## THINGS TO COME MISSION

# International Harvest

Newsletter of Things to Come Mission

Volume 46 No 1

Spring Issue 2004

# TCM votes on new Director

#### Ben Anderson TCM-Kenya Representative

The Board of Things to Come Mission has voted unanimously for me to become the TCM Director at the beginning of 2005. I consider this a privilege and a great responsibility both to the Lord and to all the friends of TCM.

Things to Come Mission was founded with the specific goal of reaching the world with the gospel of the grace of God. Apostle Paul started this work nearly 2000 years ago. In 1 Cor. 10:33 he urges, "For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved. Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ." As we wait for the greatest "thing to come"—the glorious appearing of our Savior—we must remain true to the calling we have each received. In light of the more than 200 countries which still do not have a Grace church, our work is clearly laid out before us.

When the Board was considering me for the Director's position, I spent some days praying and thinking about TCM and its purpose. I believe the following statement accurately sums up why TCM exists.

"Things to Come Mission intentionally crosses cultural barriers from faith to non-faith to plant grace churches."

Thus, for a ministry to fit squarely in the center of TCM's purpose, it must 1) be planting or strengthening churches, 2) be cross-cultural in scope, 3) be committed to the Grace message and 4) be targeting people groups unreached by the grace gospel.

Based on that short statement of purpose, the following are some major areas I intend to focus on during my time as Director.

TCM will make maximum use of the strong foundation and principles which have already been set by its founding missionaries and leaders.

TCM must stay focused on the goal of establishing at least one Grace church in

each country of the world.

TCM must find new ways of raising up missionaries from both the U.S. and mature mission fields.

TCM will encourage and assist new and existing missionaries to obtain the training, knowledge and experi-

ence they need to maintain high effectiveness in reaching the unchurched with the gospel of grace.

TCM will be a catalyst in working with other Grace organizations to plant new churches in areas of the U.S. which do not have a Grace church.

Please spend some extra time in prayer



for the work of TCM around the world. Pray for our hard-working missionaries and national leaders in the Philippines, Brazil, Kenya, Indonesia, South Africa, England and closed countries to have spiritual strength, wisdom and vision. Pray for new

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# INDONESIA, the PERSECUTED Church

#### -Vernon & Darlene Anderson

INDONESIA-largest Islamic nation of the world-population: over 220 million people, 90% Islam. And Indonesia has the most persecuted Christian churches in the world, many of them burned down. "Militant Muslim groups joined Laskar Jihad in destroying churches, Christian homes and Christian businesses, primarily throughout Malukus and Sulawesi. More than 10,000 people have died in the jihad, and thousands have been left homeless since 1999." (VOM, Sept.'03)

Despite this background Grace Bible Church / Gereja Alkitab Anugerah (GAA) has established a strong, courageous, witnessing church. Local GAA churches are planted throughout the Indonesian islands in such cities as Manado, Makasar, Surabaya, Jakarta, Medan, Balikpapan, Tarakan. Extending out from these cities

are congregations in many villages. Recent statistics show 56 congregations, 26 pastors, 17 evangelists, 10 candidates to become evangelists. Dedicated elders serve all the congregations by preaching, evangelism, teaching and administrative work.

STTIA in Manado, N. Sulawesi, is the GAA Bible school which trains evangelists, pastors and teachers. Even in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia where the head office of GAA is located, a seminar-type training program is held periodically to try to fill the gap of much needed workers on the field.

All ministries in Indonesia must be carried on in the Indonesian language, Bahasa Indonesia. Not many Bible reference books in Bahasa Indonesia are available

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THINGS TO COME MISSION

## International Harvest

# Director's Perspective



# Adjustments made in TCM ministries

The time has come, Pauline and I are both 70 years old now. We will turn the ministry over to younger men, as we did in 1986 in the Philippines. I had told the board of TCM that I wanted to step aside as director at the end of this year—2004. During their January 2004 board meeting, the board of TCM, after much prayer and consideration, elected Ben Anderson to become the Executive Director in January 2005, at which time I will become the Associate Director. Pauline will continue her ministry in the office.

There are a number of reasons why I saw the need for a younger director for TCM: (1) age, (2) Younger men must now take the leadership of TCM's ministry so there will be fresh ideas and continue on for many years, (3) We realize that we are living in a very advanced, electronic age and need younger men to keep up with these advances, (4) More world travel will be needed as we seek to enter new countries and support the existing ministries. It takes more than one person to keep up.

Ben Anderson grew up in TCM, the son of

Vernon and Darlene Anderson. He grew up with our kids in the Philippines. He stayed in our home many times during vacations from Faith Academy. He has been a TCM missionary for 18 years in Kenya. He knows very well the goals and principles of TCM. I have complete confidence in him becoming the Executive Director.

I am not retiring. I will move into another ministry of TCM as I become the associate director of TCM. I will be ministering alongside of Ben but he will be the leader beginning January 2005. I will also have other responsibilities. This will give us more opportunity to improve the ministry of the US office in our support of the missionaries and emphasis on TCM's outreach. There is an increasing need for overseas travel to meet the demand for speakers for special conferences and teaching of national leaders. I will also be teaching in the Berean Bible Institute in Slinger, WI, two days a week. I am looking forward to being able to use my experience to teach others.

The Berean Bible Institute. As I become associate director I will have time for my

teaching ministry at the Berean Bible Institute. I will start my Missions class in August. This B.I. has as its main goal to prepare evangelists, pastors and missionaries for the ministry. There is such a need for pastors and missionaries. TCM's greatest need right now is for more missionaries. Pauline and I began our ministry in the Philippines training Pastors, Bible Women, Evangelists and church leaders. I would love to end our ministry doing the same.

So let me repeat, I am director until the end of 2004, then I will become the associate director of TCM and a Bible teacher in the BBI. Our financial support comes from gifts designated for us. We are not paid from the General Fund. We will still need your support both prayer and financial.

Pauline and I are looking forward, as we have in the past, to these new opportunities. Please pray for these changes. Ben and I have many adjustments to make in our ministries. Pray that God will mold us together as a team.

## INDONESIA, the PERSECUTED Church

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so GAA recently appointed a committee to begin translating DISPENSATIONAL THE-OLOGY, THINGS THAT DIFFER, etc. Enthusiasm is going strong for this effort to spread Biblical literature out to help the workers and churches. The translators, checkers, arrangers are volunteering themselves, but the cost of printing will be high. GAA Director is Dr. Ruddy Akay, formerly a manager of a large company in Surabaya, then transferred to a larger Japanese company in Jakarta. Brother Ruddy gave up his high-paying job to take up the position as Director of GAA without the security of a promised salary. He helped establish churches in Surabaya and Jakarta areas, and now travels extensively in Indonesia, teaching, preaching, doing administrative work of encouraging. He writes: "Now there are many media such as newspaper articles and

magazines open to say that they are against Christian activities. There are some new government rules clearly harmful to us the Christians. But as I have mentioned many times that we are never surrendered to preach of God's kindness and salvation in Christ toward people here in Indonesia, although it is our lives as the stakes."

Regional conferences and also a national conference are held to facilitate plans to reach out to all corners of Indonesia. Seminars are often planned for women, youth, and evangelism throughout the archipelago. Local church leaders in all areas work for strengthening the congregations. In Surabaya on the island of Java, Dr. Hans Lumintang and his doctor wife work together. In the Manado area Dr. Jamie Posangi and his doctor wife team together, and even their son Iddo, a medical student, lead in youth music ministries and translation.

Christ's workers in Indonesia are working night and day sacrificing their time, talents, finances and energy to get the Gospel of Grace out to all the nation. They cannot do everything alone. What can we do to help? They need dedicated missionaries. Financial assistance is essential to support printing books and literature, to back evangelism while there is yet time, to plant more churches, sponsoring Bible schools and students, seminars, conferences, even help to build a church as a testimony in a neighborhood without Christ. Surely we can do something to show our love! Do consider the challenge. Come on board! Join the ship.

"But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it." 1 Cor. 12.

# Set Free Helping at - risk families Youth & Family Number receive the Gospel of Christ

By Bob Xavier

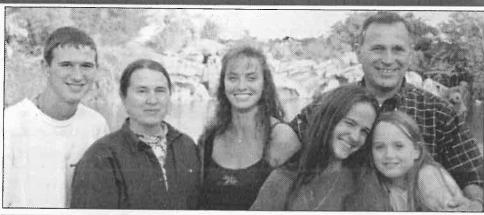
For 24 years I have been a Things to Come missionary to a North American country located between Canada and Mexico. It has two provinces in the Pacific and is called the United States of America. This country incorporates diverse world cultures, and although English is the primary language, 50 million of these people speak other languages. With this diversity have come rural and economic issues which are challenges for the Gospel of the Grace of God, but our message is the most reliable force to produce change and hope in areas of diversity and economic instability.

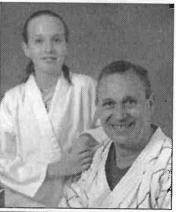
The inmate population in the United States has increased significantly during the past 24 years. Currently there are 2.03 million people behind bars. My ministry is currently being directed toward families of these inmates. My personal missionary journey has included working with the homeless in Key West; substance recovery homes; half-way homes for women out of prison; and serving 2000 children of inmates as a coordinator of Prison Fellowship Ministry's Angel Tree. I have also directed Confident Kid Martial Arts at Christian summer day camps. This has been a successful program for presenting Jesus Christ.

From these experiences I realize that children of inmates and their at-risk families need much more than a gift at Christmas and martial arts skills. They need the tangible touch of the Grace of God. The Set Free Youth and Family Ministries has developed an easy-to-use assistance program for Christian volunteer groups to encourage and support disadvantaged and cross-cultured families of inmates. Phase 1: Volunteer groups assisting family groups. Phase 2: Volunteer groups assisting family individuals. Phase 3: Volunteer individuals assisting and mentoring family individuals.

We have two training packets: The first trains volunteer groups to assist families in resources, transportation, child-care, chores and activities; The second trains atrisk families in relational skills and crisis management.

These families can be either a profound reflection of the Triune life (Ephesians 5) or a deep manifestation of human rebellion (Genesis 4). The Gospel of the Grace of God offers many redemptive possibilities for the present crisis in family relationships. Would you like to partner with us in this mission field? Send your gifts to the TCM Office.





Above: Jonathan, Beth, Malinda, Rebecca, Rachel and Bob. Left: Rachel helping her dad. Right: Children from Grace Bible Church Nokomis Florida receive award of excellence from black belt, Bob Xavier.



## Letter from faithful Filippino pastor

Ptr.Climaco M. Solis

Warm Greetings from us here in Butuan to all Brothers and Sisters there in the U.S. Remembering your labor of love, and gifts given to us in behalf of the Lord's work, we couldn't stop praising thanking God for you. We really thank Him for your prayers and support for the work here in Butuan. Concerning our work here in Butuan City as well as the works surrounding Butuan City since I was appointed by the mission as Supervising Minister. of not less than 8 churches adjoining Butuan City and at the same time working as Provincial Youth Coordinator in two provinces of both Agusan del Norte and Surigao del Norte, and my home base is Butuan City. During my relaxation I'm writing Cebuano books and booklets and English booklets as well which pertain to our unique doctrine on various topics. I've anchored our religious broadcast in Butuan City on RMN station (The Hour of Grace Broadcast ). Serving as Radio Evangelist I'm also working as both father and mother of my four daughters helping them meeting their needs both at home and in schools. My eldest daughter Joeanne is in Bible school almost finished at IGBI Ozamis, Janice second to the eldest proceeds with her civil engineering course in college despite difficulties. Jackielyn and my youngest daughter, Jedidiah, are still in high school. I praise the Lord for them, they are my living souvenier of my departed wife, Lenie who is now in God's presence.

May you always pray for us here in Butuan, that the work may always prosper and glorify our wonderful Saviour. I'm praying for a computer for our literature ministry in Butuan. Presently I'm using an old borrowed typewriter, but the result is not so good. Also pray for our Radio program, I've already renewed the contract for the year 2004.

#### Mary Hobaugh dies at 90

Mary Hobaugh, former missionary of TCM to Brazil, went home to be with the Lord on 1/19/04 at the age of 90. Her desire to serve the Lord in Brazil in her senior years is a testimony of her great love for the



Lord and desire to reach the lost for Christ. She was faithful to Him!

# Moving forward in Southern Brazil

By Joel Molena

Having been in the ministry since 1981, the year I graduated from the Bible school in the Philippines, I can confidently affirm that serving God is a life full of adventure. This last adventure was one of the most difficult I have undergone personally and for us as a family as well. The Lord had to totally break me of my pride of thinking that I deserved the best, my ministry strategy is the best, my leadership skills are excellent, others are not good enough because they don't see it my way, to recognizing that my life and the life of my family wholly belong to Him. When we finally made the decision to move back to southern Brazil we realized that we were embarking into a ministry full of uncertainties yet we did it with much excitement in anticipating what the Lord was going to do through us. With these feelings of apprehension and anticipation, we arrived here on the 22nd of September 2003. Since then the Lord has been gracious by showing us that this ministry is His, not ours, and that if it is going to move forward it must be because we, his servants, are absolutely without any reservation yielded to Him. He demands absolute commitment (Luke 14:26, Acts 20:24; Luke 9: 57-62).

Training is a key factor in getting the job done. Training is when you motivate ten people to fulfill each of their responsibilities rather than you yourself doing the job of ten people. Paul, I believe, has this in mind when he said, "The same commit thou to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also" (2 Tim 2: 2). We deemed it necessary that if the grace message is to be propagated in this part of the world we have to train faithful and committed believers to do it.

Grace Theological Seminary exists solely for that purpose and vision. This is where we spend the bulk of our time and energy. We have 18 students at the present time. They all have a burning desire to know God and do his will. It is such an encouragement to watch God transform a person's life of self-centeredness to one that is humble and displaying the glorious presence of the Lord. I was elated when one of the students came back from the city full of excitement because he was able to teach a Seventh Day Adventist sitting with him in the bus the difference between law and grace. To see a husband loving his wife and a father caring for his children as the word of God teaches is a confirmation that we are not only training these men to know our doctrine, but most importantly, putting doctrine into practice. Pray for us and pray for



Grace Theological Seminary in Brazil

these students. After four years, these students are going to plant churches in key cities of Brazil. Perhaps some of then will become missionaries to Portuguese speaking countries such as Mozambique, East Timor and others. We never know what God can accomplish through a life totally yielded to Him. Next year I am envisioning phenomenal growth in terms of the number of

students we have and for this reason we need to build in order to accommodate growth. We are also planning on opening the place for youth and family camps during summer and winter breaks utilizing our students as counselors and staff members. As you can see things are happening and we are excited as we expect more things to happen.

### Pañas possibly moving to a new field in Uganda

Carlo and Elma Paña. Fillipino missionaries Kenya recently with the field director Ben Anderson explored a possible move to a new field for TCM in Uganda. Carlo is the coordinator teacher at Grace Bible Institute in Thika, Kenya



Recent graduates from the Bible Teachers Class

# **TCM** Projects

# Missionaries needing additional Support

Dean Padayhag - South Africa
Antoinette du Plessis - TCM Office manager
Stephanie Thornton - Kenya
Gardner & Ledith Improso - Kenya
Carlo and Elma Paña - Kenya
Other Projects

Building Project Soweto - South Africa

Dean Padayhag - Reliable good used car

Rios, Brazil - Cost for printing of "Sola Scriptura"

Many thanks to all who helped with the projects listed in the previous IH.

## Readers Comments

We are interested in your comments on the IH and are always looking for ways to improve Please send any comments to Joe Watkins, Editor

# TCM votes on new Director

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missionaries to be raised up and new fields to be opened. Pray for the Board to set a clear direction for TCM. Pray for a smooth transition at the office in Indianapolis as I take over the reins from Director Joe Watkins. Pray for a strong working relationship between the U.S. Grace movement and TCM.

I am asking for personal prayer as well. Pray that I will have the spiritual, mental and physical strength to do the ministry God has set before me. Pray for my family as this is a major change in our lives. We will need to find a house in Indianapolis. Our children must find a good high school. We must buy a car. Our support level must be adequate to live in Indianapolis. Pray that all of us will find the friends and relationships we need to succeed in our new life.

Before closing, let's talk about support. In TCM 100% of every gift is given to the purpose for which it is designated. This means that the Director's support, travel expenses, office staff and office expenses must be supported by friends of TCM. I wish to thank those who have supported us since we became missionaries in 1984 and I encourage you to continue. Perhaps this move makes it seem that I am stepping back from cross-cultural missionary work. In actuality, I am making this move not only to help TCM, but because I will have greater influence in reaching new people groups which have never heard the good news of the grace of God. If you have not supported the TCM office previously, be sure to designate your gift to either Ben Anderson, Joe Watkins or Antoinette du Plessis. Gifts designated to "TCM Office" will help with the general expenses to run an efficient office for the benefit of our present and future missionaries. Thank you for your partnership.

#### Other News from South Africa

**Pastor Stevens Thobela** writes: The dream of having a fully flagged permanent Grace Church in Soweto is going to be a reality. The Soweto site application has been approved. We need to start building here soon......

Please pray for funds to build a church on this lot sitting right in the middle of Soweto. This is an all black community with thousands of people from all directions in life needing to hear the Gospel of Grace.

Dean Padayhag writes: We have a new church. Listen to this. Johan van Dyk (brother of Antoinette in the TCM office USA) and myself went to a farm to buy some chicken for the feeding program in Mpumalanga, The owner of this farm is a Christian also. She gathers her workers every night and every Sunday for a sort of Bible reading and short prayer. Meaning, no actual pastor was ministering to the group. So, we tried to get in touch with them and presented some help. With willing hearts, they accepted our offer. Last Sunday, February 8, 2004 was my first preaching at this new church and now we have a regular Thursday Bible class in Dispensational Study of the Bible and Monday visitation. They are very excited with the Grace Message and the singing.

## South Africa - A bold step of faith

#### Dr. G. Edward Wishart Secretary of TCM's Board

Things to Come Mission would like to announce to our constituency, a Bold Step of Faith!

TCM had the opportunity facing us to have a wonderful impact on the nation of South Africa, Africa. TCM's first face to face contact with people desirous of knowing and coming to understand the "Grace Message" was in 1989, when our current director, Joe Watkins made a trip to South Africa. Ever since 1989, many events have occurred to developed the relationship, and to grow and strengthen the work for the "Grace Message" in South Africa.

- There have been conferences
- There have been trips by board members
- •There have been TCM Missionaries in South Africa

Currently, TCM has Dean Padayhag serving in South Africa ... these are to just name a few of the things that have occurred over the years.

The harvest is really ripe in South Africa among the black population. And TCM has the opportunity to tap into this population in Stephens Thobela.

Stephens is out of the Zulu background and his wife is Ndebele. Stephens is fluent in six African languages and English. He holds a B. S. Degree in Business, and will graduate soon with a Masters in Business Administration.

Stephens has planted two churches in South Africa: one in Soweto and the other in Soshanguve. He has trained many men to be leaders for the Lord Jesus Christ. Stephens himself was trained for the ministry and in the grace message by Pastor Phillip DuPlessis who now pastors Grace Church in Indianapolis, IN. Pastor Phillip and Stephens were co-leaders together in South Africa over the grace work going on there. I along with Pastor Phillip had the pleasure of consecrating Stephens to the ministry in the Summer of 1993.

As you look at this brief background of Stephens, you can now see why TCM would like to take a Bold Step of Faith. Stephens has all the skills that are needed to develop a central ministry base in South Africa, and to develor



Stephens Thobela

op a Bible School. He is currently a manager of over 300 employees at a newspaper. Along with this he is also director of the Association of Berean Ministries of South Africa. Thus, you can see he has abilities in leadership development, planting churches, crosscultural languages, and more!

Stephens has also been elected as the coordinator of the African Grace Fellowship just newly formed from the recent Grace Conference held in Zambia, Africa. TCM has at least two other national workers serving on this newly formed Fellowship.

Now, with some preliminaries cared for — the Bold Step of Faith.

We are asking our constituency to help us to place Stephens into full-time ministry as a National Worker with TCM in South Africa.

Therefore, we are asking you to make this goal a matter of prayer.

We ask you to consider supporting Stephens and his family to be full-time in the TCM Missionary ministry. We need to get our base firmly established and the Bible School fully developed. By the way, Stephens and his wife Linah, have three children, and his eldest son will probably be going into the ministry as well.

If you sense the Lord's leading to financially support the Thobelas, please send your gifts to the TCM office in Indianapolis.

It is with great grace that I thank you for reading this "Bold Step of Faith" for South Africa, and do hope that you join the team to support the Thobelas and the forward movement of TCM's work in South Africa.

### International Harvest

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## Language school, a memorable experience

#### **Stephanie Thornton**

"Language school will be one of the most memorable experiences of your life," everyone told me as I trekked off to study Swahili. And it certainly was. I've been out of language school and settled in Thika for some time now, but the memories I created with people from many cultures and nationalities, representing people from all over the world, will be one I will cherish forever.

Now, as I said, I'm settled in Thika, and since my arrival we've had two different shortterm mission teams visit us, two pastor's seminars plus a women's seminar I attended in another city. We've had the privilege of sharing our Kenyan food and hospitality with the Meiers family while they shared with us their untiring love of the ministry through mime, skits, puppet shows and preaching. In Nakuru, women from many churches enjoyed the fellowship and teaching given by Becky Vinton, while her husband, Sam, gave a seminar for our pastors in Thika.

Here in Thika I'm visiting and getting to know our church members. One family I visited lives in a rather remote village and we traveled by bodaboda (bicycle taxi) to get there. I must say it was a beautiful ride. We rode through the open plain on a bumpy dirt road; occasionally an old block building would break up the flat landscape. And to our left a small mountain sprung up through the horizontal ground, seemingly from out of nowhere. I don't know if I'll ever tire or get used to Kenya's spectacular landscape. I will be doing another remote visitation this week.

Our church in Thika is doing well and keeping busy. We have several members who are faithful and committed; we recently had a leadership training class that the church was very excited about. We are also planning to start a choir in the next month or so. This has been a difficulty since, prously mentioned, mar

members walk a great distance to attend church. But, we're encouraging our members who are nearby to join us in leading worship. I know I can speak for Thika Grace Bible Church, and others here in Kenya, when I say we've been encouraged and blessed this past year.

### A Continuing Gift

Things to Come Mission would like to acknowledge the following gifts which have been given in memory of some family member, friend or respected person who has passed away.

Barbara Spoelman

#### In Memory of:

Betty Reynolds

Husband, Gordon Spoelman