


GMAW

GRACE MINISTRIES AROUND THE WORLD

JULY - AUGUST 2023



Keeping you
praying for
and informed
about 



In Merida, Mexico, GMI team members Luis and Marcia Coto started their church plant, Grace Bible Community earlier this year. In June, over thirty adults were attending their Friday evening Bible studies! In addition to Sunday morning gatherings, they are hosting youth meetings, doing one-on-one discipleship and leading a marriage group. Pray that God will raise up more team members to help Luis and Marcia as this ministry continues to grow.



Luis teaching Friday evening Bible study

Training Bible Teachers in Africa. In 2019, GMI team members in Africa led by Bill Vinton offered the first of six multi-week sessions for Bible educators from Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The first weekend of June, this program, called International Teachers Training, concluded with the graduation of 15 students who have completed the program offered during these past several years. Over 330 hours of instruction have been given in the areas of theological

education and the practical steps to opening a Bible school in their own country. Both Zimbabwe and Zambia have plans to do so this year!



ITT classroom session

In Bolivia, the GMI team is seeing the impact of the funds donated to their Christmas projects. The DAR ministry (an acronym which means give, help and rescue in Spanish) is assisting 50 homeless men, women and children each month in the city of Santa Cruz. DAR ministry provides food, showers, clothing, shoes and medical supplies. It is also a powerful way for believers and churches affiliated with GMI in Bolivia to share the gospel through the Word of God. At Ebenezer Church, another Christmas project allows the pastor and church leaders to provide a nutritious breakfast for 25 children every Sunday before Sunday school. The GMI team in Bolivia is grateful for your investment to see lives changed in the name of Christ!

Persevering in Panama. Until recently, the ministry in the city of David, Panama moved along steadily, albeit slowly. With government restrictions on meetings through much of 2020 and even into 2021, it was difficult to gain traction. However, this year Grace

Bible Community has turned a corner with several new families consistently attending this GMI-affiliated church plant which has pushed their rented facility to its limits. Half of the Sunday morning attendees also attend the Wednesday night Bible study. Three new attendees have shared they started attending the church because GBC faithfully teaches God's Word. We are grateful for the GMI team's perseverance in Panama through difficult times and for the Lord honoring their hard work. Pray for the Barrantes and Mackensens as they continue investing in this new church plant and that God will continue to "give the increase" (1 Corinthians 3:6-8)!



Alvaro leading a Bible study

Brian and Gloria Abranovich arrived in Malawi on June 15. They will spend a couple of months in Lilongwe with the GMI team serving there before moving to Mozambique with GMI team members Givemore and Sylvia Nyakambiri and their family. Brian is from Argentina and Gloria is from Brazil. Both speak Portuguese which will give them a head start as they begin to serve in the Portuguese-speaking country of Mozambique. The Abranoviches, who served in the ministry with our team in Paraguay, just completed a three-month cross-cultural training program in Brazil and have now joined the GMI team in Africa. Pray for Brian, Gloria and their daughter, Nina, as they make this transition.



Dr. Sam Vinton leading communion which the new pastors are serving

New Pastors in Malawi. Four men in Malawi recently completed the process to become ordained pastors. The GMI team living and serving in the capital city of Lilongwe helped to facilitate the celebration of this monumental event in the history of the Grace Churches in Malawi. Former GMI Executive Director, Dr. Sam Vinton, preached at the ordination ceremony and led the attendees in communion which the four newly ordained pastors were privileged to serve to those gathered to celebrate their achievement. Pray for these men, and their wives and families as they continue to serve the Lord.

New Team Members! GMI has added Cecy Torres, from Mexico, to serve with the GMI team in Panama. Cecy attended Grace Bible Institute in Costa Rica and has been mentored for several years by Luis and Marcia Coto. Tati Faria is from Brazil and will be serving with GMI in Ciudad del Este, Paraguay where she has voluntarily ministered periodically over the past several years. She will be joining the Menors and Hodgsons on the GMI team there. In Brazil, Tati had spent a number of years working together with the Menors and GMI team member Jaque Mackensen.



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