS makes in the lives of international students. I hope this donation benefits many other students in the future. Thank you!"

-UW Madison Alumni

MFIS is so lucky  
to have YOU in it  
—may you have a  
wonderful year ahead!

