

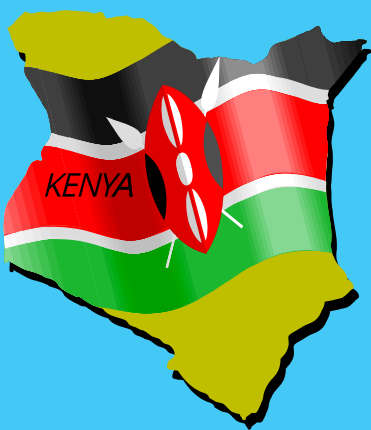
# INTERNATIONAL

THINGS  
TO COME  
MISSION



# Harvest

FALL 2018



The Grace Commission	2	9	GTCM Mission Training
Eldred Sidebottom	3	10	Brazil Leadership Training
Philippines 60th Anniversary	4	13	Kenya National Conference
Southeast Asia Grace Conference	6	15	How Can I Help?



# The Grace Commission

*Ben Anderson, International Director*



In August Joyce and I visited Kenya where we served as missionaries for 18 years. Each town we visited has its own story of how the Grace church was established. The highlight was the National Conference in Mombasa on the Indian Ocean coast. Back when we took our girls to the seashore for vacations we could not imagine there would be Grace churches and a national conference in that second largest city of Kenya.

We are privileged to live at a time in God's plan when He is pouring out His grace freely on all the peoples of our world. As Apostle Paul explains in Ephesians 2, Gentiles were formerly "aliens and strangers," basically without hope. God was clearly not satisfied for 99.8% of the world's population to remain separated from Him in spiritual darkness. His plan? Paul explains, "Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you [Gentiles]." This wonderful dispensation of Grace—previously a *mystery* as explained by Paul—opened the floodgates of salvation to the whole world apart from any works, rituals, religious system or nation. Paul gave his life "to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ." Grace without limit.

My friends, we are still living within God's dispensation of Grace—and the task is not finished. Although the ratio between Christians and non-Christians continues to improve, one-third of our fellow humans will not hear a meaningful presentation of the gospel without a cross-cultural missionary. And salvation only comes through hearing the gospel.

In Kenya's Great Rift Valley I met Pastor John Kariuki of Nakuru Grace Bible Church. John told me that at 25 years of age he is a third generation Grace member. I remember working with his grandmother to plant an early Grace church near Embu. Now John plans to plant five Grace churches in Nakuru—and three are already started. John's passion for the people of Nakuru, *the best city in Kenya* as he says, reflects God's passion for the people of the world: "God demonstrates his own love to us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

This *International Harvest* focuses on Things to Come Mission conferences around the world. In 2010 we planned a conference for Southeast Asian believers to meet every two years for fellowship and planning. We praise the Lord for the 4th SEAGC held in Chiang Mai, Thailand and attended by over 200 believers, mostly from ten of the eleven countries in SE Asia. Continue to pray fervently for East Timor and Vietnam, our newest fields, and also Taiwan where we will send two families in 2019.

The Bible plainly states that God "wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." Remember this verse! How does God count people? 1, 2, 3, 4; as in, 1 Tim. 2:3–4. Let us actively participate in God's great purpose for the people of our time who are created in his image, but still living separated from their Creator. ✨

# REMEMBERING ELDRED SIDEBOTTOM

October 16, 1924~ April 26, 2018



Eldred Sidebottom played an active role in establishing Things to Come Mission around the world. As Pastor of Cope Community Church in Colorado during the late 1950s, he invited the Mission to have a conference and board meeting at his church. This led to his appointment as Treasurer of TCM in 1960 and becoming Director in 1963, a role he filled for the next 28 years. Eldred retired from the position when the TCM office moved to Indianapolis in 1990, but he continued to serve on the TCM Board as Director Emeritus through 1994 and was considered a lifetime member of the TCM Board.

In 1962 TCM purchased the old bank building in Cope for \$600 and converted it into the Mission office. This was quite an improvement over a card table in Eldred's utility room! Eldred and his wife, Beverly, served faithfully in the TCM office every day, handling all the



office business without computers, Internet or cell phones! They meticulously managed income and receipts, maintained TCM and missionary mailing lists (without databases!) and attended to TCM's communications and publications. All letters and financial reports had to be typed on a typewriter, bookkeeping was recorded by hand in ledgers, and Eldred drove 17 miles each way to Kirk, CO to do the TCM banking; yet, missionaries received letters regularly from Eldred along with their monthly income slips.

During Eldred's tenure as Director, TCM sent missionaries to existing ministries in the Philippines and Brazil, and opened England, Holland, Indonesia, Florida, Kenya and South Africa as new TCM fields. Eldred visited most of these fields in person—even bravely flying with Vernon Anderson in a single-engine airplane all the way to south Brazil—and undertook survey trips to new countries. He also traveled extensively to churches and conferences around the USA promoting TCM.

TCM missionaries remember Eldred as a wonderful mentor and encourager. He and Beverly were always hospitable and ready to help the missionaries, including driving 2 hours to Denver to pick them up or drop them off at the airport and boarding missionary kids in their home as needed.

These words, penned by Eldred in a 1971 issue of this magazine, express his heartfelt dedication: *The desire of the Things to Come Mission family is to reach the WORLD for Christ and to teach the child of God the Scriptures **rightly divided**. We want to thank each of you for your help in reaching that goal. Your prayers and your gifts have been used of the Lord to challenge many to receive Christ as Savior and have caused some to give their lives as a living sacrifice for Christ . . . Do you have a desire to serve the Lord in some new area? We are ready to enter into that area with you! Why not write us of your interest in missionary work?* ✂



# CELEBRATING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS



## "THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS!"

The microphone-deafening announcement came from the huge colorfully decorated platform of the new TCM Convention Center in the Philippines. A spectacular 5-minute fireworks display caught the full attention of more than 2,000 excited participants on the opening night of the 60th TCM Founding Anniversary & Thanksgiving Celebration in Lupagan where TCM missionaries, Vernon & Darlene Anderson and Joe & Pauline Watkins began ministry in 1958!

Attending the TCM-Philippines 60th Anniversary was a highlight of our year. We were so impressed with the quantity of people! They went through such struggles to be there, but it didn't matter; they were there! And most of them were pastors! Eh, that was hard to comprehend: more than 1500 people, most of them laborers in the Lord's field. In South Africa the work is not that advanced, so the conference was a vivid glimpse into what could be the future of our work - a vision we will not forget! Inspiring! -Paul Craesmeyer, Missionary



**402 graduate from Grace School of Biblical Studies;  
62 new TCM pastors & Bible women recognized  
23 pastors ordained**



**Serving  
1500+**

I can't thank God enough for the opportunity to attend the 60th Anniversary! It's tremendous to celebrate the Lord's doing together and be edified in the Word of God. I'm much inspired with thoughts about church growth, church planting and training of church leaders for the ministry. -Titus Kivilu, TCM-Kenya Director



# AND SUPER ABOUNDING GRACE

The opening ceremonies paraded colorful flags representing 17 TCM mission fields spread across 5 continents. More than 50 TCM missionaries and guests from those countries graced the historic event. Ben Anderson, Tim Heath, Don Sommer, Felix Rosales, Titus Kivilu, Nathan Killion, and James Bermejo each delivered strong, spiritually-enriching messages during the worship services centering on the theme: *TCM at 60: Faithfully Proclaiming the Mystery*. Indeed, God's faithfulness and super-abounding grace were the reasons for the great and historic celebration!

—Pastor Eufracio “Jun” Pielago, TCM-Philippines

**CHURCH GROWTH GOALS**  
Thanksgiving for completion of  
**TCM IMPACT 2017**  
Presentation of **TCM TARGET 2023**

THE MISSION, INC.  
PPINES  
**GRACE NATIONAL**  
**CONFERENCE**  
3-26, 2018  
*Proclaiming*  
*Mystery*  
(Isaiah 3:9)  
CONVENTION CENTER IGBI DZAN  
MAGAN CLARIN MISAMIS DEL N

**Inauguration  
of TCM  
Convention  
Center**

It was really great to witness a multitude of Grace believers meeting together. I thank God for letting me realize that though we face a lot of challenges in life, we remain strong and faithful in the grace of God. I was encouraged and blessed by our ministers and church members for showing their zealotness in the ministry through their preparation and effort just to attend this conference. Their lives have greatly impacted me. I also give tribute to the first American missionaries in the Philippines: because of them we celebrated 60 years of TCM Grace Church. Their memories will never be lost in our minds and we're forever grateful for them. **TO GOD BE THE GLORY.** —Juna Umacob, Missionary





## SOUTHEAST ASIA GRACE CONFERENCE



From May 24-28, 2018, 200 Grace believers representing 16 countries came together in Chiang Mai, Thailand, for the 4th Southeast Asia Grace Conference (SEAGC). The SEAGC is a biennial gathering of missionaries, pastors, ministry leaders, and church members purposed to promote mission within TCM in Southeast Asia. This year's SEAGC included Christ-centered worship and preaching sessions, challenging country reports, interactive workshops, an entertaining and eye-opening tour day, and encouraging fellowship. All these activities were focused around the theme ***Committing the Grace Gospel to Faithful People*** from 2 Timothy 2:1-2 in effort to encourage believers to continue training up reliable men and women who love the Lord Jesus Christ and desire to proclaim God's grace to the nations.

Thanks to many people who prayed, prepared, and contributed towards SEAGC, the week's events brought glory to God and encouraged the delegates in their role in God's mission. TCM Thailand and Grace Church of Chiang Mai were honored to host this important event and praise the Lord for orchestrating the various details and working powerfully in the hearts and lives of those who came. The following quote from one of the attendees sums up the impact of the conference: "Before SEAGC, I never really understood mission. Now, I know my part in God's mission."



—Nathan Killion





## *I Am Present!*    *By Faith Bunglo*

*A*ttending SEAGC 2018 was my priority goal: Whatever happens, I AM PRESENT, was my thought from the date it was announced 2 years ago.



*I grew up in an active Christian home. From kids camp to youth conferences to regional church gatherings and Grace conferences, I am present. From the flag raising to bidding goodbyes, I was never late nor missed a single event in a conference. My employer never deducted absences for attending TCM conferences; instead the certificates I received earned me merits and incentives. But not this time for SEAGC, Chiang Mai.*

*The day after SEAGC 2016 in Cambodia culminated, my family crossed the border and entered this country where Christianity is restricted. From then on, I longed for loud hymn singing, carefree preaching and open praying, so the thought of SEAGC 2018 was very sweet as a time to reconnect, strengthen, encourage, renew, and be equipped for authentic witness.*

*In February I wrote my school director asking permission to take leave May 24 – 27 to attend SEAGC. His answer was, "It's not possible. It's the end of school year preparation." Each month after, I communicated to him verbally how important this event is to me. I bargained. I made early preparations of paper work. Student presentations (next page)*

were ready in advance to perform . . . just to win his YES. It was of NO effect in his decision. Saying no to a request to attend a conference like SEAGC is a form of persecution.

May 2nd I submitted my passport for visa renewal. It was returned May 10, but was not given to me until May 25, Friday, at 2 p.m. sharp, my scan-out time. I traveled alone for the first time, separate from the other 16 delegates from my field. God used His secret human angels (including my director's best friend!) to move me fast. I crossed the border to Thailand and flew to Chiang Mai.

At exactly 7:30 p.m. I slipped into an enormous hall with a well decorated stage, flag poles of participating countries on both sides, a big inscription of the theme, and 200 people listening attentively. As I sat quietly, I whispered to my God, "Perfect is your time!" That night the inexperienced speaker, a missionary to my field, preached a very strong message. When he was done, he was described as a warrior. Why? Because of the challenges he faced in his field assignment. No retreat, no surrender. He even endured a car accident on the way to Chiang Mai; but remember, in war there are rarely unwounded soldiers.

The day after was a full day trip to Elephant Park to be amazed by their artwork and exhibitions, followed by a visit to a hilltop temple with impressive views over Chiang Mai. On returning to the hotel, an array of all-you-can-eat sumptuous foods was offered to the tired delegates. In the evening worship an energetic, bold speaker preached about being authentic. None of us could leave the hall that night without self-checking.

Sunday brought reports from different countries. I was assigned to give our field's report. I started with facts, mission and vision of our team followed by challenges and plans. As images flashed on the screen, many in the congregation were moved to tears. More tears flowed when one participant from our field shared his struggles in his own family. Afterward many came to our delegation confirming that they are praying for us, that we are not alone.

After all the reports, I flew back to my field, this time with a big smile, happy heart, wider perspective, deeper devotion, and eyes open to His tremendous work in Southeast Asia.

## **GTCM MISSIONARY OATH**



**I solemnly promise to be faithful to Christ as a minister of His Word; to be loyally committed in preaching the gospel of the Grace of God according to the revelation of the mystery which is committed to and through the Apostle Paul. As a graduate of GTCM, I pledge my deepest commitment**

**to carry out the Grace message as I move from this milestone to the regions beyond with the best of my ability, either by life or by death, until the Lord comes. So help me God."**



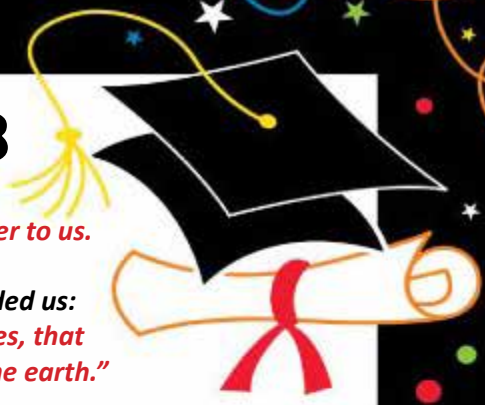
# G T C M 2018

*Lost people matter to God, and so matter to us.*

Keith Wright

*For this is what the Lord has commanded us:  
"I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that  
you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."*

Acts 13:47



**W**e are beyond thankful for **Grace Theological Center for Mission!** We feel like God completely exploded our world upside-down and challenged our personal view and example. More than anything, we are very thankful for how this training challenged us to go to God's Word for answers and to seek Him in order to find out what's really true. We don't want to mindlessly believe things because people tell us, but because God's Word has convinced, convicted and converted us that it's true. GTCM encouraged the discovery method of learning, which really helped us take more ownership for what we believe about who God is and His heart in mission to the regions beyond.



GTCM prepared us for lifelong learning, gave us an unquenchable passion for missions to unreached people groups and prepared us to be *Agents of Transformation* to the regions beyond. We believe every missionary should go through this training prior to hitting the mission field. You will be stretched and challenged spiritually in ways you may never have thought. We highly recommend GTCM to anyone who is seriously considering going into missions!



—*Vincent & Shirley Quiñones, TCM missionary candidates to Taiwan*

## GTCM COURSES

- Theology of Mission
- Mission History
- Mission & Culture
- Mission Strategy
- Cross-cultural Leadership
- Cross-cultural Evangelism & Church Planting
- Mission & Family Life
- TCM Orientation

Craig MacDonald spent two weeks in June with Joe and Michelle Campos in Brazil. He reflects on his trip: Since retiring as a pastor three years ago I've had the privilege to serve through a teaching ministry in three other countries, and now Brazil. For reasons I'm not sure I can explain I think my time in Brazil may have been the most effective of the trips.



We started in Recife meeting at Boa Viagem church with members from 4 Grace churches in Recife. I taught a seminar based on my book, ***Understanding Your Bible***. We did 12 hours of sessions, 6 each on Friday and Saturday.

Sessions on Dispensationalism were followed by 12 hours on Church Leadership, again over two days. The original intent was that these sessions would be attended by the Recife pastors and elders, but people responded so positively to the dispensational seminar that many of them also chose to attend the leadership sessions. We adjusted by emphasizing that many church leadership principles and skills are transferable to leadership positions in any setting. Again, attendance exceeded expectations.

From Recife we drove south to Aracajú where we planned to repeat both seminars with those churches, this time beginning with the leadership material. Scheduling issues meant a reduction from 12 to 6 hours of sessions on leadership. Again, attendance was good and the people responsive. We planned to do the dispensational sessions Saturday night and Sunday but unfortunate circumstances meant that didn't happen.

It's risky for any visitor to another culture to make assessments about much of anything (except that the Brazilians have wonderful food). This *gringo* won't presume to grasp the dynamics of Brazilian culture nor assess the impact of my time there. I do, however, feel very safe with the following observations:







Joe Campos has a very effective ministry both at the Boa Viagem church and as he guides the other churches in Recife and Aracajú. Establishing indigenous churches is challenging work that is often slow and frustrating. Joe is not only up to the task, he's getting it done.

I couldn't be more pleased with the way Joe set up my time there. His planning was thorough and meticulous which maximized my effectiveness. He's also an easy translator to work with.

Michelle is as gracious and thoughtful a host as any guest could ever want. I'd rate my stay in their home as a 5-star experience, including the way she anticipated a foreigner's every need. It's quickly obvious that she's a true helpmeet to Joe in his ministries.



The believers in both Recife and Aracajú were incredibly warm, attentive, and responsive. Again, this was a cross-cultural experience for me, and we also had the language barrier, but they seemed to really grasp the dispensational content and get both the big picture and the distinctives of a mid-Acts view.



That a significant number of believers would spend most of their free time on a weekend at a seminar on dispensational theology is remarkable and commendable. I doubt many churches in the States could match that, and it says good things about the future of the church in Brazil.

—*Craig MacDonald*

# Grace Bible Church National Bible Conference Mombasa Kenya



**Venue:**  
Mombasa - Mikindani,  
Sameta

**10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Aug 2018**  
**Starting 9:00am**

Guest Minister: Pst Ben and Joyce Anderson from USA  
Pst Philip Wanjiku from Egata  
Rev. Elias Kivile GBC National Dir. Kenya  
Pastor Paul Ochieng' from Brazil  
Stephen Chwanyaai from Egata

**Host:**  
Pst Peter & Margaret Kagwe

**Theme: Growing Faith**  
3 Thessalonian 1:3: We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters (a) and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.



## GROWING FAITH IN KENYA

~Joyce Anderson~

When my husband and I first arrived in Kenya in 1986 as newlyweds we were inexperienced in leading a cross-cultural ministry. We worked with a handful of churches who met in a mud hut or under a tree. All TCM missionaries lived in Embu, a town in central Kenya, and nearly every church was located in that area. There were no trained pastors or leaders. Soon, a Bible school was established and young people began attending. Slowly, churches were planted as more trained workers were developed, and eventually missionaries and national leaders spread out across Kenya to plant 20 churches in the 10 most strategic cities by 2010: **Project 2010**.

An effective missionary strives to work himself out of a job! Just as a wise parent nurtures her children and prepares them to succeed on their own in the world, a missionary trains and equips the citizens living on their mission field. As the Kenyans matured in their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and in their Bible knowledge, missionaries began targeting other countries. The last TCM missionary in Kenya departed in 2016.



TCM-Kenya leaders, Titus Kivilu & Peter Kagwi, with Ben Anderson

Thirty-two years after first arriving in Kenya, Ben and I participated in the Grace Bible Church National Conference in Mombasa, Kenya—a **Project 2010** city. Pastor Peter Kagwi and his family relocated there in 2010 to plant the first Grace church before the end of the year. Eight years later, there are eight Grace churches along the Mombasa coast,



Welcoming guest speaker, Stephen Cwinyaai



several training centers, and new areas being targeted for church plants.

The national conference was held in August 2018 with 270 Grace believers participating in the two-day event. Attendees traveled from South Africa, Singapore and Uganda but the majority came from other parts of Kenya.



The leaders in Mombasa worked hard to plan the conference. One of the benefits they felt was the unity and the fellowship of believers. Being hosted in Mombasa for the first time, Grace believers at the coast were encouraged by meeting with other Grace believers from across the country and beyond.

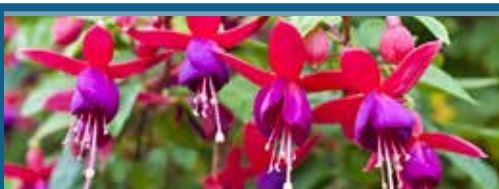


The conference theme **Growing Faith** reflected the growth taking place within the hearts and minds of the Kenyans. Pastor Peter Kagwi shared, "We are practically applying *Growing Faith* by reaching more souls for Christ and equipping believers through teaching the Word of God."



Guest speaker, Paul Craesmeyer

There was a time when TCM missionaries only went to Mombasa to be fishers of fish, enjoying seafood while taking a short vacation. Today the Grace believers on the coast are fishers of men.



### ***In Memory***

#### **DONALD KILGO**

Herbert & Judith Fuller  
Jug Tavern Senior Citizens  
Robert & Gayle Kiewiet  
P. Diane Schlecte

#### **ELDRED SIDEBOTTOM**

Bob & Patricia Barnes  
William & Patricia Biens  
David & Teresa Callahan  
Ed & Ellen Cecil  
Leslie & Elaine Lewis  
Tim & Karie Probasco  
Linda K. Stroup  
Alice White  
Janice K. Wilkens  
Valerie Anderson Wynalda  
Anonymous Gifts

#### **LILA WINDER**

Altoona Bible Church

#### **JULIE WYNALDA**

Pete Wynalda

**TEAM TIMOR and TEAM VIETNAM** have been launched! Pray for the Arsinos and Escobars as they engage in language study, build relationships and pioneer TCM's work on these new fields. Pray particularly that they can obtain long-term visas so their ministries will not be interrupted.

**Jesse Palmer Easterly** entered the Lord's presence, Oct. 7, at age 101. Jessie and her husband Herbert Palmer founded TCM in 1955. Twice widowed, Jessie served with TCM in Kenya for 13 years, managing the Bible correspondence course program and acting as dorm mom for the Bible school students. What a mighty mission legacy she leaves!

**Tim and Judy Heath** resigned from TCM in July in order to devote themselves more fully to caring for family members, including Tim's 95-year old mother, Eunice Heath. Tim and Judy were part of the TCM family for over 40 years. Most recently Tim was TCM's Development Director and a Board member. Together Tim & Judy served as TCM missionaries in Southeast Asia from 2010 to 2014 and also led a number of short-term mission trips to various fields. Their commitment to the cause of Christ through cross-cultural mission has been an inspiration to many. We wish Tim and Judy the Lord's richest blessings in this new chapter of their life and ministry.

**Salvina Ulfindo** resigned from TCM and our Myanmar Team in March. Salvina devoted herself to studying the Burmese language and teaching English; however, emotional struggles affected her ministry and led to her separation from TCM. Dan & Amy Banac and Gardner & Ledith Improso are carrying on TCM's efforts to reach Buddhists with the gospel and train Grace leaders in Myanmar.

**Janae Brown** met with the TCM Board in May, following her missionary internship and Bible school training in the Philippines. Rather than wait for a TCM field assignment, Janae chose to go independently to China as an English teacher.

**Joel and Leah Sanders** sensed the Lord leading them to delay moving overseas and are on leave of absence status from TCM for 2 to 3 years. Meanwhile, they have taken the pastorate of Grace Gospel Church in Linton, IN (where they served part of their internship last year) and are using this time to gain more ministry training and experience in preparation for going out as missionaries when their kids are a bit older. Pray for patience and discernment for the Sanders as they walk by faith, trusting the Lord to guide each step ahead.



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- Jim Tollar, Vice President
- Timothy Board, Secretary
- Don Sommer, Treasurer
- Doug Cox, Member
- Aaron Harris, Member
- Jesse Vaught, Member

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- Don Sommer, Executive Director
- Ben Anderson, International Director
- TBA, Development Director
- Valerie Wynalda, Office Administrator

**Things to Come Mission** prepares people for Jesus Christ's return through the methods of the Apostle Paul by sending missionaries to evangelize, plant churches and train leaders worldwide. Our financial support comes from free will gifts of churches and individuals. Things to Come Mission will disburse gifts as they are designated. When a project is complete, TCM will disburse the gifts in a manner consistent with its mission statement and purpose. As a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization, TCM issues tax-deductible receipts for all donations.



# HOW CAN I HELP?

## KENYA BIBLE SCHOOL BUILDING

Fifteen years ago the headquarters of the Grace Bible Churches in Kenya moved to Thika, just 45 minutes from the capital Nairobi and the international airport. Through God's provision a ¾ acre property was purchased on the outskirts of the city which is used for the director's office, the Thika Grace Bible Church, pastor's house and the distance Bible school. The city has grown up around the property with paved roads, sidewalks, streetlights and five-story buildings. The time has come to open a residential Bible school to train leaders for the growing Grace churches. The proposed building project will cost \$36,000 and when complete will include two large classrooms, two dormitories, office and bathrooms. God has already provided \$30,000 through His people. We would like to raise \$6,000 and start the building before the end of 2018.



**Designate Donations: Kenya Bible School Building**

## TEAM MK EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

TCM Team missionaries serving in Cambodia, E Timor, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam have school age children in need of a proper education. Monthly financial support for Team missionaries (about \$500 per parent + \$100 per child) covers personal expenses but doesn't extend to school expenses. We want to assist these Team families by providing need-based scholarships of up to \$1000 per MK (missionary kid), per school year to those whose children are enrolled in an academic program (Kindergarten through Grade 12) with an established curriculum.

**Designate Donations: Team MK Education**

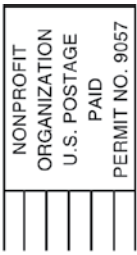


## SPONSOR CHURCH-PLANTING PIONEERS

TCM-Philippines has established 513 Grace churches. They want to plant 135 more Grace churches by 2023. They have 53 pioneer workers dedicated to this task, but only 9 currently receive financial support due to limited funds. The Philippine Grace churches have been challenged to sponsor these pioneering church planters, and they extend that challenge to Grace believers worldwide. \$50 per month will sponsor a church planter.



**Designate Donations: TCM-Philippines Church Planting**



**International Harvest**



**www.tcmusa.org • tcm@tcmusa.org • (317) 783-0300  
PO Box 127, Beech Grove, IN 46107**

**O**n April 19th, we flew literally half-way around the world to be a part of the **60th GRACE NATIONAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE for TCM-PHILIPPINES** (see p. 4-5). As a benchmark anniversary, it was a wonderful time of celebration, thanksgiving, and praise. Over the course of the 4-day event, we were encouraged and challenged by many messages from God's Word, we were blessed by amazing choirs lifting up the name of our Lord and Savior, and we shared in the infectious excitement that well over 1000 participants exhibited for the life-changing gospel of the Grace of God. Probably the greatest blessing was the privilege of meeting and getting to know so many of the Filipinos who are devoted to the gospel and to serving our Lord. We fellowshipped with patriarchs and matriarchs of the Grace movement in the Philippines, young pastors and Bible women, missionaries, singers and musicians, cooks and organizers. They made us feel like family--which we are as brothers and sisters in Christ--and remain in the front of our minds and near our hearts.

—Mark & Cindy (Watlkins) LaVier, Indianapolis

