

# TEAM MYANMAR UPDATE

Dear praying friends and partners,

August 2022

Gracious greetings by the grace of God from TCM-Myanmar field ministry!

**IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS.** We are bound to give thanks to God for the many blessings our family received during these challenging times. March 31, 2022, Daniel & Daniela finished high school with honors. At the same time, they received their diploma from Lighthouse Christian Academy in the US for dual enrollment. Thank you for your prayers and support to our family from 2016 until now. Moreover, we are blessed with good health despite the presence of many viruses in the country. We also thank God for His protection and preservation of our lives amidst political and economic instability in Myanmar. I was reminded of the Apostle Paul's word: "And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of your faith." (Phil. 1:25). Our family made a crucial decision to stay in the field for the sake of the young Myanmar grace believers, knowing that if we went home to the Philippines, we would not be able to come back to our field due to the Level 4 alert raised by the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila.



**MYANMAR GRACE BELIEVERS CHURCH ATTENDANCE.** Due to Covid and government restrictions, church



gathering in person has dropped to 50%. It wasn't until June this year that the church goers are gradually increasing. July of this year was the most attended

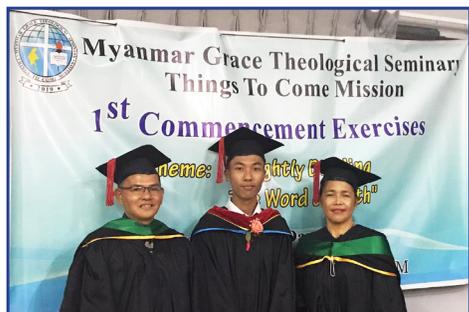


Sunday church service since we resumed in-person worship.



**LOCAL RESTAURANT WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY.** Aside from Sunday church activities, we continue to move forward through outreaches. A restaurant owner closes his shop to customers every Sunday but he opens it for us to conduct a Bible study. What a privilege to teach them the revelation of the mystery. It's their first time to hear about dispensations though they were Christians for a long time. "Yatha htoo" in Burmese means "excellent taste" and that is the name of the local restaurant where we are conducting our weekly Bible study. The owner and all the workers have tasted for the first time the "excellent taste" of God's word rightly divided. Please pray for this group.

**CHURCH PLANTING STARTED IN JUNE 2022.** We planned and prayed for this program since early this year, but to send a worker to stay at the site in order to engage and connect with the local people is so dangerous. Pastor Caleb, who spearheaded this effort, is a single young man and just graduated from our Bible school in March 2022. In Myanmar today, the military government is closely watching and monitoring all young people to see if they participate in the so-called "People's Defense Force" (PDF) against the junta. For this reason, no house owner allows a young person to rent a house alone. If proven as PDF member or supporter, then the property rented by that person will also be taken by the authorities. But thanks be to God, someone offered her house to be rented after knowing that we are Christians and her house will be used for Christian activities. Please pray for Pastor Caleb's heart desire to share the message of grace in the Township of Shwe Phyi Thar. Also, pray for the supply of needs, safety and protection. We thank God there are generous people who partner with us in this church planting program. Thank you very much!



**BIBLE SCHOOL REOPENED IN JULY 2022.** March 20, 2022, we had our first batch of graduates since we started the Myanmar Grace Theological Seminary (MGTS) in 2019. Pastor Caleb, one of the eight graduates, has already started a church planting ministry adjacent to Insein Township in Shwe Phyi Thar. Due to the political and economic condition in Myanmar, some of the graduates had to find ways to make a living for their survival. Please pray these graduates will commit themselves to the ministry, even if in very simple ways, to help grow the local church.

We reopened the Bible school for in-person classes with eight (8) students in late July. It's hard to find young people to enroll in the Bible school nowadays due to the fact that the military is hunting and abducting young people, whom they suspect took part in the revolutionary government or PDF against the junta. So, it is not safe for young people to gather who are not resident in the area. But we trust the Lord that He will protect our students under this present political condition in the country. Please pray for the safety and protection of our students.