



# PERSEVERANCE — Kent Odor

ACS empowers Asian missionaries to reach the unreached, plant new churches, and disciple believers.

*Consider it pure joy, my brothers, and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. -James 1:2-4*

The ACS missionary team in Southeast Asia has experienced trials of many kinds during the last two years. A pandemic, a military war on the nation's citizens and other natural disasters have tested the faith of every person. Over one hundred evangelists have died from the covid pandemic as well as many Christians in the churches. This is known to us because they are in the fellowship of the churches that have roots in the Morse family's mission. Suffering has been the experience of most people during the past two years.

The Apostle Paul puts this situation in words that help us make sense of what we should do.

*"We also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope." -Romans 5:3-4*

Our team has persevered through the trials. The spiritual fruit that has been produced through their experiences has been

exponential in its impact. In the stories from the field that will be shared in these pages, try to catch a glimpse of the great work God is doing through the evangelists. The result of their labor is the changed lives of all kinds of people. New churches have been planted in the refugee camps. Both children and adults have been touched by the love of God. Their lives have been changed. Our workers have experienced breakthroughs with buddhists, animists and ancestor worshipers. We have much good news to share. The result of this process is indeed hope.

Thank you for your support in both your prayers and financial gifts. The gifts we give seem to be like the loaves and fish that Jesus used to feed the 5,000. The Lord seems to multiply their impact beyond what we can imagine. As you read this edition, may your own heart be strengthened so that you too, can persevere through the suffering you are experiencing. That perseverance will lead to a change in your character and give you hope!



Baptism of Animist Worshiper



Baptism of Buddhist Refugee



Baptism of Ancestor Worshiper

# Reaching the Tavoyan Tribe

— Zame Yiram

Zame Yiram planted a new church in the Tavoyan tribe at Tavoy city. Tavoyan people have a very dark history. They are strong against the evangelist and the evangelist needs fervent prayers. The Tavoyan Christian



Tavoyan Church

Church must fight against evil spirits and the people need to be taught to use the power of the Gospel. This new church recently celebrated THE FEAST OF FIRST FRUITS. It was a wonderful celebration for them. They are trusting God more and more.

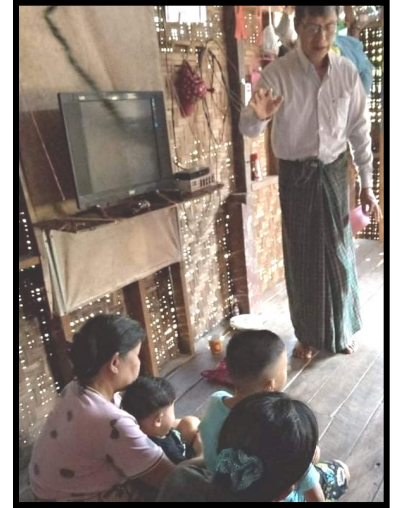


Zame—Celebrating Feast of First Fruits



Teaching about First Fruits

Also, recently, Zame Yiram was suffering a stomach ulcer and admitted to hospital for a month. Now he is totally recovered without operation by the power of God.



Zame Teaching in a Home

He and his wife continue sharing the Good News among Tavoyan people. Pray for Zame and his family. They are having a great impact in their ministry. - **Simon – ACS Coordinator**

# Reaching the Ann Tribe — Sai Tun

Sai Tun uses the motorbike to reach Ann tribe. It takes 8 hours' drive in the muddy road to reach Ann village. This motorbike was provided by ACS. The Ann tribe is very superstitious and afraid of spirits. When he arrives in the village, he shares the Good News to the villagers in an open space. They are afraid that their evil spirits will flee away if he prays at their homes.

Sai Tun and his wife spend time teaching the children basic education. This makes the parents very happy. They give many gifts including vegetables, pumpkin, taro and sweet potatoes. This makes opening the door to share the Good News to their



Sai Tun Traveling to the Ann Village



Sai Tun Teaching Outdoors



**Sai Tun the Ann Tribe**

homes easier. Formerly the children were prevented from all schooling because of fear of the evil spirits. Most children are not in school. Sai Tun said, "If Ann children are growing and developing in Christ, their parents and the whole tribe can accept Jesus. They can become Christians by forsaking worshipping evil spirits."

Sai Tun shares the Good News and prays for them. The Gospel has power and some villagers have now accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior and been baptized in Christ.

Pray for Sai Tun and his family. They are having a great impact in their ministry. - **Simon ACS Coordinator**

*Thank you to the couple that in the fall of 2019 invested in God's Kingdom supporting the new church work to both the Ann Tribe and the Tavoyan Tribe. Note: The Ann Tribe has a total population of 62,000 and these are among the first in the tribe to become Christians. The Tavoyan Tribe has 456,000 but only one tenth of one percent are known to be Christians. These are two of the last 50 unreached tribes to hear the gospel in Myanmar.*



**Sai Tun's Wife is Teaching**



**Ann Mother Gives Gift of Sweet Potatoes**



**Ann Tribe Baptism**



**Sai Tun Teaching Children**

## Evangelist Daniel Yea Sue

Daniel, his wife Siriphorn and their four lovely children are very faithful servants of Jesus Christ. Daniel is a full-time pastor at one of the small local churches at a village near Chiang Rai in Thailand. He also leads 3-4 other small cell groups near the village. They have been serving in ministry for over 20 years now. Daniel is passionate about training young people to become church leaders. He tirelessly spends time with young people in the village during weekends by playing football and arranging small groups meeting. Your support of prayers and financial support to the family enables them to continue the kingdom works. - **Tasanee ACS Thailand**



**Daniel Teaching**



**Daniel Yea Sue Family**

## Simon Thaung Family — ACS Coordinator

Dear Friends, Greetings from Asia Mission Field. We and all the fellows are suffering Covid-19. Some fellows died. It has been a challenging time. But, God's providential care is enough, sufficient to us. This time, I would like to share about my family. We do not share about family much in our culture, different with western culture.

I married True on May 17, 1997. We are going to celebrate 25th Silver Jubilee anniversary with family and friends. I have five children, Anna (23), John (21),

Noel (16), Naomi (15) and Debbie (13). Anna was graduated at Victory Bible College and serving full time in teaching refugee children. John is studying computer science and now taking online class due to covid-19. Noel, Naomi and Debbie are taking ACE, home school in Thailand at this time.

My wife is caring for our children full time when I go on mission trips. Wife is said "Master of home" in our culture as she cares for children, arranges food and all things while husbands go out to work for family daily. 80% of women are not working away from home. It is a wonderful time for my family in summer



**Anna in Family Outreach**

holidays. I take my family to the beach, on mission trips, to refugee camps and I teach my children how to serve, how to fly higher in the midst of life storms.

Thank you, all friends, for your generosity and love to the neighbors who are hurting, hungry and suffering. Our "Love in Action" has changed their hearts and many have accepted God's Love. God's kingdom is tremendously expanded by your monthly prayer support. May God continue to bless you all. Amen. Your fellow servants, Simon and True



**Simon True and Family**



**Simon Family Outreach**

## Paul Seng Awng — March 14

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray for you. I'm Paul Seng Awng. There are five family members in my family including me. We live at Yangon village, Tachileik, East of Shan State. I'm currently sharing the gospel around Tachileik town especially to the unbelievers. I have been working as a Naga evangelist and a Naga Lecturer since 1988. I would like to request you to pray for the poor Naga Christians in Kachin state, at the Myanmar and India border. The Christian pastors always request you to pray for medical kits (helps) is very much needed. In brother LaVerne's time he sent help once in a year and it was very helpful and effective for the poor Naga Christians. There is no medical center in the Naga hill villages. Many have died. Now I'm trying to publish Tang Shang Naga hymnbooks for the Naga people. They still need help to print 1,000 books. Please pray also for my trip to Naga hill.

In Christ Jesus, Paul Seng Awng, Naga Missionary



**Paul with Naga Church**



**Paul Presenting a Baptismal Certificate**



**Paul Baptizing New Believer**



**Paul and New Believers**

# Steven Leme (1960-2022)

*Dear all, This is the story of Steven Leme. He has been an Evangelist for 35 years. He persevered through many personal trials throughout his ministry. He has been supported by ACS for many of those years. He died in February of Covid-19.*



**Steven and his wife Din Khan Nan**

**Steven Leme** was born at Yecho De, the other side of Mulashidi, Putao in 1960. His parents accepted Jesus as Savior after hearing the Good News from Morse family, forsaking animism and worshipping evil spirits.

He wanted to go new mission field to reach new tribes. Therefore, he went to PCBS (Putao Christian Bible School) and graduated in 1988. After graduation, he went to Nam San, Shan State to reach Lisu animists and planted a new church and delegated new



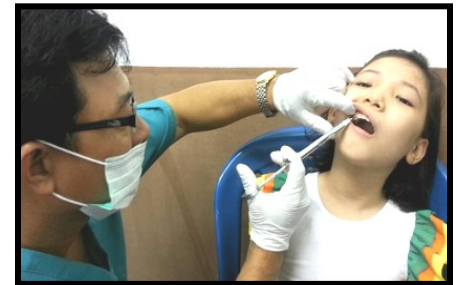
**Steven (Middle) and fellow friends MB Yohan, Simon, Titus & Moses**

disciples and went to Pyi

Oo Lwin to reach Nepali Hindus and planted a new church. Then he went to Phay Khun, Kaya State to reach Lisu animists. But he was detained by military and expelled from the village. In 1990, he came to meet LaVerne Morse and asked him to change his name from Job as he had been suffering like Job. LaVerne gave him a new name Steven.

After changing his name to Steven, it became worst. He was arrested by the brutal military by pointing guns at his head because of sharing the Good News to strong Buddhists. He was put underground without pillow or bed. Coke can is his pillow in the darkest room. The food is

mixed with rat pooh. No one knew where he was. After 45 days, he did not want to eat and took only a spoon after praying. Then he started getting vomiting and diarrhea and recovered. They put poison in food to kill him. But God save his life. Then God changed the military heart.



**Steven was well trained by mPower and extracted over 40,000 teeth**

The next day, a military officer came to meet him at midnight and asked him "Do you want to go back?" He said, "Yes", and got agreement to come to the military camp daily and sign in for 3 months. He signed and they sent back home at midnight. He went to military camp daily and signed in for 3 months and then was totally released.



**Steven Coordinated the Golden Triangle Seminar**

Steven become one of the leaders at Tachileit and coordinated with Tasanee and ACS to conduct the annual Golden Triangle Christian leadership seminar.

He got tuberculosis and Covid-19 and fell asleep in Christ on February 5, 2022. We are very

sad and conducted the best funeral service for 5 days and nights at his home and he was buried at Tachileit Christian Cemetery. Steven trained his children to be servants of God. We are happy that he has trained his son Paul to be a church planter and he planted a new church at Palian, Tachileit. His second son Ah Khi became a Christian musician and his daughter Ah Du become a Christian teacher.



**Paul become Church planter graduation & Commission**



**Ah Khi, Musician Ah Du is teacher**

**Steven Trained His Children to be Servants of God**

Well done! Steven. May your soul rest in Peace. - **Simon Thaug**

# Teaching Refugee Children

Teacher Amy and teacher May both accepted the challenge in 2020 to go to the Bago IDP camp north of Yangon to teach the children and help plant a church. Amy was a buddhist as a child and was adopted by Simon's family and grew up in a Christian family. After high school she was baptized and went to Emmaus Bible Institute. Upon graduation she enjoys teaching children as it is a God given talent. Her vision is to reflect God's love and joy to these hopeless children.

Teacher May is of the Khongso Tribe. Her family were worshipping evil spirits, but all the family accepted Jesus as Savior after hearing the good news from an evangelist. She went to EBI and studied Gods word for four years. She also upon hearing the need for a schoolteacher at the Bago Camp went to serve in 2020.

Amy and May are supported by ACS and teaching there full time. They teach, tell Bible stories, singing praise songs, play games and have a fun time. In these photos, you can see the joy they have brought to these children.

My daughter Anna graduated from Bible College and teaches and visits children in multiple refugee camps. She went to assist Amy and May and took textbooks, teaching aids and cookies, purchased from special funds recently sent. Hope you will enjoy seeing the pictures. This was a great, wonderful, beautiful day. Our Lord and LaVerne will be smiling from heaven. Thank you to the family who is sponsoring these teachers. Thank you also for the donation to supply the needed teaching materials. Share this news. God Bless you all. **-Simon**



Anna, May, Amy and Friends



Playing in IDP Camp



First Time Making Hand Prints



Amy Teaching



Anna Giving Textbook



Children Playing



Tarp Roof Home of Refugee

## New Church Building at Refugee Camp

I am sending a report of planting a new church at a new refugee camp in the north. There are 530,000 refugees or Internally Displaced People in Myanmar as military coup took the power and bombed the villages. They have escaped into safe zone and are in many new IDP camps. ACS has helped with food and tarps for resettlement. Many of them received God's Love through us and planted a new church. Praise the Lord!

We have free lumbers, and the refugees are volunteers to build this church. We are building this church from the the contribution of **Bring Good News International**. The donation is building a 40 X 60 church building. The refugees are volunteers, giving free labor and saw the lumber to prepare church building. They are dedicated, leaving their huts, tarp tents and work the best for the church. The refugees are very poor but rich in spirit. They want to build the best house for the Lord to worship even though they are living in hut with tarp roof. We still need US \$1,500 for zinc roof sheets instead of tarps. Hope and pray that God will provide. Blessings. - **Simon**



Building a Church in the Refugee Camp

## The Keng Tung Church — Outreach in an Ancestor Worship Area

Ancestor worship has a long history in Asia. The people worship their ancestors who they have wronged as well as three other kinds of spirits: the forest spirits, the house spirits and the spirit of the destroyer. So, whenever a family member becomes sick or facing a misfortune, they have to offer sacrifices to the spirits. This makes them poorer, and they live in fear for all their lives. So, the ancestor worship is a bondage or curse for them. The Lisu evangelists, Peter, Robert and Silas have gone to them and are working hard to share the love of Christ to set them free from this fear and bondage.

**The Keng Tung Church** was started as a house church of former ancestor worshipers and has been growing. Robert's house has become too narrow for the house church members to have the worship service. Now the new building is almost complete. Praise the Lord!

*February 14...* Robert shared today that he will perform a wedding for a couple. They eloped and lived together without marriage vows before the Lord. Now they have come to know the will of God and the value of Christian Marriage because of their conversion. We also love to share good news that last



**New Keng Tung Church**

Sunday, Robert got another five baptisms converted from the ancestor worship. Praise the Lord! We hope after the new church building is done, the ancestor worshipers will be touched more and become converted. Even though now is the pandemic time and a hard time in our country, the Lord is working through us and His kingdom is glorified by one way or another.

*March 17...* It will be the only church building in a non-believer's area of the ancestor worshipers, Buddhists and animists who are worshiping many kinds of spirits. So, it will become a gospel light to shine for that area. Thank you very much for your prayers and support for the work. God bless you! - **Manasseh**



**Robert Baptizing a New Believer**

## Bethany Theological College

Because the cases of the pandemic are decreasing in the Putao Area, Bethany Theological College (Mularshidi Bible School) started again Dec 19. It is one of the Bible Schools started by Mr. LaVerne Morse in Myanmar. This year there are about 90 students, more than any other past years. Praise the Lord! There are also 9 faculty members. The school has been funded by nearby churches for many years, but because of the pandemic, they don't have enough funds to feed the increase of students. Thank you, ACS, for sending funds to buy rice through this academic year. - **Manasseh**



**Bethany Students in Class**



**Bethany Bible School Students and Professors**

## 10,000 New Hymnbooks in Burmese

In Myanmar we were able to print 10,000 copies of a new Burmese Hymnbook. Asian peoples love singing and praising. This hymnbook will be a great blessing for all brothers and churches. LaVerne will be very happy in Heaven when he hears Asia peoples' singing. This is the first printing ever in the Burmese language. This was done through cooperation of LATM, North Burma Christian Mission and ACS. This will be a great blessing. - **Simon**



**Celebrating the New Hymnbooks**



**New Hymnals**

# Refugee Relief in Thailand

After the military took power in Myanmar early 2021, hundreds of thousands of people became Internally Displaced People and refugees in Thailand. By the support of IDES and the partnership with Rapha International, ACS Thailand has been helping with food and other emergency aid to refugees at the border of Thailand-Myanmar. Thank you IDES for your great assistance with this need.

– *Tasanee ACS Thailand*



Refugees at the Myanmar/Thailand Border



Tasanee Distributing Relief to Refugees

## Financial Needs recently expressed by the workers...

- \$1500 for a tin roof on the new refugee church in North Myanmar
- \$2500 for a printing of 1000 Tang Shang Naga Hymnbooks
- \$2500 for medical kits (Includes first aid supplies and basic antibiotics, pain medicines, and stomach and intestinal medicines) for Naga evangelists
- \$1000 each for 3 motorcycles for 3 evangelists.

## Ongoing Opportunities... We have church planters and students ready to go as we can support them.

- \$200 per month will support a church planter to go to an unreached tribe or area (That is \$2,400 per year.)
- \$100 per month will support a teacher in an IDP or refugee camp.
- \$40 per month will pay the full expense for student to attend Bible College to become a new church planter. (That is \$480 per year. The degree is a 4-year degree. One third of the time will be in field work learning how to do church planting.)

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.*

*And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

*-Hebrews 11:1-3*

## Memorials

In Memory of:	Given by:
LaVerne Morse.....	Ruth Johnson
Maureen Shauck .....	George & Elaine Breuer
Maureen Shauck .....	The ACS Board

## Honors

In Honor of:	Given by:
Ron & Sherry Burnam .....	Lola Mitchell

ACS Board members would gladly accept an invitation to share the latest work of ACS with your Church Mission Committee. To explore this contact Kent Odor.

Be sure to check out our website:  
**[asiachristianservices.com](http://asiachristianservices.com)**

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