



Faith, Hope and Love.



But the greatest of these is Love. — Kent Odor

The “church” in Myanmar, Thailand, NE India, and Bangladesh is like us. It is like the church in the Americas, Europe, Africa, the rest of the world and it is like the universal church of the recent and distant past. The different cultures, financial situations and languages vary but the revelation and instructions that were given through the Holy Spirit 2000 years ago to all of us in the church from then til now still rule.

This is a difficult era for the church across Myanmar, especially among the Christians who have become IDP (internally displaced people) or refugees who have left the country for family safety. In 1 Corinthians 13, the scripture

says, *“We see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face.”* Things seem confusing now, but clarity will come someday! Until then, **“these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love!”** Living and sharing the “Love of Christ” with others is at the core of the life of every church, here in the USA, nearby or far away – no matter what! Christ’s love is at the core of the hearts of our brothers and sisters in Myanmar!

This addition of the **Update** will encourage you as you see in a small way how your prayers and financial support is bearing fruit through the continuing hard work of those we are fueling and sending out and spreading the

“Love of Christ.” Even as difficulty and danger are around every corner for our brothers and sisters in the churches in Myanmar, Christ’s love is a continuing fire that sends our

team members forward to further populate heaven and change lives forever. As the King James version says, **“LOVE NEVER FAILS!”**





New Evangelists are Planting New Churches . . .

Asia Christian Services empowers Asian missionaries to reach the unreached, plant new churches and disciple believers.

In January of 2024 we began fueling 15 **new** evangelists primarily along the western border and eastern border of Myanmar. Some have been compelled by the love of Christ to go back to very active fighting areas to bring the gospel to those who are there. But some of the areas in Eastern Shan state and Eastern Kachin state--areas that have experienced much fighting in the past--are now in the territories occupied by the Peoples Defense Force. Some villages are functioning almost back to normal. Many villagers in these areas are hearing and are open to the good news for the first time ever. Meet some of our newer evangelists who are reaching out to them. There are more but here are a few. Please pray for them, for their safety and the safety of their families; and, please pray that the "fields of the hearts" of those they preach to will continue to be "white unto harvest!" There are more evangelists prepared to go as ACS has the available monthly support of about \$200 per month.



Evangelist Tun Kyi

Tun Kyi used to practice Buddhism. However, his family heard about the Good News and they all embraced Jesus as their Savior in 1999. He attended EBI Bible School and earned a Bachelor of Theology degree in 2005. When he returned to his hometown, Kyawtdaw Township in Rakhine State, he started preaching and teaching to his tribe, Mro.

Simon and Tun Kai on Cyclone Mocha Relief Trip Giving Rice



Evangelist Ai Shwe

Ai Shwe has been serving the Lord for many years. Recently he is giving water baptism to a new believer couple. To God be the glory! He regularly visits the churches in northern Shan State and

encourages and disciples the pastors as well as the believers there.



**Preparing for baptism
Baptizing in Jesus' name**

Evangelist Pyi Win

Pyi Win, from Shinmadin village, Chin State, the far west of Myanmar (near Bangladesh and Myanmar border). He studied at EBI for his B.Th, and FBTS for his M.Div. Since 2018, he served in Shwe Pyi Tar Church as associate pastor for several years. He has a strong passion to preach mostly to unbelievers. Now he started church planting in Yeit Thar, Hle Gu Township, northwest of Yangon. He continues his commitment to reach to unbelievers--Karen and Burmese.



Evangelist Hu Pyaung

Hu Pyaung and his wife are planting a church in a village called Wan Lhot in special region four. (*Special Region 4 [SR4] is an autonomous part of Shan State, located in Eastern Shan State in Northeast Burma. There are no Burmese authorities in SR4 and the Burmese military [Tatmadaw] or police cannot get into the area. There also are no community services like public schools*). He and his wife are teaching the Akha alphabet to Akha children in his village, and he is teaching them about Jesus.



Evangelist Jay Paul

Jay Paul is from Putao, Kachin State. His wife is Ye Kyaw Duu and they have one daughter. He graduated from Taunggyi Bible College. He is serving the Lord as a Pastor in the village called Narli in Special Region Four, primarily among Akha People but also Lahu and Maozi. He is sharing the gospel to unbelievers and teaching the youth new songs in the church. His wife also is teaching Sunday school and helping in ministry



Teaching the children



Evangelist Ah Joe

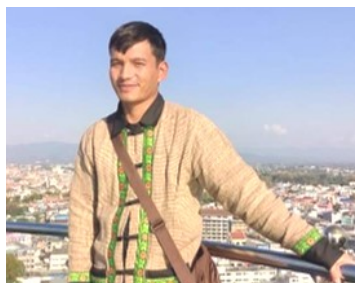
Ah Joe was born in 1993. His father is Ho San from the Akha tribe and his mother is Nae Lae, from the Lahu tribe. He is married with two children. He lives in Tachileik and is serving the Lord as an Evangelist and a Bible teacher. He is also the Secretary of Eastern Shan Regional Evangelizing Committee, Tachileik. He is teaching in the Tachileik Bible Seminary, where now it is the summer break. This year on the break he went as part of a team to the Lahu village called "Nan Kaing Nae" and launched a new church there.



The Ah Joe Family

Evangelist Naw Ah Li Sar

Naw Ah Li Sar is a graduate of Bethany Bible School in Putao. Now reaching to Shan, Lisu, and Burmese in Par Nyaung, Maishuu, Shan State.



Evangelist Ah Phu Sar

He graduated from PCBS, Putao. He is hailing from Phatmarzot, Putao. He and his family of 7 came down from Putao to Mai Pin, Shan State to serve the Lord. Now he is serving the Lord in Par San, Shan State as evangelist to unreached people groups--Shwe Palaung, Lahu people.



Evangelist Moses

Evangelist Moses is evangelizing the ethnic groups Akha and Lahu. He has been going to different areas and preaching the good news of Christ.

Evangelist Moses Preaching



Evangelist Lemi Si

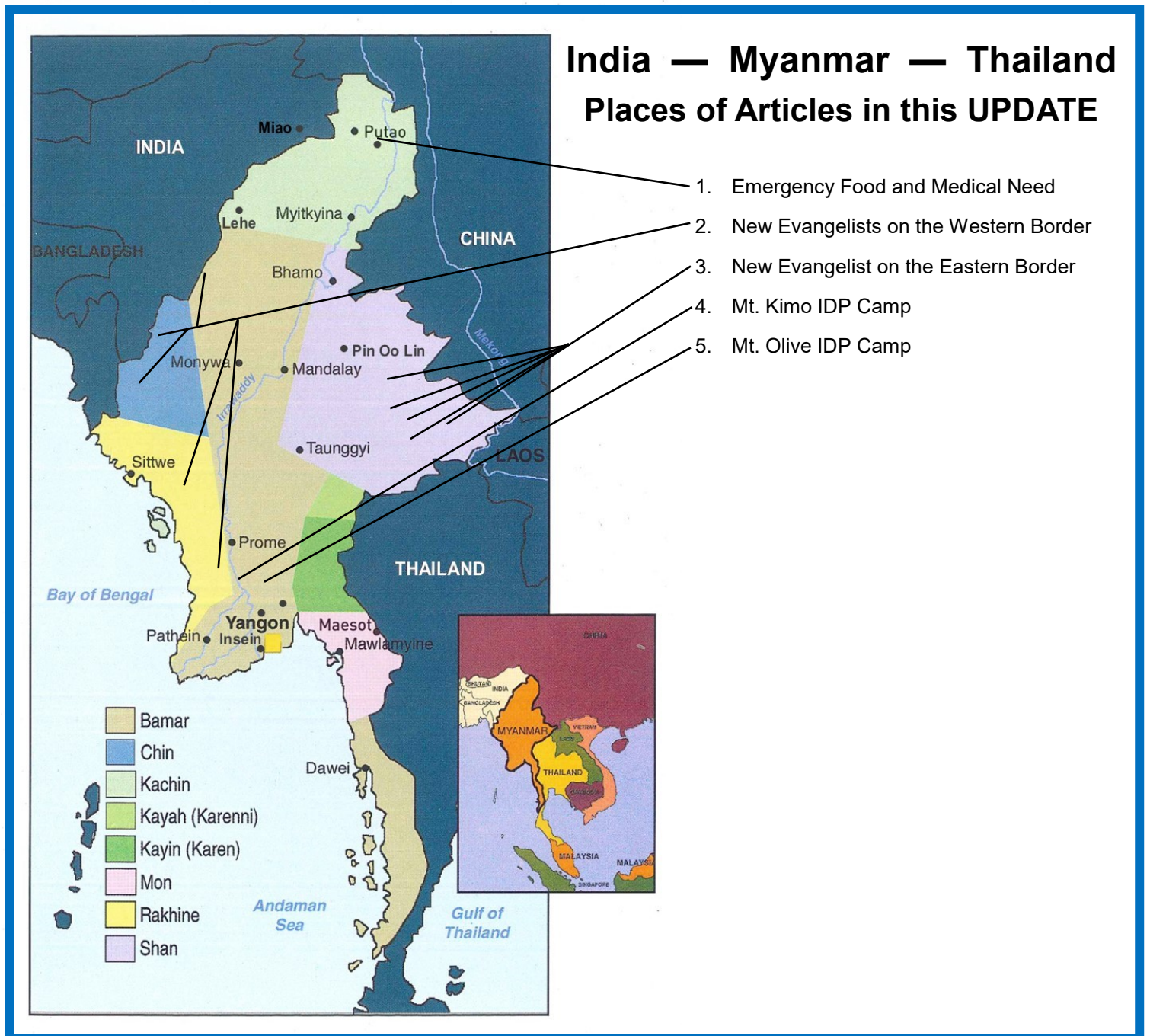
Pastor Lemi Si now has 25 members. He has also been sharing the gospel with the village Shaman (witch doctor). The new church is feeling comfort in these times of trouble by the word of God because there is no other refuge for the people in the country's situation. There is also a nearby field that the animist villagers feel that anyone who works in the field will die soon. So, the villagers believe that the field is evil. But the pastor's family prays and works in that field, and it is now fruitful. So the villagers feel wonderful, and God's name is glorified by that work. Now the church has a portion in

the harvest of that field. They praise the Lord for His protection even though the situation of the country is in darkness, they are safe and can serve the Lord today.



Sunday school teacher and children

Lemi Si on the right and church members



The Current Myanmar Situation

The Military government (Tatmadaw) continues a relentless fight against the peoples of Myanmar. The Tatmadaw is fighting its own tribe, the Burmans, plus the 152 other tribes. Their soldiers are waning, from being killed and from desertion, so the military is fighting with more airstrikes using jets they bought from Russia and China. They also are now forcefully conscripting people off the streets, 18-35 years old, men and women, to fight as front-line soldiers. Many of the tribes have formed armed militias to defend their people against the military. Now some lifetime tribal enemies are joining forces to fight back. This coalition is now called the Peoples Defense Force.



A town burning after an air strike

An Emergency Situation is now upon us in Northern Myanmar.

This is the area where the Morses lived and worked long ago. In the immediate area of Putao there are about 10,000 people. Beyond this there are over 80 villages with

a population of 100,000. Roads have been cut off for three months and supplies have **not** been able to get through. There is no more rice or cooking oil to buy, and eggs are scarce. All

the shops are empty. It is believed that by the end of June, 20% of the population will reach a beginning starvation point. Possible solutions to deliver goods are being

explored – possibly by plane. We will be dispersing the aid through our evangelism network. Please continue to pray for peace.



\$50 dollars (80 lbs) will feed a family of five with rice for a month and keep them from starving. Please consider helping a family for a month or more. Write on your check memo – for rice.

Refugees are being served and they are hearing the gospel...

Because of the Matching Grant and generous gifts at the end of 2023, two new villages have been established by ACS in Myanmar for IDP's, Internally Displaced People (we also have previously started the Emmaus Village in Thailand for refugees). Two pieces of land were purchased in Myanmar in safe zones, two evangelists and two teachers were sent to the new villages. Wells were drilled, two Community Center/Church building/School buildings were built, and bamboo was provided for the refugees to establish new

homes. Many who are far from God are coming to the safety of these places, and they are finding the love of God is all around them, shared by the teams we are placing there. The message is being received with gratitude. Some have already accepted the message and put their trust In Jesus. Here are brief stories of the leaders from the two new camps. More available safe land has been found and is available to purchase when funds are provided. A new village project requires about \$50,000.

Mt Kimo IDP Camp

Phillip Like was born in a Christian family at Palawah in Rakhine State. His region has been a location of very heavy fighting and there are now thousands of refugees from that region. Prior to the war, he came to EBI in Yangon to study the Bible and he graduated in 2019. When the coup and the Rakhine army increased fighting at Palawah, all the villagers moved east to escape. He and his family became refugees. Many villagers relocated to the Hle Ku, safe zone region. By the Grace of God, he was available to lead and establish the new **Mt Kimo IDP Camp**. He is leading to build bamboo homes for the IDPs with hope to plant a solid church there. The Land will support over 50 families. Please pray for his family.

Ma Loon was also from Palawah and escaped to Yangon last year. The Tatmadaw burned her village. Now her family has moved to the Mt Kimo Camp. She was previously trained to be a teacher and will serve the children and their families at the new camp.

Teacher Ma Loon
New Residents



ACS has started nine preschools and 2 schools. We recently supplied stationary to supplement the teaching supplies. The children were very excited as they rarely get new supplies. Many of the children are from Buddhist families and this is a wonderful bridge to share the gospel.

Sharing School Supplies



Mount Olive IDP Camp

Ah Dae Lam Kho Kai was born in 1976 and is married to Hoi Nei. They have four children. His special talents are music and preaching. He graduated with a Master of degree in 2004 and has been an associate pastor and Music leader at the Insein Church of Christ in Yangon. He has accepted the call to be the church planter and the pastor of the work at the Mount Olive camp and will lead the new mission there. Mount Olive will be the new home for about 50 new families.



Residents at Mount Olive iDP Camp



New Residents to Mount Olive Camp

Daw Sanda was a Buddhist and accepted Jesus as her personal Savior in 2004 and was baptized by U Joel Thein at Buthein Taung, Rakine State (Joel is now our Church Planter at Hle Ku Village for IDPs north of Yangon). She went to the Kyawday Christian Bible School (KCBS) and graduated in 2015 and since then has served faithfully as a teacher for children in her village. Her family escaped to Mount Olive with other villagers in March as fighting intensified in her area in Rakhine State. Now she has relocated and will be the teacher of the children in the new Mount Olive camp.



Church under Construction at Mount Olive



In last quarter's UPDATE we introduced the Life of Christ Pictorial Book that has been translated into several Burmese languages as a refugee outreach project of Justin Johnson--Ruth Morse Johnson's grandson--who is now serving in Thailand. The Burmese edition has now been dispersed in several IDP camps and is being used as a textbook to teach reading to the refugee students.

A Report from Asia Was Brought to Us Personally By Simon

Simon Thaug is married, has five children and lives in Yangon. He has been a key “boots on the ground” Asian leader for ACS for many years. He was originally from northern Burma and the village where he grew up was near the village where Marcia Odor and Mark Morse grew up. He studied for ministry at the Chiangmai Bible Institute in Thailand and then Emmaus Bible Institute in Yangon. He has attempted to come to the USA for thirty-three years but has been denied a visa over fifteen times. He recently was able to visit us in the USA (we believe, because of God’s providential hand) and he was able to report to us on many ACS activities and many other things in SE Asia.

He spent two days interreacting with the ACS Board of Directors. He visited his supporting church, Worthington Christian Church in Columbus, Ohio, and greeted the congregation at three morning services, and then conferred with the mission team. Next, he gave a conclusive report to the leaders of USAID in



The Worthington CC Mission Team

Washington DC about a grant given by the US Government to assist in the prevention and treatment of drug abuse in Northern Myanmar he spearheaded (this appeared to be a

critical component needed to secure his visa!). The workers in north Burma who implemented the USAID project so successfully were primarily church leaders and Bible College students in the churches formerly connected to the Morse Family Mission in the Putao region.



He reported to ACS supporters in Kentucky, Indiana and Florida. In Kentucky he visited our partners, mPower Approach at Southeast Christian Church, who have trained over 100 ACS Evangelists to pull teeth as a bridge to preaching the gospel in new areas. In Indiana He gave devotions to the staff of IDES in Indianapolis. He met with Dr. Steve Newton in Columbus who had gathered key mission leaders from Southern Indiana. He had a great visit with Mike Ward, a former librarian at the CBI in Thailand whose father spearheaded work in Cambodia, Thailand and Central Burma. In Florida he visited Joe Putting at the Tomoka Christian Church and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Orr in Orlando.

He was able to visit and say thank you to Doris Downy in Southern California, who is now 90 years old and a former medical missionary in Thailand. She helped him when he was a student in Bible College and became his second “mom.” He was also able to thank Wayne Ford, a 90-year-old Iowa Corn farmer who supported heavily the Emmaus Bible Institute in Yangon for many years where Simon was a student and a professor. He was able to visit Lois and LaVerne Morse’s graveside and pray with gratitude to the Lord for all they had meant to him, his family and his people. His last activity was to be interviewed at the Annual FAME Banquet and thank their supporters and encourage everyone there. A bonus was that he had a chance to see four of his children in Seattle, Washington who are in college here in the US.



Mama Doris and Simon

His visit was a whirlwind of activity but the benefit of the conversations and the questions he was able to answer in person will have great rewards for a long time to come. The ACS Board is very grateful that this opportunity was made available to all of us. We are very thankful!



Simon at the FAME Banquet



Simon and his family at Seattle

In Memory Of

Lois Morse

Patricia and Kurt Ringle
Norman M. and Carol L. Stanley
Bill Wesley

Laverne and Lois Morse

The Eubanks Family

Be sure to check out our website:
asiachristianservices.com

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