

Keeping you
praying for
and informed
about GMI

● **GMI Christmas Projects.** Because of the incredible outpouring of gifts, you have already made this year's Christmas Project catalog the most successful yet. We featured 31 projects submitted by our missionaries around the world. Eighteen, or over half, of these projects have already been completed! Though Christmas is over, we will continue promoting these projects with the goal of completing several more. Visit gracem.org, click on "Projects" at the top of the homepage, then "2019-2020 Christmas Catalog" on the right-hand side of the projects page for more information.

● **Christmas in Nicaragua.** One fully-funded project has already been implemented. GMI missionaries Emiliano and Raquel Seravalli invited the families of the youth and children in their ministries to a Christmas celebration on December 19. During the year, these young people prayed that the gospel would be clearly shared with their parents at this event. Over 100 people, most of whom have never attended their church (Arraigados), came out for a meal and watched the evangelistic movie "Overcomer." The hope over the next couple of months is that many of these families whose children have been blessed through Arraigados' ministry will visit the church again and regularly attend. The day after this event, Milo and Raquel took 18 youth to a retreat with 150 other youth from around Nicaragua where Milo was the main speaker.

● **Also In Nicaragua,** GMI missionaries Ronnie and Jaque Mackensen continue



Ronnie Mackensen presenting a promotion certificate to one of the martial arts students in Nicaragua

to learn Spanish while investing in the ministry there. Ronnie, who traveled to four different GMI fields as part of the martial arts evangelism team *Break-Through* before becoming a missionary, offered martial arts classes in Nagarote at Arraigados Church from September through November. After the completion of the classes, Ronnie awarded six students who faithfully attended the classes and completed the program a promotion certificate. In addition to teaching these classes in Spanish, he also taught his first Spanish Bible lesson which is a significant milestone for any new missionary.



Christmas celebration at Arraigados Church in Nagarote, Nicaragua



The graduates of the home economics, catering, and entrepreneurship training in Malawi

● **In Lilongwe,** Malawi, this past November, GMI missionary Emmanuela Asong graduated 39 students from her home economics, catering, and entrepreneurship training. Having begun in 2017, the students had each completed an average of 100 hours of training. This ministry addressed issues such as poverty, poor nutrition, and the limited participation of women in the economy while opening the door to share the gospel with them. More than 300 people gathered to celebrate with the graduates. The Asongs expressed, "It was so encouraging to listen to three graduates who spoke during the occasion. They all expressed deep appreciation for the training and shared how relevant the training was in their lives." Emmanuela has shared that she will begin a new class in March 2020. Given the huge success that this first attempt has been, they are anticipating an even larger response next time.

● **Visiting Burundi in early December,** GMI missionaries Tom and Michelle Sanchez, along with GMI missionaries Method and Omelina Mwendapole, took another survey trip to Burundi. In

part, the purpose was to better gauge where to begin a new ministry so that when Burundi becomes GMI's sixth new field (since adopting Vision 2023 in 2013) towards the middle of 2020, our missionary team will be ready to hit the ground running. Pray for this new team!

● **Traveling 85km north of Lilongwe,** Malawi's capital, GMI missionary Give-more Nyakambiri and seven men from area churches met with leaders of the Kalokola churches in early December. These believers traveling from Lilongwe were welcomed warmly with a traditional meal of nsima and cooked greens. Give-more reports that during the discussions the team encouraged "the men in the churches there to continue meeting in the fashion we showed them. The Kalokola men were encouraged as were their Lilongwe friends." Pray for this group of men as they plan for men's ministry in 2020 and seek to initiate a similar ministry to encourage the churches affiliated with GMI in the southern part of the country.

● **Pray for two more missionaries or missionary families** to join the GMI team in 2020. Each of the last several years we have made this our prayer and have asked you to join us. The Lord has provided abundantly even sending us three new missionaries or missionary families in 2019. Thank you for bringing this request to the Lord as we pursue our Vision 2023 goals of opening eight new fields by the year 2023. Since adopting this vision seven years ago, we have opened five new fields and plan to make Burundi our sixth towards the middle of 2020.