

MINISTRY UPDATE FROM MAKASSAR

And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; (1 Timothy 1:12)

By Maruli (Agus) & Yokhe Marpaung

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

First of all, we want to thank the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior for all His grace and blessings. God has enabled us until now to survive and enjoy the ministry entrusted to us. Second, we want to thank each of you who have prayed for and supported us in this ministry.

My wife, Yokhe, and I have been in Makassar city (South Sulawesi) for 2.5 years. By God's grace many things have been accomplished in the ministry. Before we arrived in Makassar, we made it our commitment to give our very best effort in the first two years to recover the ministry from some difficulty so that the members would be encouraged to arise and continue to be a blessing to the entire area of South Sulawesi. We planned and organized four evangelistic crusades in Makassar and Mamasa, sponsored retreats to the beach, and developed children's programs. Through these kinds of ministries we followed up with Bible studies. The result has been an increase in attendance during Sunday services from 35 adults and young people to 60, excluding children. Most of the new members are young people.



Yokhe is committed to the ministry of children. Through prayer and the commitment of the members in the Makassar church, we now have a Sunday School room for children. Before, the children studied in a small area in front of the church without an outside wall.

This picture shows the newest renovations of our church building in Makassar. We are now able to have weekly Sunday services, thanksgiving services, evangelistic crusades, weddings, and other ministries. We also plan to offer to those living in Makassar, an extension class from Anderson Bible School. Please pray for this ministry opportunity so that through this extension class we may equip more people to come to God's ministry around South Sulawesi. (October 2012 is the first class).

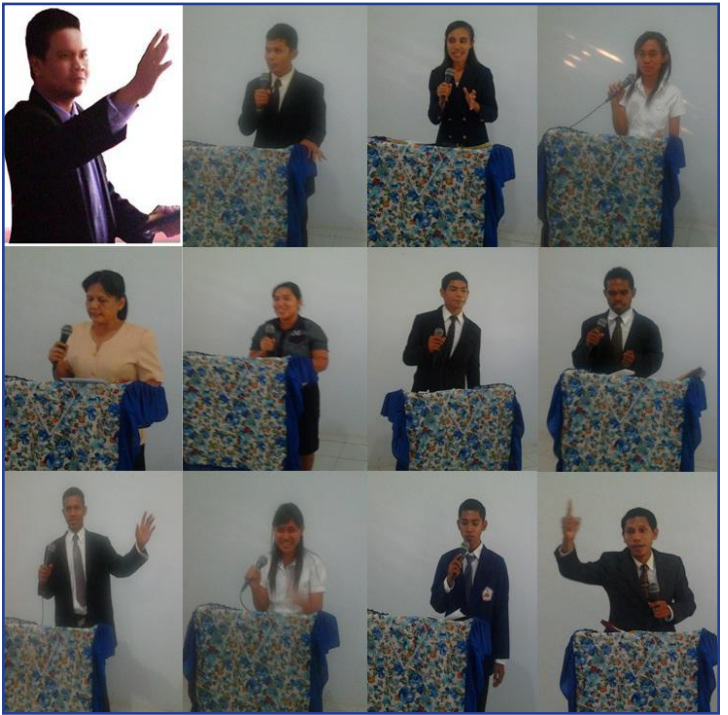


I recently finished my second master's degree. In 2006, I graduated from Evangelical Theological seminary in Yogyakarta with a Master of Theology, majoring in Missiology. And, last September 15, 2012, by God's grace, I graduated from Jaffray School of Theology with a Master of Christian Education. I thank the Lord for giving me this opportunity and enabling me to accomplish this program. God has challenged me to put my education to work and to do more in the Lord's work. I pray that what I have learned will be useful in the ministry, because I want everything in my life to be for God's glory.

Since February 2012, I have been teaching in Anderson Bible School at their main campus. Every semester I travel to Lembean to teach. In September 2012, I taught Homiletics, Church Management and Systematic Theology.



I am excited to share with you a new ministry in Pomalaa, Southeast Sulawesi. Brother Aris Tandi, a new graduate from Anderson Bible School, is ready to go to the mission field. He stayed with us in Makassar for two months preparing for this new assignment. Our young people held a special prayer meeting for Brother Tandi and the ministry in Pomalaa. Please pray with us that he may proclaim the gospel and many people will come to the Lord and accept Jesus as their personal Savior.



These are the ministry updates from Makassar, South Sulawesi, Indonesia. Please continue to pray for us. We can't do these things without support and prayer from believers. The next ministry that we plan is publishing a daily devotional book, entitled, PEACE. First, we will print 100 books and distribute them to all our contacts in south, west and southeast Sulawesi and Maluku Province. We need \$100 monthly for six months. After this time, we are sure that there will be committed people to support this project.

Finally, I want to thank you for your attention. If you want to see the ministry updates of Grace Bible Church of Makassar, please visit the website: www.gbcmakassar.blogspot.com. May God bless each of us and be glorified through this report.

In His Grace

Maruli (Agus) & Yokhe Marpaung

