



Asian Children's Mission

"Join the Adventure"

asianchildrensmisson.org

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER PLANNED FOR SOUTHERN MYANMAR

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Upcoming Events

- June 11-15 —Hardinsburg Christian Church VBS
- July 23-27— Christ's Church at Mason (OH) VBS



Joana was visiting a friend's orphanage when this little boy was bought in by some concerned women. His parents had died, and he was being beaten by neighbors when he tried to find something to eat. His story is too common. Thank God for those who save children through their donations.

Asian Children's Mission is committed to holistic ministry in Myanmar because we believe physical needs cannot be separated from spiritual needs. Both must be met in order to make Christian disciples who honor Christ with their entire lives.

On a two acre campus outside of Yangon, a new Community Development Center is planned for both vocational training and Bible study. The source material will come from the extensive Community Health Evangelism library which encompasses preventive health care, agriculture and Bible lessons. More than 300 CHE lessons have already been translated by Asian Children's Mission staff members into Myanmar language.

Vocational Training

Practical Nursing

Asian Children's Mission operates a small high school in northern Burma. One of our recent graduates wrote this poignant note, *"My name is Ninram. I have four brothers and sisters. My mother died when I was little. After that father got mental illness. The neighbors and relatives helped us. Our lives were not easy. Mother died because of lack of health workers and lack of knowledge. I want to become a nurse to help my people in the villages."*

Her letter highlighted the need for better healthcare in the remote regions of the country. Basic health care provided through training in practical nursing would fill a need in many communities.

Model farm

Burma is an agriculturally based economy. However, most of the small farms are low-yield, and depend upon one crop, such as rice. The one acre model farm will incorporate animal husbandry, aquaculture, fruit trees as well as grain crops, all utilizing appropriate technology for small-scale farming. There will be many hands-on opportunities to learn, and to demonstrate that a small holder farm can be productive and profitable.



In 2010, the ACM leadership team spent a week at the Baptist Rural Life Center in Mindanao, Philippines (mozcom.com/~mbrlc/) to learn more about small scale sustainable agriculture in southeast Asia. We will ask the director of the Center to come to Burma to help us develop the farm. We will also partner with other individuals and organizations with expertise in sustainable agriculture.

FAITH gardens

FAITH – Food Always In the Home – gardens demonstrate how a family of six can significantly increase their food security through a 100-square-meter garden which is designed to provide vegetables all through the year. The central feature is a series of

raised garden beds into which trench and basket composts are set. These are filled with little manure and some decomposed garbage and packed with leaves of leguminous trees and shrubs. We will also promote urban gardening. FAITH gardening was first developed at the Baptist Rural Life Center in Mindanao.

Bible Teaching

Burma is one of the least reached nations in the world. The majority of the people are Buddhists.

Bible lessons will be taken from the CHE library (which has already been translated into Myanmar language by Asian Children's Mission staff members. These lessons been used all over the world with

great success. As groups of believers mature, they will be encouraged to establish self-supporting churches in their home villages.

Holistic Ministry

On Pentecost, foreigners in Jerusalem marveled they heard the Gospel preached in their own language. The ACM leadership believes this Center will present the Gospel in such a way that it will be understood and embraced by people struggling to survive in Burma's harsh economic climate. Based largely on the internationally successful Community Health Evangelism (CHE) model, our goal is to transform lives and communities through a seamless combination of community-based healthcare, development, evangelism and discipleship.

THE 10 BLESSINGS OF WATER

**BY U THA MAUNG,
KANAN LEADER**

- 1. POWER**
- 2. POPULAR**
- 3. CLEANLINESS**
- 4. NO THIRST**
- 5. PROTECTION**
- 6. LONG LIFE**
- 7. BEAUTY**
- 8. STRONG**
- 9. WISE**
- 10. WEALTH**

Haircuts in Ohio Yield Guitar for ACM Teacher



Veteran Burma Missionary LaVerne Morse gets his haircuts from a generous barber. There's no charge for the haircuts, but the barber asks LaVerne to save what the haircuts would cost — and when there is enough money, buy a musical instrument for Burma. LaVerne sent the money on to Joana to purchase a guitar in Yangon. Above, Maeram, ACM's educational coordinator, presents the guitar to one of the ACM school teachers to be used in his classroom.

KANAN LEADER WRITES REPORT TO DONORS OF WATER WELLS

By U Tha Maung
Leader of Kanan Group

Note: The Kanan are one of 135 ethnic groups in Burma. This tribe has only about 15,000 people,. They are Buddhist and are being evangelized by Kong Dee and Sara. Sara is sister to Maeram, the educational coordinator for ACM. There are now 10 Christians among the Kanan people.



In Kanan area there are 25 villages. The villages were established on the hills, therefore we have difficulties to get drinking water.

For the past couple of years,

Teacher Kong Dee and Teacher Sara connected with some American donors. They were able to drill seven wells successfully. We villagers have benefitted and we are very grateful for that. Now the village women do not have to get up as early as before the roosters crow to get water

from the stream. Now they can just draw water from the front of our houses. It is incredible to receive such a blessing. We are praying from our hearts for those donors whoever they are that you may be blessed with good health (believe it!). We also want to request to drill more

water wells this year. We are sending the 10 blessings of water.

Kong Dee, please present this request to Christian groups. You may continue your good work. We wish you that your path may be smooth and successful.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING EXPANDS AT HOPE

Facilities and opportunities continue to expand at Hope Children's Home near Yangon. Facility improvements include a new kitchen and water tank. Another recent addition is a small computer lab, where older students learn basic keyboarding and other skills.

Two sewing machines have also been purchased for vocational training. A chicken operation and farm are also part of Hope's on-going operations.

Two students recently completed their high



school education. One will begin work in a nearby business, and the other will continue her education at nearby Eastern Bible Institute. This young lady hopes to become an evangelist in her home village, which is nearly 100% Buddhist.

Sunday School Training in North Burma

Maeram, ACM's Educational Coordinator, recently translated a Sunday School curriculum called "Who is Jesus," written by Margaret Elliott, an expert in children's lessons for developing countries. The Literature and Teaching Ministries of Joplin, MO based for the cost of publishing the 2000 books.

But as any educator knows, providing books is just part of the equation. Teachers must

be trained to use the material effectively. Maeram made the 500 mile journey to northern Kachin to provide the training to more than 200 Sunday School teachers in the region.

What made this training even more remarkable is that Kachin, a state within Burma, is at war with the Burmese army.



Teachers participated in a breakout session as part of their training in using the "Who is Jesus?" Sunday School curriculum.

FIGHTING IN KACHIN STATE RESULTS IN MORE CHILDREN AT LOVING FOUNTAIN ORPHANAGE

Fighting has significantly escalated in the Kachin state of Myanmar. The political advances in other areas have been offset by the killing in Kachin. Sadly, the children are particularly suffering.

Several children recently orphaned by the fighting are now living at Loving Fountain, increasing the total to 54 children who call the orphanage their home.

Ah Dee Che, Loving Fountain's Director, writes, "I am so sorry for receiving the new refugee orphanage children. I do not have enough food for them. By the grace of God some organizations are help-



Refugee and recently orphaned children now living at Loving Fountain in Myitkyina, Kachin State.

ing me with some of the food and clothing needs.

But the fighting continues and the refugees keep coming. The situation of Kachin

state is so bad. We are living in a very bad situation because every day we hear the fighting everywhere. Pray for the state and the refugees."

Funding recently became available to start the second dorm on the campus. The first permanent dorm was completed last year. We need an additional \$8000 to complete this second dorm. With the additional need

in the region for safe housing for refugee and orphaned children, we are grateful for the much needed second building.

ACM MISSION STATEMENT

The care, protection and education of vulnerable children in Burma (Myanmar) is the primary mission of Asian Children's Mission. Our work is on outgrowth of the command of Jesus given in Mark 10:14, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." We believe deeply in holistic Christian ministry where we do not make a false separation of the physical and spiritual needs of children. Our work with children is specifically expressed in educational initiatives, orphan care, and community development..

NEW UNDERWEAR MEANS ANSWERED PRAYER IN WOMEN'S PRISON NEAR MANDALAY

By Joel (ACM staff member)

My wife and I went to the women's prison and gave the gifts at Easter. The women were very much happy and prayed for the donors. My wife and her friends agreed to buy the underwear and purchased over 100 bras and panties for those who regularly attend the worship service

The prisoners are so much happy for our leading for spiritual and physical needs. Some of the women are new converts. They witnessed to the wonderful works of God. They said that they really



Released prisoners gather to celebrate with their spiritual mentors. Each week five or six women become Christians.

needed and longed for the underwear. They said "we

prayed and prayed for the needs, God is so good to us He answered for our prayer, now our prayer is completed".

When we heard their words we remembered the donors. We wish it were possible for you to enter their place to hear their thankfulness and sharing about God's goodness. We are really thankful to you for your love and care through your helps.

The women work in a stone quarry six days a week, under deplorable conditions.

CATCHING THE "C DISEASE"

Evangelical churches in central Myanmar recently participated in a crusade for people who are interested in learning more about Christ. 300 people attended the crusade, and 120 were baptized!

Although Burma remains

overwhelmingly Buddhist, there are many people who are becoming Christians. In fact, this phenomenon has a name — it is called catching the "C (Christian) disease.

ACM Staff Member Joel Pung baptizes one of the 120 new Christians.



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HOW TO GIVE

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You may also send your gifts to:

Asian Children's Mission

PO Box 143

Orleans, IN 47452

Your gifts are 100% tax deductible!

Other Involvement Ideas

Finally...Joana is available to speak to service clubs, small groups, Sunday School classes and congregations about the work in Burma. Give her a call at 812-276-8004!

CHILDREN'S CENTERS PROVIDE FOUNDATIONS FOR FUTURE CHURCHES

By Maeram, ACM Educational Coordinator

Nyaung Ywa

Nyaung Ywa is located 30 miles north of Yangon. There are two groups of children – kindergarten and school age. The younger children



are taught by Aye Aye New, a graduate of nearby Eastern Bible Institute. She is a volunteer. She serves children because she knows Jesus has a great love for children.

The school age children are taught by Aung San Kyaw, assisted by EBI students. Some students are now grown, and own little shops or work on nearby farms. About 30 children attend this Sunday School.

One family has become Christians, and a small church is slowly expanding. One villager said, *"We have found a friend in Jesus, and it is like we have been given drinking water in the desert, We are so grateful to the donor who provided the little house for worship."*

This center is adjacent to the site for the proposed Community Development Center.

This children's center was built by an Asian-American couple who are passionate about bringing the Gospel to Myanmar.

Lapatta

This village is located two miles west of Nyaung Ywa. Before the little children's center was established, people used to say, "If you want to die sooner fo to Lapatta." People were afraid of visiting this village because they thought that witches gathered there. But now that is not what most people think.

Those who opposed the Gospel now have softened hearts. Initially they made a request, "If you fix the road to the village, and provide a hook-up for electricity, we will not harm you. Do



what you want to do with the children." Since then some elderly people come to the meetings on Sunday, and the children gather for worship on both Saturday and Sunday.

Five adults have become Christians. EBI students preach and teach in the village, but this little church would like to have a permanent minister who would really have a heart for the village people and closely look after the flock.

This center was built with funds provided by a small group from Sherwood Oaks Christian Church in Bloomington, IN.

South Dagon

South Dagon Sunday School program was



started by U Hla Thein, a Burmese Buddhist who became a Christian and attended Eastern Bible Institute. He sings traditional Burmese songs and does traditional dances. He wanted to be an actor, but became an evangelist.

This Sunday School is open only during the school year, because in the summer the children are working in factories.

The building was provided by a Harvard graduate who is interested in the role business has in mission.