



SHARING GOD’S GRACE TO A BROKEN WORLD

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

Pray for Myanmar! — Kent Odor

In case you have not yet heard, Myanmar has undergone a Military Coup!

February 27: From Chuck, an ACS Board Member.... Just another small FYI... everything is not bad news. God is still doing miracles.

This morning I had a one-on-one call with one of the youth ministers in Myitkyina who is helping with work for our (upcoming) 12 step programs. He told me they had conducted a memorial service in the park for another youth who was killed by the police. Kachin as you know is the “Bible Belt” of Myanmar, and so the service was conducted as a Christian funeral. During the service he told me they formed a circle to hold hands – he had a Buddhist on one side and a Muslim on the other – while they all sang Amazing Grace. After the service was over, he said many of the Bamar and Muslim youth were asking questions about the difference between reincarnation and resurrection....

Back on February 7: We received a message from Yangon: **“Myanmar has gone dark.”**

The message continued.... “Just 6 days after the Myanmar military seized control of the country in a coup detaining the country’s leader Aung San Suu Kyi and the democratically elected leaders ‘while making up charges to hold them,’ Myanmar has now gone dark. First, the military stopped the use of Facebook where Myanmar civilians have been sharing



news and Civil Disobedience Campaigns. Now, the military has completely shut down the internet, cutting off the country from the rest of the world.

I cannot contact my parents, relatives and friends. My friends have not been able to contact their families either. Civil disobedience campaigns have spread across the country, with health professionals being at the forefront of it. Myanmar civilians are fighting peacefully for the end to military dictatorship once and for all. We are all fighting peacefully for democracy. The pans and pots bearing campaign is still going on every night at 8 pm to show rejection to the coup. In Myanmar tradition, pots and pans are banged to drive evil from your home.

May the World know that we are resisting the coup and fighting back peacefully.”

For 56 years, ACS has been supporting **Asian Missionaries who testify to the goodness of God’s grace**. They have understood that what the Holy Spirit is leading you into, He has also been preparing you for. Even now, evangelists are traveling telling the Gospel story. Now is a time for us in the West to cooperatively pray continually for our brothers and sisters on the other side of the world. There are many far



from God who will be asking questions just like the youth at the funeral of a friend who died at the hands of the military police in this terrible situation.

While the crackdown against anti-coup protestors in the major ethnic-Burman and Buddhist cities of **Yangon (Rangoon)** and **Mandalay** is being widely reported by mainstream media, (*Check out YouTube for the most current reports*) the situation throughout the periphery – in Burma’s ethnic minority states (where most of the country’s Christians live) – remains, as ever, dark.

In **Karen State** (around 30 percent Christian) some 5000 Christians are currently displaced in the jungle because the Tatmadaw (Burmese Military) has destroyed at least 23 villages over the past two months. In a report published on 7 February, David Eubank, founder of the Free Burma Rangers, commented that the Karen feel that “their own lives haven’t changed: they were attacked before the coup and they are being attacked now after the coup.”

This is a great opportunity for the Gospel as many, many Burmese people will be asking the eternal questions, “Who am I?” and “Why am I here?” and “Is there anything more?” Through our prayers our evangelists can providentially be in the right places at the right times to answer and guide them toward salvation and following Jesus forever no matter what happens.

March 26: The lives of our team members are on the line. Tragedy is unfolding in Myanmar. We can pray for their protection and provision through this darkness in their land. Please Pray!

The People of Myanmar (At least 93% of 52,000,000 are far from God – primarily Buddhist and Animist.) Pray for peace to prevail and for reconciliation between the Military, the insurgent groups and the National League for Democracy group.

The people are experiencing...

- Food scarcity in the urban areas as everything is shut down
- Cash scarcity because work is shut down and the banks are closed
- Transportation problems as many urban areas are very restricted with many checkpoints
- A high risk of civil war

Please Pray...

- Pray that God will grant comfort to those who have lost loved ones in the violence.
 - Pray for the Christian Ministers who have pastoral responsibilities for the members of their congregations including those living in fear, those who are soldiers and protestors.
 - Pray that God will fill the ministers with His wisdom and His words during these difficult times. Ask God to remind them of *His* power and *His* omniscience.
 - Pray for the Internally Displaced Persons who are facing even more difficult times.
- Pray for the Christians to be light in the midst of the darkness so that those in the dark will see their good works and glorify our Father in Heaven.
 - Pray that the present civil upheaval in Myanmar will lead to something better. Pray for the safety of leaders who are detained and for the believers to be strong, calm, wise and careful.

The people in Myanmar have suffered so much – for so long. They certainly long deeply in their hearts for something better. Please rally everyone you can to pray. Our God can do miraculous things when we pray in unity. May His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven!

GOOD NEWS

In the Middle of a Pandemic and Civil Unrest there is Evangelism Afoot . . .

Among the Naga in NW Sagaing Division on the Border with India

1. Khamti Biblical Training Center — Manasseh

Today, I would like to share good news that through the Lord's grace, the construction of Khamti Biblical Training Center (Khamti Three Months Bible School) was done. PRAISE THE LORD! Due the Covid-19 and the rainy season, the project was delayed some. But at last, we have done it completely. Thank you very much for your help.

As I shared with you, the Center will surely become a very important Biblical training center like TBC. Since it is located at a strategic location, meeting the highways, waterways and airways, it will surely become a very important training center to train the young men and women from the Khamti area, Lehe (Naga) area and its adjacent areas. Besides Biblical training, it can be used for conducting various training programs or seminars, like CHE training, Leadership Seminars, Christian Women Seminars, Youth Seminars, and Children Teachers Seminars.



Khamti Biblical Training Center

2. 26 Naga Baptisms — Manasseh

Today, I would like to send you good news that a Lisu evangelist named Mr. Ah Thi Fish reported to me that he baptized 26 Naga new converts. He is single and has been serving the Lord on the Naga hills for five years. He planted Wang Tung Christian Church and it is the church where Aaron and I taught a Leadership Seminar for three years ago. He is a very hard-working servant of the Lord and is supported by TCC. Thank you very much. God bless you.



New Naga Christian



26 New Naga Believers

Unreached Lisu in Western Shan State in the Center of the Country

Ancestor Worshipers — Manasseh

The Lisu evangelists are working hard to convert the Lisu ancestor worshipers. As God's grace is sufficient in every situation, the hard work of Robert and his wife paid off. Another 6 families of ancestor worshipers have come to Christ and now, Keng Tung House Church has 30 families of new converts. In the same way Peter and his wife Tabitha's hard work and dedication, another 10 families of ancestor worshipers have come to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and now, May Zele Church has 60 families of new converts. Moreover, in the second week of this month, a



Keng Tung House Church



New Converted Family

family of four ancestor worshipers has also come to Christ at May Zele Church and started their new life in Christ. Peter and the church elders removed their family shrine for the ancestor spirits and dedicated them to the Lord.



Removing the House Shrine for their Ancestors Spirits

Relief work in the Northern Most Part of Kachin State

1. Mulashdi Clinic — Simon

The Mulashdi Clinic was started twenty years ago and currently is the only medical facility in the whole North Burma area that is open. With everything closed because of the Coup, the clinic has seen an increase in clients and is now seeing about 100 per day. With supplies going fast, a pickup truckload of medicines were delivered after a 1000 mile journey through many military checkpoints in early March. This is another place where "Love in Action" provides a way to share the gospel. Simon sent a short message as the Internet was briefly available.

Dear Kent, I am safe in Putao, saving precious lives of our people. Keep praying for us as we are the only team who help medical care in Putao at this challenging time. Blessings. Simon



Mulashdi Clinic



Prescribing Needed Medicine



A travel bus carried 15 tons of food



The workers ready to unload the bus



The supplies after unloading the bus

2. Feeding Project — Simon

Dear all Friends, Greetings from Burma. We all are safe and sound in this challenging time, under military coup. "Stand as One Ministry" donated 15 Tons of Nutri-Food to Refugees, malnourished children and poor patients in the northernmost part of Burma. We shipped by a big bus and safely arrived after 10 days driving to 1,000 miles. Thank you, all partners and donor. PARTNERSHIPS MAKE DIFFERENCES!

"God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them." Hebrew 6:10

May God continue to bless you all. Your fellow servant.



Thanking God for providing



A banquet for all

In the South Central Bago Division near Yangon

Well Drilling — Simon

Simon established a “Well Drilling” Ministry Team a number of years ago. They have drilled or dug by hand several hundred wells in the last few years. They have worked in many villages and have often worked where there were no Christians yet. The recent movement of refugees from Rakhine State has established several new IDP camps in the surrounding areas of Yangon. This was reported in a previous UPDATE. Since our last report, the team has drilled several wells in those camps. This is “Love in Action.”

Because of this good aspect of “Good News,” the Gospel has had an opportunity to be shared and received. There have now been a number of new converts in the camps. Thank you to the **Youth Group of the Worthington Christian Church** in Columbus, Ohio for raising money for many years to fund “Living Water” well projects.



New well in a new Internally Displaced People — Refugee Camp

Relief work in Central Myanmar in Mandalay State

Robinson Mana (President of Myanmar Bible Institute) — The Badar Village Water Project

The purpose of this project was to empower and strengthen the ministry of our local pastors. The goal is to introduce Jesus to the people whom they meet daily. The specific outcomes are these. (1) Older people became receptive first. (2) Young people got involved in this project as volunteers for some days and got to know why we follow Jesus. (3) The whole community wanted to know us, and we got a good chance to share about Christ's love. What a wonderful project that God prepared for us!

I am reporting this with a great joy in the Lord. I have never had this kind of joy before. In fact, this project took two and half months, but It was very productive. Thank you so much for your good communication and your love for Myanmar. Thank you so much. In His mighty Service, Robinson. (Thank you to IDES for this Grant)



The new clean water tank



The project supplies



The result of Love in Action
The Water Project

Final Word: God's Kingdom is tremendously expanding by your prayer support, partnership and collaboration in Asia. We show God's love, and we sow seeds of love and this love seed grows in their hearts. We thank you for your support. May God Continue to bless you! Simon Thaug – Asia Coordinator and all the ACS.

New Medical Fund for National Workers Needing Medical Help Support — Kent Odor

The ACS Board is beginning a new “Medical Fund” for our ACS Missionaries and Workers. From time-to-time special appeals for financial help are received from our workers for themselves or their families to finish paying “primarily” hospital expenses that are over and above their means. Even though expenses are vastly less than ours in the US, if they have an expense of \$1,000 and their monthly support is \$150-\$200, this puts on them a very heavy burden. If you have interest in helping us establish this medical fund, please mark the memo of your check or indicate in your gift that it is for the “**Medical Fund.**” We trust our Father will continue to always provide just what is needed at just the right time. Thank you for considering this opportunity.

2020 Financial Report — David Bickel ACS Treasurer

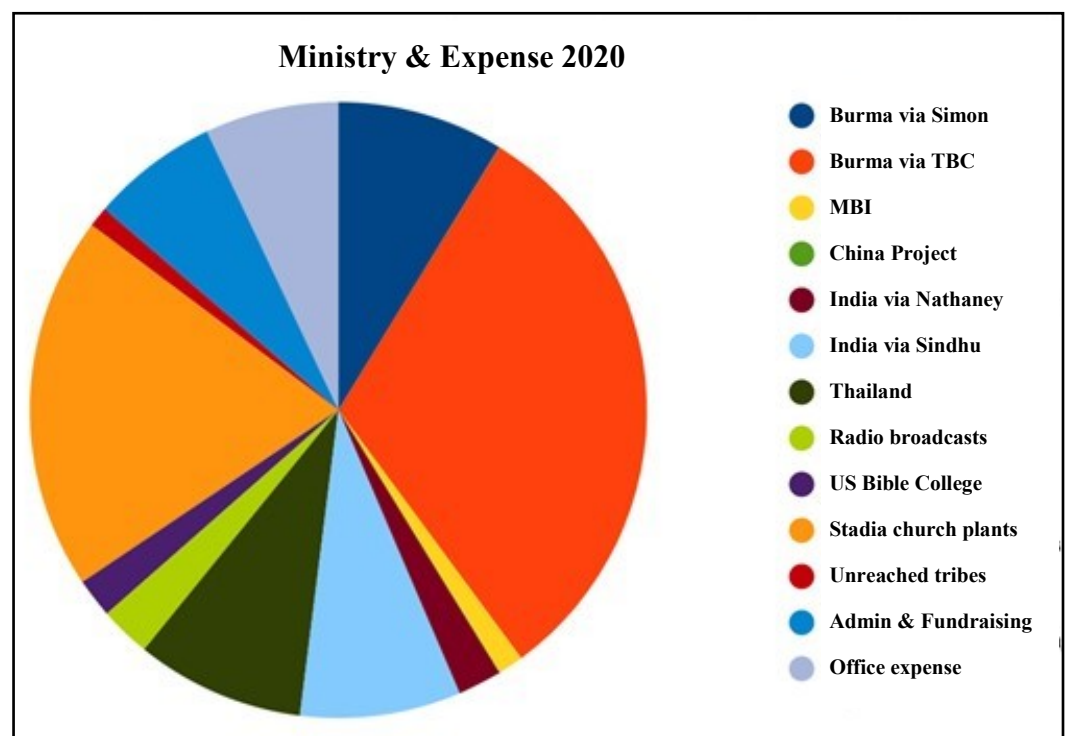
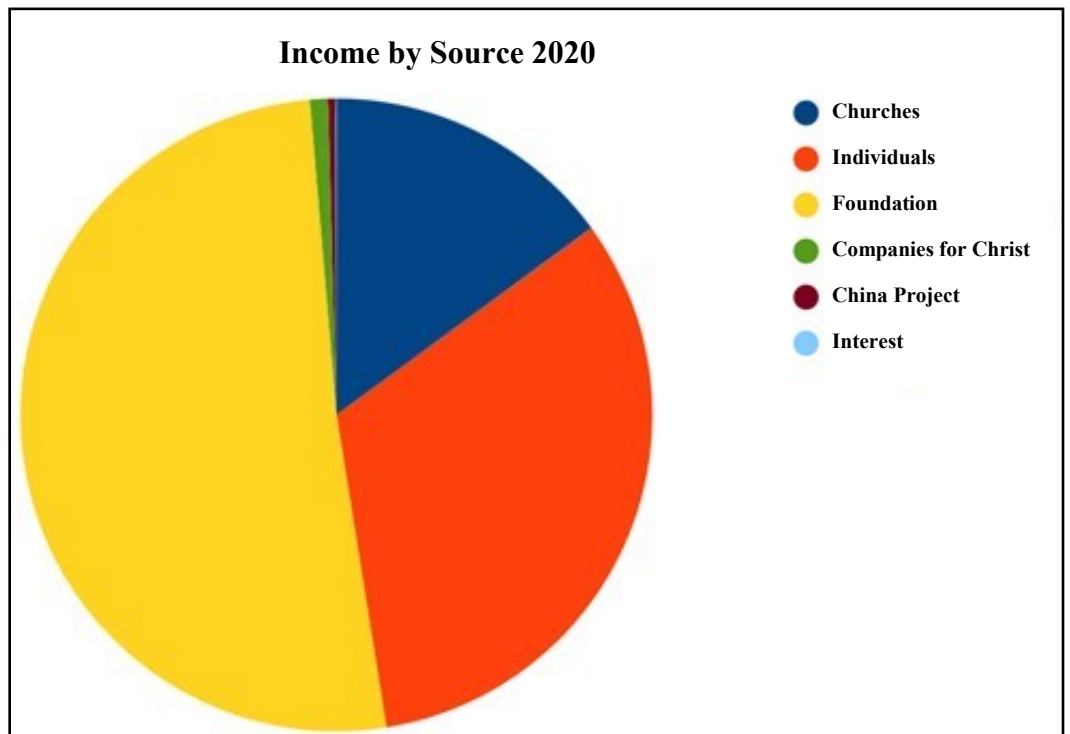


Dave Bickel
ACS Treasurer

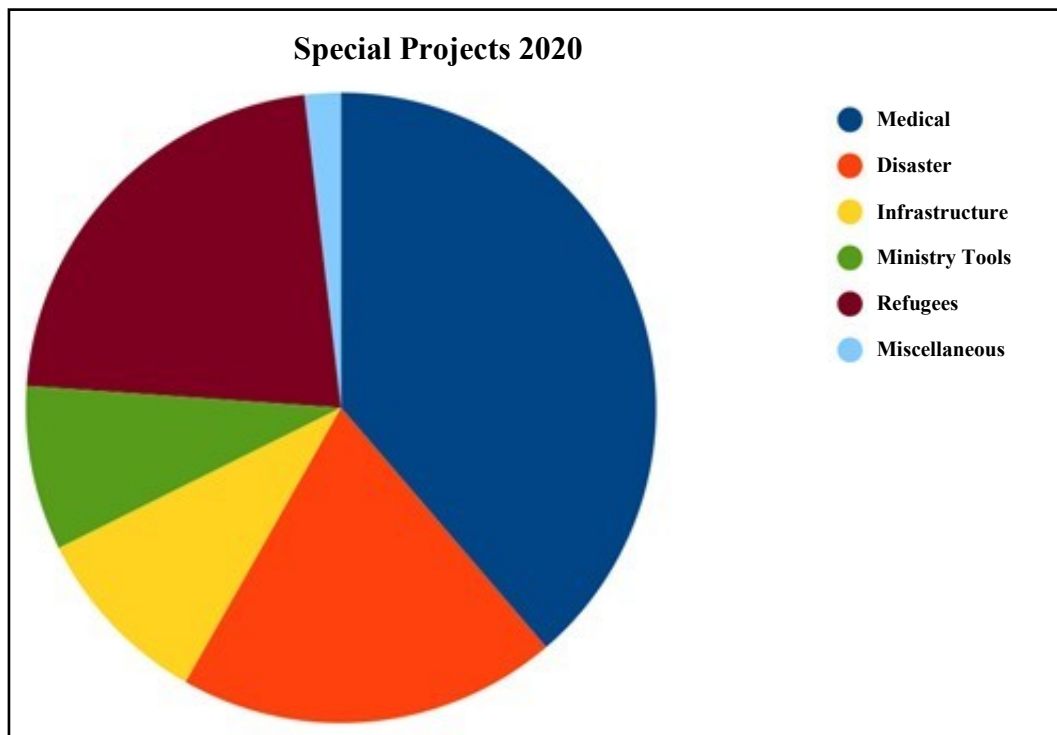
The pie charts that follow may help to better visualize the overall work of Asia Christian Services. The pie charts start at 12 o'clock and go counterclockwise in the order of the list in the legend.

Looking at the **Income Pie Chart**: in 2020 about 15% of income was from churches; about 33 directly from individual donors; almost 51% from other nonprofit missions such as IDES, Stadia, FAME, GBM, and LATM (see the Special Projects chart); less than 1% from private companies; about 0.4% 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 outreach (a new initiative in 2019 starting with the Ann and Tavoyan tribes, new church plants, etc., where we can invest a portion of funds held in reserve for the second or later years of the project; currently, these funds 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 Thaug in Burma (Myanmar), Manasseh and Aaron Fish and their colleagues at Taunggyi Bible College, Vern Bissell's China Project, far NE India via Nathaney and the LifeCare NGO, East India via Sindhu Pani, Thailand via Mark and Tasanee Songsiriphong, Radio Broadcasts by Gospel Broadcasting Mission, Education of Asian colleagues in US Bible Colleges, Church plants in Buddhist areas by Stadia and ACS, and ACS's new work among the Ann and Tavoyan unreached tribes mentioned above; our Administration and Office Expense costs are also included.



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 47% of ACS’s expenditures in Asia. The top category in 2020 was Community Health Evangelism due to the additional task of providing medical supplies for Covid 19. Refugee Relief came in Second place for 2020 and Third place was Disaster Relief. The Fourth place was held by 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. May our Lord and Savior bless you all. David

ACS can now take stock gifts

ACS now has the ability to accept gifts of stock. Our DTC # is 0226 PNC Bank and our account number is 005-330993 Asia Christian Services.

Please make sure you use this information in electronically transferring stocks to Asia Christian Services. For further information please contact **David Bickel ACS Treasurer - 513-403-6476**.

Memorials

In Memory of:

Ed and Mable Curd
 Delores Dixon
 Billye Dyer
 Sora and Russel Gordan
 Robert Kraemer
 Ivan C. Odor
 Colleen Gray Tesnow

Given by:

Tim Shepherd
 Dixon Legacy Fund
 ACS Board of Directors
 Jack Cottrell
 Mary Jane Kraemer
 Doris Odor
 Sue Grey Urban

Be sure to check out our website:

asiachristianservices.com

For the latest news and updates from
 Asia Christian Services

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