

# Asia Christian Services UPDATE!

3rd Quarter, 2022

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



## Thanksgiving, Prayer and Partnership

Kent Odor



Kent Odor

*<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you. <sup>4</sup>In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, <sup>6</sup>being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart...*

The good work of sharing the gospel continues strong on the other side of the world. Almost 2,000 years later, we can say to our brethren in SE Asia, similar to what was said by the Apostle Paul, we thank God every time we remember you! We have you in our hearts! And we pray, "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus!"

In this **UPDATE**, we will pass on recent reports and requests from the field of the faithful workers/partners in Myanmar who have been bearing good fruit through their work. We will also invite you to come to ICOM November 3-5 this year in Columbus, Ohio. This year, ACS has partnered with North Burma Christian Mission to present a display about the 100-year anniversary of J. Russell and Gertrude Morse called, "Mission to a Movement." NBCM was the original Morse mission and the Morse family worked in a singular focus until they were forced to leave Burma in 1965 by the Military government. LaVerne Morse's father and brothers ended up relocating NBCM into Thailand and refocused on the new opportunities among thousands of unreached Lisu tribe people there. LaVerne having relocated in the US as a Bible College Professor of mission started ACS to focus on encouraging the work to strategically spread across Myanmar through the native Lisu and Rawang leaders they had so lovingly nurtured as a family.

ACS evangelists will give brief reports from the furthest south among the Sea Gypsies to the NW among the Nagas and the eastern Shan State near Thailand. Know that our brothers in Christ are grateful for our support of their work and desirous of our continued prayer for them and their new churches. Some of them are in dangerous locations amid the ongoing Military Junta offensives against the people. However, they continue their ministries with joy and determination. Paul's prayer is very appropriate even now for our brothers. Join Paul as you read it and pray the same for our brothers and sisters in Myanmar. Blessings. -KO



14 Baptisms at Lehe

*<sup>9</sup>And this is my (Apostle Paul's) prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, <sup>10</sup>so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God. - Philippians 1:3-11*

# NEWS FROM THE FIELD...

These are brief reports from new church planters.

## From Evangelist James

By the grace of God, the Salon (sea gypsy) ministry is going well. Each day the evangelist James is visiting houses to share the gospel....

Being in among the indigenous people, it is tough to grow immediately. I am sowing the seed competently. The Lord is leading the church in different ways.... Now the church had moved to a new location. Two families came along with the church and 5 students. So we can say that ten came from Langan. There are more people wanting to move. I am the one who made the decision in God's grace. Now we are new place. The older

people are trying to adapt the place. But most importantly children got opportunity to go to school. Many families from Langan Island are wanting to move and live here. We are in a permanent living place now. Once, we were wandering one place to another. That created many difficulties, and the people



People's Lifestyle



The Children ready for School



Teaching Praising Song to Children

lost the mentality of ownership. Even though there was some criticism on my activities, but our church people are delighted and trusted in me.

In Langan our believers were having a tough time to come and worship in Sunday. Each time they are far away from their houses because of the fishing job. There had been challenges i.e. food scarcity, no good drinking water. The other challenge was the drug problem in the island. The drug spreading is so much threatening to the community. Uneducated people got involved in drug abusing lifestyle and they die.

In the new place, the church member is trying to settle down. Here their first experienced was they could not catch much fish like in Langan. As a result, now they are thinking to have different job. I am proud to give U Ni's testimony. When many people complain about him for deciding to move, he by faith told them that "my God is a living God, and he will make a way for me." And he rigidly stood by my side and encouraged me to go straight. He is a good leader, and I am sure later, many villagers will follow by seeing the transformation in U Ni's life.

One donor had given us two houses and one fishing boat. This is a big donation for us which we never expected before. The houses are now being used as a center of evangelism, children home and study areas. Our children are going to school now. Children

education expenses are met by our friends. One important thing is now it is very easy to access health care. Thank you so much from the bottom of my heart to receive your sponsorships to come to the call of God. Truly, God has been leading this ministry and great things are doing in our lives. I am here to serve our God in evangelism, and you make it possible. I am always thankful to you for praying for what we are doing in my ministry. May God continue to bless you.

## From Pastor Yaw Ah Say

During these three months, we usually have church attendees between 20-30. By the grace of God, four people have been baptized during these three months. Our challenge is that because of the country situation, we have been locked down and did online worship service. We have heartfelt praise to God that now we can reopen the church and are able to have in person worship service. Therefore, for some of our members, they are used to the online service and see less interest to attend in person worship service. So, I need to patiently draw them to attend the church service. For some families, it takes lots of time to come to the gathering because of the distance between the church and their houses. But I believe we will overcome with the help of our God.

This is the testimony of a new believer who has been added to our church during these three months. She said that the life between Christians and the unbelievers are totally different. Even her own relatives ignored her when she was in trouble. But she received the love and care from the Christians that make her wonder why strangers are really



Baptized into Christ

good to her. That make her realize that is because of God's love. So finally, she accepted Jesus as her own savior. Thank God for using our church to bring the lost souls to Him.

We have a prayer request that our church members always have a close relationship with God to be strong in faith and in our spiritual lives. We also would like to request to have prayer for our mother country Myanmar to get peace and reign with justice.



**New Believers**

### **From Pastor Min Bai Pong**

I minister in Kayin State. The place I have been reaching is one of the armed forces called BGF's territory, which is not a safe place. My family and about 20 or 30 people are gathering every Sunday at our dear friend's house for worship and bible teaching. We have two sections on Sunday: at 9 a.m. teaching the basis biblical foundation for 45 mins and then 10 a.m. for worship. Saturday evenings is for young people to learn the worship songs and discussion time if they have any questions related to their Christian faith and the Word of God.

One of the challenges we are facing now is with the local authority who are asking for donation for their Buddhists temple or monks from us. We don't want to donate any of our church offering to them, but since they have a gun, we don't know what to do with it. We are praying that there would not be any tension between them and us and God to prepare a way of peace between us.

For the future evangelizing work, I am discipling our brothers and sisters to know how to evangelize and share their faith with others. In this rainy season, people are busy, so we paused our house visiting until the rainy season is over. However, we are still visiting to the patients and praying over the people.

Prayer Requests:

- 1) To get peace between local authority and villagers (especially with the believers)
- 2) To increase faith and boldness in us to share the gospel
- 3) The transformation for our country of Myanmar



**Sunday Morning Bible Teaching**



**Teaching Worship Song and the Bible to the Children**

# THE 100-YEAR CELEBRATION

Kent and Marcia

**1921** was the year that **J. Russell and Gertrude Morse** made their initial trip into Eastern Tibet as missionaries to share the love of God and the hope that Jesus could provide through the forgiveness of our sins. That work resulted in an amazing harvest of new Christians for the Kingdom of God. The Morses, and other missionaries that joined them, worked in China until the communist invasion in 1949. The family and co-workers relocated to Northern Burma in 1950 and continued there until 1965 when that country closed its doors to foreigners. By this time, there were about 35,000 Christians.

The family divided efforts at that point and J Russell and sons Robert and Eugene and their families, relocated to Thailand continuing a multiplying work among the Lisu tribe. Other missionaries joined them, and their expanding work also reached other tribes in Thailand and back into Burma and China.

LaVerne and his family relocated to Cincinnati where he taught Missions at the Cincinnati Bible Seminary. He refocused his personal mission work to empower the native leaders that were left behind in Burma. He established ACS in 1966. He initiated Bible Colleges across Burma and strategically urged leaders to send native missionaries to reach more and more unreached tribes across all of SE Asia and even into other Asian countries.

A conservative guess is that today there are more than a million Christians who will be in Heaven from the missionary footprint of J Russell and Gertrude Morse through mission works in Tibet, China, Myanmar, Thailand, India, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.

## Mission to a Movement Celebration

- At ICOM in Columbus, November 3-5, a display called **“Mission to a Movement”** will be a centerpiece of this celebration. The hope of the display is that it will be an inspiration to other missionaries to see their work as a 100-year mission, should Jesus' tarry longer.
- In Northern Myanmar in the Mulashidi Village and Putao, the area where the Morse's worked, the Lisu and Rawang Tribal leaders are going to celebrate the anniversary with a huge Christmas Convention December 23-25. They anticipate thousands will gather for the worship, preaching and celebration.
- A Book of the history of the 100 years has been written in Burmese by national leaders and has been distributed among the churches in Myanmar. (Some copies will be available at ICOM)

Please be encouraged that the work of ACS is part of a stream of evangelism and discipleship that continues through the work of the Holy Spirit in the changed lives of men and women in SE Asia. J Russell and his three sons have all transitioned to Heaven. His daughter, Ruth Margaret, is still alive and contributing as she can to the ongoing works. She is living in Joplin, MO. Lois Morse, wife of LaVerne, lives in Mason, OH. The Morse children and now grandchildren, along with hundreds of “spiritual children and grandchildren,” are continuing the assignment given by our Lord: to make disciples of all ethne (*people groups*), baptizing them and teaching them to obey everything that Jesus commanded. If you can, make plans to attend ICOM this year and be part of the Celebration!



The advertisement for Asia Christian Services (ACS) features a background image of a mountainous landscape with a dirt road winding through the hills. The text is overlaid on this image. At the top, "Asia Christian Services" is written in a large, bold, blue font. Below it, the "ACS" logo is displayed in a light blue, stylized font. The main text, in a bold, black font, reads: "Over 55 Years in Burma and South East Asia, developing and sending indigenous tribal evangelists to pioneer new churches into unreached areas and unreached tribes." At the bottom, in a bold, black font, it says: "See the strategic work of LaVerne and Lois Morse. Visit our table at the Mission to Movement Display Booth 323." The entire advertisement is enclosed in a black border.

Asia Christian Services 2022 ICOM Ad

# THESE EVANGELISTS NEED SPONSORS

Manasseh Fish

## Gideon

Gideon was born in 1966 at Nam Par village, Putao township, Northern Myanmar. His Parents are Mr. War Kyaa Chey and Mrs. Ah Gee. But both passed away for some years ago. He is the 6<sup>th</sup> son of the family. He attended Machan Baw State High School. While he was attending the 8<sup>th</sup> grades, he withdrew from school, and he went to Naga hills in May 1990 where his eldest brother, Jonathan, and his family was spreading the gospel among Naga people since March 1989. Then, he got married with his wife, Martha on May 18, 1991. Then, unfortunately, his brother became very ill and went back to the Lord in July 1991.

After his brother went back to the Lord, he had to succeed his brother's ministry. So, for the preparation for the Lord's work, he went to study the Word of God at Brea Bible School, Myitkyina, Kachin State from 1992 to 1994. After his graduation in 1994, he went back to the

Naga hills and started serving the Lord from 1995 till today. Therefore, he has been serving the Lord for 27 years. At first, he served as a minister and as well as an evangelist at three Naga churches, one after another for 7 years. After that, he came down to Khamti and continued serving the Lord. Now, he is serving as the minister of Khamti Christian Church and as well as the Chairman of Khamti Evangelizing Committee. He also led in the construction of Khamti Three Months Bible School which was done last year and from next October, he will become the President of Khamti Three Months Bible School. He has a big vision for the Lord's Kingdom to share the gospel and plant new churches along the Chindwin River through coming graduates. He and his wife have four children, three boys and one daughter. To accomplish his vision, he is very much in need of a sponsor. Since he has a family of 6 members, the family will need about \$150 per month support. Now, his family has a very limited income and financially, the family is so many difficulties in serving the Lord.



Gideon

## Robert Naw

Robert was born at Mular Shee De village, Putao township, Kachin State, Northern Myanmar on May 19, 1991. His parents are Mr. He Yaw Se and Mrs. Yaw Htwe. He has 6 brothers and 2 sisters. He is the 6<sup>th</sup> son of the family. He finished his high school education from Putao State High School in 2010. After that, he went to study the Word of God at Eastern Bible Institute, Yangon from 2014 and graduated in 2018. After his graduation, he married to his wife, on Feb 20, 2018. His wife, Dorcas also a graduate from Eastern Bible Institute. They studied together there. Now they have two children.

After they married, they have moved to Keng Tawng area and started sharing the gospel among the Lisu ancestor worshipers from June 16, 2018. Keng Tawng an area of about 1000 families of the Lisu ancestor worshipers. On the other hand, they are helping the children of the ancestor worshipers with their school lessons to touch the heart of their parents with the love



Robert Naw

of Christ. Through their hard work and showing the love of Christ with helping their children with their school lessons, Robert and his wife got 30 families out of 1000 ancestor worshipers' families came to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. They got 50 baptisms of new converts within the past four years. As they got many converts and they prayed for a new church building. The Lord answered their prayers and now, they have a new church building. Praise the Lord! But still, they have no sponsor and financially, their family is having a very difficult time. Robert and his wife have a big vision to convert all ancestor worshipers living in that area. Even though, they have two young boys, they will need at least \$150 per month for their family living and for their ministry.

## Silas

Silas was born at Wang Suk village, Northeastern Shan State on Sept 29, 1987. His parents are Mr. Yang Saw Pe and Mrs. Kyi Mae. He has three brothers and two sisters. The parents were so poor, and they couldn't afford sending Silas to State High School. Therefore, Silas finished only his primary education. After that, he became a drug addict for some years before his conversion. Then, in Dec 2015, he became converted and accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior through an evangelist's sharing. His father was also converted with him at the same time with him. After their conversions, the evangelist gave his father the name of Noah and Silas to him.



Silas

After that, he went to study the Word of God at Taunggyi Bible College in Burmese language and at Brea Bible School in Myitkyina in Lisu language in turn between 2016 and 2018. Then, from 2019, he has started sharing the gospel among the ancestor worshipers, especially with his mother, brothers, and sisters. Within the past four years, he got 18 converts including his mother, two brothers and two sisters. Praise the Lord! So, now, he has a house church and continues sharing the gospel. He has also a big vision like Robert to convert the whole ancestor worshipers living in his area. He got married recently with his wife, on last May 5. However, he has no sponsor till today. So, to be able to accomplish his vision, he needs a sponsor. Since he and his wife have no children yet, \$100 per month would be sufficient for the family living and the ministry.

## John

John was born in Nov 1987 at High Park Village, Southern Shan State. His father is a Burmese converted from Buddhism, but his father went back to the Lord last year. His mother is a Lisu. He withdrew from the State High School when he was attending the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Then, he went to study the Word of God at Taunggyi Bible College from 2006 and graduated in 2008. Then, he has started serving the Lord from 2011 and so, he has been serving the Lord for 11 years by now. In 2020, he got married with his wife, Mrs. Bya Law Ye who is also a TBC graduate. She is also serving as the Children's teacher. John is serving as the minister of High Park Christian Church. Most of the church members are so poor and so, they are having many difficulties for their family living and evangelism work. Since they have only a baby girl, \$100 per month would be sufficient for their family living and ministry.



John

# A BUILDING NEED

from Manasseh Fish

Concerning Linn Hkay church, I would like to share a need for their ministry. They have been collecting funds to build a Children Sunday School Building

(30ft x 20 ft) since three months ago. They have built the foundation.

Ah Tar, the widow of Mr. Sai Tun Aye (The church planter died of cancer), came



Linn Hkay Church Sunday School Building

with another two women last Tuesday to Taunggyi. Mrs. Ah Tar, Mr. Sai Tun Aye's widow, is the youngest daughter of Mr. Stephen who was one of the most senior Lisu ministers and LaVerne's best friend. But he went back to the Lord before Laverne.



Ruth Fish and Ah Tar

Their remaining need is \$5000. If they have built the building, it will benefit their church in many ways. Besides using it as the Children Sunday school classes, they can have the church office and library there and can host the guests. Therefore, if possible, for you, please help us raise the fund for the building. Thank you very much. God bless you. Your Brother in Christ, Manasseh Fish

# A WORD OF THANKS

from Manasseh Fish

Firstly, we would like to thank the donors who generously donated for the construction of new Yum Dain Church and two restrooms for Khamti 3 Months Bible School.

Secondly, we would like to say a word of thanks to the donors who showed their generosity to Bethany Theological School for them to buy the piece of the land they had been praying for. Now, the campus becomes wider than before and the faculties, the students and the Trustee Board members are so thankful to the donors.

Thirdly, we would like to say thank you for the donations for a new motorcycle for Mr. Khun Cornelius, a TBC faculty member and for generously covered for the cost of Mr. Silas' wedding.

Lastly, we would like to say thanks to all of you who have been faithfully contributing financially and prayers for our family and our TCC ministry.

# A FINAL WORD . . .

from the Apostle Paul and the ACS Team

*<sup>12</sup>Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. <sup>13</sup>Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. <sup>14</sup>And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. <sup>15</sup>Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else. <sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray continually, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus...*

*<sup>23</sup>May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup>The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it. – 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24*

## Honors & Memorials

**In Honor of:** George and Elaine Breuer . . . .  
**Given by:** Doris Odor

**In Memory of:** Jim Fehl . . . . . ACS Board  
Martha Morey . . . . . ACS Board

**ACS Board members would gladly accept an invitation to share the latest work of ACS with your Church Mission Committee. To explore this contact Kent Odor.**

**Be sure to check out our website:**  
**[asiachristianservices.com](http://asiachristianservices.com)**

**Contributions may be sent to:**

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