# THINGS TO COME MISSION OF TO COME MISSION

Dedicated to wordwide evangelism through the methods of the Apostle Paul

Fall 2005 · Things to Come Mission · Vol 47 No 2



**2** Director's Perspective

3 Celebrating 50 Years of Ministry

4 Retro TCM

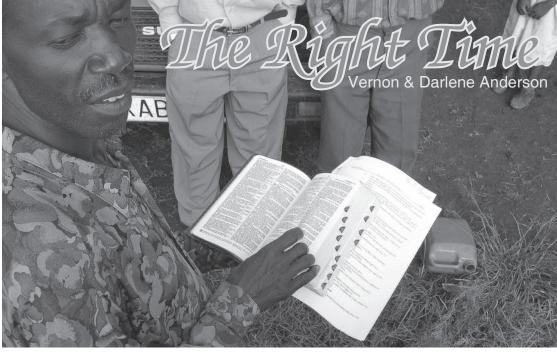
**5** A Bit of History

6 Pastor John LaVier

7 Unforgettable Memories of Pastor Harland Shriver

8 How can I help?

Preparing for Return
Christ's



### AT THE RIGHT TIME ...

1956. Beginnings are seeds ready to sprout and grow up towards harvest. Things to Come Mission sprouted in 1956 at Milwaukee Bible College when students organized themselves and witnessed a historic, Spirit-led missionary conference. All the student excitement clicked on the idea of applying worldwide evangelism to grace truth, to all nations, to all directions, moving out on the principle of living by faith. The last night of the Conference excitement rippled the waters, affecting seventy-five people to walk forward publicly to get involved in either GO or SEND missionaries...worldwide!

Eyebrows raised: Students...going out far and



Vernon & Darlene Anderson are the founding missionaries of TCM. They arrived in the Philippines on January 1, 1958. They live in Indianapolis where they work in the home office.

wide? Students organizing for prayer and life planning? TCM began sprouting... BIG!

## THE RIGHT TIME FOR THE FAR EAST

1957. The Philippine Islands were beginning to receive Bible study books from J.H. Palmer of Colorado. Quickly the readers called for help to establish Grace truth in their tropical, volcanic island homeland. Vernon and Darlene Anderson, two of the Conference seeds, were pushing hard to reach India, but they agreed with Palmer to "stop by" to answer the call from the Philippines...and stayed till 1973!

It was God's perfect timing with a bountiful harvest in store because Liberalism had just begun dividing united churches over: heaven and hell here on earth, Christ's return not personal but only in influence, no deity for Christ, etc. Serious pastors and laymen yearned to organize to study the Bible in depth, to find

See Time, Page 6



## The Director's Perspective

### The Call to Plant Churches

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the Fall 2005 edition of *International Harvest*. Actually, as I write this, Indianapolis is having its first few snow days. By now the term "Fall" is probably just wishful thinking!

### **50 Years of Ministry**

Things to Come Mission was incorporated on December 30, 1955. This is the 47<sup>th</sup> volume of the *Harvest*. In recognition of 50 consecutive years of proclaiming God's grace to the world, several articles look back at the early history of TCM. Founding missionaries Vernon and Darlene Anderson and Joe and Pauline Watkins write from decades of experience on the mission field. You can also read about two stalwarts of the faith, Pastor John LaVier and Pastor Harland Shriver, who have gone on ahead into glory. You will find the record shows that TCM has stayed the course which it embarked on 50 years ago.

### The Call to Plant Churches

On page 4 there is a graphic of the former TCM letterhead with the motto Worldwide Evangelism through the Methods of the Apostle Paul. What was the primary method our apostle used? Paul's ministry in Acts proves that evangelism is best done by planting local churches. Wherever Paul traveled, he preached the good news of Jesus. When people responded, he organized a fellowship where they would be edified by the Holy Spirit and one another. Those churches became beacons of God's saving grace to the society surrounding them. Many kinds of ministry flowed out of the local church:

Ben Anderson is Executive Director of Things to Come Mission and Editor of International Harvest. He and his wife Joyce served as a missionaries in Kenya for 18 years. His family lives in Indianapolis where the TCM headquarters is located. feeding the poor, caring for the disabled, healing the sick, raising the orphans and influencing the society toward God's principles. In TCM we are committed to following this pattern laid out by Paul.

It is interesting to note the change from Jesus' *earthly* ministry to his *post-ascension* ministry administered initially through the apostle Paul.

Attribute	Jesus' Earthly Ministry	Jesus' Heavenly Ministry
Primary Administrators	12 Apostles	Apostle Paul
Geographic Area	Small - the nation of Israel	Huge - the known world
Audience	Primarily Jews	Primarily Gentiles
Knowledge of True God	Extensive	Pagan or None
Culture of Members	Mono-cultural: adherents became Jewish in culture	Diverse: adherents continue as redeemed Gentiles
Structure	Nation: structured, "top- down" kingdom	Body: living organism with focus on mutual edification
Worship	Centered around the temple	Spread throughout numerous local congregations

By looking down the column under the heading *Jesus' Heavenly Ministry* we can see the task that is ahead of us when Paul stated, "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."

At times Christians lose interest in church planting. Other Christian activities become the "in" thing such as "Bible" studies from a Christian book, a spiritual experience or a social concern. In reality, the call to plant churches never diminishes regardless of what other activities we may

be involved with. Paul said, "It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation." The striving to build a new foundation was his life ambition.

There is no greater investment of our time, energy and finances than in establishing new congregations of believers. Even after we have passed from this earth, the church which we helped to establish will continue to bear fruit. For eternity in our heavenly home we will meet individuals who are there because Christians made the sacrifice to plant a church near them. When a Christian writes a check to a mission or sends a child to the mission field, it is not the last he will see of his valuable gift. The investment will return one hundredfold and more—both in this life and the one to come.

### A Special Prayer for Indonesia

The Lord has placed the country of Indonesia on my heart recently. This is the world's most populous Islamic country and the fourth most populous of any country. Recently, three teenage girls were attacked and beheaded by Muslims while walking through a cocoa plantation on their way to high school in Central Sulawesi. The head of one victim was placed at a local church, showing clearly that religion was at the heart of the attack. Besides this latest event, there have been thousands of Christians killed since 2000.

Indonesia has passed a law which requires religious meetings to be held in officially-registered religious buildings. This law prevents Christians from planting house churches. At a conference I attended in the Philippines in April, Indonesian Director Ruddy Akay stated, "The day is coming in Indonesia when we will die for our faith in Christ. We are willing to die for Jesus because he was willing to die for us when we were sinners."

After 50 years of ministry, Things to Come Mission has much to thank God for. Every two weeks, somewhere in the world a TCM missionary or pastor plants a grace church. Thank you for standing with us in reaching a lost world.

### CELEBRATING

50

YEARS OF MINISTRY

By Joseph Watkins

an you imagine having two 50 year celebrations in the same year? This past July Pauline and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. Now Things to Come Mission is celebrating its 50th year. What a joy and a humbling experience it has been. Things to Come Mission wants to pause on this, its 50th year of ministry. We need to do as Moses did when Israel was ready to cross over the Jordan River and enter into the Promised Land. Israel as a nation had a great challenge ahead . . . Moses' challenged Israel to look back and see God's blessings as He led them from Egypt to the Jordan. Now Moses exhorts them to trust God, telling them God will do the same as they go forth over Jordan to conquer the land. Deut. 1:8,21; 6:23; 10:12,13.

On this 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, TCM should look at God's many blessings and leading in order to move forward to other countries. God was faithful for 50 years, He will be continue to be faithful as we move forward. There is one thing that stands out in God's dealing with Israel. It was obedience to God's word. When Israel obeyed, God blessed.

When the ministry of TCM began we, too, felt that it was important to follow the commands of the Word of God through the apostle Paul. In Phil 4:9 we have his command, "Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you." In Acts 14:21-25 we have Paul's example of ministry.

In 1958 Pastor Vernon Anderson and I decided the goal for TCM Philippine ministry would be church planting or church growth. We also decided what methods we would use in church growth, evangelism and training.

What did Paul teach about the importance of the local church? He wrote to Timothy in 1 Timothy 3:15, "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." (1) House of God, the church of



Joseph Watkins arrived in the Philippines in 1958 and has ministered as teacher, church planter, field director and TCM Director. He lives in Indianapolis with his wife Pauline while serving as Associate Director in the TCM headquarters.

the living God (2) the pillar (3) the ground of truth. When you establish a local church note the testimony of the church is to a city or village, but 1) the church upholds the Truth of the living God, or the Bible (John 17:17-20). 2) The church proclaims the gospel of the grace of God.

Paul's last commands to the church are given to us in the books of Titus, First and Second Timothy. Some of those commands to Timothy were 2 Timothy 2:1-3. "Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."

It was decided that Vernon and Darlene would minister in church planting and Pauline and I would be responsible for training evangelists, teachers, and pastors. In 1958 the International Grace Bible Institute opened its doors with 30 students. I became director, teacher while Pauline supervised

the kitchen, kept records and did bookkeeping. This responsibility was all new to us. It was a huge step of faith—a step that had to be made for the future of the ministry. God blessed.

God has proven to us that He will bless when we are obedient to His Word.

Now, as we look back we can clearly see the hand of God in that ministry. There are five Grace Bible Institutes throughout the Philippines. There are over 400 national churches with pastors trained in our Bible Institutes. There are 13 Filipino missionaries serving

in Brazil, Kenya, Indonesia, South Africa, Uganda, China—most graduated from the Bible Institutes in the Philippines. There is a very large youth ministry with an active gospel team, radio broadcasts, literature, men and women's fellowships, and Christian Ed ministries.

TCM should not be diverted from its goal of church planting. We must keep on course. God has proven to us the course we are on is right. TCM must not sit back and be satisfied with the present, but must look forward, as Moses challenged Israel, to countries where there are no Grace churches. We want you to be co-laborers with TCM. You can pray and give and some of you may be able to go.



International Grace Bible Institute in the Philippines has produced pastors, Bible women, evangelists and missionaries for 47 consecutive years. Joseph Watkins was the institute's first director in 1958.



DEDICATED TO WORLDWIDE EVANGELISM THROUGH THE METHODS OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

The old TCM letterhead above



was drawn by Pastor Roscoe Kent. Note the Cope address and the grass huts. Not many of our members live in those anymore! Our letterhead has changed, but our purpose remains the same.



For many years the TCM office was in a bank building on Main Street in Cope, Colorado.

Watkins, Hunts, Bigelows and Heaths at International Grace Bible Institute in 1968.



The radio program "Hour of Grace" was recorded from our simple



missionary founder and first Director of Things to Come Mission.



Printing tracts in the early 1960s, back when typesetting really meant type setting!



This photo of initial

contacts was carried aboard

Vernon Anderson flew this 1967 Piper Cherokee 6 to bring the grace gospel to hundreds of islands and towns in the Philippines and Indonesia.

### BIT OF HISTORY

Sometime in the 1950's Brother Herbert and Sister Jessie Palmer returned from Africa due to health and other reasons. They opened up a nursing home for old folks in Craig, Colorado, high in the Rocky Mountains.



They still had all the zeal and fire for missions that they had on the field and longed to do something for the Lord from the homefront as well.

During this time they thought of how good it would be to see the grace message spread in the Western States surrounding the Rockies. In 1955 Bro. Palmer placed an ad in the Moody Monthly asking for Christian workers to apply as missionaries to the Rocky Mountains. At the time he did not fathom the outreach of Moody Monthly. The strange thing about it: he received not one reply from the USA, but many replies came from foreign lands of people willing to come as missionaries! Bro. Palmer answered the many, many inquiries and sent them Stam's and Baker's books to study, telling them that after study he would consider their agreement with the GGF doctrinal statement sufficient go ahead to send some funds to them to work in their own countries instead of coming to the USA. The name he chose for this new missionary endeavor was "Things to Come" taken principally from John 16:13 and the publications of E.W. Bullinger. Things to Come Mission was incorporated in Colorado at 4 P.M. on December 30, 1955.

No one could pour out more correspondence than Bro. Palmer, letters upon letters, all bathed with prayer, labor and encouragement. These two devoted themselves unreservedly to the support of missions, not spending anything for their own ease or comfort.

In 1956 Peter Wiering met Bro. Palmer at the GGF Conference. He offered to help Peter get to Curacao, but Peter was supported already so he recommended Bro. Palmer's name to Vernon and Darlene Anderson who were studying at the Summer Institute of Linguistics in Canada. They were one of the couples responsible for starting HOPE MISSION during school at Milwaukee Bible College. Due to Faculty opposition to this student organization, many of the members resigned and Vernon remained an officer with a couple of others. Peter's letter about Palmer opened up a new door for missions in other fields. Palmer suggested a merger of the two missions and this was done in August of 1956.

The Andersons visited the Palmers in Craig on the way to BIOLA School of Missionary Medicine. This fellowship in missions was to form their lives and also that of TCM. Vernon and two daughters did deputation in 1957 thinking of South America, but the Lord works in other ways, and when India seemed to open temporarily they took the leading of the Lord and set out. Bro. Palmer requested them to pass through the Philippines to check with the national workers before proceeding to India. In all this the Lord was before them and led in marvelous ways.

Thus it was that in January 1958 the Andersons arrived in Manila, Philippines . . .

#### International Harvest

The Official Newsletter of Things to Come Mission, Inc. Volume 47, Number 2 Fall 2005

International Harvest is the official newsletter of Things to Come Mission. It is published three times per year from the headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA. Circulation is 6,000. The publication may be received without charge by calling (317) 262-8806. Donations to TCM are used to cover our costs.

Office: 2200 English Ave

Indianapolis, IN 46201

Phone: (317) 262-8806 Fax: (317) 262-8852 Email: tcmusa@tcmusa.org Website: www.tcmusa.org Editor: Ben Anderson

#### **TCM Board Members**

- Joel McGarvey, President
- · Rick Hash, Secretary
- · Michael Robinson, Treasurer
- Ben Anderson, Executive Director
- · Joseph Watkins, Associate Director
- Richard Ware

Things to Come Mission is dedicated to worldwide evangelism through the methods of the Apostle Paul. We accomplish this goal by sending missionaries to evangelize, plant churches and train leaders. Our financial support comes from the free will gifts of churches and individuals who wish to participate in our purpose. TCM ministers on six continents.

### A Gift to Remember

Things to Come Mission would like to acknowledge the following gifts which have been given in memory of a loved one.

Cliff Kinkead

Bernice Whitman

Matt Styler

William & Susan Styler

### Nella Fulop

- Laszlo Fulop
- Ginger Lekan
- Sandy Richards

Pastor John LaVíer, Sr.

Tony & Barb Sistelos

# Pastor John LaVier

By Don Sommer

PASTOR JOHN D. LAVIER, one of the early leaders of the Grace movement and a great friend of Things to Come Mission, was

led into the presence of his wonderful Lord and Savior whom he faithfully served for nearly eighty years. He was 99 years old at the time of his death on September 21, 2005.

Pastor LaVier was born on August 1, 1906 in Chicago and was brought up by a godly mother, and from early childhood attended services and Sunday School at the Moody Church. In 1926 he began attending North Shore Church, where Pastor O'Hair was the minister and where he became increasingly active during the next 15 years. During this time at North Shore he organized a Fishermen's Club, an evangelistic organization, among the

men of the church, was often preaching in gospel missions and open air services, taught a Sunday School class, and later became director of a youth group of college age and up. A young lady named Ferne Cooley was the secretary of that youth group and it wasn't long before a lasting love relationship

began. In June, 1935 they were united in marriage by Pastor O'Hair.

In 1942 John and Ferne moved to Michigan City, Indiana where he assumed his first pastorate. In 1945 John was invited by a group of believers in Indianapolis to be their pastor. He led the congregation of Grace Church for nearly 40 years. In 1990 Pastor LaVier invited Things to Come Mission to occupy an unused portion of the church facility. That close relationship between TCM and Grace Church has continued to the present.

John and Ferne are survived by their son, John Jr., his wife True,

grandson Mark and his wife Cindy, and two great grandchildren, Hannah and Grace, all of whom live in Indianapolis and are active members of Grace Church.



### Time, From Page 1

out about Grace vs. Works, the truth.

And what exactly do we mean by a harvest? We mean souls coming out of extreme religious darkness into Biblical true light, churches forming wherever evangelism is carried on. International Grace Bible Institute was needed to start training workers who then pushed out farther with Biblical truth.

Happy to say: the harvest still continues at home and 13 Filipinos are serving the Lord on foreign fields too.

# SECOND LEAP FORWARD ... AT THE RIGHT TIME

1973. *M. V. Logos*, the worldwide gospel ship, evangelized a group of Indonesian college students when it docked in N. Celebes. These new converts were diligently searching for more Bible food when the Andersons arrived in October.

Teacher, menu, students clicked,

using *The Highway of Life* lessons, a dispensational survey of the whole Bible. Such hungry Indonesians—they absorbed every Bible fact and galvanized to fearlessly evangelize anyone: ready to go! Thousands of tracts covered the Manado area—everywhere these fast maturing babes circulated they invited for home Bible studies. The Grace Singers inspired everyone with their youth music—BIG TIME! Upon graduation from university the new professionals relocated to farther cities and the harvest spread with them.

# KENYA OPENS ... AGAIN THE RIGHT TIME

1984. Summer. Are tracts and correspondence lessons potential seeds? Yes! Prison Mission Association in USA was sending out thousands of courses via Cameroon in W. Africa. The lessons and literature sparked interest way over in E. Africa, in the never-never land called Kenya. Some Mbeere men began seeking

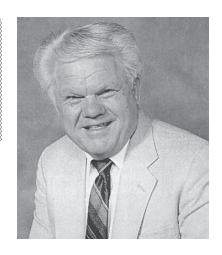
more understanding about the Bible. The Andersons and two daughters agreed to go and stay six weeks in primitive Kerwa Village and it proved to be the right timing. The Highway of Life opened eyes to the wide panorama of the Bible, especially the present dispensation of Grace. In Spring 1986 Kenya sprouted again. This time into the Kamba tribe. One gospel tract handed out at an open air market went home in Mutio's pocket to be read over and over by her brother Joshua. Soon the entire family came to Christ and started churches.

Ben Anderson also felt the call to Kenya. He brought his bride Joyce in November 1986. Another new Bible school sprouted to prepare workers who sowed the Seed and new churches sprang up.

Now you can hear of Project 2010: 20 new churches to begin in 10 main cities of Kenya by the year 2010. The Harvest is in sight. It is the RIGHT TIME!

# Unforgettable Memories of Pastor Harland Shriver

**PASTOR HARLAND SHRIVER** was ushered into the presence of the Lord on the evening of November 13, 2005 in Denver, Colorado. Things to Come Mission deeply appreciates Pastor Shriver's ministry and commitment to mission. His presence and sense of humor will be sorely missed. Please continue to pray for his wife, Ginnie.



Missionary Darlene Anderson remembers . . .

Brother Harland worked much inside Things to Come Mission when he became a Board Member in the 1960s. One of his volunteering jobs was to check over and personally investigate all applications to the Mission. He and Pastor Rollin Wilson dedicated the Mission

plane before the ministry flight from USA to southern Brazil. Vernon Anderson recalls the great blessing Ginnie Shriver was in the single-engine Piper Cherokee Six, often singing I'm Going Higher Someday as they flew from Carter Lake to Santa Catarina on the Brazil coast.

As President of TCM from January 1968 through 1971, Pastor Harland guided the Board of TCM as it grew and developed. His brother and sis-in-law, John and Jan, served in many jobs on the Philippines Field: radio, child evangelism, IGBI, Bicol fieldwork. Harland's report to the Board on May 17, 1969: "God is blessing in every area of the work in spite of the problems and difficulties on the field."

Harland and Ginnie personally visited the Philippines,

flying in the Mission plane to all areas of mission endeavor, preaching, teaching, singing, making friends. Valerie Anderson remembers Pastor Shriver from that time, when she was only five years old: "He used to come and tell me jokes when I had to have those rabies shots in my back!" How well we all remember the humor of Harland ... it was contagious ... a beloved brother in the work of Christ.



Pastor Harland and Ginny Shriver visited the Philippines in the 1960s. Pastor Shriver was a TCM Board Member and President in the 1960s and 70s.

# Are You Getting The News??

Every two months Things to Come Mission produces and mails a bulletin insert to interested churches. This insert, News You Can Use For Prayer, gives news items from TCM missionaries and fields which need your prayers. Your church can receive this insert free of charge by contacting us.

### TO COMI

### News You Can Use ... Fox Frager

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2005

- RUDOY ALXY, DIXONSIA DIRECTOR We opened three new fields: Palu (capital city Central Sulawes), Samarinda, and Banding (capital city West Java). The National Youth Conference in August had more than 60 participants. August 10 I went to Nias Island with four young people who attended the Youth Conference. We consecrated the new church building at Nias. Paise God our new church building of wowd, since centent doesn't withstead the quakes. Our church building is the only one in that area. Since the big fanameir-arthuake (May 2005), they are experiencing termon a couple times a day. Many people live in tents as temporary homes. Students are doing school activities under tents since their school are still under removation.
- STI NATIONAL SOUTH AFRICA CONTERNEL. "Conference time has always been a joyous event in the South Africa Grace ministry, both local and national...Sept.30-Oct 2,was another wonderful one. The site was packed with delegates from Capetown, Manybethreaue, Skiming, Soweto, Sothangure, Tang, Zimbalwe—the event was truly an expression of our oneness in

Tanaga, ZamaninoTanaga, ZamaninoTehrit. Paster Cari Moyet, goForgivener, Clenge, and alover alyosho on Be Robe of the Chert of
a Plandatic Society, To make ou
Conference balanced and nonenjoyable personally, we grace
it with none life testimose
and singing. The conference was
filled with laughter and joy but i
closed with tears when I said my
farswell, returning to Philippite
to get married. But all wen
how the conference of the Chert of
which was all together again
one day. Praise God for the great
one day. Praise God for the great



carl Moyer, guest speaker from Zambie reat presches at the 8th National Conference

 KNAXM MERTS FILIPRO IN THAILAND Paul Lipal, trained pastor from Kenya working in Thailand, recently mer Pastor Arbanian Banabat, pastor from the Philippines who is seaching in Thailand. A note from Paul says: "I mer Pastor Arbanian last Samady and we had a good time together getting to know each other and eating pizza. We agreed to meet again this coming Samady for fellowship, He attends a chunch in Bangkok but the would prefer

### Half Life

Has your car reached its half life? One way Things to Come Mission headquarters

helps our missionaries is by having a car available for them to travel to visit churches and supporters. This saves the time it would take for them to buy, insure, maintain and sell a vehicle—allowing them to return to the field more quickly. Our missionaries travel long distances when they are on deputation: 6,000 miles in a month is not unheard of. For our purposes 100,000 miles is the half life for a car. TCM will give you a tax receipt and your investment will continue to serve this vital missionary need. Give us a call at (317) 262-8806 if you can help.





### AFRICA UGANDA



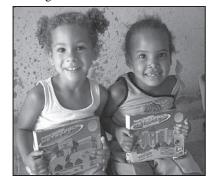
# Grace Gospel Church: Land and Building

Carlo & Elma Paña have labored in Kampala, Uganda since September 2004 to establish Grace Gospel Church. The picture above, taken in July 2005, shows how the church has grown. The temporary building in the background is constructed of mats and galvanized iron sheets on leased property. The church leaders have found a 66' x 57' plot in a residential area for \$6000. A simple but adequate structure will cost another \$4000, bringing the total to \$10,000.

# RRA7II

### Project ABBA: Reaching Underprivileged Children

Michelle Campos and Vicki LeFeber have developed Project ABBA to reach the underprivileged children around the Ibura Grace Church. At Christmas time they invite the children to an evangelistic program and then give them each a gift. The gifts will be purchased and wrapped in Brazil. This year the gifts will be given in three areas of Recife. The goal is 500 gifts costing \$4 each.



# PHILIPPINES



# Replacing a Grand Old Bible School Building

The main building of the International Grace Bible Institute was built of wood in 1958-59. Students who have studied in this building are now serving throughout the world. The tropical environment has done its work and the building, although still in use, is desperately in need of replacement. A fund has been established to replace this building. The projected cost is \$50,000.

(317) 262-8806 • Visit us on the web at www.tcmusa.org • tcmusa@tcmusa.org



### International Harvest

2200 English Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46201 NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
INDIANAPOLIS, IN
PERMIT NO. 9057