

Indonesian Challenge

For correspondence & contributions:
Indonesian Christian Mission
P.O. Box 457
Livermore, CA 94550-1956

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Bob and Jan MacLean direct
P.O.Box 162, BMD TNG 15330
Indonesia
mackurus@yahoo.com
SKYPE: rcmacca

Reaching Indonesia for Jesus

“Enter into His gates with Thanksgiving and His courts with Praise; Give Thanks to Him and Praise His Name.” Ps. 100:4

HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE

We have much to be thankful for - good health - safe return to Indonesia - faithful and loving Indonesian staff - all of you. We thank God for our family, loyal and supportive friends, everyone of you who care enough to read our newsletter, pray for us, and partner with us in the Lord's work in Indonesia. We are going to celebrate Thanksgiving day with our staff and a few neighbors. Jan will be cooking with the help of a new girl who has never cooked mashed potatoes, made gravy, and probably has never eaten turkey, but we may be eating chicken! We wish you a very blessed Thanksgiving as you celebrate with family and friends and remember God's wonderful blessings.



Linda & Cristiano, Jan & Yobel
Hesti & Eolia

BACK HOME IN INDONESIA

We have been here a few days now. Our mornings have been very enjoyable, awake at 4:00 a.m. There's plenty of time for coffee, Bible reading and prayer before going into my office at 8:00 a.m. but we really want to stop going to bed at 8:00 p.m. We are completely unpacked now. I set up my laptop yesterday afternoon all set to send e-mails and I couldn't get on line. I had forgotten that the main control is in Bob's office and he had it turned off be-

cause of thunder and lightning. It is the rainy season here. We have a new girl here cleaning and cooking. Her name is Via. She is sweet and follows instructions well. I was confused, however, the first night when I pulled the bed spread back and found a mattress pad. When I couldn't find sheets in the drawer, I questioned Via and Linda. Underneath the bed pad was a yellow blanket and underneath the blanket two sheets! The Indonesia style is one sheet and a sarong or blanket.

UPDATE ON JAN'S HEALTH

We delayed our return to Indonesia because Jan was having a few health problems. Our prayers were answered and she was cleared to return to Indonesia. She is doing fine.

INDONESIAN NATIONALS' CHURCH PLANTING

We have just taken a giant step forward in our ongoing program to train—mentor—and help Indonesian nationals establish new autonomous self-supporting churches. Shortly before the October 2nd ICM Board of Directors' meeting an ad hoc committee from the ICM board met with missionary Chris McKinney from Dynamic Church Planters International. We liked the church planter training program Chris presented and voted to affiliate with D.C.P.I accepting their offer to help us in developing and training Indonesian nationals establish new churches in Indonesia. While no program is perfect, Bob sees many aspects of the D.C.P.I. program that will be a great help as we enter into the next twenty-year phase of church planting in Indonesia. We'll keep you posted as plans develop.

“A GOD THING”

During the October board meeting, we discussed the possibility of purchasing the Betty Luken's flannel graph set to use in the villages. It was suggested that we publicize the need in the I.C. The next day, Sunday, during lunch Jan was discussing child evangelism materials with a friend. Jan asked her if she ever used the Betty Luken's flannel graph figures. She said she had been given a small set she had never used. She went home, got the set and gave it to Jan and said, "I just love these God things." God knows our needs before we even ask.

NEW WORSHIP SERVICE AT BUKIT

The mission property where we live is registered with the Department of Religion. Until two years ago, the Kedaun Christian Church led by Evangelist Bintang held Sunday morning worship services here. They now meet in their own area in the home of one of the members. We, Bob & Jan, have been praying and discussing the possibility of starting a Sunday service here again. Yesterday, completely unexpectedly, Linda, our secretary, asked if she could start a worship service at Bukit and Bob do the preaching. To start there will be eight adults and four little ones.

STORY BY EVANGELIST BINTANG MAHARSO

Pak Sobirin's family lives near Pak Salmon where we

hold our church service every Sunday. The family is Islam, but hold to a lot of Javanese tradition which includes magic and superstition. We have been able to spend a lot of time with them sharing our faith. They have been open because they've had a lot of disappointments and problems. They want peace in their lives. We have been able to point them to Jesus as a bearer of peace. We use scripture to answer their questions. They ask us to pray for them; they say they believe in Jesus, but are not ready to receive Him as Savior through baptism because of what others will say and how they'll be treated by their Muslim families. Please pray that they take the final step for their salvation.

ACEH UPDATE

Our couple in Aceh whom we call Samuel and Martha wrote that their ministry is doing well, but the situations for missionaries is not good.. A few weeks ago an American missionary was expelled from Aceh for converting and baptizing ten Acehnese. When the ten converts were brought before the Islamic leaders, they claimed they were hypnotized by the missionary to become Christian. They returned to Islam to save their own lives. Samuel and Martha ask for prayer for the safety of the people they are guiding and teaching. Aceh is the one province in Indonesia that is under Shariah law. It's one of the most difficult areas to work in.

SKYPE

We would love to talk to you and see your smiling faces. All you have to do is download SKYPE on your computer which is easy to do. Then connect to us at rcmacca. This is a computer to computer call and is free and fun. The best time to phone us is in the evening Pacific Standard time from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. This is 8 a.m. - noon the next day in Jakarta.

LAND TITLE PROGRESS

It looks as though we had a real step forward today, Nov. 16. Our secretary, Linda, went to the national land office. While she was there, the Deputy signed off and forwarded our title application to the top office in the national land department. Barring the unlikely prospect that another correction will be required, our application is now in the hands of the staff of the national land director. This is a major step forward in the process. Please continue to pray that our application will be released to the local land office before Christmas.

PRAYER & PRAISE PRAISE FOR:

1. Bob & Jan's safe return to Indonesia November 8th
2. Jan's good health
3. Mel Clary, ICM forwarding secretary is doing well..

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

1. Our land title documents.
2. An increase in monthly general fund giving.
3. The Christians in Aceh.
4. Salvation for Pak Sobrin's family.