

# GMAW



Keeping you  
praying for  
and informed  
about GMI

GRACE MINISTRIES AROUND THE WORLD

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2025

• **In Burundi**, the last week of November, Burundi Grace Bible Institute offered its first Bible-school module. Nineteen men and three women took two courses ("Salvation" and "Bible Study Methods") taught by the GMI team in Burundi. These are the first of ten required courses for students to complete their first level of training. Members of ten local churches from seven denominations took part in the program. The biblical material was eye-opening for the attendees. One church leader shared, "Wow, I was preaching mistakes, now I need to go back and teach this correctly." Another confessed, "I have to ask God for forgiveness. God please forgive me. I was a liar. I was not preaching the true gospel."



Burundi Grace Bible Institute

• **New Team Members!** The ministry in Costa Rica continues to send new team members to join the GMI family. Henry and Grettel Gonzalez and Juan and Lucrecia Chaves were approved by the GMI Board to serve in Paraguay initially with the ultimate goal of opening a new field in a neighboring, South American country. Both Henry and Juan have been teaching at Grace Bible Institute of Costa Rica

which has been responsible for the theological preparation of many GMI team members not only from Costa Rica, but from around Latin America. To learn more and/or to support these newest team members, visit [gracem.org](http://gracem.org), click on the "GMI's Global Team" tab and select these families from the menu.



Henry and Grettel Gonzalez (left) and Juan and Lucrecia Chaves (right)

• **Christmas Projects.** Thanks for your generous investment in these life-changing projects designed by our global team to help them equip local believers to share the gospel, plant churches, train others and spread God's love. This year's catalog is on track to meet or exceed last year's record-breaking donation totals. To view the projects digitally, visit [gracem.org](http://gracem.org), click on the "Projects" tab and select "2024 Christmas Catalog" from the side menu. You can also request a copy of the magazine-style catalog by contacting GMI ([gmi@gracem.org](mailto:gmi@gracem.org), 616-241-5666).

• **End-of-year events** are important outreaches and times of ministry for many of our teams around the world. In Costa Rica, GMI team members Chuck and Joy Befus share, "We just finished the marriage outreaches

with an all-day marriage workshop, then a men's retreat. We wrapped up all of our small groups for the year, and celebrated the end of this great year with a church dinner and cantana where we served coffee and tamales to all. We are so thankful." In Panama, GMI team member Anthony Beaulieu anticipates evangelistic activities coinciding with the end of the year to bring people to Christ and to introduce Comunidad Bíblica de la Gracia (Grace Bible Community) as their new potential church home. Pray for the continuing impact of these events!

• **In Bonaire**, GMI team members Carlos and Denise Brunk took advantage of the U.S. Thanksgiving Holiday inviting attendees of their local church plant and guests from the community. Carlos shared the gospel, they enjoyed a meal together and then played games afterwards. Two of the guests wanted more information about the church in Bonaire the Brunks are working with, while another couple asked the Brunks to study the Bible with them.

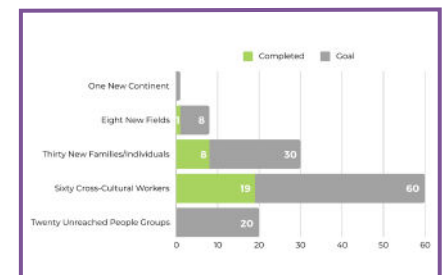


Thanksgiving in Bonaire

• **Bolivia** is the new home to GMI team members Brian and Gloria Abranovich. Having served for over a year in Malawi, the Abranoviches moved to Bolivia to work with their new team, Talo and Patty Vergara. Brian is from

Argentina and Gloria is from Brazil. They are adding to the international composition of this team where Talo (Uruguay) and Patty (Ecuador) have been serving since 2019. Brian and Gloria's arrival comes at a pivotal moment as the Bible school in Santa Cruz, Centro Bíblico de la Gracia (Grace Bible Center), is averaging over 40 each trimester and needs more teachers. Starting in 2025, Brian will come alongside Talo and other Bible teachers to offer courses to prepare Bolivians for the work of the ministry.

• **Vision 2033.** GMI is nearly two years into its second ten-year strategic plan, Vision 2033. Vision 2033 would have GMI begin a ministry in one new continent, open eight new fields, send 30 families and/or individuals to serve with GMI and reach 20 unreached people groups by training and mobilizing African cross-cultural workers. To date, GMI has opened one new field (North Africa) and has approved eight new families/individuals to serve on GMI fields. In addition, 19 cross-cultural workers (families) have been mobilized to begin living in and building relationships in African unreached people groups with the ultimate goal of sharing the gospel and establishing indigenous churches. Thank you for your prayers, encouragement and investment in GMI to make this all possible!



Vision 2033 Progress Graph



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