

(Note: For security purposes, references to our geographical location are omitted.)

January 2020

Hello Friends!

We hope this letter finds you and your family well as 2020 has officially dawned on us. Though not without some major challenges, 2019 was a terrific year for our ministry and the Kilgo Family. Here are some of the highlights:

Church Growth – Our church recently celebrated its three-year anniversary. The church's recent growth has been encouraging. We began with about 35 people in November 2016 when we opened the church. Now we average 121 people and are close to maxing out our space. We completed a renovation in October that expanded the seating of our church by about 35%. That space has quickly been filled with people – praise God for that!

Church's Mission Giving – Our church, from its earliest days, was founded as a missional church. Last year, 51% of our offerings were re-directed to missionaries and two charitable causes (an orphanage and an anti-trafficking organization). In a normal year, the percentage is closer to 60% but our much-needed church expansion subtracted from the mission donations. Primarily, the church supports the TCM teams in SE Asia, whose missionaries cannot raise support in America due to visa issues.

Church Kids – We try to be intentional about putting kids to work in our church. Any job a kid can do, we let them do. Jobs like Scripture readings (having church kids who speak many languages is a big plus!), counting money, counting people, running the audio booth and others are all filled by kids whenever possible. If they start serving now, they are more likely to serve in their churches as adults.

Church Without Walls Days – Twice a year we close the church on a Sunday morning and go serve in our community. This past November we completed four different projects at three different sites (an orphanage, an old folks home and home for the blind), having 95 people involved. The goal is to get people thinking about what the church is in reality: It's not the building or the services, but rather it's the hands and feet of the people!

Our Chinese worship team
Our church has 3 worship teams
that rotate every 3 weeks.



Pat leads a group of painters at Batu Grace Orphanage



Our church kids ministered at the orphanage Christmas program. The gospel was clearly presented by a clown (!) to 50 Hindu orphans.



David painting massage room at blind home. In Asia blind people are often trained as professional masseuses.



Preaching Series – Since July, I have been preaching through a series on the parables of Christ. My eyes have been opened to so many things. The power of the Master to tell stories with such deep meaning has influenced my thinking a lot these past few months, especially where issues like helping the poor and stewardship are concerned.

New Church Plant – In December, our church leadership voted to support a new church plant. This effort has been in our plans for a long time. It has only been recently that we felt we had the critical mass needed to attempt it. The plan was put before the church on December 8th and met with widespread approval and excitement. The new church location is not yet determined, but will very likely be to the south of us just a few miles. On our island, traveling just a few miles, culturally speaking, is a very far distance, and because of heavy traffic it takes a lot longer than we would like! You don't have to go far on this island before you are surrounded by an entirely different people group moving in entirely different social circles. We have quite a lot of support for this church plant in terms of workers. When the Sanders Family arrives in April (Lord willing) there will be even more help. Please pray for the Lord's direction as we seek the right place to start this new ministry. Please pray also for stamina for us!



**Kilgo Family
Christmas 2019
(Robert not pictured)**



**Shay, from our
Georgia home group,
has visited us twice.**

New Ministries – The plan to start a new church means we will start new ministries designed to introduce us to local people and draw them into fellowship. At our church, for many years we have had a Thursday English class and beginners Bible class, and a Friday Bible study. These ministries will be relocated to the new location in a few months. The void in our church's ministries left by moving these ministries south will have to be filled by other church members. One family has already offered to take over the Friday Bible study. Please pray that we can find a replacement English teacher.

The Good Soldier Fund (GSF) – In March 2015, our family started the GSF scholarship fund. It is designed to help with tuition and food costs of needy Bible school students. The fund has supported about 50 scholarships per year for students from TCM Bible schools in the Philippines, Myanmar, and Indonesia. In 2020, we are hoping also to support students from TCM Kenya's new full-time Bible school. If you are interested in supporting these future TCM pastors, Bible women and missionaries, please ask for details!

The Kilgo Family – We had another year of good health and God's favor. I (*Pat*) have been able to maintain a busy schedule that still allows time home in the evenings with the family. *Michelle* is excited to start a new Bible study for the teenage girls in our church. We are transitioning her duties to the new church plant effort so that others can serve in our existing church. *Robert* is a senior at Grace Christian University and will finish in December. He is the student body president at Grace and works several jobs to help make ends meet. He is majoring in Criminal Justice. *Elisabeth* started at Berry College in August and enjoyed a successful first semester. She is majoring in Environmental Science. *David* is a freshman in high school and is the equivalent of his class president, having been voted into the position by his peers. He became an Eagle Scout in January 2019, the culmination of many years of hard work. *Anna* is 13, and is a seventh grader with lots of friends and social interests. She is still our most laid-back and humorous child.

Finally, Thank You – Our continued presence here is because of you and your gifts. We thank you sincerely and rejoice with the Apostle Paul that "the increase is credited to your account." If you ever have any questions about our ministry please let us know!

Grace-fully yours,

Pat & Michelle Kilgo and our kids Robert, Elisabeth, David, Anna