

INTER-NATIONAL HARVEST



FALL 1993 VOL. 35, NO. 3



Antonio and Barb Sistelos ♥ Genesis and Verna Maraath

THINGS
TO COME
MISSION



"Unto the ends of the earth"
Romans 1:5 John 4:35

FROM THE EDITOR

What are your thoughts when you receive this publication? What do you think the mission's purpose is in sending this to you? Do you dread receiving this publication thinking, "Oh no, another plea for funds?"

Well, funds are needed to preach the gospel of salvation and teach the edifying message of God's Grace to individuals around the world. However, the purpose of the IH goes beyond funds.

TCM realizes not every believer will be able to share financially in this great ministry. However, we do hope you will pray!

This is the reason for the INTER-NATIONAL HARVEST. We value your prayers! Our purpose for this publication is to encourage you with reports of what God is doing through TCM around the world.

Another purpose is to challenge you with the need to maintain a close relationship with the Lord. In this way the Lord is able to speak to you and lead you into participation in the cause of world missions.

A third purpose is to share

information and requests for prayer.

During the past month I have taught Sunday School on the subject of prayer. In 1 Thessalonians 2.18 Paul states he was hindered by Satan. Comparing this with Romans 15.30, it seems likely Satan was able to hinder Paul because believers were failing to pray for Paul as they should have and as he needed.

Why do we publish the INTER-NATIONAL HARVEST magazine?

How many of the difficulties our missionaries (including your own pastors and church leaders) experience in their lives and ministries are due to our lack of prayer for them?

As always, we send this issue of the IH out with a prayer that God would use it in your life to challenge you and prepare you for a prayer ministry on behalf of TCM, and our missionaries and ministries.

Pray for God's wisdom, guidance, peace, strength, love and financial supply to be experienced by all within TCM. ☺

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THE DIRECTOR SHARES

by Joseph W. Watkins



1993 is quickly coming to a close. It has been a good year for the many ministries of Things To Come Mission around the world. There has been growth on all fields. Let me share some statistics.

1. Indonesia - There are 20 local churches. They have 15 students studying in the Bible Institute. They recently assigned two pastors to pioneer work on two different islands. There are 31 pastors affiliated with TCM's ministry.

2. Philippines -

- 46 new churches established last year.
- 505 churches in the Philippines affiliated with TCM.
- 10% annual growth rate per year.
- 8 new members are added daily.
- 29,800 TCM members in the Philippines.
- 148 Bible School students in the 1993-94 classes.

3. South Africa - There are now 8 Berean churches. These churches minister to various people groups in this country.

There are unlimited possibilities for starting churches among the blacks. When I first visited in 1989, there was only one church.

4. Kenya - There are 12 churches and several Bible studies in four districts. The correspondence school is rapidly expanding. The Grace Bible School of Kenya had six students graduate this year and they have 13 enrolled for the present semester.

5. Brazil - There are 10 churches, with four pioneering ministries. There are two Bible Institutes with 19 students.

6. Malaysia - They now have two churches. The second one is struggling.

7. Australia - In the city of Perth there is one Berean Church started. Brother Johann Anker is from South Africa and has pioneered this ministry.

8. U.S.A. Women's Set Free Ministry - Bob Xavier's ministry in Florida has four homes in which they house women from off the streets,

released from jails, and those from broken homes. They have a prescribed Biblical course for each woman to follow called Orientation Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3.

There were four new missionaries accepted by TCM this year.

God has given Pauline and myself a wonderful year for the ministry. It is such a joy to serve the Lord. I love what I am doing. I love to get up every morning, go to the office and begin the ministry. This year God made it possible for me to visit the Philippine ministry to attend the graduation of International Grace Bible Institute. My latest trip took me to Indonesia.

My ministry in Indonesia was basically teaching. I was asked to participate in an intensive training course that our brothers Frans Tamarol and Joel Molina planned. It was a seven-day affair with classes beginning at 7:00 a.m. and ending at 9:30 p.m. I also had opportunities to teach in two churches, one in Manado and the other in Jakarta. During that week I taught nearly 20 hours which included the church services while in Manado and Jakarta.

It was my joy to share the

teaching with Frans Tamarol and Joel Molina. Joel, as you know, was trained under TCM's ministry in the Philippines. He is now teaching and preaching in the Indonesian language.

PRAISE GOD!
Four new missionaries
have been accepted
during 1993.

Various subjects were covered in the seminar. One subject which the pastors showed much interest in was "The Ministry of the Pastor." The importance of training elders was emphasized. Another session greatly appreciated was on "The Qualifications of the Elders" from 1 Timothy 3. 31 pastors and some church leaders attended.

Indonesia is a country that has a population of over 170 million, of which 150 million are Muslim. This nation has the largest Muslim population in the world. They even have a Muslim political party. Most of the Muslims are located on the island of Java.

We now have five churches on the island of Java. These

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A POWER STRUGGLE!

by Ben Anderson

In September, Kenya's Grace Bible School started the last term of it's fifth year of operation. Six students have graduated and are now serving in different churches. 13 are currently enrolled and we have already received several applications for the 1994 school year.

Trained leadership is the greatest need in Kenyan churches. We are depending on the Bible school to provide qualified individuals to pastor the churches and, eventually, to teach in the school.

One item of praise is that on



Ben and Joyce

Frances, Tegwen and Jaclyn

September 8 we received an exemption from taxes for a new 4-WD Land Rover for the ministry. Taxes run about 100% so we saved the price of a whole car. We have already ordered the vehicle and it will be here in about three months.

Cliff and Lou Ellen Kinhead plan to be back the end of November. Cliff has finished several medical procedures and is expecting to regain enough strength to return.

Ed and Linda Bedore were accepted recently as missionaries to Kenya. They are now conducting deputation to raise prayer and financial support. Pray that they will be able to come by the end of March. Joyce and I are planning to begin our furlough in March 1994.

We recently experienced a power struggle between the forces of Satan and the forces of God. Two Grace churches are in an area where a wizard comes periodically to administer a "blood oath." He cuts the participants in various places and collects some blood and urine from each. He then

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PATIENTLY WAITING GOD'S OPEN DOOR

Gomer and Nene Indino

Both Gomersindo and Urbana completed three years of course work and one year of internship at Mindanao Grace Bible Institute in the Philippines graduating on December 7, 1986. They joined the TCM-Philippine ministry and were assigned to help in the youth department. In May 1988 Gomer was ordained to the Gospel ministry by the TCM-RP board. During the same time both applied to the USA board to become missionaries to Brazil.

After all of these years, the dream is still not completed. As often happens in our lives, it seems Satan is hindering our service for the Lord.

Gomer and Nene have had to assemble birth certificates, marriage license, diplomas, training certificates, bio-data, guarantee of support, invitation letters, etc. to acquire a Brazilian Visa. After assembling all these papers they had to have them notarized and legalized by the Philippine Brazilian Embassy and sent to Brazil. This not only takes much time and effort, but it is costly as well.

The opposition was not finished. During a change of government in Brazil all the application papers were destroyed. The whole process had to be repeated!

We have just recently received word from our brethren in the Philippines that the Brazilian visa for Gomer and Nene has been approved.

Now the process begins again as they seek a visa to enter the USA for a few months. The TCM board wants to meet with Gomer and Nene and they will seek to visit many of the churches.

Gomer and Nene will be able to share first hand their testimony on becoming a Christian and growing in the knowledge of God's

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ABSOLUTELY AMAZED!!

The South African Mission Endeavor
by Ed Wishart

This article is the second of two parts. Part One was about the Endeavor before our departure to South Africa. Part Two is about the Endeavor after our return from South Africa. Part One was in the last issue of the IH (Summer 1993, Vol 35, No 2.). Part One challenged us to consider what it is like to be a missionary raising support to go to the field. This article (Part Two) is to challenge us to consider what it is like being a missionary on the field.

Part Two

On August 4, 1993, the Wishart family arrived home from a two month ministry in South Africa. During these two months we faced both obstacles as well as blessings.

One of the obstacles we faced in South Africa dealt with transportation. I had to learn to drive on the left side of the highway. The cars were designed with the steering wheel on the right side of the car.

Another obstacle was time. In South Africa, they use military time, which means that 6:00 p.m. is 18:00 hours.

We were on the south side of the Equator meaning we went from Ohio's winter and spring into South Africa's winter time and back to Ohio's summer.

In places there were language barriers. I do not know Zulu, Sotho, Xhosa, or Afri-

kaans, and some of those people did not know English. In a few places that meant having to have an interpreter so communication could take place.

Some of our days were very long, beginning around 4:30 a.m. and going to midnight and beyond. There were even days when we had a little breakfast around 5:30 a.m. and did not eat again until about 9:00 p.m.

The climate provided another challenge. We were in a dry winter and none of the homes had central heating. When some nights reached 40 degrees it was quite cold. There was even the night when a water valve broke and Jan Van Rensburg and myself were working on it at 4:30 a.m. There was a multitude of other things to adjust to. Yes, being a missionary in another land brings a variety of situations and circumstances to adjust to.

Being a missionary some

times brings you opportunities you did not count on. For instance, we were able to visit the Kruger National Game Reserve where we saw native animals--elephants, cheetahs, giraffes, zebras, and more.

I was privileged to meet Dr. Mangosuthu G. Bethlezi who is the Premier Chief of the Zulus. He is running for the Presidency of South Africa. Dr. Bethlezi is a Christian and is very humble and gentle.

We were able to commission Stephens Thobela into the ministry and to inaugurate his very first worship service on August 1, 1993. This church is made up of Zulu and Sotho people. It is going to be a wonderful Berean Church under his leadership.

Missionaries also have the special opportunity of being able to speak and teach in a variety of settings and with a variety of people. While there we spoke and taught in 30 different situations which included being the featured speaker at the Annual Convention of the Fellowship of Berean Churches of South Africa held in Port Elizabeth.

We had the privilege of being able to see a variety of geography in this wonderful land--

flat lands, mountains, orchards of fruit, and two different oceans--the Indian and the Atlantic. We saw city life, rural life, urban life, and homeland life in mud huts. We saw for the first time the Milky Way and the other constellations of the Southern Hemisphere.

Above all, we were able to make lifelong friends who we will never forget--friends who some day will visit the United States, friends who have needs such as possessing Mr. Baker's Dispensational Theology as well as materials on finance ministries, prayer ministries, preparing sermons, and a host of other needs. If you think

Ed, Dort, Tim, Jon, and
Jessica Wishart



you would like to help with any of these needs, or other needs not mentioned, you can send a check to the office of Things To Come Mission. Mention "South African Needs" and we will see that these needs for books, Berean teachings, Bibles, commentaries and more are cared for. Thank you!

I do hope and pray these two articles have given you a little different insight into the life of the missionary as they do their deputation and ministry work on the field.

My family and I, once again, say thank you to all who helped make this mission endeavor possible for us, for TCM, and for South Africa. The future is bright for TCM in South Africa.

South Africa needs a seasoned missionary, or a seasoned pastor under the auspices of TCM, to be their National Leader. He would help organize their work, establish a Bible School, and continue to develop the work among the Zulu and Xhosa and Sotho peoples and others. This leader needs to be skilled to train people in leadership and to hold seminars and workshops.

If you have a desire for South Africa please contact the TCM office to learn more about this country and how you might be able to fit into the overall picture.

Someday, I will return to South Africa. My heart is there with the people we were able to enjoy and become friends with. Thanks again! I am, in Christ, your servant. ☺

("..Director.." con't. from page 5)

churches are struggling to get their buildings built. In 1986, when I visited Indonesia, I had the privilege of laying the cornerstone of the church building in the town of Nganjuk. They were not able to continue the building program on this piece of property because of the opposition of their neighbors.

They moved to another area and began to build. They were nearly finished with this new building when again their neighbors rose up and protested to the government. They had to stop their building program. All they lacked for completion was the roof.

The leaders of Things to Come Mission and the Grace Bible Church of Indonesia advised the members to go ahead and continue building and they will make representation to the government. We must pray for these Grace churches.

Sometime during 1994 I am planning a visit to Perth, Australia. ☺

("..Power Struggle.." con't. from page 6)

slaughters a sheep and mixes everything together in a steaming cauldron while saying "magical" words. Each person must eat some of the brew and promise not to bewitch anyone present.

Naturally, the wizard does not take any himself but he does charge each person a substantial amount. Our Grace churches are the only ones in the area making a determined stand against the practice.

The latest report is that the wizard is afraid to come back because of the stand that has been taken against him. Pray for these believers as they are being shunned by the clan. "Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world!"

TCM's work in Kenya has more than doubled in the number of members and the number of churches over the past four years. We now have 12 churches and several Bible studies in four districts.

The correspondence school is rapidly expanding due to recent newspaper advertisements. Ministries for women, youth, and children are also developing.

One exciting area of growth is within the town of Embu. We now have a church in Embu and a Bible study for professionals.

Joyce and a single missionary in town have started a weekly Good News Club at a private elementary school. Children from various religious backgrounds including nominal Christians attend. Over 50 attended the first meeting. ☺

Editor's comment: Please continue to pray for the ministry in Kenya. You can see the potential for future growth is great! The need for TCM to continue our ministry in this vast country is great as well. It is only as we unite in this ministry that God will richly pour out His blessings upon the people and work.

CONGRATULATIONS!

GENESIS MARAAT and VERNA PALLARCO were married on September 24, 1993 in Ozamis City, Philippines. Verna was accepted as a missionary with TCM during our September board meeting. Genesis and Verna plan to return to Kenya in January 1994. Pray for them as they adjust to married life and as Verna adjusts to missionary life. Genesis has already lived one year in Kenya. For Verna, Kenya will be a completely new experience.

COMMENTS FROM READERS



"I am sending a check...to help in the work of... As long as I can I plan to send for her support on the mission field... I am very pleased to know of her desire to serve the Lord Christ... I hope I can stay in good health...when you reach 79 years you don't step around like a spring chicken anymore. You know I get my money for missions by doing baking for other people."

- Wisconsin

"I received the...*INTER-NATIONAL HARVEST* yesterday that you sent. Thank you. I am writing now to request having a 'Z'--all missionaries--be added to my address label. Due to my current situation of incarceration that I pray will soon be ending, I am unable to support in funds but do have plenty of time to support in prayer..."

- Washington

"This A.M. I was again looking at the *IH* for Spring of 1993. It is well done and I congratulate you on putting that

vital 'missionary' together. Your contribution to the Home Office work is noted and I cannot say enough about the production..."

- California

(Editor's comment: see the article "The Printed Page is a Missionary" on page 13)

"Your *INTER-NATIONAL HARVEST* just arrived and I notice the picture of the newest missionary candidates, Ed and Linda Bedore. Praise the Lord! More and more I feel our time is short in this day of grace. The world is getting darker, but our uplook is brighter. God help us to be faithful until He comes."

- Michigan

("Patiently..." con't from page 7)

Word rightly divided. Not only will you be blessed by seeing part of the fruit of the Philippine ministry, but you will rejoice as well in their desire to take this message of God's Grace to the regions beyond.

Please pray for the approval of their USA visa, their travel plans, needed funds, and their adjustment to missionary life in Brazil. ☺ *Development Director*

THE PRINTED PAGE IS A MISSIONARY

The gospel in print is a "missionary." It neither flinches nor shows cowardice. It is never tempted to compromise. It neither tires, nor grows discouraged.

It travels cheaply and requires no hired hall. It works while others sleep. It never loses its temper. It continues to minister long after the present generation has passed on.

The gospel in print is effective. It gains entrance to both the lowly hut and the lofty palace.

It speaks to a man at the right time, only when he is reading it. It sticks to what it says and never answers back.

It reaches those who otherwise might never be reached. It carries the only authoritative answers. It points the way to eternal life through Jesus Christ.

The gospel in print is far-reaching. Through reading a tract, Russell H. Conwell was led to Christ.

A pamphlet written by Martin Luther fell into the hands of John Bunyan, and by this means he was converted. *Pilgrim's Progress* came from his pen, and through that excellent work thousands were saved.

This missionary - the gospel in print - should have the prayerful support of every Christian. Those who make it possible become Missionaries of the Printed Page.

- Author Unknown

CONGRATULATIONS!

ANTONIO and BARBARA (BOWMAN) SISTELOS

Tony and Barb were married on September 4, 1993 in Recife, Brazil. There were many difficulties encountered along the way and plans were changed to accommodate various circumstances which arose. However, the Lord continued to lead and a beautiful church wedding was finally realized. Pray for Tony and Barb as they begin a new phase in their lives and ministry. They are planning to return to the USA in January 1994 at which time they will be seeing friends as well as meeting with the mission board. Tony is hoping to become a missionary with TCM.

NEWS YOU CAN USE . . . for prayer time

***PRAISE GOD** for life, health, strength, and time. The theme of the Regional Conference for Indiana, Illinois, St. Louis, and Northern Kentucky held in October was "The End Times." Once again we were reminded of the uncertainty of time and the imminent return of our Lord Jesus Christ. Each day of life we have is another opportunity of spreading the Gospel of the Grace of God to our world. TCM is grateful for this opportunity.*

***BEN and JOYCE ANDERSON** are planning to take their furlough in March 1994. Pray for them as they seek to insure the work is adequately organized for their return. They are hoping Cliff and Lou Ellen Kinkead will be able to return to Kenya as well as Genesis and Verna Maraat. Maintaining and expanding the present ministry will be greatly facilitated if both couples are able to return to Kenya before the Andersons leave.*

If you or your church would like to have Ben and Joyce share their missionary burden and experience with you, please contact them directly or through the mission office.

***MARIO and ELLA INDINO** are hoping to take a four-month furlough in January 1994. Ella and the children might remain in Brazil while Mario comes to the USA. Pray for these plans and for God's will to be made plain.*

***DON and ARLENE FROMER** started a new interim ministry at the Northwest Bible Church in Enumclaw, Washington, during the second week of September. Praise God for this open door! Pray that they will be a real blessing to the church and a help as the church seeks to call a pastor in the near future.*

***VALERIE ANDERSON** spent the summer months in Kenya. She writes, "I had a wonderful time in Kenya with my family, Genesis, and the nationals. It was very interesting to take over the correspondence course work for those few weeks and see how far-reaching that ministry is. I also typed up a chorus book for the*

weekly Bible Study group as well as typing some class notes for my mom. Joyce had me teach her Sunday School class one Sunday which was quite challenging since the age range of the kids was three to eleven... "

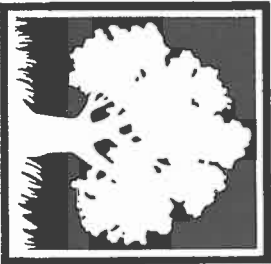
Upon arrival back in Dakar, Senegal, there was much to do in preparing for the new school year. 17 new staff were at the school including the director. She asks for prayer that there would be unity and mutual respect among the staff and that many students would learn about our great God!

CONGRATULATIONS! *SANNY and JEANNETTE SUMIL-HIG are the proud parents of a second baby boy. Jeriel Scott was born on July 25, 1993. He arrived on Sanny's birthday. Both the baby and mother are doing well. Pray for wisdom as they raise Jeriel in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Sanny and Jeannette are teaching in Portuguese now though some topics still require translation help. Pray for them as they continue to improve in the language. Sanny will become the director of the Bible Institute in January 1994.*

Pray for our missionaries and ministries around the world during the holiday seasons. THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS, and the NEW YEAR provide many opportunities for passing out tracts and holding special services. Pray that the message of God's love and the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, will touch people's hearts during this season. Pray also for the missionaries who are separated from their families during this time.

*DANIEL and JENNIFER SIDEBOTTOM have been maintaining a busy schedule. During October Daniel has spoken in three church services and three conferences as well as working on this issue of the IH. During a regional conference both Daniel and Jennifer were working with the young people. Jennifer has been teaching an abstinence course in the public schools which was developed by an organization called **CREATING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS**.*

The PHILIPPINE mission will be inviting S. Lee Homoki and his team as their featured speaker during the May 1994 National Conference. Dan Sidebottom is planning to lead the group.



A CONTINUING GIFT

Things To Come Mission would like to acknowledge the following gifts which have been given in memory of some family member, friend, or respected individual who has passed away. Cards have been sent to the families of those whose memories you have honored.

Adeline Kern - Mr. & Mrs. Dave Mapes

If you have a car you would like to donate to TCM, please let us know. When missionaries are forced to make a special trip to the U.S. it is often difficult for them to find (or afford) suitable transportation.

THINGS TO COME MISSION

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

We want to thank all those who have been praying for Don and Sue Sommer. The \$9,300 hospital and doctor bill is a heavy burden. By the end of September \$6,800 in special gifts had been received. Please continue to pray for the health and medical needs of all our TCM missionaries.