INTER-NATIONAL HARVEST



Summer 1998



FROM THE EDITOR

Pastor Joel R. McGarvey

Spring is upon us, and with it comes another edition of the *Inter-National Harvest*. Many of you have written and expressed your appreciation for the new size and format. We undertook the change with some apprehension but your comments have reassured us that the decision was proper. It is our prayer that future editions of the *IH* will be a blessing to you as we present in print what the Lord is doing through **Things to Come Mission** around the globe.

With this issue we are pleased to introduce you to the newest member of the TCM Board of Directors. Pastor Dick Ware was elected to the board at the regular January meeting.

Pastor Ware has been a faithful servant of the Lord for many years. Called



Pastor Dick Ware

to enter the ministry in 1975 Pastor Ware attended a Bible institute in Kansas City, Missouri and entered the ministry in 1977. Since that time



he has pastored churches in Missouri, Iowa and Wisconsin. He has been the Pastor of Grace Bible Church in Oshkosh, Wisconsin since 1991.

In addition to his pastoral ministry Dick has been the featured speaker at numerous Youth Camps, Family Camps, Bible and Pastor's Conferences. Since 1978 he has written many articles for the "Amazing Grace" Bible study devotional.

Pastor Ware has served on the boards of The Berean Literature Foundation, the Midwest Grace Fellowship, and the Berean Bible Fellowship. He also has a weekly thirty minute radio broadcast called "The Gospel of Grace" on stations in Green Bay, Appleton. And Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin. And he has also taught classes at the Berean Bible Institute located in Germantown, Wisconsin.

Concerning Things To Come Mission Dick states that, "For years I've been impressed, encouraged, and challenged by the ministry of TCM and its fruit. I'm honored to be a part of TCM's board and pray that I might be an assest and an encouragement to all those who are laboring in the grace of Christ".

We welcome Pastor Ware to the TCM Board and ask that you remember he, as well as all of the board in pray daily. **†**

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Summer 1998 Vol. 40, No. 1

The *Inter-National Harvest* is the official publication of Things to Come Mission, Inc.

Published three times a year at:

2200 English Avenue Indianapolis, Indiana 46201-4017

(317) 262-8806 Fax (317) 262-8852 E-mail tcmusa@compuserve.com

Subscriptions for this magazine are sent free, upon request, to all respondents.

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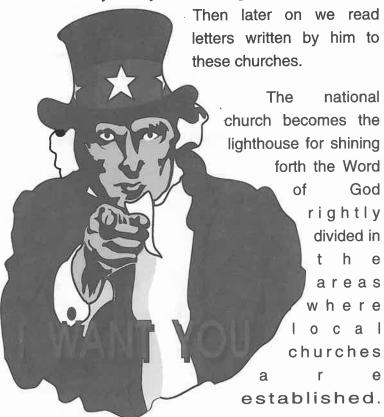
FROM THE DIRECTOR

Joseph W. Watkins

I WANT YOU

I remember a particular poster displayed during World War II with Uncle Sam pointing a finger, saying – "I WANT YOU". Uncle Sam needed everyone to join the war effort, to get involved in the war. Everyone's help was needed in order to win the war.

We can apply this to missions, especially to Things to Come Mission. The goal of TCM is to establish national churches in every country where we have ministries. We believe this was the goal of the Apostle Paul. We aim to follow his ministry in the book of Acts as he went from city to city establishing national churches.





This light has been proven to be hard to extinguish by the enemy. Communists tried to put out the light in China. We now know that there were many underground churches carrying on the ministry of the church.

To continue this ministry of church planting, TCM WANTS YOU! Every believer can co-labor with TCM. I will share with you areas where there are needs. You then may choose in which area you feel you can minister.

I. Missionaries

There are needs for missionaries in all countries where we have ministries or contacts. There are needs for teachers, evangelists, Christian Education, literature, church planting, and youth ministers.

Two types of missionaries are needed: those that minister in countries outside the U.S.A. and those who minister here in the United States.

II. Prayer Partners

Prayer is important. You can see its importance in the ministry of Paul. The majority of recorded prayers in the New Testament come from Paul. In fact, immediately after Paul was saved, he prayed. (Acts 9:6)

- He prayed for the churches Phil. 1:4-9.
- He prayed for the saints Col. 1:9.
- He told others to pray I Thess. 5:17, 23.
- He asked for prayer for himself I Thess 5:25.
- He asked for prayer for his ministry Eph. 6:18-22.
- He told the church to pray Col. 4:2.
- He exhorted others to pray for all men government and law officers - I Tim. 2:1.

God has given a wonderful plan by which we can have worldwide influence: CHURCH-wide influence. You can come alongside the missionaries when they teach the Word - when they pass out tracts - when they hold open-air evangelistic meetings - when they travel from place to place preaching. You can share the blessings and encourage them during their times of discouragement by means of prayer.

Three suggestions for prayer:

- 1. Pray for particular missionaries.
- 2. Pray for particular missionary needs.
- 3. Set aside a particular time to pray for the missionaries.

III. Gifts

Il Cor. 11:8-9: "I robbed other churches, taking wages of *them* to do you service and when I was present

with you, and wanted, I was chargeable to no man: for that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied: and in all things I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and so will I keep myself."

Paul writes to the Philippians in 4:14-15 "notwithstanding, ye have well done, that ve did communicate with my affliction. Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, church no communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving but ve only. "

So it is in a prayer ministry. God has given us a wonderful plan by which we can have a worldwide ministry - through giving. Missionaries who labor in the U.S.A. or foreign field depend upon gifts to keep them in their ministries. TCM doesn't quarantee any missionary a certain amount of funds each month. The missionaries receive only that which comes in as aifts designated for their ministry. From these designated amounts they must pay all of their personal as well as ministry expenses.

The missionaries who minister here in the U.S.A. office, the



From time to time we get calls from churches and individuals inquiring about projects and needs of TCM. We have provided a partial list of current needs for the ministry. Your help in meeting these needs will be greatly appreciated. Contact the mission office for additional needs.

BRAZIL (CARE OF GOMER & NENE INDINO)

DHAZIL (CARE OF GOMEN & NENE INDINO)		
	NEEDED	RECEIVED
Video Projector	\$2,000.00	\$100.00
Video Player/Recorder	\$200.00	0
Portuguese Christian Videos (<i>\$25.00 ea</i>)	\$100.00	0
PHILIPPINES		
Bibles & Literature for the Philippines	\$1,700.00	\$720.00

DIRECTOR (CONT...)

missionaries on the foreign fields and the ones who pray and/or give are a team working together to establish national churches. We must all minister together.

The Bible tells us that the mission field is any place: 1) where paganism saturates daily life, 2) where differing cultures exist, and 3) where a clear gospel witness is absent. By this definition America has become a mission field ... in the suburbs Christianity is not despised, it is simply deemed irrelevant and out of touch with reality ... like Mom and Pop stores on Main Street ... (the mall is the place for serious shopping). The church is preserved and venerated, but not taken seriously.





INDONESIA

A Door of Opportunity



The Indino family, clockwise: Mario Indino, Jonathan, Gabriela, Ella, Gesile, and Steve

For several years we have been trying to get a missionary into Indonesia. Being a Moslem nation the government does not permit Christian Mission groups to work in their country. As a matter of fact it is even against the law to try to convert a Moslem away from his religion.

The *GREAT NEWS* is that the Mario Indino family has received the necessary visas and are now in Indonesia. Mario's wife, Ella, is a native Indonesian and this seems to have been a factor in the favorable response to the visa applications. This move from Brazil cost over \$16,000.00. If this figure scares you, understand that just over \$10,000 has already been designated. Praise the Lord. At this time there is

a need for an additional \$6,000. Of course Mario and Ella also need additional monthly support for themselves and the field ministry in Indonesia.

CRISIS and a GLORIOUS BREAKTHROUGH

Begun in 1973 by Vernon and Darlene Anderson the work has shown continual growth. Today there are churches (34) on most of the major islands of the Indonesian chain. Luz Gaddi, a Philippine national, represents TCM but she teaches at a university and helps in her spare time. Frans Tamarol, a native Indonesian, is presently directing TCM's ministry there but he desperately needs help. The arrival of the Indinos will provide a real help to TCM's overall Indonesian ministry.

The potential is staggering. There are over 175 million people in Indonesia but, due to government restrictions and the lack of missionaries, they are not being reached effectively. We need a missionary who can work with the highly committed national leaders; we believe Mario can do this. He speaks the

SEE INDONESIA PAGE 14



REFLECTIONS ON TRANSITION

Don Sommer

I first arrived in the Philippines in June 1981 as a young short-term missionary fresh out of college. I knew very little of the country and virtually nothing of the ministry of Things to Come Mission. My intention was to spend a few months on the mission field in order to "broaden my horizons" before returning home and getting on with my life. Full-time missionary service was not part of the plan.

What I encountered during that time changed my life. After a few weeks in Cebu, I traveled with then TCM missionaries Vernon and Pat Bigelow to Mindanao to visit the ministry in that area. I was asked to stay at the campus of Mindanao Grace Bible Institute to teach English. I ended up staying for nearly nine months. During that time I traveled throughout the island and witnessed first hand the work of God in a land that was tremendously responsive to the gospel. I knew that I wanted to be a part of what was happening and I made a commitment to return

as a missionary. After getting married and graduating from Bible College, Susan and I arrived in the Philippines in 1986 to begin our life as career missionaries.



Don and Susan Sommer along with their two children Carl and Katharine

Today we feel that just as God directed us to this ministry twelve years ago, He is leading us away to serve Him elsewhere. Naturally, as we face this transition we are reflective of the

From the Editor:

Don and Sue Sommer have been faithful servants of the Lord in the Republic of the Philippines since 1986. Now, after twelve years, they have left the RP and returned to the States. While they have left the foreign field they are not leaving the field of ministry; the Sommers will continue their ministry with TCM. Don and his family have recently relocated in Indianapolis where Don will assume the position of Treasurer and Development Director July 1, 1998.

We've asked Don to reflect back on his ministry and express his feelings as he departs from what has been his "home" for twelve years. You will receive a blessing as you read his report. In addition we trust that someone may be challenged by it to service, perhaps in the Philippines.

past and of the role we have played as the Lord's instruments in His work. Since our arrival we have seen many changes in our personal lives, the nation, and the ministry with which we have worked.

In 1986 our family consisted of just Sue and myself. Today we have two children that seem to be growing up before our very eyes. When we first came to this country it was ruled

by a failing dictator and seemed on the verge of a Communist takeover. During the ensuina vears witnessed peaceful а revolution, a half-dozen coup attempts, the peaceful transition of power, the opening of the economy to freer trade. and most recently a sudden halt to the economic steam engine that seemed to be racing toward prosperity. However, despite all that, some things still

have not changed. Ever present poverty, corruption, and injustice still haunt the Philippines.

From my perspective as a missionary, the most significant changes have been those I have seen in the ministry of Things to Come Mission. In 1986 there were five full-time missionary families and singles serving here. As I write this article we are alone, though we are hoping for the Sumilhig family to arrive before our departure. (*The Sumilhigs arrived in the RP in March, 1998*) At that time the director of the national organization was a

missionary; today all the leadership positions are occupied by Filipinos and the ministry is guided by a board of spiritually mature and trustworthy individuals. Most importantly, however, is that when we first arrived on the field there were around 250 congregations associated with TCM. Today that number has more than doubled to nearly 600 churches. It was that kind of growth and dynamism that

sparked the original burden in me to be a missionary, and that continues to excite me.

As we are preparing to leave this field we do so with mixed emotions. While we believe that God wants us to move on and we happily anticipate what awaits us, the work is far from over. Although the Philippines is one of the most responsive nations to the gospel, only 5% of the population are identified as evangelical Christians. The

threat of open war between Roman Catholics and Muslims remains thinly disguised by meaningless peace settlements. The culture is still plagued with serious moral and ethical problems that testify that the power of God's grace has yet to impact the society as a whole. The need for missionaries to train pastors in the Bible Institutes, to work with Filipinos to plant churches, and to do evangelism is great indeed.

Our closest relationships for most of the past twelve years have been with the people

SEE SOMMER PAGE 13

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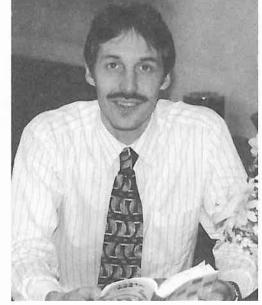


TENT-MAKING IN JAPAN

Joseph Holleran

Joseph Holleran joined Things to Come Mission in 1996 and serves as a "Tent-maker" missionary in Japan. A "Tent-maker" is a self-supporting missionary; usually working a full-time secular job while carrying out the work of the ministry in the off hours. Joe is from Mt. Prospect, Illinois and is a member of the Grace Gospel Center. He currently teaches English in Japan.

The First Step towards anything in life is the most difficult one. The famous Japanese Poet, Basho, correctly "Every said. great journey begins with the first step," before he embarked on a journey which took him around the isle of Japan. In a similar spirit, a tentmaker is one who is willing to advance the Gospel of Grace at home and abroad by leaning his on resourcefulness and depending on the power of the indwelling Christ to give the increase



Joseph Holleran

(I Corinthians 3:5-7). The Apostle Paul was a tent-maker by trade, so he could support himself as he traveled around the world spreading the good news of salvation. Paul is our pattern in soul winning, working for a living, salvation and Christian living. In I Corinthians 3 and 4 we read that a tent-maker is one who is a builder, a planter, a laborer, works with his own hands, endures persecution, shame, and so on. Starting a tent making ministry in Japan involves: a good Bible background, preparation, some money, travel, job hunting, a spirit of adventure, a love for people, and most importantly, a desire to share the Grace

Gospel with the lost. To get started see the resource section below.

I Make Tents for a Living.

When I arrived in Japan with my Masters in ESL (English as a Second Language) in February of 1991, I had a one-way ticket, four hundred dollars, and a desire to advance the Grace of God in Asia. I couldn't understand, read, write, or speak much

Japanese, but I took one step at a time. I secured a job at the largest foreign language school in Japan, found an apartment, enrolled in Japanese classes, found an International Bible study, started learning the culture, and eventually led a Japanese individual to the Lord one year later. Though there were many difficulties in

developing and maintaining personal relationships, I was taking steps in the right direction.

As Simple As Pie.

I learned right away that to share the salvation message with the Japanese means breaking down the message into several simple parts:

- Establish the Bible as a unique book and a best seller in the world. Illustrate the simplicity and depth of the scriptures with one quote, "God is love."
- Establish a clear concept of God through personal testimony and presentation contrasting the Japanese gods of nature with the supernatural God of Scripture.
- 3. Introduce and define human sinfulness from Romans 3:9 and other scriptures.
- Indicate that hell is a place and that once sinners enter there they can not escape. Revelation 21:8.
- 5. Define and illustrate the love of God. Romans 4:5.
- 6. Indicate that heaven is a place and make the offer of salvation.
- 7. Go back and confirm the person's belief in the main elements of the Gospel.
- 8. Handle objections or questions.

How Does It All Add Up?

Well, over a seven year period in Japan as I have been using the above pattern, of the people who have heard a complete gospel presentation in my ministry, about 80% have received Christ, leaving 20% who have clearly refused Him. Of those who have only heard a partial gospel presentation about 50% have said that they would be happy to hear a presentation again. A sample of the reasons non-Christians give for rejecting Christ are:

- 1. I wasn't born before Christ died.
- 2. God doesn't know me/care about me.
- 3. I would rather find another way to heaven.
- 4. I don't want to be saved, because I would be the first one saved from my family and my family is pretty good.

Most of these objections can be handled with the illustration of the rich uncle who died and left a million dollars to his nephew. The nephew didn't know the uncle at all, but when he heard that the money would be put in his bank account, if he wanted it, the nephew believed the good news that he was told and acted on his faith by claiming the money.

By faith we believe the good news that Christ died for our sins and we receive eternal life as a free gift. Looking at the positive side, some of the comments of the newly saved have been:

- 1. I felt like someone washed my heart clean.
- 2. I was amazed to hear that it was a free gift.
- 3. WOW! I should read the Bible!
- 4. We've never heard such good news before.

The Next Step, A Solution To the Tongue-tied Syndrome.

Through much trial and error, I've found that the best way to minister to Japanese is through a bilingual study at a coffeehouse on Saturday and a Japanese Bible study on Sunday at my apartment. For the Saturday study, non-Christians are especially welcome. They receive a free bilingual Bible, an English lesson as a warm-up and then we study the Bible in both languages. Follow-up can be done through home Bible study lessons. For the Sunday Bible study we are finding that translating several main points Japanese works best. I then explain the main points in my own words in Japanese rather than reading from a script. In the first few Bible studies, simple Bible terms such as the following must be defined: Old/New Testament. Jew. Gentile. Gospel, and Salvation, etc. Furthermore,

to help Japanese find chapter and verse in the Bible, we practice the old Sword drill technique used with elementary students in the U.S. Since Japanese don't know anything about the structure or meaning of the Bible, I use a colored chart introducing the fact that the Bible teaches both Judaism and Christianity. Once we have laid a basis for rightly dividing, the sky is the limit to understanding and enjoying the Bible. As soon as the Japanese have gained sufficient knowledge and courage, they will be able to share the message of salvation with others in their own natural way.

The final steps involve a focus on pure Grace, which is a rarity even in the U.S. We must ask ourselves, "What are the benefits of the Grace Doctrine and the Grace Lifestyle?" Grace living means freedom from fear, religion, the Law of Moses, peer pressure, immorality, depression, etc. In short, Grace is the solution to all the ills that infect human beings. Grace teaching satisfies our need for eternal life and equips us for daily life in a Christ-rejecting world.

Resources for Internet users:

Joseph Holleran: joseph@jpc.miyakyo-u.ac.jp
Pastor Tomomichi Maeda <mtomomi@mx2.nisiq.net>
Japan Job Connection. www.avisnet.or.jp/~wil_lisa/index.html
Information on Japan. www.lafayeffe.edu/~stocktoj/home/japanl.html
Sctrwecker's Guide to Japan. www.japan-guide.com/

Resources for Library users:

"The Japan Language Teacher" published at Urban Edge Building, 5th Floor, 1-37-9 Taito, Taitoku Tokyo 110 Japan.

SOMMER (CONT...)

we have known and worked with here, both Filipinos and other expatriates. Having to say good-bye to these people is one of the hardest parts of leaving. Naturally, there is a feeling of sadness as we anticipate having to leave these dear friends and yet we know that this is a normal part of the Lord's service. We likewise realize that we never lose our previous friendships, but as we move on we will gain new ones.

I have recently been teaching a examp There series of Sunday School lessons on Paul's relationship with Timothy and Titus. In preparation for teaching I have seen how the



International-Harvest Editor, Pastor Joel R. McGarvey is seen here on the campus of I.G.B.I. (Ozamis) with some of the leaders trained at the Bible Institute.

Apostle Paul had complete confidence in those to whom he entrusted the care of the churches when he had to move on. What particularly stood out in my thinking was that Paul believed that these men were capable of successfully carrying



The congregation of this church located in Guinomon is a good example of the growth TCM has witnessed over the years. There are more than 600 TCM churches today in the RP.

on the ministry because God had fully equipped them for the task. They (as do all believers) had a new nature (11 Cor. 5:17, Eph. 2:10); the Spirit of God within them (11 Tim. 1:14); the gifts needed to perform the task (.11 Tim. 1:6; 1 Tim. 4:14); and the Scriptures to guide them (11 Tim. 3:16). I am encouraged to realize as we move on to a new area of ministry that we are leaving the work with men that have been prepared by God to carry on the tasks of leadership and spiritual guidance.

Life's transitions always bring a mixture of uncertainty and anticipation. This one is no exception. Yet we ultimately look to the Lord with faith that His promise that "all things work for the good of those that love him" is true and will be realized in our lives. †

From the Mailbag

"The other day I received a copy of your new larger Inter-National Harvest magazine. Looks great ..like a big step forward."

From Missouri

"I received the Inter-National Harvest paper yesterday and really appreciate getting it."

From Wisconsin

Editor: These are just a couple of the many positive comments we have received concerning the new format of the IH. We appreciate your comments and ask that you continue to pray that the Lord will use the magazine to challenge people to the needs of missions and TCM.

"Sorry I'm late (with this gift). Getting older and am so busy some times but am thankful I can manage though slowing up....I am always trying to get the people and church more missionary minded."

From New Jersey

"It is with regret I write to tell you that I can no longer honor my pledge to support (*missionary*). I am no longer able to work so I have to survive on Social Security alone which isn't enough...I will continue to pray for the work they are doing."

from Missouri

Editor: Who will step up and take the place of these dear saints? Who will take over the support so that the message of God's Grace can go forward unhindered?

"Enclosed please find our gift...for the mission. We were encouraged by the on-going work of the mission in Brazil as told to us by Tony and Barb Sistelos. We greatly enjoyed our fellowship with them."

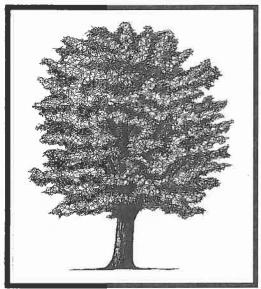
From Ohio

INDONESIA (CONT...)

language and his wife is Indonesian. The door is open *NOW!* We must go through in faith before it is too late.

We need your help NOW! The need is urgent. If we fail to take advantage we may not

get another opportunity. Please pray! Ask the Lord how he would have you help. Indonesia, like many developing nations, has an increasing cost of living. The Indinos need to raise their monthly and field support. Again we ask – PRAY!



A Continuing Gift

Things to Come Mission would like to acknowledge the following gifts which have been given in memory of some family member, friend, or respected person who has passed away. Cards have been sent to the families of those whose memories you have honored.

In Memorial of:

Hazel Bentley Brentwood Bible Church

Donald Boreen Esther Boreen

Donald Burkett (husband) Donna Burkett

Mr & Mrs Louis Herlein Sr Mr & Mrs Louis Herlein Jr

Helen Johnson Mr & Mrs Archie Smith

Amelia Smith Harlan Lortz

Amelia Smith Highland West Residents Council

Catherine Stromer (wife) Edwin Stromer

In Living Memory of:

Henrietta LeFeber * Mr & Mrs Greg Holcomb

Editor: We apologize for giving the impression in our previous issue that Henrietta LeFeber was no longer living. She is still living. The gift was given in "Living Memory" of Henrietta as a means of continuing her giving when she became unable to give. Again, we apologize for this error.

Your gift of the heart, given in honor of a soldier for our Savior, is used to advance His cause around the world. Many perish daily having never heard of the Grace of God. Your faithful gift helps us to reach out to still many more with the saving Gospel of Christ. Thank you for your memorial gifts. No greater memorial could be made than that through your gift life could come to another.



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YOU CAN GIVE TO TCM WHILE ON THE PHONE

For the past year and a-half we have received gifts for the TCM General Fund from AmeriVision Communications (LifeLine Long Distance). These gifts represent 10% of the domestic long distance phone bill of a couple of households which have selected TCM as the recipient of

f households which have selected TCM as the recipient of the LifeLine 10% payments. LifeLine offers: 1) support for TCM, 2) 100% digital fiber optic network for quality service, 3) Travel Cards, 4) Six-second billing, 5) 800 service, and 6) No installation or monthly If you would like to sign up or you need further information

fees. If you would like to sign up or you need further information on how you can help support TCM while calling long distance, please call 1-800-684-4891