



Anderson

ADVANCE

January 2024

"I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel." (Php 1:12)

THINGS
TO COME
MISSION



P.O. Box 127, Beech Grove, IN 46107 • (317) 783-0300 • www.tcmusa.org

Dear Partner in Mission,

A New Year is upon us, providing another opportunity to take the events of the Old Year and make the needed adjustments to complete the task for the New Year. A favorite verse of many Things to Come Mission missionaries and pastors is Acts 20:24—an appropriate verse for the New Year 2024: "However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace." Apostle Paul believed he had a task to complete. Do we?

Since the world reopened in April 2022, Joyce and I have traveled and ministered freely. I was reviewing my travels as TCM International Director in 2023 and found that I traveled for 200 days in twelve countries, with the Philippines, Kenya and Indonesia the top ministry fields. For our main home, we rent a house which is a ten-minute walk from Kenya Grace Bible Institute and the headquarters of Grace Bible Church. Joyce regularly teaches at KGBI and we have many ministry opportunities including a church plant in Kiganjo near Thika.

In January TCM made the wise decision to purchase a Mission House in Manila to benefit the mission partnership between TCM and our Philippine Grace churches. I spent a week with Mission Department Director Buddy Nabus searching for an appropriate house and location, finally settling on a two-story townhouse with four bedrooms near the Bacoor Grace Gospel Church in south Manila. Since then we have purchased all the furnishings for the house, thanks to those who supported the Manila Mission House Project. Joyce and I donated all the remaining items from the apartment we rented for two years in east Manila. Besides our own bedroom, two bedrooms are guest rooms for missionaries and the other is an office for the Mission Department.

Three-fourths of our missionaries now originate from the Philippines—the first field to which TCM sent missionaries in 1957. About half of the world's Grace churches are located in that one country. I praise the Lord that these churches are rising up to the challenge of mission, with missionary giving increasing every year. Recently one city church—originally planted with the help of a TCM missionary—voted to support four missionary families with 10,000 pesos each (\$180). Last year the annual giving for mission surpassed two million pesos, an amount which could not be imagined a few years ago. As Buddy Nabus told me, "The Mission Department is now a permanent institution in TCM Philippines."

In June and July 2022 I was in the northern Philippines training nine missionaries at Grace Theological Center for Mission (GTCM), which is TCM's two-month missionary training school. I taught 40 hours in each of my three classes: Theology of Mission, Cross-Cultural Leadership and Mission Strategy. We had four couples and a single man who is a teacher at one of TCM's eight Bible school campuses in the Philippines. Chetra and Julia Hong also attended. Julia hails from England and has been a missionary for several years. When she married her Cambodian husband just before GTCM, the TCM board asked Chetra to study in the Philippines for one full year. Chetra is a former Buddhist monk and had thoughtful and interesting insight into mission concepts. GTCM has now trained 48 missionaries and will conduct our fifth training session in June and July 2024 in the Philippines. Contact me if you need this training.

The value of training is in the actions of the graduates. The Hong's returned to Cambodia after GTCM and one year at the Tagum campus of International Grace Bible Institute. This week, two more families from GTCM have arrived on their fields. Reagan and Jemima Mejia with their two children are in Kenya for a six-month orientation to Team East Africa before continuing to pioneer TCM's ministry in Ethiopia. Roel and Donna Zabate with their two teenage daughters just arrived this morning in a sensitive Southeast Asian country where they will begin their one year of language training. GTCM graduates Roland and Beverly Improso with new baby Cyron have taken leadership in the Uganda field and will inaugurate Abounding Grace Bible Institute next week. Next month another GTCM graduate will arrive in Thailand to begin language study for reaching a new area.

Joyce has been busy in Kenya with teaching at the KGBI Bible school, online classes, ministry on the coast and developing Sunday School curriculum and projects. Joyce has established a Bible Challenge where young people can earn a Bible by memorizing the Gospel Hand, the Statement of Faith and a passage of Scripture. One pastor said that the Bible Challenge had changed the direction of

MAY 2023



5th Southeast Asia Grace Conference PH 2023

Cebu City, Philippines The 5th Southeast Asia Grace Conference brought over 200 delegates from ten countries to Cebu City. The conference engages Southeast Asians to plan for reaching their part of the world with the gospel.

ACTS
2024

I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace.

JULY 2022



GTCM Philippines Graduates of the Grace Theological Center for Mission training school make their missionary pledges. Four of the nine are already serving as missionaries while two more will arrive on their field in February.

OCTOBER 2023



Coast Ministry Joyce taught in schools in Mombasa on the Kenya coast. Several Muslim children heard the good news of Jesus Christ and 26 kids accepted him as their Savior. She gave 17 Bibles as rewards for memorization.

his church. At first they thought the young people couldn't do it, and now the Bible-centered approach has changed the youth and the church. Praise the Lord that over \$2500 has been given to purchase Bibles for the Challenge.

The 5th Southeast Asia Grace Conference was held on May 25-29, 2023 in Cebu City, Philippines at the Grand Regency Hotel with over 200 participants from nine Southeast Asian Nations and the United States. Our guest speaker was Dr. Ken Kemper of Grace Christian University. The SEAGC encourages Southeast Asians to work together to take the gospel to the many unreached people groups within SEA. For our tour day we visited the sites where Ferdinand Magellan came ashore during his expedition to circumnavigate the earth. A few days later he was killed in a skirmish with Chief Lapulapu. Five hundred years later the descendents of the Chief are circumnavigating the globe to proclaim the good news of God's grace. Welcome to SEAGC 2025 in Jogjakarta, Indonesia!

Prayer Requests

Safety, wisdom and value during our **many travels**. As the TCM International Director I conduct hundreds of meetings each year to strengthen the missionary outreach of TCM.

TCM Teams. Many of our new missionaries are Team missionaries, meaning they are Filipinos who raise one-third of their support in the Philippines while TCM raises two-thirds of the Team support in the US. We now have Teams in Myanmar, Thailand, East Africa, Laos, Vietnam, East Timor and Cambodia.

GTCM training in June and July 2024. Joyce and I will again train missionaries at GTCM in the northern Philippines in June and July 2024. If God is calling you into mission, this training is an excellent place to begin your missionary journey.

KGBI Bible School. Graduation is this week with four graduates from the three-year program. Pray also for the new drama program used in evangelism.

Thank you, friends, for partnering with us in mission through your prayers, friendship and support. We stand together in this great God-given commission of appealing to our world, "Be reconciled to God!" (Read more about our Grace Commission in 2 Corinthians 5:18-6:2).

In Christ,

Ben & Joyce Anderson

I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth. (Acts 13:47)



PO Box 127
Beech Grove, IN 46107
(317) 783-0300
www.tcmusa.org



Ben & Joyce
Anderson
International Director



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DECEMBER 2023

Dedicating a New Church Building On December 31 Joyce and I traveled to Embu, our former hometown, to dedicate the new and spacious church building of Gatituri Grace Bible Church, established in 1993.



JULY 2023

Family Reunion in Florida Our family is scattered around the globe, so reunions are rare. In July we got together near Tampa, Florida for our twins' birthday. Everyone was able to attend including the ten grandchildren.

