



We Bring You Good News!

Kent Odor – ACS Board Chairman

7But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. 8We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; 9persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. - 2 Corinthians 4:7-9



Kent Odor

The spring of 2020 will be a memory from now on for all of us from the youngest to the oldest. Today as I am writing, the plague of Covid-19 has so far claimed over half a million lives worldwide. The global shelter-in-place has put the economies of the world on hold. Now the reopening is slowly beginning in some nations while others have not yet peaked in their danger from the disease. Many of us in the USA who are reading this are associated with someone who has either passed away from this deadly virus, or at least tested positive and undergone a significant recovery process. Possibly, one's income has become upended through the shutdown. Many of us have experienced unusual grief without adequate closure.

The first of June has also seen a terrible succession of marches and riots dealing with issues of social justice. Both deadly plagues and racial divide have been part of world history for as long as it has been written. **BUT**, it is into this very broken world that **“God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that whoever believes in him will have eternal life”**

(John 3:16). God's solution to our sufferings is both His presence and His hope. He is always with us as a refuge and strength, and as our sins have been forgiven, He brings peace and has prepared a place for us forever. This message is universal and is working in hearts here in the USA and on the other side of the world with our partners in ministry in SE Asia.

Today I bring you **Good News** in this Spring quarter **UPDATE!** Our partners in Asia thankfully have experienced very little sickness from the Covid-19 virus. But, their experience with the national shelter in place has produced a new level of poverty. The people in the villages and towns where they are working have not been able to do the daily work to buy food at the market or sell their own products. Our team members in Asia have requested our help to buy food to help alleviate some of this suffering. They also live daily in an environment of multi-tribal tension and warfare. Myanmar has 152 different ethnic tribes with that many different languages. Many of them have had long standing tensions with other tribes. In addition to that, the “ruling tribe” is in civil wars currently with 5 different “hill tribes.” That fighting has sent 4 million Burmese people into surrounding countries as refugees and it has displaced several million more to locations with the country. Four of those conflicts are currently in tense ceasefire situations, but one region is actively engaged in deadly conflict. Death and destruction are daily occurrences in parts of Myanmar. Our team members have found this moment in the country to be a situation for gospel expansion. The love of Jesus and the hope of new life is the message that we bring to this trouble-stricken world.



Refugees Fleeing



Relief During a Pandemic



Thank You for Good News

We are indebted to our partner in ministry, **IDES (International Disaster Emergency Services)**, who has supplied emergency food and masks. We are very grateful to the many individuals and churches who have given donations to their important work. We also have been blessed with a partnership in Yangon with **FedWell Foods**--an intercontinental distributor of emergency food supplies. Many of us have helped in some way financially with these projects. May the Lord multiply the harvest! **The stories that follow are Stories of Good News!**

ACS DISTRIBUTES 80 TONS OF FOOD AND SUPPLIES TO WAR TORN RAKHINE AND CHIN STATE

Mike Gerber – ACS Board Member



Mike Gerber

It continues to be a difficult time for the people of Rakhine and Chin State in Myanmar. Battles continue between the Myanmar military and the Arakhine Army. Villages have been destroyed. Jets bombed villages and shooting continues during most days. Over one hundred people have been killed and many more injured. Many others have been forced to leave their homes and belongings and flee the fighting to protect their families. And the Christians in the area have not been spared the devastation. One evangelist and his family were forced to flee their village as the fighting raged and watched from the jungle as their village was burned to the ground. One Christian lady survived an RPG missile into her home. Her 3 brothers did not survive that bombing. It has indeed been difficult to hear the news and know how to pray about the situation.

With so many refugees and so many left without the basic food supplies to survive, the devastation called for a response, and a team led by Simon Thaug from ACS responded to the call, and God's people stepped in to provide relief - 30 tons of food and various other supplies, including 200,000 meal packets, articles of clothing and medical supplies. The main road into the area was not safe as the armies were monitoring travelers constantly. The team was forced to pick their route through the mountains carefully. The team of evangelists and volunteers found an alternate route through the mountains and jungles and traveled over 3 days and nearly 1000 miles over difficult (and in many cases nearly impassable) roads. Local villages warned them of areas of fighting so they could detour around the danger. To keep everyone safe they spent most nights camped out in the jungle to avoid going into villages and risking



30 Tons of Food

detection. But through God's grace they were able to get to the refugee area near Palawah. Working with the local evangelist and Christians there, the team was able to distribute supplies to over 10,000 IDP (internally displaced peoples) refugees in that area. It was a great opportunity to meet real needs for real people and also a great opportunity to share God's love as they distributed the supplies. The team was tired but arrived home safely with many stories to tell and many prayer requests to share.

With the rainy season approaching and the fighting continuing, it weighed heavy on the hearts of many of us that, in spite of the amount distributed, it would be a difficult few months there for those refugees. With no stored food and no way to create commerce or feed themselves, it was clear that more needed to be done. But what??? But, God was not finished yet!



IDP—Internally Displaced People Camp

Simon had the opportunity to share the story with one of our dear partners, Fedwell Foods, based in Yangon. Fedwell Foods makes nutritional high protein dehydrated soup mixes and distributes those to needy people in many countries. We have worked with them on many projects in the past. It just so happened that the owner of Fedwell was in Yangon at the time Simon shared the story.

Fedwell responded in an amazing way! A few days later, the team loaded 50 tons (over 300,000

additional meals) and retraced their steps through the jungles and over difficult roads back to the

Palawah area to deliver the much-needed food. There will be food for those refugees during the rainy season! Again, this provided the opportunity to share the gospel as they distributed the food. Again, there was the opportunity to meet the needs of God's children devastated by the fighting. Again, there was the opportunity to show God's love and mercy.



Happy Child



Inside the Camp



Prayers of Thankfulness



Children Praying

We are so thankful for the partners and their generosity that made this effort possible. We are so thankful to Simon and his team for their willingness to take such an arduous and dangerous trip, not once but twice! We are so thankful for faithful evangelists who work in those difficult areas under such difficult situations because of their love of God and people.

Please continue to pray for those people in refugee camps and war-torn areas of Myanmar. Please pray for our evangelists who live and labor in those areas. And, please pray that God continues to give us opportunities to share the Gospel, and that, as a result of their efforts, many will heed the call.

Jeremy Leme — MRO REFUGEE PROJECT

While the door of West Myanmar was endangered by the civil war between Myanmar army and Arakhine Army pushed innocent Mro ethnic people to be homeless and hopeless. As Mro ethnic minority are spreading especially, northern Rakhine State unto Southern part of Chin State, they've become unprotective minority in Myanmar as a result of the civil war in the west. The war breakout in 2018 in Rakhine and produced

more than one million refugees and still adding in number as the war is going on. Our target was to meet the need of recent displaced people.



The Village Burning



The Truck Bringing Relief

Through IDES and an ACS donor we were able to meet the immediate needs of the Mro refugees. With the help of evangelists and a state senator who was a graduate of EBI (Emmaus Bible Institute in Yangon), we were able to collect food and kitchen items for 1200 refugees. This will make shorten the time of food shortage or starving

in the monsoon season in the region. Normally in rainy season the price of basic food items raised into 4 times. Nearly half of the Mro refugees who were in the camp never heard about the gospel. The action of LOVE touched them and moved them emotionally. The relief created opportunities to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ among them.

We have evangelists in each refugee camps. Though government is not allowed us to conduct any kinds of religious activities in camps, our evangelists are applying Biblical principle of evangelism which is personal evangelism. The door of evangelism was opened by our relief distribution regardless of religion in camps. Later on, when government lift the rules and regulation of Covid 19 restriction, they will plan to have Bible study in each camp. I exhorted them to do and we strategized the plans. The first fruits from current effort will be sent to our discipleship training school in July, 2020!

As we mingled among the refugees, in a camp called Sakhan Gone, I met with a man. His name is U. Shwe Thar Aung. He was



Refugee Camp



Thank You

55 years old and married with four children now. He confesses to be a Buddhist. The reason he came to the camp was that while civilians were endangered by Myanmar Army's air strike, he was shot by the air strike on the shoulder badly. Luckily, he survived. He said, "I came here with much fury and anger. But now I am happy. My life had been empty once. But as I heard the sharing of faith from the pastors, I came to understand that Jesus alone is the answer for my troubles. Since the first time, I heard the good news from them, my heart had been tranquil and peace. I will follow Jesus. His love is evident as the follower of Jesus came to feed us," he added. His life is changing. Now his wound is



Children are Fed

cured. Shortly our evangelist Aung Htan will have a baptismal service for him!

The relief items strengthen the testimony of our evangelists. The love of God became evident to them through your grant. The life of refugees are changing towards bright future in the saving grace of God. They are thanking to you IDES and supporters. – Jeremy

Tasanee Siriphong

Thailand is also affected from COVID-19 just like many other countries in the world. In over 3 months that people have been under state quarantine. The project goal is to proclaim the kingdom of God and for humanitarian reason.

When the leaders from other villages heard that our team was planning for food distribution, they came to us and let us know that there are people in other villages who are suffering from the pandemic as well. They asked if we could also give some to them. We let them choose 25-30 of the most needed families from each village. The distribution ran from May 29-June 12, 2020. We were finally able to serve 651 families, around 2050 people. Each family received 25 pounds of rice, 30 eggs and 30 packs of dried food. There were about 30 leaders from 8 villages and communities that joined us. Praise the Lord!

Kaew, 35, can't stop crying with so much pressure for her misfortunate life. It was overwhelming to see our team visiting her. She was healthy before but has been sick with seizures for some



Relief Team



Tasanee Siriphong

years. Standing next to her is her younger brother who is the only person who supports her. But he cannot find any job to take care of his sister. The only thing he can do now is find some food from the jungle to sustain lives. The brother said, "She feels so grateful for your coming and help us."

It has been my privilege to serve along with you. I was able to meet and share the good news of God, speaking gracious words, giving hugs to many people in different circumstances and continue the soul saving ministry. Thank you again for the blessings IDES provides with the grants.

-- Tasanee

Robinson Mana

Our project was to share food among nonbelievers in **Shan State**. Our goal is to plant a church in that place in the near future. We shared food, cooking oil, beans, and other dried foods. Besides, we gave short testimony about why we follow Jesus. We have been able to serve 200 families totally (about 800 people). Praise God!

In fact, this food sharing was like showing Christ's love among the hungry in the midst of COVID-19 lockdown. This project helped me in sharing the good news as it is an effective tool for the ministry.



Sharing Christian Literature

As the local authorities and older people are important to approach to do things, we tried to build a good relationship between us first. Accordingly, they were very receptive when we shared the good news. They gladly received tracks that we shared. We shared with them some Christian books like faith fundamentals written by Dr. Jack Cottrell (translated at our Bible College). The leader of that region warmly welcomed us and invited us to come back again. My fellow servant Phoe Phy will build a small residence for children ministry soon as they allow us to do so.

When I got to that place, I remembered my childhood. We did not know much about Jesus. However, I became interested in the Christian faith as I had constant communication with Evangelists. Similar things happened in the place we reached out to last week. Even though they still do not know Jesus yet, I have to take time to introduce Jesus to them. As I have observed, older people are more interested in Christian belief because they asked me about why I went there although we did not know each other before. I explained them that there is someone who wants to take care of your next life.

Even though you cannot see him with your eyes, he is here. The food that we brought is from him who is creator of heavens and this earth. After 20 minutes sharing about Jesus, our team prayed for them and they also gave us some blessings according to their culture.



Robinson Relief

Manasseh Fish

Through the Lord's grace, we have done the project well. We shared with 150 families. We shared a bag of rice, a bottle of cooking oil and a pack of salt with a family. The project was really a great help for the poor church members. As I shared with you, some church members are daily wage earners. They are living on their daily wage and no extra income. For some families, the last harvests were very poorly productive, and they did not get enough rice for the family. In our country, the harvest time is usually in Nov and now it has been four months and they have no rice left in their barns.

Now, through this relief project, their needs are met, and they are very thankful to God and to IDES. The evangelists reported us that some were saying thanks with tears of knowing God's faithfulness, according to His promise to watch over even a sparrow and feed it (Matt 6:26; Luke 12:6).

I would like to share about the testimonies of two Lisu women from May Zele Church. The first woman is named Mrs. Grace Mee. She said to Peter, the minister that "Her family is living on daily income earned by her children but now, all businesses are closed and her children couldn't go out to earn for money and thus, their family is so much in difficulty for their living. On the day Peter went there, they did not have rice for dinner for that evening. But now, through the Lord's grace, our family received this relief, we are very thankful to God and to the donor."

Another Lisu woman is named Mrs. Ngwa Rutha. She said to Peter that her family's last harvest was not good and since last month, no rice was left for their family to eat. Even there were two months, they could not buy cooking oil. So, she was so thankful to the donor for the relief.



Rice and Oil



Manasseh Relief

Moreover, at Mong Hsu and Keng Tung, Silas and Robert also shared with some Lisu non-believers (the ancestor worshipers) and Silas and Robert through this relief work because they themselves heard they were talking one another that the Christians are very good and helping one another. So, I am sure that sooner or later, they will be converted. So, this relief project has a great help and impact on all, and we hope it will draw more souls to Christ in the future. Thank you very much. God bless you.

In Christ's Service,
Manasseh Fish - Taunggyi Christian Center

Yohan Yoktiri



Yohan Yoktiri

God is good! Praise and thanks for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and my greeting to all the brothers and sisters in the partners of the gospel that helped with "Relief Covid 19". Thank you again for your help at this time.

Because of "Covid 19," we have more time for Christian families to build strong relationships and for believers in seeking God in prayer. We must go and testify of the good news of Christ and live in the Holy Spirit. Above all, please be in Christ's love and share the good things that are essential to the poor. ACS Chiang Rai has a great opportunity with you to distribute rice, dry food and medicine to our Christian villages. We have led a group of pastors and village leaders in a training program to control the spread of the virus "Covid 19" We have partnered with the government and the health office of our villages, at Chiangrai of Thailand.

We have received the delivery needed for 9 village churches. 217 families, and a total of 717 members have already received help. There are and additional 75 families and 250 members who are in need of food, dry food and mosquito nets and anti-malaria at this time. Please prayer for them and our members families in the Churches of Thailand. We have 4 Akha and Lahu churches and Khumu villages that we cannot help at this time: Two Akha Christian churches are located on the Thai and Myanmar border. Entering the deep forest of Lampang Province, the total population of 250 people and they have 75 families and there are another Khmu village for 7 families and 12 members. We just got to know them and have a good relationship with them this past Christmas and we brought the gospel of Christ to their village one year ago. We will prepare a leadership training program and all membership of three local churches for Thailand with Laos and Burma. Please pray and support the restoration of the lives of church members and pastors. Pray

for the Gospel leader in the northern region of the Golden

Triangle bordering the Thai-Laos border and the Burmese side of the east to the Mekong River Basin! They need more food that is needed on a daily basis. They also need mosquito nets to prevent malaria and Bibles, Christian music books and we need outlines of Lahu, Akha and Khmu languages into training gospel programs.

Thank you once again for your warm love that leads to the rejoicing in hope as we are serving his people in Thailand, Laos and Myanmar. May God richly bless you all. -- Yohan Yoktiri



A Grateful Village



Yohan Delivering Relief

Lal Thangzel in Bangladesh



Lal Thangzel

Intro – Kent Odor

Lal is a second-generation refugee from Western Chin state in Myanmar to eastern Bangladesh. His family escaped civil war about 20 years ago. Lal was Christianized in a denominational group with little Biblical training, but he wanted to preach and went south into Central India to study. He graduated from Lakeview Bible College, and, while a student, was taught about the Restoration Movement in America. The vision of unifying the various poorly trained Christian groups to plant new churches in the many unreached groups in his district became his passion. He heard through some means about a FAME CHE Training Seminar that was to be held in Myanmar Western Chin State. He crossed the border and attended. In that session he met two ACS Board members: Chuck McDaniel and Mike Gerber. Now Chuck, Mike and I have all traveled to Bangladesh and done training for Lal's collection of area pastors that he is gathering into a new fellowship. This is one more way God is working in amazing new ways to spread the gospel.

From Lal - Greetings to you in His almighty name! I am happy to share with you the way God's Holy Spirit is moving with our ministry for His kingdom expansion in Bandarban region in Bangladesh. I thank

God for His great faithfulness and protecting our health during Covid-19 pandemic. In the midst of Covid -19 pandemic I have experienced the blessing of God in many ways such as providing for the needs in my ministry. I would like to express my sincere thanks to God and my friends who have been helping me in different ways for my ministry. It gives me great joy to share this report with you in the midst of many difficulties. Even in this situation God's Holy Spirit and his helping hand is constantly with us.

During the last two weeks God added 11 eleven new members into His family from Tribal Tripura unreached Community. I was supposed to

visit their villages when I baptized them, unfortunately I had to bring them to a small river due to the virus pandemic. I was not allowed to enter their villages so we met on the road about half way and conducted the baptism program. It was a wonderful moment we had,



Lal Baptisms

even though I couldn't meet with all the villagers. Last Sunday we had a wonderful ministry time again in a remote area in my district. He added another six more new members into His family from Mro Tribal unreached people group. I baptized them along the way again as I was not allowed to enter the village.



New Believers

We have a special prayer request for two orphan sisters in our community who have expressed their strong desire to accept Him and be baptized soon. Unfortunately, their uncle has strictly forbidden them to accept God and be baptized. When I discussed this with them, they started to cry. Please join us in praying for these orphans and their uncle. Also, please pray that a donation could occur for \$2,000 USD for a 125cc motorbike for ministry travel into the remote regions of the Bandarban Hill Tracks. Please pray for us so that His Kingdom might grow in His way through our ministry in Bandarban, Chittagong region of Bangladesh. Thanks, Lal Thangzel

Friends of ACS—Sindhu and Minati Pani

Sindhu and Minati are serving as National Director with **Global India Training Network** in the state of Odisha, India. GITN is an Organization working towards the holistic development of the underprivileged communities. The main focus is to train and equip indigenous evangelists, church planters and Christian leaders. The objective is "Training Leaders and Transforming Lives" to fulfill the Great Commission among the Unreached People Groups of India.

Sindhu... It has long been our desire to build a Training Center in Odisha. Odisha state is one of the states that is known for severe persecution. The Training Center will not only be a blessing to people of ODISHA, but evangelists and church planters from other states as well in India to take the Gospel and share it with their own people and communities.

We have had some exciting developments recently, including one of our graduated evangelists, Mohan, has recently been invited by Chinese government officials to come and Lead a local prayer movement in Southwest China near India boarder at (Doklam or Donglang) area in the wake of current Corona virus crisis. He was able to respond to the request and, the surrounding area of southwest China has remained uninfected! We distributed food packets to 500 local families during this lockdown period. We have also performed medical camps throughout the province of idea where our graduating evangelists are located. Please join us in praying for this expanding ministry for the unreached ethnic communities of India. Thank you and God bless you. Yours in His Vineyard, Sindhu and Minnie (For more information on the work of Sindhu and Minati contact us at ACS.)



Sindhu and a House Church



Believers in Worship

An Update from Paul Seng Aung . . .

(Paul is Naga and an evangelist and a Bible Teacher)

Thank you for supporting my ministry in Myanmar. I have been working on Naga literature [1988-2015 as well as Evangelism work among Lahu and Akha tribes in the golden triangle areas near Tachileik Bible College. Also, I have been teaching a Bible short time study in the Naga Hills since 2009 till today. I plan to do a Bible seminar there in Feb. 2021. I would like you to pray for medical kits and my transportation needs for the February 2021 Bible seminar in Naga hill, the border of Myanmar-India. May the Lord continue to bless you richly. In His love, Paul Seng Awng, Naga missionary, Tachileik, Shan state, Myanmar



Paul Baptizing

Finally... As you have now heard their testimonies, you can agree our fellow workers are physically living out 2 Corinthians 4:7-9. As jars of clay, the all surpassing power of God continues to work powerfully through them. As they speak, their testimony and witness in the midst of troubles becomes the kind of Good News our ears long to hear. Be encouraged as you reflect on these reports. The generosity of all of us has fueled our Asia brethren into great new works. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to urge forward the Gospel on the other side of the world. Their work is bearing good fruit and it is multiplying. We together get to celebrate really good news! -KO

Thank You George and Elaine Breuer . . .

The ACS Board of Directors wish a special Thank You to George and Elaine Breuer. In March, Dr. George Breuer retired as the ACS Board Treasurer. For seven years, George spent countless hours receiving weekly the gifts from all ACS donors and then wiring them at the end of each month to their receivers in SE Asia. It is impossible to count the hours of love that George donated to ensure that the Kingdom could continue to expand. Thank you, George, for your faithful service. We are all indebted to you and grateful for this wonderful gift you have given. Blessings on all your days ahead.



Dr. George and Elaine Breuer

-Kent and the ACS Board of Directors.

Asia Christian Services Greatest Needs:

Thanks for your faithful support during the Pandemic. We have continued to send all the funds received to their designated places. Our greatest need is for gifts to our General Operations fund so that we can continue to provide for the evangelists and their needs as they arise. Thank you for blessings our team members in SEAsia with the prayers and financial gifts.

Memorials

In memory of:

Paul Grimm

by

M. Doylene Grimm

In memory of:

Erwin and Wilma Stock

by

The Stock Insurance Agency

In honor of:

George and Elaine Breuer

by

Lois Morse

Kent and Marcia Odor

Mark and Jill Morse

Norman and Carol Stanley

Vern and Judi Bissell

David and Cheryl Brackemyre

George and Patricia Drake

Mike and Lee Ann Gerber

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Chuck and Dr. Mary Chambers-McDaniel

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