



## The Kingdom is Advancing in SE Asia... Spreading Seeds of Love....

Greetings to all friends of Asia Christian Services. It is with joy that we can share Good News from the reports of our partners in South East Asia. There are many different places and kinds of events where our workers have been spreading the Gospel of Love in the last six months. In this UPDATE we will provide a few glimpses of good news so that you will be encouraged. The Kingdom is truly advancing!

### 1. Ann Tribe – Simon Thaug and Kent Odor

The beauty of the kingdom of God on earth is being demonstrated in a story we want to share. An evangelist -- Sai Htun -- felt the calling to reach the Ann Tribe (total tribe population: 62,000). He was already living in a nearby region and he began giving attention to this unreached tribe. Sai Htun has baptized 5 new converts this year. He was introduced to ACS last Fall and we posted his financial need to work full time with this new tribe. A couple graciously responded with support. Sai Htun and his wife have become very enthusiastic



**Sai Htun Praying**

in sharing the love of God. The villagers are listening and intrigued.

The Ann people all have a spirit shelf in their home and in the village, and they worship there. They live in constant fear of every possible spirit. For example, they rarely go to the river. They are afraid the water spirit will devour them and take them away. Sai Htun partnered with Simon and together a new well has been dug in the village. They are very happy. It is now the



**The well is deep**



**Listening to a Bible story**



**Preparing to make the well**



**Lowering the well casing**



**Enjoying a bath**

center for drinking and hygiene. Some of the children had hardly ever bathed.

The villagers, along with Sai Htun, built a bamboo structure for a school. The villagers built it with their own labor. They have never had school yet in the village. The chief had forbidden it. He was afraid that reading would steal away their brains. With help, Sai Htun arranged for a school teacher to come to the village. The children now come to study. The parents are very happy to see the children are growing. Redemption through the Kingdom of God comes to Myanmar in these ways. This story of sowing the seeds of the gospel and helping people where they are to learn about their Creator is being repeated across the country.



**Children in the village**

**The words of the evangelist Sai Htun...**

*Hello. I am Sai Htun from Tachileik. With my wife we a teaching the Ann People. They have become in fellowship with us for just a few months. They are unknowledgeable - they are poor in knowledge. They still trust the evil.*



**Sai Htun's wife and village women**



**An evangelist giving medicine**

*By the grace of God, we have done some well work. Now they have started to open their heart to listen to the word of God. We need to continue more work. Please remember to pray for us. Thanks.*

Sai Htun has invited another Ann village chief to come help development in wholism. God is opening a door for another Ann village. Keep praying for Sai Htun and the Ann tribe.

**2. Tavoyan People – Simon Thaug**

Zame Yiram family went South to reach the Tavoyan people after finishing PCBS (Putao Christian Bible Seminary) in the very north of Myanmar. The Tavoyan people inhabit the coast of the Andean Sea in the very south. Tavoyan people are strong Buddhists. But the poor and sick people opened the door for him to share the Good News.

One hopeless sick patient who could not walk was healed after prayer. He vomited a lot and recovered later. He accepted Jesus as his personal Savior and was baptized. Zame has baptized 8 new converts in this new year and the house church is growing. Thank you for your finances and monthly prayer support. (A family responded to this need and the Yiram family is now full time in ministry.)

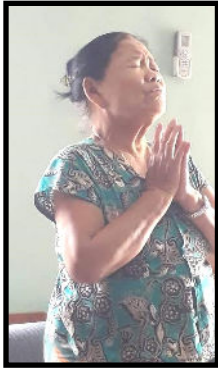


**Baptism**



**Singing together**

### 3. Prayer Warriors – Simon Thuang



**Earnest prayer for the Saints**

Dear Fellow Friends, when we send our Evangelists (Jesus' Foot Soldiers) to new ripe mission fields, these widows over 70 to 90 Years old, are praying for them. They are PRAYER WARRIORS who fast and pray once a week. This prayer is like an Air Force, dropping bombs to strongholds of enemies and stopping the barriers and hinderances, and attacks to our evangelists. My wife True is leading this team and serves lunch.



**Prayer warriors in action**

As a result, we planted 10 house Churches in 2019. We will try to plant double, 20 house Churches in 2020 if God opens new doors.

It is important to work together in expanding God's Kingdom by using our gifts, talents, resources and time. This makes a great impact and differences in new mission field.

JESUS SAID, "Open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest". John 4:35 and "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." Matt. 9:37

Thank you for your Love to God and fellow friends by encouraging, supporting, praying.

Your Fellow Friends, Simon and True

### 4. We Have Grateful Hearts and Give Thanks to the Lord at Three Pagodas—Myoram

Greeting with thankful hearts from Pastor Min Bai John and the church members in the Three Pagodas. God is working through His Church and I am so grateful for our Three Pagodas family and those helping the ministry at the Three Pagodas. We continue to step up and step out to proclaim



**Overcoming Spiritual strongholds for Jesus**

the Gospel of Jesus Christ and extend His grace in so many ways as the blessings flow to those who are in need at the Church.

Pastor John is doing hard work every week and leading believers to worship God and sharing the Gospel to new people all around. The ministry is growing up and number of believers are extended.



**Min Bai John preaching at Three Pagodas**



**Baptism of new Mon Tribe believers**

### The Specific Activities of Church of Christ at Three Pagodas

First of all, I would like to say thank God for His great guidance all steps of ministry life. Especially for the ministry at Myawady, Three Pagodas and other places. Three Pagodas is at border of Thailand, Myanmar, It is taking around six hours to travel from Myawady. So that Pastor Min Bai John and his daughter usually leave from early morning on Saturday weekly. The following are some activity pictures want to show you.

1. Sharing the gospel to new members.



**Sharing the Gospel with a Mon Tribe Family**



**Teaching children**

2. Teaching Children
3. Weekly Sunday Service
4. Doing outside ministry among unbelievers by sharing about Jesus Christ and Christian faith.



**Praying for an unbeliever**



**Using the Life of Christ Picture Book**

5. Home cell prayer plan
6. There is no permanent place of Church building at Three Pagodas. This place they rent to worship. Now, they are gathering in this place and worship to God. Some of them are new believers.
7. Without teaching the children, they are not able to produce fruitful lives that reflect the desires of God. Pastor's daughter who is serving at three Pagodas said,



**Sharing the Life of Christ with children**

“Approaching the gospel with children is more effective than the older persons. When they teach, sharing the story from the Bible, their parents are also listened.” By the grace of God, children are multiplied each week in Sunday school.

8. Pastor Min Bai John's Son, Min Bai Pong is a great servant of the Lord. He is strongly eager to share the gospel not only in the local church but also share the gospel to the outside of the church.
9. Every Year, Pastor Min Bain John's family is working a farm and selling corn for the ministry. The Family is trying their best for God and hard work to support the ministries. This is the way that they involved in the ministry.



**Corn harvest for ministry**

## **5. Taunggyi Ministry Development School – Manasseh Fish**

Taunggyi Ministry Development School was born in 2018 through the discussion of Manasseh Fish and Dr. Steve Newton. Taunggyi Bible College has graduated 224 students since it started in 2005 to this date. They have been serving the Lord full time in different corners of Myanmar. It has been impossible for them to go back to Bible Colleges and Seminaries to pursuit further education. They also lack resources. Christian books are not available to them since most of them are serving in remote areas. Especially, Christian books relevant to the churches on the Restoration Movement are so scarce. So, to solve these two problems, Taunggyi Ministry Development School was born.

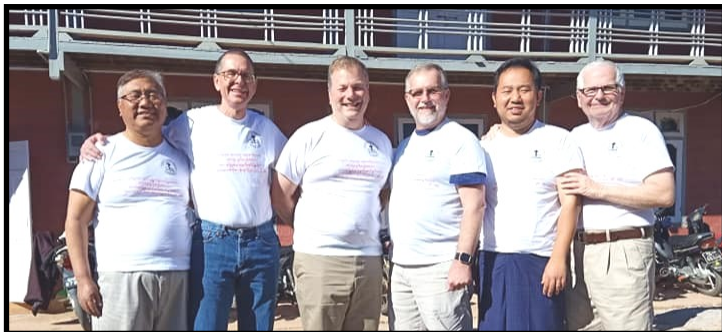


**2020 Ministry Development Seminar**



**Classroom**

The purpose is to equip the Lord's servants who are serving the Lord full time with more ministry skills, theological skills and biblical skills that they will become more equipped servants of the Lord. It is a three years program. Each year, it is to be conducted for two weeks in the summer holidays. This January, the school finished year two. Each year, 45 students from different parts of the country have been admitted. Some of the students are church ministers, youth ministers, Bible School teachers, evangelists, children teachers and some church elders. The students are coming from the Naga region, from the Khamti, Sagaing Region, from Kachin State, and some are from Southern, Northern and Eastern Shan State. The students were much encouraged and they gave many good comments. They are so thankful to the program and praise the vision of the school.



**Teaching Team 1 — Manasseh, Joe Meek, Tim Bond, John Sichtung, Aaron, and Michael Hogg**



**Teaching Team 2 — Byron Williams, Ruth, Bryan Clark, Manasseh, Steve Yeaton, and Aaron**

Next year, 2021 would be the third year of the school. Keep remembering the school in your prayer that the school can assist the workers to be able to glorify the Lord's kingdom more in Myanmar.

## The Students' Comments on Taunggyi Ministry Development School

**Peter Fish** - Peter Fish is serving as the minister and as well as an evangelist at May Zele Christian Church. He said, "I enjoyed very much in learning the biblical books like Genesis, Acts and Mark. And, the subjects of Discipleship, Church Administration, Financial Management and the Christian Leadership are very helpful to me for my ministry."



**Peter Fish**

**Miriam** - Miriam is a Naga children teacher from Lehe. She said, "Since I am serving as a children teacher, the seminar is very beneficial to me. Now, I have learned how to teach and help the children to become godly children. And, in our Naga areas, the drug is a big problem and now I have learned how to show love to them and encourage them instead of condemning them."



**Miriam**

**Maung Tun** - Maung Tun is a Palaung evangelist sharing the gospel among his Palaung People. He said, "I was spiritually very encouraged by the seminar. I have learned much about the Christian Leadership, Evangelism and Financial Management. I also enjoyed very much in learning the Biblical books, like Genesis, Acts and Mark. They increase my Biblical Knowledge."



**Maung Tun**

(The teaching team this year was made up of two sets of preachers from Southern Indiana. Week one was Joe Meek a judge in Columbus, IN, Tim Bond – former minister of Nashville Church of Christ, John Sichtung from New Hope Christian Church, Columbus, IN and Michael Hogg, Senior Minister of Brownstown Church of Christ. Week two was Byron Williams, the Senior Minister of Ellettsville Christian Church in Ellettsville, Indiana. Bryan Clark, the Senior Minister of Fair Haven Christian Church, Trafalgar, Indiana and Steve Yeaton, Senior Minister of First Christian Church, Columbus, Indiana. We extend much gratitude to them and their churches for their two-week investment in Taunggyi. Much thanks to all!)



**The Class was well done**



18th Golden Triangle Seminar

## 6. The 18<sup>th</sup> Golden Triangle Seminar - Tasanee Siriphong

I am pleased to let you know that the 18th Leadership Seminar has successfully completed last Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> of January. It was so great to have Mike Flinchum and Stan and Cindy Smelser as the main speakers this year. Mike Flinchum is from Virginia, but he has been serving as an adjunct professor in Chiang Mai and is a leadership trainer for over 20 years. Stan Smelser and his wife Cindy are from Iowa. Stan is the new overseas Director of GBM - Gospel Broadcasting Mission.

The Golden Triangle International Leadership Seminar has been the most remarkable leadership training program in this region for almost two decades. The majority of Christian leaders were



The Golden Triangle Team



Session in progress

from different parts of Myanmar, Putao the Northernmost, Myitkyina, Mandalay and Yangon. Some pastors traveled 5 hours on motorcycle from very remote areas where they are serving as pastors. Besides the 162 leaders whom stopped their daily routine in order to attend the annual training, the Tachileik Christian Bible Seminary also paused its normal schedule to allow all the students, professors and faculties to join the training throughout the week.

This year we included Medical kit training. Dr. Dar Bo was invited to train about health care and the usage of medical kits. We are blessed to have Dr. Dar Bo as he is serving as a



Dan Smeltzer teaching



Medical kits for all

medical evangelist doctor in Tachileik province. Each kits contains, first aid set (cotton, cotton bud, alcohol, plaster, bandage), vitamin C for children, paracetamol tablet for adult, paracetamol syrup for children, cough mixture for adult, cough syrup for children, diarrhea treatment, anthelmintic, mineral salts, relief pain gel, antibiotic syrup, antibiotic tablet, relief cold syrup, mixt-carminative-relief gastric, skin infection treatment gel, traditional herbal, dizziness remedy, anti-inflammatory gel, antacid-relief stomach pain, eye-ear drops.

The 162 attendants represented around 40 churches and 150 families. They will bring the 220 medical kits back to their churches and family members which estimated number around 2,000 in total. We gave extra to those who are pastors, professors, community leaders and caregivers to orphanages.

We give Special thanks to...

Gospel Broadcasting Mission for providing the seminar expenses, food, lodging, traveling, materials and program.

I.D.E.S. for providing medical kits for all the attendants, their families and their churches.

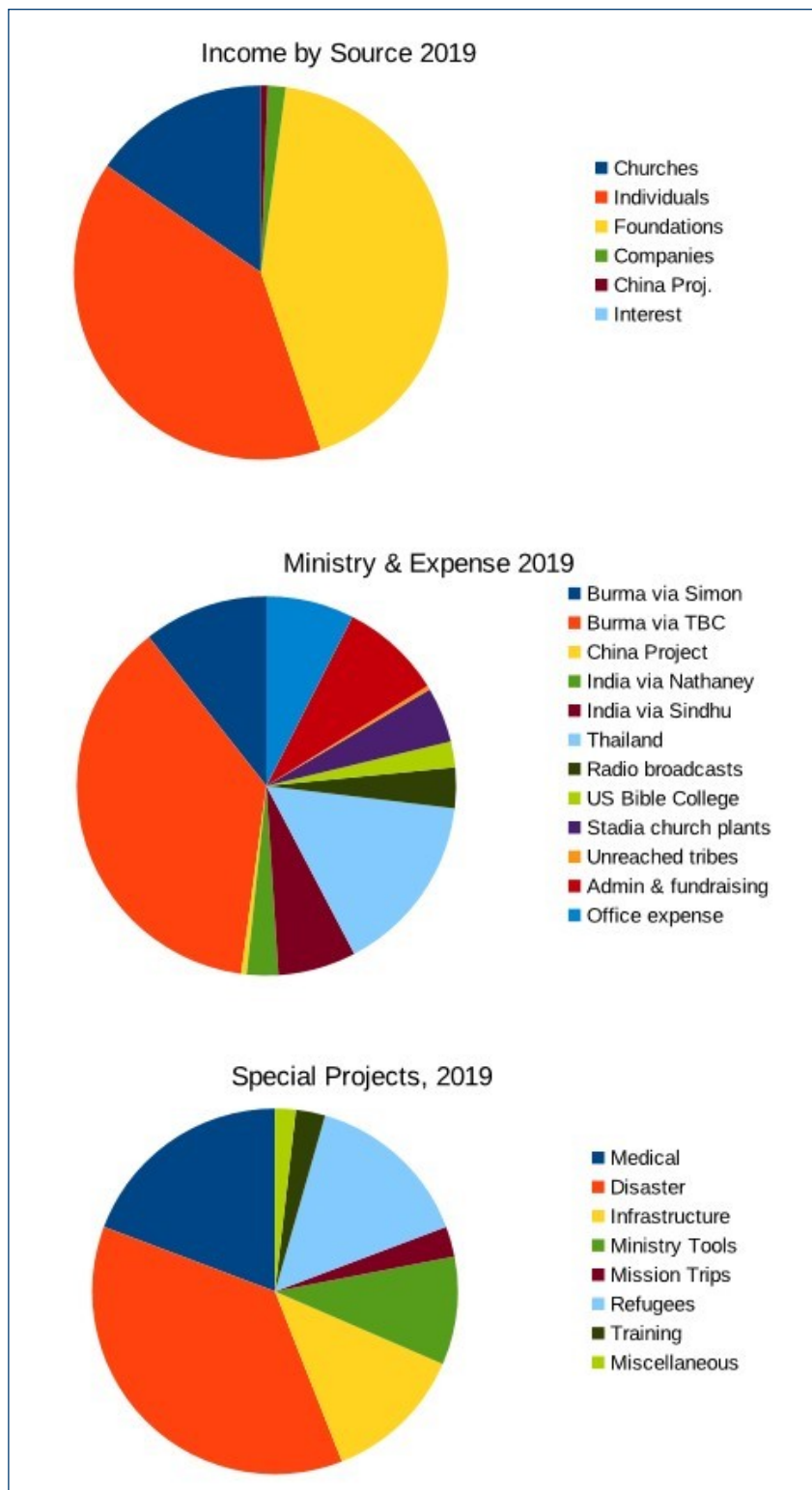
Asia Christian Services as a founder and continually support this leadership training program.

All the speakers, interpreters, fellow servants of Jesus in Tachileik and the participants. Thank you so everyone for your support!

-TS

## 7. ACS Financial Report for 2019 – George Breuer – ACS Treasurer

The pie charts below may help to better visualize the overall work of Asia Christian Services. The pie charts start at 12 o'clock and go counterclockwise in the order of the list in the legend with each chart.



The chart at the top breaks up ACS's total 2019 income of \$681,481.32 according to the source of the income. The middle and bottom charts show how funds were used in 2019, either for ACS's normal on-going ministry (a total of \$346,282.72) via our primary colleagues in Asia as explained below or through more-or-less one-time needs which we call "special projects" (\$297,605.94). Necessary expenses such as wiring fees, newsletters, donor receipts, administration, and fund-raising are included in the

on-going ministry category and were 8.7% of total ministry and expense in 2019.

Looking at the income pie chart, in 2019 about 15% of income was from churches; about 40% directly from individual donors; almost 43% from other nonprofit missions such as IDES, Stadia, FAME, GBM, and LATM; less than 2% from private companies; about 0.6% for the China Project; and 0.01% from interest. Interest is a new income source for ACS as we have tried to be better stewards of donations for multi-year projects such as unreached tribe evangelism, new church plants, etc., where we can invest a portion of funds held in reserve for the second or later years of the project. Unreached tribe evangelism is a new, multi-year initiative in 2019 starting with the Ann and Tavoyan tribes that were a topic in the 3rd quarter ACS Update! newsletter. Currently, these funds for future years of projects are invested with one of our partners, Church Development Fund, whose motto is “helping churches grow”. We thank our Lord for all those who donate to ACS and pray for His blessing on them.

**The Ministry & Expense pie chart** shows the distribution of support ACS provided to various countries by way of the trusted colleagues in Asia who receive, distribute and oversee the funds sent: Simon Thuang in Burma (Myanmar), Manasseh and Aaron Fish and their colleagues at Taunggyi Bible College in Burma, Vern Bissell’s China Project, Nathaney Ngwazah in far NE India, Sindhu Pani in east India, Mark and Tasanee Songsiriphong in Thailand, Gospel Broadcasting Mission’s Asian radio broadcasts, US Bible Colleges educating select Asian colleagues, Stadia/ACS’s church plants in Buddhist areas, and ACS’s new work among the Ann and Tavoyan unreached tribes mentioned above. Our Administration and Office Expense costs are also included as mentioned in the first paragraph.

**The pie chart for Special Projects**—the one-time gifts in times of need that the evangelists in Asia use to relieve suffering and reach people at “teachable moments” with the Gospel— shows the variety of these projects, which amounted to about 46% of ACS’s expenditures in Asia. The top category in 2019 was Disaster Relief due to the record widespread flooding, taking that dubious honor

from Refugee Relief last year which fell to third place in 2019. Second place in 2019 was Medical needs. Infrastructure and Ministry Tools—categories which cover a variety of buildings, basic utilities, literature, vehicles, etc.— were other major categories.

**Hopefully, you have been able to see the results of the work of ACS and its partners and colleagues in the quarterly newsletters (ACS Update!) or on-line on our web site (asiachristianservices.com). Let us know of any questions or comments or if you would like to receive our quarterly newsletter or our semiannual financial reports. May our Lord and Savior bless you all. - GB**

**The greatest financial needs of ACS at this time are:**

***Contributions to our General Fund.***

**It is from this fund that we send monthly deposits to our “on the ground accountability teams” and with these dollars, they fund new church planters and meet other needs.**

**We are grateful for the ongoing generosity of so many.**

## *Memorials*

*In memory of:*

**Ruth A. Boyd**

by John T. Boyd

*In memory of:*

**R. Paul Grimm**

by M. Doyleene Grimm

**Contributions may be sent to:**

***Asia Christian Services***

9378 S Mason Montgomery Rd, Ste 326  
Mason, OH 45040-8827

**For more information:**

phone: 513.923.0928 or e-mail: kent.odor@gmail.com

**Be sure to check out our website:**

**[asiachristianservices.com](http://asiachristianservices.com)**

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