

• **Vision 2033**, GMI's ten-year strategic plan adopted at the beginning of last year, would have GMI expand into one new continent, open eight new fields and send 30 individuals or families to serve in existing or new fields by the year 2033. Looking back on this first year, we thank the Lord for the new team members He has added to GMI. Cecy Torres (Mexico->Panama), Tati Faria (Brazil->Paraguay), Brian and Gloria Abranovich (Brazil and Argentina->Mozambique), Jonathan and Brenda Tuttle (U.S. and Mexico->Nicaragua) and Anthony and Pamela Beaulieu (U.S. and Costa Rica->Panama) have all been approved to join our worldwide team! We are grateful for each of them and the step of faith they have taken to serve with GMI cross-culturally.

• **In Tanzania**, GMI team members Ted and Kim Rabenold give praise for a special event in the town of Sumbawanga during which ten handicap bikes were distributed in early December. Ted shares, "We had an excellent combined service together with Grace Community Development and Education (GCDE). We are grateful to those who have contributed to this project."



Handicap Bike Distribution in Tanzania

• **The Netherland Antilles** are where GMI team members Carlos and Denise Brunk are

serving. Through their ministry trips to Aruba, they have made many new contacts—several of whom have come to know Christ through their evangelism efforts. In November, the Brunks began online discipleship meetings with a couple of the families they have met. Meanwhile in Bonaire, their church plant organized a Thanksgiving event to which the people from the church invited their families, friends and co-workers where they heard the gospel and enjoyed a meal together.



Thanksgiving Event in Bonaire

• **Traveling to Zambia**, GMI team member Joseph Asong was the guest speaker at a pastors' conference in the city of Kabwe, from November 14-17. Joseph, along with Pastor Francis Muzaza and Elder Julius Nkamba, addressed many theological issues related to the uniqueness of the Body of Christ in the story of the Bible while also sharing some practical ministry tools. Understanding the difference between the Church and Israel is key for many of these pastors as they teach their congregations what it means to live by grace. Nearly 30 pastors came from all over Zambia for this conference which served to further unite the Grace Churches in Zambia the national church organization alongside which GMI serves in Africa.

• **Christmas Projects 2023-24**. Thanks so much for your generous investment in this year's Christmas projects. A quarter of our projects have been fully funded with others on the verge of being completed. To give to this year's Christmas projects, visit [gracem.org](http://gracem.org), click on the donate button or "Projects" tab and select "2023 Christmas Catalog." Your gift is an encouragement to our team members and those with whom they serve around the world as they look forward to beginning new ministry initiatives in the New Year.

• **Mérida, Mexico** is the home of Comunidad Bíblica de la Gracia (Grace Bible Community) where GMI team members Luis and Marcia Coto open the home they rent to their fast-growing church plant. They chose this particular home because it could accommodate a sizable group of 30-40 people. The numbers have steadily increased in December with 80 people in attendance at one service alone! To handle the increase, Luis specifically asks those who have been attending longer to be prepared to leave the meeting space to give up their seat to newer attendees. This dynamic church plant is now in the process of moving to a new location in the city.



Packed Church Service in Mexico

• **In Paraguay**, the ministry is expanding. GMI team members Cleiton and Vivianne Menor are working with their GMI co-worker, Tati Faria, in the Ciudad del Este metropolitan area.

Friday night, they host a Bible study in their home. The next morning, they and a team from their church, Iglesia Bíblica Bereana (Berean Bible Church), travel to the north side of the city to conduct an outreach to children and families in a neighborhood called "La Blanca." As the GMI team grows in Paraguay, the plan is to develop this outreach into a church plant. Meanwhile, Iglesia Bíblica Bereana, has filled their rented facility to capacity with new families and individuals still joining! Not only is attendance an encouragement, but there are several faithful attendees who are taking on more ministry responsibilities. On Sunday nights, the Menors cross the river into Brazil where they hold a Bible study with the idea of also planting a church in the city of Foz do Iguaçu.

• **The EXITE Team** is visiting Paraguay in July to help with the growing GMI outreach and ministry in the city of Ciudad del Este. This team will serve alongside GMI team members Cleiton and Viviane Menor, Cory and Kim Hodgson and Tati Faria as well as those from the local church, Iglesia Bíblica Bereana (Berean Bible Church), working mostly in the areas of children's ministry, teaching and evangelism. This opportunity is open to high school and college-aged students. For more information, visit [gracem.org](http://gracem.org) and click on the "EXITE Team" tab.



Saturday Morning Kids' Club in Paraguay