



Anderson ADVANCE

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



December 2018

Dear Mission Partners,

Bom dia! I'm writing from GOL Airlines heading south across Brazil. For several days I've been meeting with Joe & Michelle Campos, Doug & Vicki LeFeber and the church leaders in Recife. It was encouraging to see several new projects supported by the Grace members including buildings, ministry training and a church plant. Now I'm headed south to visit Gomer & Nene Indino and the Brazilian leaders they work with. I have been invited to speak at the annual conference of the MCP Grace churches.

Surely 2018 has been an exciting year for mission! It started with a trip through Indonesia to teach mission at the Bible school and surveys of two new fields: East Timor and Vietnam. In April the 60th anniversary of the Things to Come Mission churches in the Philippines was attended by 1500 pastors, missionaries and members from several countries. May brought the fourth Southeast Asia Grace Conference in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The SEAGC conferences were the result of a meeting of leaders from five countries in the northern Philippines in 2010. The goal of these conferences held every two years is to foster cooperation between fields to advance the gospel of grace throughout Southeast Asia. The Maraats and Killions together with their Thailand team did a fine job of hosting the 200 delegates from 17 countries.

From Thailand Joyce and I flew straight to Ozamis City in the southern Philippines to teach at our Grace Theological Center for Mission. This is an eight-week intensive missionary training program for all new TCM missionaries headed for Southeast Asia. The trainees called themselves "the 12 disciples of GTCM" with the theme of *Aggelos (messengers) to the ends of the earth*. Besides Joyce and me, the teachers were Nathan Killion, James & Agape Bermejo, Genesis Maraats, Gerson Bermejo and Ruth Improso. Some of the trainees were not planning to become missionaries; but after the first week in Theology of Mission, God's calling was loud and clear to take the good news of Jesus Christ to the many people who have not had the opportunity to hear. Pray for Vincent & Shirley, Roland & Beverly, Jude & Cherry, Ester, Maravic, Cion, Rey, Libni and Jinggo as they seek God's direction and partnership in mission. They followed Apostle Paul in stating, "Woe unto us if we do not preach the gospel!" This makes 39 missionaries who have been trained through three batches of GTCM. The next batch will be in 2020 and we already have people signing up.

In August TCM sent our first missionaries to East Timor and Vietnam. We've sent one family to each country this year and will follow up with a second family in 2019. The first step in these unreached countries is learning the language which takes from



Like Mother Like Daughter Jaclyn graduated and is now teaching 2nd grade at a Christian school.

1 to 3 years. The missionaries will need to obtain visas to remain in the country. This is a period of making friends and determining a strategy for evangelism and church planting. The missionaries in these new countries are on team support, meaning they raise one-third of their support in the home country and TCM raises two-thirds in the US. If you would like to be a part of sending the gospel to these countries we currently have five teams: Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and East Timor.

Our former co-missionary in Kenya, Jessie Easterly, died on October 7 in Colorado just shy of her 102nd birthday. Jessie's husband Herbert Palmer founded Things to Come Mission in 1955 after they had served two terms as missionaries in Congo and Burundi. Herbert and Jessie's daughter Ruth told me that her dad was driving to a TCM board meeting in Cope, Colorado in 1961 when he became ill while passing through Denver. He admitted himself to a hospital and never recovered. Our kids grew up with 'Gramma Jessie' and I cannot count the number of meals at her table in the Bible school in Embu. In life we will only meet a handful of people with the fierce resolve for serving the Lord that Jessie had. I pray that her commitment has rubbed off on all who knew her. It was an honor for me to speak at Jessie's "celebration of life" in Grand Junction.

Each year I attend the September TCM board meeting in Indianapolis and assist at the headquarters for a couple of weeks. My sister Valerie is the Office Administrator and our 89-year old mother Darlene still works in the office daily. Joyce and I also use our frequent flier miles to visit family and friends in Florida, Arizona and Oregon. Our daughter Tegwen and Robby were blessed with baby daughter Vesper who joins Vernon as they continue to prepare for missionary service in South Africa. Jaclyn completed her teaching degree and is teaching second grade. She is busy with husband Vince and four kids. Francy lives in Oregon with her two children Ezra and Lydia. While in Oregon Joyce taught a women's Bible study for five weeks at Grace Bible Church.

Joyce and I continue to live in Singapore as our hub. Please



East Timor Survey Aaron Arsino and I conducted a survey of East Timor where 97% of the people practice Catholicism mixed with animism.



Womens Bible Class Joyce taught the women of Grace Bible Church in Grants Pass, Oregon for five weeks.



Grandparents Day In Florida we had breakfast with our grandkids Eli, Mali and Noelle at their elementary school.



Singapore Friends During our 2 years based in Singapore we have made several new friends. The Ngs hosted me while I was house-hunting. Michelle will give birth in Jan.

pray that the TCM registration in Singapore will be successful. Since leaving Singapore in early August we've traveled through Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa and five states in the US. From Brazil I will travel back to Singapore via Dubai where I will speak at the Grace Fellowship which was formed five years ago.

Update: I am now in Singapore and have been able to find a large master bedroom to rent. This room doubles as our bedroom and our office with a large desk. When you get this I'll be traveling in Vietnam and Cambodia. Joyce will remain in the US to present TCM's ministry at several mission conferences. TCM is currently without a Development Director, so all of us are helping out as we are able. Keep us in prayer as we'll be on different sides of the world for longer than normal.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support. We are in the midst of a great spiritual battle for the eternal souls of men and women. Let us not become fearful and shrink back. The victory is ours in Jesus Christ!

In Christ,

Ben & Joyce Anderson

Southeast Asia Grace Conference The fourth SE Asia Grace Conference was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand in May 2018 with 200 delegates from 17 countries. In May 2020 we'll meet in the Philippines.

Brazil Conference

I traveled to the north and south of Brazil. Pictured is a family from the MCP Conference in the South. Pastor Aroldo and his family have been friends for 33 years.



Kenya Meetings We traveled through Kenya preaching at the national conference and other venues. Pictured is Nakuru Grace Bible Church in August.



**THINGS
TO COME
MISSION**



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**Ben & Joyce
Anderson**
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For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, for God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. Therefore now no condemnation is in Christ Jesus. He came to save sinners, not to condemn them. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, we are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. "But what about you?" Jesus asked. "Who do you say I am?"