

Asia Christian Services UPDATE!

2nd Quarter, 2021

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



MERCY FOR MYANMAR

Simon Thaug and Kent Odor

*“Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him;
God is a refuge for us.” Psalm 62:8*

It seems like there is nowhere to hide from Myanmar's growing storm of violence. The military seems determined to keep power and has stepped up aggression against the civilian population. Kidnapping people from their homes in the dead of night and taking them off the streets is common, and no one feels safe. The current result of the Military Coup is that the country has erupted into a civil war. The innocent hilltribe people have been caught in the middle of the fighting and are in the path of the general lawlessness of the military leaders. Random killing and bombing is now the norm. The devastation of the innocent is overwhelming.



Random destruction



Fleeing and leaving all behind

Military soldiers are burning homes and markets, randomly shooting into homes that are occupied and giving airstrikes that level whole villages. The villagers are escaping, leaving everything behind, including their animals to find shelter in the jungle. Military bombings and fighting between ethnic armed groups have destroyed many homes, driving thousands of families into hiding in Kayin, Chin, and Shan states.

The people are desperately needing food, shelter, medicines, and good water. They also need loving care to deal with the trauma they are feeling and the hopelessness of



In need of food



In need of shelter



In need of clean water



Meeting spiritual and emotional needs

the situation. Many preachers and church leaders are rising to meet some of those emotional and spiritual needs.

Continue to lift up the churches in this difficult time. The churches across Myanmar are themselves interceding on behalf of the nation. They have stepped up their giving. For each pot of rice that many cook, they give a fist of uncooked rice to the church elders to share with the poor and needy. It is estimated that in the next six months over 4 million people will be in severe hunger. The Christians have found that nonbelievers are open for prayer. A simple, "Can I pray for you?" is often

answered, "Yes!" Pray that the people of Myanmar would pour out their hearts to God and find refuge in Him.

Our prayers and financial resources are needed to assist the displaced, starting with basic food and shelter relief.

ACS is partnering with IDES (International Disaster Emergency Services) in a great relief project to provide food, shelter and medicines in four devastated areas of Myanmar. If you would like to assist in this unified effort, please send relief gifts directly to IDES for the "Myanmar Relief Project." (355 Park 32 Dr W Dr, Noblesville, IN 46062). Please join in support of those who are now the "least of these."

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" (Matthew 25:40)

Our ACS team will share the love of God, along with the aid, to those who are so desperate. Our God will do the rest!



Loving the "Least of These"

THE GOOD NEWS!

Within the Turmoil, God is at work and many are believing in Jesus. Jesus said, *"In the world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world!"* John 16:33
Be encouraged as you see what God is doing! The believers are living as "overcomers!"

Taunggyi Bible College is Meeting Again — Manasseh Fish

Even though our country is still politically unstable, we have started the TBC (Taunggyi Bible College) new school year since last Monday in faith and prayer. According to the present situation, we invited only old students, the second and their third year or final year students. We didn't invite the new students. But when the situation becomes better next year, we will invite new first year students.

Now I am teaching the second-year students the subject of Homiletics (How to Prepare the Sermon and Preach). They are so interested in the subject. There are totally 16 students, 9 in the second year class and 7 in the final year class. Please remember TBC in your prayers. Thank you very much for your support and prayer. God bless you.



Manasseh is teaching



Aaron with the students

Silas House Church — Manasseh Fish

As the internet became available, I received some pictures of Silas' house church first Easter Service and giving baptisms to the six new converts. Among the six new converts, one of Silas' younger brothers' family also included. Their family house shrine for the ancestors' spirits was removed and burned.



Baptisms of new believers



Burning the house shrine

Indeed, Silas has been working there only for one and half years but as our Lord is faithful, He has rewarded Silas' labor. Silas suffered from much opposition even from his family members. Sometimes, he became so discouraged and even felt like giving up. But he bore all sufferings for Christ's sake and now, the small village is being echoed with the songs of praises and prayers, instead of the sound of chanting to the ancestor spirits. Praise the Lord! Please keep praying for Silas and his ministry that he will be able to glorify the Lord more. Thank you very much for everything. God bless you.

The Naga Lehe Church Building is Completed — Manasseh Fish

The Naga Christians are hard workers and as generous as they can be. They have very few resources beyond the work they can do with their hands. Through their own efforts they began building a church building from the foundation, the framing and they purchased a tin roof. That was the extent of their resources. They made an

appeal for help and their appeal was answered by members of a church in Ohio and this is the report....

...The Lehe church minister and church elders reported that they have done putting the church wall and now they just need to put the main door and window sheets. After that, they will have done it completely. They are so thankful for the donation!



The inside of the church



Installing the wall boards



Lehe Church, the back view

Baptisms of New Naga Converts — Manasseh Fish

Yesterday, Mr. Enoch who is one of the Naga evangelists and a TBC Naga graduate shared good news that he got 15 baptisms of the Naga new converts last Sunday.

His village is about one day's walk from Lehe and it is a village of about 60 families, half Christians, half Buddhists and some animists. The villagers are so poor. He told me that his village is on the top of a mountain and there is no stream for giving baptism. So, they made a plastic water pond and gave baptism.



Mr. Enoch's baptistry



Mr. Enoch baptizing Naga man

The Naga Leadership Center Women's Dormitory is Underway — Manasseh Fish

Another good news is from Gideon. He said that they have got the wooden posts and timbers needed for the construction of the girl dorm. He said the wood seller brought the woods to the riverside by his ship near the village and the villagers helped unload the woods from the ship and carry them to the training center. The villagers helped voluntarily with the love of the Lord's ministry.



Unloading the timber from the ship



Gather the wood to the Center

They will try to start the construction as soon as possible. Gideon said that after the girl dorm is done, they are planning to start the training school from next October. I will also go to teach the students at the time.

Thank you very much for your prayers and support. Please keep remembering the construction of the girl dorm in your prayers that Gideon and the committee will have done it with success. God bless you.

Bless Someone in Myanmar with a Guitar! — Marcia Odor

The Lisu tribe has a saying, **“One cannot live without songs just like one cannot live without salt.”**

In this time of trouble and distress, music can bring healing to the heart. Our hope is that many guitars can be given to those who would like to have one. Also, that someone in a church could give lessons to the youth to bring up new voices to sing God's praises and songs of hope. If you would like to join in this endeavor, send to ACS marked “Guitar”. A guitar and case cost \$80.

From Manasseh - Today, Ruth and I sent the report on buying the guitars for the church youths. We have done buying the guitars and sending them to the churches for the youths. So, in total, we bought 10 guitars also 10 bags for them. We shared the guitars with the churches as below:

1. Philip (Mong Hsu Church)
2. Silas (Naung Ein House Church)
3. John (High Park Church)
4. Peter (May Zele Church)
5. Philemon (Hkon Thit Wun Church)
6. Zaw Dwe (Linn Hkay Church)
7. Manasseh (Taunggyi Church)
8. Aaron (Taunggyi Bible College)
9. Ah Si Joseph (Thit Pyi Htaung House church)
10. Robert and Dorcas (Keng Tung House Church)

Thank you very much for your providing guitars for the church youths. I asked them to use them in practicing songs, praising God and in teaching the youths guitar skill. Now, the youths from the churches were so much encouraged by your donation of guitars. Because they are too expensive, they couldn't afford such good quality guitars. I also asked them to use it with care and they are using them with great care. So, the youth ministers are using them at their best.



High Park Church youth praising with new guitar



Silas and his House Church Members praising God playing the new guitar

This is the guitar we shared for TBC. This is the picture that Caleb, the Student Dean is receiving the guitar. They will use it in the morning chapel services and in teaching the students the guitar skill. Great thanks for your donation.



Caleb with the guitar for the TBC students

The Playground at the Immanuel Church and School in MaeSot, Thailand is Finally Completed!

— Mike Gerber

Just before the Pandemic lock down, a church in New Mexico donated funds to build a playground at the refugee school and church plant we had begun in Thailand. The equipment was sent from the USA by ship container and then in Thailand was transported to the school and the church. But, it has been sitting on the ground waiting for the pandemic to allow a supervisor from the organization to lead a team to install it. That has finally happened, and the children are delighted. Our photos are from the installers and not from our team on the ground, so the photos are missing the children playing but, we are passing on the good news! The playground is up and running and is a delight for the refugee children. Mike Gerber, an ACS Board member, wrote this in a thank you letter to a director of “Kids Around the World” (The playground organization that installed the playground). -KO



The playground at Immanuel Church and School

...The playground came out of the partnership between Asia Christian Services (ACS) and STADIA. ACS was established to support the work of indigenous church leaders to take the Gospel to the peoples of SE Asia. STADIA is a church planting organization in the US that has been called to plant churches in the US and has over the last few years expanded to plant churches in many places around the world. They work with donor churches and individuals that fund the planting of churches with a specific focus on the urgency of reaching, protecting and in some cases rescuing children for Jesus.

This specific project at Immanuel in Mae Sot was the result of a generous church in New Mexico who after a visiting the work among the refugees in the MaeSot in 2019 felt led to help rescue children, plant churches, and share the Gospel. They had worked with Kids Around the World before, so it was a perfect fit given the school and the church building. They funded the building of the playground.

I know Tutu (The school overseer) and Salai Htay (the church planter) are thrilled and of course, I am sure the kids are super excited that the playground is up. Again, we are so thankful that you were able to make this happen for us after such a long wait. We really appreciate it!

News From the Asia Mission Field: Since the Coup, There Have Been Many Baptisms!

Simon Thaug - Dear Brothers and Sisters, Greetings from Burma. We are having a hard time in Pandemic and Military Coup. But we are safe under our God's care. We never give up to serve our Living God in saving precious lives by medical care, feeding the hungry, and helping the needs and to reach

them. Our team reached and baptized 18 new converts. God's Kingdom is expanded. Thank you for your love to God and us. It makes a difference, and we impact the world by our love Action. We covet your prayer support in this challenging time. May God Bless You!



A new life in Christ



Paul Seng Aung baptizing 4 of the Naga Tribe



Moses baptizing 6 refugees



MB Yohan baptizing a Mon Tribe at Three Pogodas



MB Yohan giving baptismal certificate



Baptisms at the Mula River after VBS



5 baptisms after VBS near Putao

From Jeremy Leme: Today's activity! Five souls won to Jesus and baptized this morning. Safety is poor and we didn't go to river, but just done at the bathroom! Praise God!



Baptism in the river

Today at the river again for two souls committed to Christ! Please keep us in your prayers so that we will win Buddhist souls to Christ!



Philemon giving baptism



Baptism in a bathtub

Mobile Medical Mission Trip from Putao to the Hidden Valley April 23-25

Simon Thaug

Dear friends, Greetings from Myanmar. We all are doing well and safe under military coup. It has been challenging time for us under political unrest and fighting.

But we never give up to serve our Living God. I took my family and fellow friends to Putao, northernmost part of Myanmar where Morse family used to travel over 70 days to pass Himalayan Mountain ranges in 1921, a century ago.

We drove three days to reach to Putao from Yangon with Medical supplies. We stayed Mulashidi where Morse family set up mission base after escaping from Communist China. We set up Mulashidi Clinic by the help of FAME and IDES. It saved many lives in two decades.

This time, we drove by motorbikes to reach the most extreme villages under the foot of Himalayan Mountain, near the Hidden Valley where Morse family lived 7 years in the jungle. There are many leeches and blood sucker insects. We took this adventure trip for the Lord before monsoon comes. We cannot drive muddy roads in rainy season.

We arrived in Ziyadam village, the last village in the northwest and started giving medical care and dental extraction. Our team learned this dental extraction from **mPower** by the help of **IDES**. This becomes a great beneficial for those villagers where there is no dentist and doctor.

The villagers went to the Mula stream and fished 20 pounds for



Beautiful Mountain Children



The Missionary Team of Six



A child needing care

us. Some went to hunt for food for guests. Some brought smoked jungle rats for VIP guests. It is awesome to see their generosity and love even though they are very poor.

We gave medical treatment and dental care to 250 villagers and drove another village, called Ahwadam. We continued giving medical and dental care to 130 patients and drove back Putao home.

We healed their traumas, physical, mental, and spiritual sickness. God is faithful and protect us all the dangerous

roads, passing 7 checkpoints and safely got back home to Yangon after 45 days mission trip. God is faithful to feed us even we did not take food with us.

Let's continue to serve our Living God even we are facing many challenges in this world. Our team invite you all to come and join next adventurous MISSION TRIP. Thank you for your prayer support and partnership to expand God's Kingdom in Asia.

May God continue to bless you richly.



Providing dental care



Providing medical care

Water Projects Make Huge Difference in People's Daily Lives

Simon Thaug

With a grant from IDES, a village of 100 families are able to experience life change because of the good water. It is a great blessing to be partner with IDES to help the desperately suffering people in Myanmar. We have received the second grant of water project for Namkhum Dan Village, in Myanmar.

We have purchased the pipes, needing supplies and continue to implement the project with volunteers in

May, 2021. Thank you for your consideration for this project for the suffering brothers.

Over 100 families received fresh water from this project. This project will also improve people's life and their health. They use this water supply for their garden, agriculture, and family hygiene. They can earn more blessings from farming and are able to give tenth to God and poor brothers.

Our team is sharing the Good News to the villagers. God opens wise door to expand His Kingdom throughout this project. To God be the Glory! May God continue to bless you all.



Water tank



Clean water

Thank You, Norman Stanley

The ACS Board of Directors wish a special Thank You to Norman Stanley. In April, Dr. Stanley retired as the ACS Board Secretary. He served on the Board for the last 15 years.



Norman Stanley

His relationship with ACS began 23 years ago when LaVerne Morse brought Joshua Leme, Manassah Fish and Kuah

Saung to his home to share their ministry with his church. He traveled with LaVerne to Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, India and NE India during the years he served. His working career was as an Agriculture Professor at Ohio State University. That was useful in his ministry overseas. His ministry in ACS included years as the contact person and the preparer of IDES grants for relief work done in Asia.

Thank you, Norman, for your faithful service. We are indebted to you and your wife, Carol, for this wonderful gift you have given us all. Blessings on all your days ahead.

Kent and the ACS Board of Directors

In Conclusion to the Good News of this Update, Please Pray with ACS this beautiful Psalm 67

*God be gracious to us and bless us,
And cause His face to shine upon us*

*² That Your way may be known on the earth,
Your salvation among all nations.*

*³ May the peoples praise You, God;
May all the peoples praise You.*

*⁴ May the nations be glad and sing for joy;
For You will judge the peoples with fairness
And guide the nations on the earth.*

*⁵ May the peoples praise You, God;
May all the peoples praise You.*

*⁶ The earth has yielded its produce;
God, our God, blesses us.*

⁷ God blesses us,

So that all the ends of the earth may fear Him.

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:
Barbara Thacker

Given by:
JW & EL Stock Insurance Agency

Be sure to check out our website:

asiachristianservices.com

For the latest news and updates from
Asia Christian Services

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