



The Year of the Ox is one of the twelve animals of the Lunar New Year. It has the personality of being calm and hard working, even though it looks fierce. The Lunar New Year is celebrated in many countries in Asia.

Visit Wing Luke Museum in the International District to learn more about the New Year celebration. You can also learn about Asian people who immigrated to Washington State years ago, and who immigrate even now.

In the International District during the Lunar New Year you can experience Lion Dances and hear the loud noise of fire crackers intended to chase away bad things.



There are many Christians in Asia. And Christianity is the fastest growing religion in China. Some of you may have met Dorcas, who works with the church in China. I lived in China and enjoy many of the celebrations of the Lunar New Year and worshiping with people abroad.



The traditional Chinese lunar year falls on the first day of the first lunar month, following the winter solstice. Each year on the ancient Chinese calendar is designated as the year of an animal. Chinese New Year celebrations occur until the Chinese Lantern Festival held 15 days after the new year begins.

Learning how people celebrate special days around the world show us things we have in common even though we may be very different.

In all countries, even though a government may not be good or fair, there are both good people and the not so good people. And that is also true of our country.

The more we learn about others, the more we learn to appreciate our differences. And even though we're different, we learn to get along with and work together with many good people everywhere.



According to Ethnologue, there are currently 7,099 living languages in the world. At least one portion of Scripture has been translated for 3,312 of these languages.

The New Testament is available in 1,521 languages, with portions in 1,121. The complete Bible has been translated into 670 languages.

Print out some of the pages and watch some of the You Tube links, and know that God's children come in many shapes, sizes, races in our country and all around the world.

