



Asia Christian Services UPDATE!

1st Quarter, 2025

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



God's Love In Action!

Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. — 1 John 3:18

Loving others in Jesus' name is best shown through action! In this edition of UPDATE, you will see many illustrations of active love shown through the hands of those who want to help, in their best way, to take people to heaven. For many of us in the USA the mission on the other side of the world requires our hands to write a check. We are confident that most of the effective cross-cultural work is done through the hands that we fuel who live in those foreign lands. And yet, some of us dream about and can go, see and do something amazing over there. Those stories are in this edition as well. God is honored by senders and goers. Thank you for your participation in the mission we have all embraced in SE Asia. God's love is finding a way into the hearts of many right now during these terrible and most difficult times - and it is exciting to watch God at work from near or far away. The Hebrew writer sums it up, "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." Hebrews 6:10 — Kent Odor

Evangelism While Under Persecution - A Brother in Christ

As you all know (and you are praying for our country), our situation is turning down. The new things that made it tough for us is the conscription law as the soldiers are losing their numbers. The military is using a lot of risky ways to recruit new soldiers. They are to arrest younger persons on the street, and in many places they are knocking on people's houses to get younger persons. They also use the means of assault in the public quarter in day light. As a result, we are living in fear and worry for the new generation. We are groaning for a new day that the Lord will bless us and free us from all kinds of bondage.

Our church is trying our best to evangelize Buddhists in the best possible way. A lot of evangelism, sharing the gospel, is going on. Yesterday when my team went to a place under the leadership of Mau,



Preaching in the Field

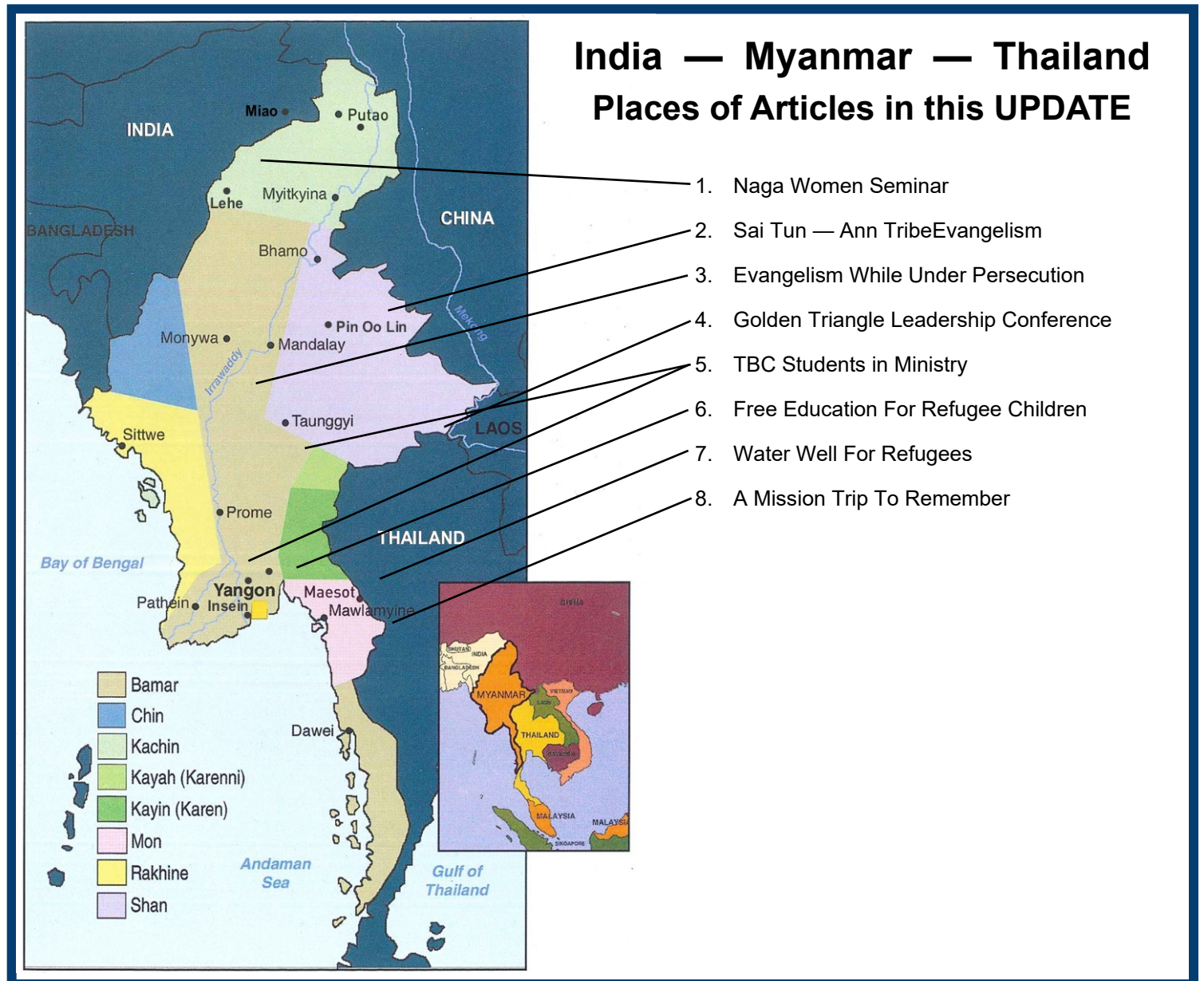
the sharing of the Gospel was going on. On that occasion they were using Discovery Bible Study. Suddenly, the house owner's daughter ran toward us and whispered her mother something, and Mau immediately inquired to her mom. She said that the soldiers are breaking into houses. They just stopped the study and ran. By the grace of God, Mau and his two younger evangelists escaped from that terrible situation. In the evening, he received the news that seven young boys from that community were taken by the military. If Mau and the other two evangelists had stayed, they would have been arrested.

My assistants went to do evangelism today no matter what, even though young adult lives are not secure to be traveling now due to conscription law—still, they just press on. By faith all three and another young boy traveled 40 miles by motorbike this morning to visit one of our church members. They were living in a village far away from the church. But the good thing is that their house is turning into a house church. Under our evangelism, people received healing and divine intervention as we lay our hands on the non-Christians. Today, (on Feb 27, 2025) the four evangelists hurried up to meet the people and share the gospel. But the village was empty. However, they can't come back home without sharing the gospel. And, by the help of a daughter of our church member, they ran to the farms.

Everybody was working in the farm in that area, and they were happy to see these people come. They gathered together! They heard the gospel from our evangelists. The Christ is preached. The challenge is that the military is everywhere to collect more soldiers, but our evangelists are brave enough to travel for the gospel. Please continue to pray for the ministry. We love you and are praying for you. Blessings, Your Brother in Christ

India — Myanmar — Thailand Places of Articles in this UPDATE

1. Naga Women Seminar
2. Sai Tun — Ann Tribe Evangelism
3. Evangelism While Under Persecution
4. Golden Triangle Leadership Conference
5. TBC Students in Ministry
6. Free Education For Refugee Children
7. Water Well For Refugees
8. A Mission Trip To Remember



Good News from Sai Tun — Kent Odor

About four years ago we featured a story of Sai Tun as he ventured to plant a church with the unreached Ann tribe in NE Shan State. If you can remember, this tribe was so superstitious that they wouldn't bathe their children because the water spirits at the river would eat them. They wouldn't leave their homes after dark because the spirits would attack them, and they wouldn't let their children go to school because the spirits would take away their brains. They were extremely poor they were constantly killing their animals to make sacrifices to the spirits.

Sai Tun was not allowed to go into their homes at the beginning because he would bring in bad spirits. So, he gathered them outside to listen to his stories about Jesus. He told them about how Jesus overcame the evil spirits and brought hope and forgiveness to us all.

At the Golden Triangle Seminar that I visited in February in NW Thailand, Sai Tun gave me an update. He has now started three churches among the Ann tribe. He has helped them build meager buildings and they worship every week. The children in three villages are now going to school. He helped them dig wells and their lives are improving as they learn about Christ, trust Him and obey His words.

He has baptized many of the adults in the river, and others in the villages who are not yet believers are benefiting by living in the villages with the new Christians. He is hopeful that in time all of those in the three villages he has touched so far will become Christians. He gives all the glory to God and is grateful that we have supported him through all of his work. We are grateful to the donor who made this possible.



Kent with Sai Tun and His Family



Sai Tun and New Church Leaders



An Ann Tribe Village Celebration

The Fruit of TBC Students in Ministry — Manasseh Fish



Manasseh Fish

I would like to share with you very good and unbelievable news about the success of our TBC (Taunggyi Bible College) girl students' slum ministry in Yangon. There are 4 TBC girl students who are sharing the gospel among the people who are very poor and living in the slum areas of Yangon. They are Mary, Mya, Win and Aung. Mary is Lisu and the rest three are the Naga girl students. Mary is serving as the leader of the team. Mary shared with me that as far as now, they have founded 6 house churches in slum areas. Praise the Lord!



Mya, Mary and Win

She said since they have no man minister, she has to lead all by herself, leading the funerals and wedding and giving baptism to the new converts. Mary said since they are working among the slum people, there are crimes every day and so it is so risky and dangerous for them. So, she asked to remember them in our prayers. So, please remember them in your prayers too that they will be protected by the Lord and bring many souls to Christ. Thank you very much. God bless you.



Mary is Baptizing



Mary is Sharing the Gospel

There are also 6 TBC graduates sharing the gospel among the Lisu who are ancestor spirit worshipers. They are also sharing with the Lahu and AhKha, who are also worshiping many kinds of spirits. Today, I received good news from Jay and Philip, that through their sharing, 4 Lisu young men and women and a Lahu young man have come to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and took baptism last week. Praise the Lord! Please remember them in your prayers that they will be able to bring more souls to Christ. Your Brother in Christ, Manasseh



Jay and Philip Baptizing



New Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Women's Ministry — In the Far NW Naga Hills of Myanmar

(The Nagas are a remote tribe in NW Myanmar who are famous in Burma as “the headhunters.” They believed that the heads of their enemies would scare off the spirits in their villages, so every village had a “head house” for protection. The last head house was torn down in 2005. Lisu missionaries brought the gospel to them and those youth are now graduating from Bible College and evangelizing over a dozen of the different variant groups of Nagas. – KO)

Through the Lord's grace, the Naga Christian Women seminar was done successfully.... Ruth said their going and having the seminar was like having a shower in the midst of drought for our Naga brothers and sisters. They said that now when our country's situation is bad, no church leader finds it easy to come visit their place and thus, they are feeling like they are passing through a severe drought. So, their visit and seminar was a shower in the midst of the drought. Our Naga Brothers and sisters were so thankful to them for visiting and having the seminar for them.



The Naga Christian Women's Seminar



The children who are looking after the babies

Ruth and Miram told me that there were over one hundred women coming to join the seminar. They had to travel to the seminar--some one day and some two days--on foot from their villages. Some women have babies, and they brought their older children so that they would help them look after the babies, when their mothers were attending the seminar.

Ruth said the women and our TBC students were so much encouraged by their visiting and having the seminar and they were also asked with tears in their eyes to come back next year, and Ruth and Miriam felt so pity on them. Ruth also said that all our TBC Naga students are serving boldly for the Lord in the Naga hills even though they are facing many kinds of challenges and difficulties. So, we need to pray for them also.

Thank you very much. God bless you. Your Brother in Christ, Manasseh



Ruth, Miriam, and the Naga Women

News from Simon



Simon Thaug

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ from Asia Mission field. We all are doing well under our God's care in this challenging time. The military coup continues fighting and air-striking the homes of civilians by jet fighters, and whole villages have to escape for their lives by leaving all properties. Many cross the border and become refugees along Thailand/Burma border. The refugees increased over 4 million this past year.

"My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock and my refuge.

Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge." Psalm 62:5-7

FREE EDUCATION FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN

We are supporting refugee children for education such as giving free ferry, free tuition and opening preschools. These love services becoming bridges to reach their families. The children's parents are opening their doors for our evangelists to visit their homes and share the good news and heal their traumas by prayers. Many refugee families accepted Jesus as their Savior. Teacher Mai is at the Bago Refugee Village. She is very devoted and a good teacher. She led a Christmas outreach for the parents. You can see in the photos that many parents came.



Immanuel Refugee School



Buddhist Parents Attending Outreach

MEDICAL CARE FOR REFUGEES AND VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Medical care is one of the great needs in Mission field. We are blessed to have friends like FAME and IDES who are helping medical evangelism. We established Mulashidi Clinic and Maesod Clinic by the help of FAME, and IDES is helping with medical supplies. Our medical team gives free treatment, and praying for the patients after sharing about Jesus can heal both physical and Spiritual diseases. Many patients experienced the miracle by medical care and accepted Jesus Christ.

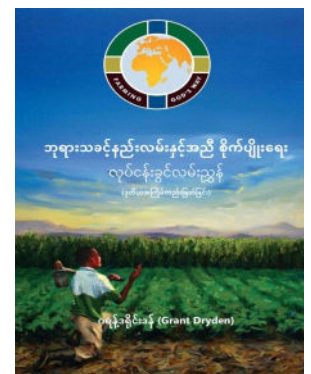
"The King said, 'When I was sick, you looked after me.'" Matt: 25:36



Medical Care For Refugees

FARMING GOD'S WAY

God is the first farmer (Genesis 2:8) and instructed the best way of farming. We are blessed to learn this FGW lesson to apply to get the best crops and maintain good soil. The church members are able to tithe to God for His Kingdom. Thank you, Brian Smith and Noah Spikes, for coming to teach these new lessons to our mission field. Also thank you to IDES for supporting this activity, equipping God's people for farming God's Way to get enrich blessings.



Farming God's Way Manual

OBEYING THE GREAT COMMISSION

After sharing God's Love and the Good News to refugees, IDPs and new tribes, many accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior. As Jesus' great commission, we baptized them in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matt 28:19-20) We covet your prayer support. I am deeply appreciative of your prayer support, partnership, and cooperation in expanding God's Kingdom.

Let's not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap the harvest if we do not give up!" Galatians 6:9



Baptism

Partnerships are a Key to a 'Mission Accomplished!' — Kent Odor

January started a late winter/spring thrust forward and upward in the mission of Asia Christian Services. The ACS mission is: **TO EMPOWER ASIAN MISSIONARIES TO REACH THE UNREACHED, PLANT NEW CHURCHES AND DISCIPLE BELIEVERS.** Our strategy for doing our mission on the US side is to gather resources from US partner donors and partner mission agencies and deploy those resources to set up our teams in SE Asia to do the important work of evangelism and new church planting. Our mission agency partners provide unmatched talented skill training, equipment and Biblical training with additional financial and practical resources for our team to spread the gospel. ACS is a very large team effort on both sides of the big ocean! There is much to come!

Thank You to IDES — 20th Anniversary Golden Triangle — Tasanee Siriphong

The Golden Triangle Leadership Seminar is an annual event designed to strengthen and refresh evangelists and church planters in the region where Thailand, Myanmar, and Laos converge, known as the Golden Triangle. The seminar provides continuing spiritual education and fosters unity among Christian leaders. This year was special because we celebrated our 20th Annual Leadership Seminar. There were 320 in attendance from Myanmar and Thailand which most of them are Christian leaders, pastors, village leaders, Bible school teachers, Sunday school teachers and youths who are training to be church leaders. The Christian leadership program provided by IDES has been playing a crucial role in the communities along the border of Thailand Myanmar throughout two decades. The topic of this year was **Faithful in Prayer Romans 12:12**. The guest speakers this year included Matt and Tina Wilson from Ecclesia Christian Church, Chuck and Karen Phillips, Mike Flinchum, Dr. Joshua Leme, Michael and Rosalind Trusty and Ruth and Manasseh Fish. It was well done!



Tasaanee Siriphong



Thank You To FAME — A Mission Trip to Thailand

A 16-member medical mission team from the USA was led by FAME coordinator Mallory Fehl. The core group from Academy Christian Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and a few more served 1000 refugees on the Myanmar/Thailand border at Mae Sot, Thailand. Additionally, 16 ACS team members from ACS Asia joined them and served as translators, drivers and evangelists. Our ACS team on location was led by Simon Thaung and Susan Aung. The trip was very well done! This trip is summarized by Barbara in the next article, "A Mission Trip to Remember."

A MISSION TRIP TO REMEMBER

– Barbara Stappenbeck



“God is always
at work around us.
We need to
watch and see
where He is working
and join Him there.”

....and who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this. —Esther 4:14b. NIV

January 2025 will always be remembered in our family. That's when my husband and I joined a team from our church to travel to Thailand to minister to almost a thousand Burmese refugees. It was an unforgettable experience that we'd love to share with you. Of course, there's always a back story. Two years ago, Academy Christian Church in Colorado Springs helped build a clinic on the Myanmar/Thai border. Naturally, there were people anxious to go see what we helped build, and to be with the people.

I remember doing Henry Blackaby's Bible study called Experiencing God. It was quite a few years ago, but I'll never forget the main premise of the study. It was that God is always at work around us. We need to watch and see where He is working and join Him there. I feel like that's exactly what a wonderful group of Kingdom folks did when we traveled to Thailand in January 2025. What a trip!

All of the planning, coordination and prep work for our trip was accomplished by some incredible people at FAME (Partners in Medical Evangelism, Indiana), Asia Christian Services (Mason, Ohio), M-Power (Louisville, Kentucky), Academy Christian Church (Colorado Springs, Colorado) and HOPE/ACS in Myanmar/Thailand. Once the medical supplies were distributed across the team to get them in country, the hotels were reserved, the food ordered, the teams trained and airline tickets purchased--it was time to head out. **God came through on putting a great team together to accomplish our mission. Our mission was to bring medical care, hope and the love of Christ to the Myanmar/Burmese refugees living just across the border in Thailand. Many are living in refugee villages of a dozen to a few dozen families. Some are living in UN refugee camps of 10,000 people or more.**

The team God put together consisted of a Burmese Doctor, four nurses, an EMT, three CNA's, a pastor, seven translators, five lay dentists, support staff and our incredible hosts, Simon Thaug and his assistant, Susan. We arrived from the United States into Chiang Mai, Thailand. The next day we drove six hours southwest to Mae Sot and immediately got to work. We had brought thousands of dollars' worth of the medicines and supplies that we anticipated needing. FAME buys the meds in bulk, so we took over a hotel meeting room and repackaged SO MANY meds. We had big bottles containing a total of 15,000 children's vitamins. The people at my table counted out 30 vitamins at a time, put them in little zip-top plastic pouches, and put labels on them. Another table did the same thing with prenatal vitamins, adult vitamins, and on and on. It was a productive evening, and it kept everyone from going to bed in the middle of the afternoon due to jet lag!

In the morning, we were ready to go with our scrubs on and our huge suitcases of supplies loaded in two support pickups. Simon, from HOPE/ACS, said to "load up, we're going to the trash dump." I thought he meant we'd turn at the dump road, or something like that. Nope--he meant that we were literally going to the trash dump. There are about four hundred refugees who live there. They were previously living on top of the dump, but the government made them move down on level ground at the edge of the dump. So that's where we set up our first clinic and met our first patients.

These people, as well as all of the rest of them who we saw, live hard physical lives. So, everyone got anti-parasitic meds and vitamins. We also gave out a lot of acetaminophen and ibuprofen for their aches and pains, and topical creams for rashes. We also caught much more serious conditions. We were able to refer a little three-year-old boy for GI surgery. We were able to treat an infant with a fungal rash over her body. We found people with untreated high blood pressure and diabetes, and a latent case of tuberculosis. I'm so thankful that we could offer help and hope to these beautiful people.



Because we were such a large team and we very much wanted to love on

Simon greeting refugees at Trash Dump Camp

these people, we were able to make the whole process very personalized. Each person got one-on-one care from at least five different team members. First, one of us registered them with their name and age. Then the next team member took their vital signs, then another visited with them and asked what concerns they had for us that day. Then they met with a doctor or nurse who took their time and paid individual attention to them. I'm sure that they felt seen and heard and cared for, which had to have felt good to people who had to flee their homes and live in a foreign country. After each patient was seen by a provider, the provider wrote their prescription. The prescription was handed to our pharmacy team who got everything ready and handed it to another wonderful nurse, who with her designated translator, explained to each patient what the medicine was for, and how and when to take it. And then there was Pastor Kent. Once the patients got their meds, Pastor Kent, through his translator, prayed over each and every one of them. It was beautiful!

Each clinic had a dental area where the people could get their infected teeth pulled. In all, our dental team pulled about 150 teeth on this trip. We also had an eyeglass station where they could be referred to for eyeglass fittings. That was a very popular station, and we ran out of glasses before our last clinic. At one of the clinics a daughter brought her 90 some year-old mother over to the eyeglass station. Come to find out, the woman was blind. They just hoped that since we were from America, we would be able to help. Bless their hearts.

And so it went for five more mobile clinics. We went to a small village called Bethany where Academy Christian Church had helped build a medical clinic two years ago. It was a joy to take care of the families who live there, and Simon and Moses kept arriving with pickup loads of people they'd gathered from the surrounding areas who also needed to be seen. It was a full, wonderful day.

In all, we had six mobile clinics and saw just under 1000 patients. We also took a five-hour drive to visit a UN refugee camp where over 10,000 people live. One of our translators had lived in that camp for 15 years, and another for 17 years. Can you imagine? Even though their situation is dire, the people were calm, patient and appreciative. I also noticed such a strong sense of family and community at each site we visited. May God bless them and keep them safe.

And then, as Paul Harvey would say, the rest of the story. And it's God's fascinating story. We were



Vital signs



Evaluation



Discussing needs with nurse



Prayer

beyond blessed to have with us on this trip, the daughter, son-in-law and niece of Laverne and Lois Morse, missionaries to Burma. Laverne, Lois, their children and other family members served in Burma from 1950 until 1965. After leaving there, Laverne started seven Bible Colleges. Simon Thaung was first a student, then an instructor at one of the bible colleges. Simon trained and mentored many young pastors who today are living among and ministering to the Burmese refugees. These refugees are almost exclusively Buddhist. But as they cross the border with nothing, and are met with love, kindness, provisions and protection, they are introduced to Jesus. Many open their hearts and are becoming baptized Christians.

We next went to Bethany, a little village where Moses ministers and we helped build a clinic two years ago. Moses has built a wonderful church where some of us attended while we were there. It was so beautiful. The highlight for me was hearing a group of seven 10-year-old little girls belt out the song "10,000 Reasons" (Bless the Lord, oh my Soul), in English, no less!

At Emmaus, the next little village we visited, Pastor Maung has built a wonderful church where the rest of our team worshiped that Sunday. That's why I chose the verse at the top of this article "*....and who knows but that you have come to your royal position FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS.*" It's beautiful to see how God set things in motion 75 years ago to train and equip these Burmese pastors for this exact time and place on the Thai border. It's beautiful to see all of the people who looked around, and joined God where he was already at work, for such a time as this. To God be the glory!



Nu Poe refugee camp

"These refugees are almost exclusively Buddhist. But as they cross the border with nothing, and are met with love, kindness, provisions and protection, they are introduced to Jesus. Many open their hearts and are becoming baptized Christians."



Church at Emmaus Refugee Village



Medical Team/USA and Asia

ACS has some great needs for regular “Designated” support at this time. Please consider.

1. Church Planter and Teacher Support — We have a number of church planters and school teachers who have been supported for three years by one-time USA sponsored gifts whose funding is finished. Their work is in new areas of service or is work among refugees. Given the new national situation now under the military coup, there is great unemployment in general throughout the country and very few resources. The churches that have been started are not yet self-supporting. There is little or no opportunity for another kind of work to support the evangelists’ families. Also, the schoolteachers in the refugee camps have no other opportunities. ACS is seeking sponsors for these evangelists and teachers to continue their work. **\$200 per month** is needed for each evangelist family. **\$100 per month** is needed for each refugee teacher. Thank you for considering this.



Baptism

2. The New Mae Sot Clinic needs monthly Sponsors —The New Clinic operates on a \$1000 per month budget to provide services 6 days a week. This budget funds a nurse, medicines and the supplies needed to operate. It also funds a doctor several days every week. Because the patients are all refugees from Burma who are without resources, there are no regular fees charged to the patients. The funds to operate are currently drawn from the general fund of undesignated gifts to ACS. Please consider becoming a monthly sponsor of this critical mission opportunity. Note the memo line of your check with **“Mae Sot Clinic.”**



Clinic



3. A Pickup Truck - The new Emmaus Village for refugees in Thailand is outside of town and is not located near any resources. A school for refugee children has been started several miles away. The evangelist has a motorcycle, which is the only vehicle in the camp of many families. He expressed a great need for a pickup truck that could be used to ferry the children to school, that could bring supplies into the camp, and also could be used as an ambulance in times of emergency. This is a great need.

In Memory Of

Jim Cook
Hillsboro Church of Christ

Deloris Dixon
Weldon Dixon

Be sure to check out our website:
asiachristianservices.com

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