

If you were to ask us 4 years ago where we would be in the year 2024, we would probably have told you South East (SE) Asia. The Lord decided to take us on a much different path. It has been adventurous and interesting to say the least. Yet, it has been fruitful, a time of learning, and most importantly a time of preparation.

As many of you know, we have had quite the interesting journey into the full-time mission field. Four years ago (Fall, 2019-Spring, 2020), we were closing in on finishing our time on deputation when the world was hit with the Covid-19 pandemic. We were but a couple days away from heading to



SE Asia when the world shut down. After months of waiting in the States, it became abundantly clear that most countries in SE Asia would not open their borders any time soon. With that information, Things to Come Mission sent us to Kenya to serve along side the Heath family, helping in the Kenya Grace Bible Institute. We served 6 months, or 2 semesters in Kenya. Our mission in Kenya was an incredible time of ministry. However, because of stricter visa requirements at the time and my unfinished BA degree, we were unable to stay put in Kenya after our 6-months.



Some pictures of our time in Kenya.

We came back to America where I finished my degree with Grace Christian University and continued our wait for borders in SE Asia to open. After quite a few months of being home, borders still had not opened for travel. I was working in Georgia with my brother when Community Bible Church in Tipp City, Ohio called and asked if we would be interested in interviewing to fill the vacant youth pastor position. After some prayer, and after communicating with the Things to Come Mission Board, we decided that we would commit to serving 3 years with Community Bible Church (CBC). This would allow time for the world to heal from Covid-19 and eventually open up again for ease of travel. We are so thankful for the opportunity God provided us to serve at CBC. We have learned so much and could not say enough about the wonderful Saints who served with us there. Though it is sad to be leaving we know the church is in good hands.

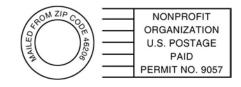


We have been very busy serving at Community Bible Church in Tipp City, Ohio and have been blessed by the many opportunities to grow along side so many



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Praise the Lord, the border in SE Asia opened just a few months into our commitment with Community Bible Church. Around 6 to 9 months ago, we started to consider the direction of our ministry after our 3-year commitment in Tipp City ends. We had many discussions with the Kilgo's, leaders in this region, and with Pastor Jeff Seekins during these months. After much prayer and discussion, it was evident that our desire for foreign missions had not changed and remains strong. The burden for those who have never heard the Truth weighs heavy on our hearts.



Team of individuals going to Kenya on our short term mission trip this June.

With this being said, our family will begin travels to raise support in September of 2024 and head

to SE Asia in the spring of 2025. Our desire is to get there in an effort to come alongside the Kilgo's. There will be a lot to do once we arrive. We will help in furthering the growth of the school there (MGBI) as well as aid in the current work. The long-term goal is for the effort to spread across other locations throughout the SE Asia region and to raise up faithful men and women through MGBI to lead these areas.

In addition to this news, Leah and I will be leading a group on a short term mission trip from CBC to Kenya from June 2-June 21 to help in various ways in this field. Please pray for safety in travel, encouragement of the Believers there, spiritual growth, and open hearts to the Truth.

With the mailing out of this newsletter, we are officially raising support again towards our mission. We look forward to seeing so many of you again and to meet so many more as we travel to conferences and churches around the States. Thank you to all who have supported us thus far and continue to do so! We appreciate ya'll so much.

God Bless,

Joel, Leah, Enoch, Naomi, and Silas Sanders

Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:18



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