



## Grace Ministries Around the World

MARCH-APRIL 2013

● **What is a GMI Partner?** We as an organization realize that in order to reach the world with the gospel of the grace of God, we must form a missionary team that reflects the world which we are trying to reach. Last October the GMI Board approved an initiative to work with national believers around the world who would serve under GMI in our existing or new fields with our missionary teams. These brothers in Christ would be called "GMI Partners." Under this program GMI Partners will come to the U.S. to raise funds so they can minister with us on a full-time basis. Among the requirements to become a GMI Partner, the candidate must have a theological education and ministry training, demonstrates an ability to teach God's Word, and is able to effectively communicate with churches here in the U.S. in English.

● **Who are Eric and Mercy?** They are our first GMI Partners. Eric's story is an incredible testimony to



*Shalom, Eric and Mercy (Mango) Rukundo*

God's grace. To read it, please visit the GMI website: [www.gracem.org/ericmango.html](http://www.gracem.org/ericmango.html). From February 8 to April 24 Eric is in the States visiting churches and raising support so he and his family can serve with us. Upon returning to Zambia where his wife, Mercy, is finishing her studies, he will conduct survey and ministry trips in Africa to determine where GMI might use him and expand its ministry. Eric is very well prepared for this task. He speaks 11 languages fluently and graduated from Theological College of Central Africa with degrees in pastoral ministries, missions and education. We are blessed to serve with Eric and Mercy (Mango) Rukundo in Africa!

● **Who are Emiliano and Raquel?** They are both recent graduates of Grace Bible Institute of Costa Rica and will be the field's first missionaries to Nicaragua in 2014 where they will work with Jeff and Sally Roth.



*Emiliano and Raquel*

Emiliano and Raquel have been approved by the GMI Board to serve as Associate Missionaries. This designation differs in part from a GMI Partner in that they will not come to the U.S. to raise support nor is there an English proficiency requirement. During the past year they have worked very hard to raise support for their ministry. As of now they have raised more than half from within Costa Rica! As Associate Missionaries GMI will also seek supplemental support here in the States as they continue to raise funds in Costa Rica. They know the ministry in Nicaragua well and GMI is looking forward to partnering with them to reach their neighbors with the gospel.

● **In Congo**, two evangelism teams of nine men trained by Bill Vinton are traveling throughout the eastern part of the country distributing 100,000 copies of the "Book of Hope" with the goal that tens of thousands come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior. GMI is looking for 1,000 prayer partners to commit themselves to pray for this effort during the next year. To find out more about this ministry and how you can join this prayer team, please visit [www.gracem.org/onethousandkidsforchrist.html](http://www.gracem.org/onethousandkidsforchrist.html). Looking forward to following up with those who will be saved through this campaign, 5,000 discipleship student books and 500 teacher manuals have been printed for use in school religion classes.

● **The ministry in the Talamanca region of Costa Rica** took another



*Talamanca team loading supplies onto boats*

step forward in January. La Iglesia Bíblica de la Gracia (Grace Bible Church) where Chuck and Joy Befus serve took yet another mission team to Talamanca. During this trip they shared with the Altouren, Cachabri and Soki villages where children made decisions to believe the message of the gospel. They also made contact with three men who indicated they too had come to know the Lord as Savior. Because of this the team will change their direction and begin to work more with these men and their families.

● **Bold plans for the future.** At its February meeting, the Grace Ministries International Board of Directors adopted a strategic vision for the next ten years. This vision anticipates opening eight new fields and recruiting several new missionaries and GMI Partners. Both the board and home office share a great deal of excitement about the future of GMI as it works together with churches in the U.S. and around the world to realize this vision.