

Welcome to Laurel and our *FriendSpeak* Conversational English Program!

Our program meets on Wednesday nights from 6:45-7:45 pm in the gym (large room). We try to provide a one-on-one conversation format. We use *FriendSpeak* workbooks or World English Institute materials to support the conversation between American and international partners. We try to assign a regular conversation partner to each international person, but we cannot guarantee that will happen every week. If your regular partner is unable to be here, we will try to place you with a temporary partner.

This program is sponsored by Laurel Church of Christ. Our church is a nondenominational, independent church. It was organized in 1911 and originally met near the University of Tennessee on Laurel Avenue. In 1968 it relocated to the present address. The church has always had an interest in university students. With the increasing number of international students at UT, an English outreach program was started in 1991.

As Christians, we are interested in helping people learn more about God. The workbooks we use are based on stories from the Bible. Our church actively works with Christian teachers and missionaries in many countries. If you are not a Christian or do not believe in God, you are still welcome in our program. You will not be embarrassed or pressured to participate in any religious service. We welcome you regardless of your religious beliefs. We are interested in your ideas as well. We hope your visit to our country, city, and church is a pleasant one.

Our English-speaking partners are volunteers who are interested in meeting international people. Some are local college students. Other volunteers are members of our church. We are here to help you improve your conversational skills and your knowledge of the English language. We want to answer questions you have about American customs and we will try to help you with problems you may be having while living in our community.

We also invite you to visit with us during our regular Sunday morning Bible classes from 9:30-10:15 am and our worship gathering from 10:30-11:45 am. Classes are available for children of all ages and childcare is provided during these hours. Ask one of the coordinators for more information.

Everyone is asked to complete an Information Form with your contact information. We will keep your contact information private. We only use it to keep you informed about any changes in our class schedule, as well as special events or announcements throughout the year. Please give your completed form to your partner or one of the coordinators.

How to contact us:

Laurel Church of Christ 3457 Kingston Pike (at Cherokee Boulevard) Knoxville, TN 37919 Office Phone: 865-524-1122 Email: <u>laurelfriendspeak@gmail.com</u> Church website: <u>laurelcc.org</u>

If you come to our English programs on Wednesday, please enter the building at the WEST end on the ground floor. If you visit our Sunday meetings, come in the main entrance facing Kingston Pike.