

Keeping you praying for and informed about GMI

GRACE MINISTRIES AROUND THE WORLD

MARCH - APRIL 2021

• In Ciudad del Este, Paraguay, nearly 90 people met for the first time in February on property which GMI recently purchased. The property and building are the new home of our missionary team's church plant, Grace Bible Church. Having met in four different locations over the past several years has not been ideal, but the church has continued to grow. We are so grateful to all of you who have contributed to the purchase of this property. Now, the missionary and church leadership teams are in the process of renovating the building to meet their needs. The property will not only function as a meeting place for our church plant, but also house a Bible school and serve as a ministry base to reach Paraguay and beyond. Pray for the growth of this congregation and for our team's plans to plant other churches in Ciudad del Este, throughout Paraguay, and in neighboring countries.

• Traveling to Burundi in late February, GMI missionaries Tom and Michelle Sanchez have finally arrived on GMI's newest field. There they join GMI missionaries Method and Omelina Mwendapole (Tanzania) as they seek to plant churches while discipling believers and training leaders. Tom and Michelle are grateful for your prayers. Having planned to leave last year, and after many unforeseen setbacks out of their control, they are excited to have started their new life and ministry in Burundi.

• Salvations in Burundi. As the Mwendapoles were getting ready to receive their teammates, they shared an incredible testimony of lives change because of Christ: "My wife and I visited a place known as Bwiza



Paraguay Service

which is a part of Bujumbura city. We found women who are single mothers living with orphans. Most of them are coming from an orphan life, so they are dealing with a lifestyle of prostitution to handle their difficult life. We shared with them the Word of God and gave them little gifts of food. These sixteen women received Jesus as Savior in their lives. We thank God for this work He has done."

• Malawi is the home to GMI missionaries "Jack and Jane" who are serving among a predominantly unreached Muslim people group. Through their evangelism and discipleship efforts, 13 churches are being planted with another 23 regular Bible studies meeting. The Lord is blessing this effort as many are coming to know Him. Their plea is the same as that of Jesus during His earthly ministry: "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest" (Matt. 9:37-38).

In Tanzania, GMI missionary John Caprari has been working with a few men and their families helping to equip them to reach the unreached people groups (UPGs) in their own country. Part of this process is helping



GCDE training

them to develop business and farming skills so they can sustain themselves while living among various UPGs in Tanzania. Recently, six men attended a comprehensive training program led by Grace Community Development and Education (GCDE), a community development organization founded by GMI missionaries. The Executive Director of GCDE, Batister Mbwana, reports the men received training in the areas of budget development, avocado growing, tree planting, fruit production, poultry and livestock, accounting, marketing, and business plan development. The founder of GCDE, Mike Caraway, who served as a GMI missionary in Tanzania, shares his hope that, "the training will not only help them with sustainability in their ministries but also give them some practical touchpoints for developing contacts in the areas they go."



Brook teaching youth



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works with youth and young adults developing leadership to reach this large segment of the population. Regarding a leader she is training, Brook writes: "In a new church in the city, they have started a youth group led by Mark, who was a student in my Bible studies at Chifundo. Youth from a neighboring village church plant have been regularly joining us even though it means walking one hour each way. We have been discussing the story of Noah and each week it rains so hard on the tin roof that we can hardly hear the teacher. So, he resorts to writing questions onto the board and having them read in small groups and finding the answers as leaders go to each group and talk with them."

• *Malawi* is where GMI missionary Brook Seekins serves. Among her ministries, Brook

 In Costa Rica, the youth ministry of the church with which GMI missionaries Chuck and Joy Befus are working in the city of Alajuela held a camp retreat in early February. Two of the youth who attended accepted the message of the gospel. Pray for them as they grow in their faith.

• GMI's Christmas Catalog. Thanks for making this year's Christmas catalog such a success! Your generous gifts provided nearly \$85,000 to help our missionaries and affiliated ministries around the world share the gospel, plant churches, train others, and share God's love. Of our 36 projects, 21 have been completed! You can see which ones still need additional funding by visiting gracem.org, clicking on the "Projects" tab, and then selecting "2020 Christmas Catalog." Thank you for investing in eternity.