

GENESIS & VERNA MARAAT



THE MARAATS, plus their girl Andrea and boy Josiah, are ready to enter their second country of missionary service and ready to start their third church planting project.

Genesis began getting ready for full-time service by graduating in 1987 from TCM's International Grace Bible Institute in the Philippines. He then worked for two years with the Youth Department, followed by two years teaching at the Grace Bible School in Northern Philippines.

When asked by a missionary if he was ready to go out to serve abroad on the faith principle, and if he was ready to work with Africans, Genesis readily agreed.

He was needed and accepted for the Bible School in Embu, Kenya, East Africa, in 1992.

Genesis returned to the Philippines to bring his bride Verna with him to Kenya. They arrived in 1994 and continued ministering to and with African church leaders.

By 2000 the Maraats volunteered to move west to the city of Kisumu near Lake Victoria to begin a church planting ministry. Immediately they began to plant the church in Kisumu. Then malaria and the harsh physical situation forced the family to think of a new field which would be healthier for the kids in a new city for planting another church.

That church was Eldoret Grace Bible Church in Eldoret City, nearer to the border of Uganda and a better location for the family. The church planting began in 2002. Genesis finished his bachelor's degree while establishing the church.

During these four years Genesis and Verna began thinking of the nation of Thailand as their "next field." No Grace church was known in that land—it is a Buddhist nation. Thailand became their prayer goal, located in the Far East, with a high population but only one per cent Christian—a country much less evangelized than Kenya. After 15 years of missionary service the Maraats' dream is now in process and they plan to enter into Thailand in early 2007.

