

Indonesian Challenge

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March 2010
Volume 36 Number 2

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Reaching Indonesia for Jesus

“IT IS TRUE! THE LORD HAS RISEN...” Luke 24:34

I'M BACK BY JAN

When I left Indonesia in December, I really thought I would be returning in a month, not almost three months, but everything took time. Mother is in good spirits and doing well. I returned to Jakarta March 3rd. Bob was waiting for me with flowers and candy. We got home about 10 p.m. so I didn't see anyone else until the next day. Everyone was glad to see me and the two babies that live at our house are darling. Tian, our secretary Linda's baby, spends time in our office "talking" and laughing. There has been plenty of work to do though - bookkeeping, meetings, visiting, etc.

ANDREAS' VISIT TO ACEH

Andreas Samuji is an evangelist in East Java. He was our first graduate in 1988, and was at school here with Samuel, our evangelist to Aceh. Since white faces aren't really welcome in Banda, we thought Andreas would be a good person to encourage and observe the work of Samuel and Martha. Some of his observations are: This area is both difficult for evangelism and expensive to live in. Other evangelists An-

dreas knows confirm that "Samuel and Martha" are doing a very good job working hard to build new bodies of believers. They continue with one larger public meeting at a relatively secure location and many small secret meetings. One surprise was "Samuel's" answer to the question, "How much longer do you want to work in Aceh?" He was a little indignant when he answered saying, "We're older now and more mature, we are here for life!" This is quite a statement when you consider Aceh is difficult for Christians. Samuel and Martha are both Javanese and they own a house near us in West Java. Two big things for us now are to encourage them with messages, new Bibles and other books, and to develop loan resources to help them start a business to become self-supporting. We have established a three-year time line for their mission support during which we want to help them establish business financing and a profitable business to augment eventual small church support and get them ultimately entirely on national financing. Ideas, prayers and gifts for this purpose are welcome.

ANDREAS MARWANTO & WIFE, RUTH ENDANG



Andreas Marwanto is a sixty-two year old pastor working in Solo, Central Java. He pastors one church and evangelizes at four preaching posts. Although his income is small, he receives offerings from his church and rents two little shops he owns to businesses. In addition, his adult children send him money, a typical Javanese situation. So while he hasn't much, he does manage financially. What he doesn't have is a government recognized church connection for his independent congregation. After an acquaintance of some four years, he has asked to come under our umbrella in our relationship to Gereja Jemaat Kristus Indonesia (GJKI) - The Indonesian Christian Church. We have agreed to accept him and his church. We, of course, can

only recommend them to the national office of the GJKI, but anticipate no problems. We are in agreement on doctrinal and procedural issues, and have good friendship, fellowship, and professional relations with several in his family. We look forward to more teaching and guideline opportunities as we help him develop both his church and preaching points.

SCHEME OF REDEMPTION UPDATE

This book publishing venture as constant readers will remember received a setback in the printing schedule when our group of readers agreed that while a good and useful book, the translation was done on too high an academic level for our primary target audience that includes many small village preachers. So our translator is working to "dumb it down." Ordinarily I wouldn't think this is a nice way to put it, but frankly the present effort is to make it useful for preachers and others who don't have much formal education. This isn't quite as bad as actually translating, but it's still a lot of work. Please be in prayer that Pak Berlian will be finished in time for us to print and publish yet this year.

UPDATE ON CIRACAS

The Ciracas congregation is still meeting in members' homes. According to Evangelist Arlin, there is little hope they will be able to use the home/church building for meetings again. The local

mayor's office issued a letter saying the house cannot be used for religious meetings. The children's Sunday School meets in one of the parent's home about 300 meters from the church building. They've been meeting there for two months without any complaints. The whole situation doesn't make sense. It's a mixed neighborhood of Christians and Muslims, but the Muslims get their way. Arlin is talking and praying about selling the house and moving to another location. Please continue to pray for this situation.

UPDATE ON LAND TITLE

Once again our application has been returned to the lower echelons from the second highest position in the national land office, this time to be set in a new format. There is room for speculation, but it is quite bewildering as we have already explored many possibilities. We can tell you three things: One: We are going to devote major effort next week to unraveling this mystery. Two: Our secretary has reviewed the whole history of this land title application and is convinced we are now dealing with people who are sincerely trying to complete the title process for us. There will be a full report on this next month. Three, Since we have always been in possession of the property and legally repelled an attempted takeover, and since there seems to be no one who can challenge our right to stay, it looks as if we can use the property as long as we

want. In the end our now retired attorney's latest word resounds, "It will take lots of money and lots of prayer." Please continue your prayers.

EVANGELISM TRAINING SCHOOL

We have started a small pilot project. We'll have a report for you next month.

PRAYER & PRAISE PRAISE FOR:

1. Jan's safe return to Indonesia and her mother's recovery.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

1. Guidance for the Ciracas Christian Church congregation.
2. Blessings on Easter services in West, Central, and East Java and Aceh.
3. Full title on the Bukit Indah property.
4. Continued wisdom, guidance, and safety for our evangelists, Samuel and Martha in Banda, Aceh, Sumatra.
5. Quick revision, printing, and distribution of "Rencana Penebusan" (Scheme of Redemption).
- 6.. Wisdom and guidance for Bob and Jan and fellow evangelists in Indonesia and hearts open to hear of God's amazing love..

FINANCE REPORT

General Fund Income 2010:

January \$ 5,003.03

February \$ 3,158.34

YTD Average \$4,080.69

Monthly needs \$5,300.00