



Formerly: South East Asia Evangelizing Mission • LaVerne & Lois Morse, Founders



Kent Odor

## Church Planting Among Buddhists With STADIA . . .

Kent Odor — ACS Board Chairman

*“ACS empowers Asian missionaries to pioneer new works to reach the unreached, plant new churches, and disciple believers to fulfill the Great Commission.”*

— the Mission Statement of Asian Christian Services.

2017 marks the beginning of a new resource partnership with STADIA to establish churches within wholly Buddhist communities. Through the years, Buddhist peoples have been most resistant to the gospel. Most of the 40 still “unreached tribes” in Burma are Buddhist tribes: unreached means... no one in that tribe has ever heard about Jesus! Through trial and error, the church planting evangelists have discovered that initiating a ministry first to the Buddhist children is a very effective bridge to reaching the family for Christ.

STADIA has agreed to partner with ACS and help secure funding for the building of 10 Preschool/Church buildings adequate to the taste of Buddhist communities. These will be strategically placed in their communities. A preschool for Buddhist children will function through the week and the new church will meet in the building on Sundays. In this partnership ACS has agreed to raise new support for both the new church planters and the preschool workers and the needed supplies for the first three years of each new work. ACS is drawing from a deep pool of already trained and effective workers to launch these new works. We are hoping that all the needed resources for each new plant will lead to a fully self-supporting church during this planned window of time. This is a faith experiment but our God is able to sufficiently grow each church as He sees fit.

Before you read this newsletter, I will have returned from Myanmar on a trip to dedicate the first Church/Preschool building and commission the first workers in this new partnership with STADIA. The accompanying photos show the progress of the construction from the ground dedication until it was 80% finished at the time of this printing. It will be finished when I arrive for the dedication on October 7. In this newsletter we will introduce the new Grace Village team. At this moment, there are 17 in the core of the new church. Most of them are new believers from this community. The preschool has enrolled 20 children who are meeting in a facility next to the new building. This is the beginning.



Grace Village Site Dedication





Gratefully, already three months of seed money has been given to ACS to begin this team's full time mission work in Myawaddy, Myanmar. It will last through December 2017. At this printing we are still praying for full funding or, a commitment to fund monthly the full three years of support needed. We are trusting that the resources needed will arrive just in time. STADIA has informed us with joy that sponsors for Church plant #2 has come forward and #3 is pending. The funds for Church #2 will be provided to ACS by the end of December. This will another new church in another new community!

The Asian workers for those both new sites have been called and they and their families have already moved into those new communities. They are establishing house-churches in their homes. They are providing for their family's needs through "tent-making". They will not be able to work full time on this new plant until we can provide their support but they will proceed as they can until then. We need new support for those teams also to continue to progress forward with this fantastic opportunity for

the gospel. We will introduce them on our website and in future newsletters.

Please spread the word through your church connections and among your friends about the needs in these new church plants. Rarely is there a mission donation opportunity that bears so much lasting fruit for eternity for such a reasonable contribution. These church plants provide maximum mission stewardship. As 2017 winds down, year-end contributions can be made to these projects to fully fund them for full three years and ACS will responsibly collect, store and distribute the funds monthly to them over that time.

Because, *"The Lord is...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. (2 Peter 3:9 KJV),"* ACS will continue to pioneer bringing the Gospel into new tribes. This project will reach a new tribe and provides another layer of strategy to ever increasing missional toolbox. Thank you for your continual prayer and your love for those on the other side of the world!

## Introducing the GRACE VILLAGE team Myawaddy, Kayan State, Myanmar.

Credit for Translation to Zami Ah Nang Chan

### Church Planter - Pastor MB SanSar

I was born in a village called Pang Khaing, in 1981 and was the youngest son of my family. I was raised in a Christian family. My parents were animist before they became Christians. My parents heard the gospel from the Morse family, missionaries from USA, and the whole family converted. At the age of five, I went to school near my village. My dad passed away when I was seven. When I was 14, I put my faith in Jesus and was baptized.

My passion is sharing the gospel to all the ethnic groups of Myanmar. In 2000, my mom and I moved to the city where my brother was serving the Lord. In my life,

that was the turning point. One year later after we moved, I went to a Bible School and got my Diploma degree after a three year study. I became involved in the ministry as a youth pastor in one of the churches in Yangon. Later on, we moved to Kayin state and I planted a church.

In 2007, I got married, but we don't have any biological children yet. But, God gave us a responsibility to take care of my niece and nephew who are orphaned, and one adopted girl. They are so lovely. By the Grace of God, now I have a wonderful family.

I have been serving the Lord in the music ministry as a worship leader and also an associate pastor at Myawaddy church in Kayin State. I have recorded over 20 songs

and three gospel solo albums.

Music ministry is found to be an effective way to connect with people because nearly all people love music. We have been connecting toward church youth or unchurched youth through giving some basic music lessons in the church, and doing youth worship programs. There are many activities we have done and many places we go and share the gospel. Evangelizing is the main goal of our ministry. By the grace of God, I have led 20 people into the kingdom of God and have given them the water baptism.

Now we are planting the church in a village called "Grace". Most of people in the village are strong Buddhist. But, we are praying for the people and believing their lives will be changed. We don't have a specific space for worship service yet, but we are gathering at one villager's house for worship and share the good news every Sunday. Also we just started a kids preschool that helps us to connect with people and opens the door for the gospel. All glory and praises be to our Lord, Jesus! Be a part of what we are doing through your prayer! With blessings, SanSar



Zami Ah Chan



Pastor SanSar Baptizing



The SanSar Family

## Pre-School Director - New Ni Oo

My name is Nwe Ni Oo. I was a strong Buddhist and the youngest daughter, favorite one, of my family. They wanted me to listen to them at all times and to follow the decisions that they made for my life. My family wasn't poor and they had a good reputation in town.



New Ni Oo

When I was 12, I began to feel a strong headache and had an optical problem. I couldn't see things well so that I had to wear glasses. When I felt a headache, I thought myself about to die. From the age of twelve, I was frightened by death and thinking about where I will be if I would die today. I tried to follow the instructions of Buddha as much as I could, but my fear didn't go away. Those instructions made my life more heavier.

When I was 24 I met with two Christian wom-

en ministers who lived in the city next to my city. They shared with me about Jesus and the message of Salvation. That was the first time I ever heard about JESUS. Since then faith was rising in my heart. They often called me and encouraged me on the phone. One day, My family found out that I was about to become a Christian. They beat me up and announced that I am no longer their family member. They totally abandoned me. The next morning at 4 A.M, I left my family and got out barefooted from the house. All I have is JESUS who can lead me to Life. It was the most painful moment of my life and also an exciting moment of my future with My Lord Jesus as well. Praise God!

The women who led me to Christ accepted me to live with them. They loved me as their sister and taught me the word of God. I started attending the same church together with them and got involved in the youth group in the church. On 15 May, 2015, I got baptized. God healed my eyes and I had no more optical problem, I had no need to wear the glasses. As I prayed, He healed me.

I have now become a Sunday school teacher and I am volunteering as a pre-school teacher



Grace Preschool

at Grace village in order to share the good news. I have finished a teacher training program from the government. I am blessed to be part of the body of Christ and have brothers and sisters in Christ.

Though my biological family abandoned me, God has given me a wonderful spiritual family. I am fervently praying for all my family to come to know Christ Jesus. My vision is to put the strong foundation of the truth and principles of God into children's hearts so that when they grow up they won't stray from the path what God has for them. Remember me and things that I am doing in the village in your prayers! With Blessing, Nwe Ni Oo

## The Board of ACS — Kent Odor

ACS - Asia Christian Services is a registered 501C3 governed by a Board of Directors. These men and women guide the work of this mission and we wanted you to meet them. Please pray for them as they give oversight to this important work.

**Mark Morse** – The son of LaVerne and Lois, was born in Myanmar in 1957 and spent his early childhood there. While a student at CCU achieving his Bachelor and Masters Degrees, he became involved in supporting the Mission and many projects that LaVerne led. Mark established himself in business and found that his business success was an essential means of furthering the Gospel in Asia. Mark has founded Company's for Christ as a business network. Mark was handed the baton as Mission Director in 2011 as his father LaVerne stepped down.

**Kent Odor** married Marcia in 1975. Kent was previously aware of the Morse's works in SE Asia as his father, Ivan Odor, was a pioneer of the Faith Promise Rally Movement of mission support in the 1960's. Kent is a graduate of Cincinnati Christian University with a Bachelor



Mark Morse



Kent Odor

and Masters Degree. Kent's career has been in high level leadership in Mega churches in Indianapolis, Chicago, Las Vegas and Cincinnati. He is a teacher in the International Class: Perspectives on the World Christian Movement. He has been an ACS board member for 7 years and became Mission Chairman in 2014.

**Marcia Morse Odor** – The daughter of LaVerne and Lois was born in Yangon, Myanmar. She is a graduate of Cincinnati Christian University. She has traveled back to Asia multiple times and has also served as co-editor of ACS publications. Marcia has spent immeasurable time chronicling the work of ACS since it began by filing all the videos, photos and print. She has been serving actively on the ACS board for 3 years.

**George and Elaine Breuer** joined the team in 2012 as board members and the Mission Treasurer at LaVerne's invitation. George retired from his career work with the State of Iowa's Public Health and Environmental Lab at the University of



Marcia Odor



Dr. George and Elaine Breuer



Iowa. Elaine was a teacher and taught for 16 years in the Cincinnati public schools. Both are active members of Christ Church in Mason and close neighbors of Lois at the Mason Christian Village. George's skill and wisdom have proven essential to the financial steadiness needed to support our partners in SE Asia.

**Bill McClure** has been an associate of LaVerne and Lois for many years. Bill is the Director of the Gospel Broadcasting Mission which produces the Christians Hour in the USA and also produces radio broadcasts in many languages for peoples around the world. When LaVerne began Radio work in Asia 40 years ago, he joined GBM. Bill has served as the ACS Board Chairman in the past and has provided steady support for ACS as LaVerne slowly stepped back from day to day leadership in his last years.



Bill McClure



Norman Stanley

**Norman Stanley** spent 38 years in education and retired from the Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute. He holds three degrees from OSU in Agricultural Education and Higher Education Administration. He traveled with LaVerne and has represented ACS in SE Asia three times - Thailand, India and NE India, and Myanmar - as a trainer, encourager and an agricultural explorer to survey practices and lend advice. He serves currently as the ACS representative to I.D.E.S. Norman and his wife Carol of 50 years live near West Liberty, Ohio.

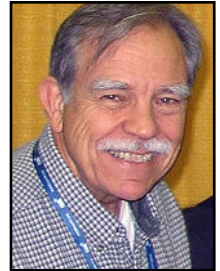
**George Drake** has been a Board Member and a traveler to Asia for over 12 years. He made many trips with LaVerne. George and his wife Pixie have been active members of Southeast Christian Church in Louisville for most of

their lives. George retired from an IT career to expand his service for Christ more broadly in Louisville and beyond to other places in the world. George's encouragement, prayer and wisdom are a foundational piece in the work of ACS.



George Drake

**Vern Bissell** and his wife Judi have been global mission supporters and a friend of ACS for many years. Vern had a full career of computer programming including among other things, work on the Apollo Project in the 60's and the national weather service in the 70's. He then became actively involved in the lives of international students in the Northwest for 15 years. Vern has been involved in Mission work in China and Southeast Asia. He has recently added writing Christian apologetics for science and reliability of the Genesis record to his list of activities. His wide experience brings appreciated wisdom to the board.



Dr. Vern Bissell

**Dave Brackemyre** first met LaVerne at the Missionary Convention in Knoxville in 2001. This encounter led to three trips to Cambodia in 2002 - 2004 with LaVerne, participating in teaching seminars. David and his wife Cheryl then spent nine years on staff with The Voice of the Martyrs in Oklahoma. They retired in 2014 and returned to Ft. Wayne, and David renewed his acquaintance with ACS. Dave finds the focus of ACS on unreached people groups in Myanmar and the partnership with Stadia exciting and stimulating, and lead him to rejoin the board after a 9 year absence. David and Cheryl are members at Cedar Creek Church of Christ NE of Fort Wayne near Leo.



Dave Brackemyre

## ACS Prayer and Financial Needs...

1. **The General fund** ... this is the only **undesignated** money that the mission has to meet immediate requests from the field. Amounts are given proportionally to the accountability teams in the field to use for the works specific to their region.
2. **Faithful support to designated recipients...** i.e. Evangelists, Students, Projects.
3. **Medical support...**
  - a. Medical kits for conferences.
  - b. Monthly support for the Mulashidi Medical Clinic in North Myanmar.
4. **Radio Programming...** The costs of broadcasting each program hour are increasing. These programs are the life line for the isolated believers in the most remote areas.
5. **The Buddhist Church Planting project with STADIA...**
  - a. New Buildings in Buddhist communities.
  - b. Evangelist/Church Planters support.
  - c. Preschool teachers and supplies.
6. **Scholarships for Bible College Students...** Committed young adults from resource deficient areas are earning Bachelor Degrees and being trained to be missionaries to new areas.

## In Memory of...

*Memorial Gifts from 6/1/17 through 9/20/17*

**Ruth A. Boyd**

by John T. Boyd

**Vyron Fender**

by Vivian L. Fender

**LaVerne Morse**

by Harvey C. Bream

by Gerald N & Mary Sweitzer

**Barbara Thacker**

by J. W. & E. L. Stock Insurance Agency

**Be sure to check out our website:  
asiachristianservices.com**

Contributions may be sent to:

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