

Keeping you
praying for
and informed
about GMI

● **Land in Costa Rica!** For years Grace Bible Church, Alajuela, has been praying for land where their congregation can move and grow. Grace Ministries International missionary Chuck Befus writes, “On March 12th, we were able to sign on the dotted line and by God’s grace purchase a very large portion of land just outside of the center of Alajuela, right on the highway near the airport with a surrounding multitude of neighborhoods. Thank you Lord!” On March 31 the congregation held its first service on the property. Continue to pray as the church seeks permits for water, electricity, and entrances into the land.



First service on the new property
in Costa Rica

● **Parts of Malawi and Mozambique** were devastated by strong storms and flooding in early March. Our missionary team in Malawi shares, “Sadly, in many areas that were hit, the maize was starting to dry in the fields and was destroyed. One of the greatest needs we have is for seeds to replace damaged crops in one of our southern churches. In that area, they still have time to plant again and harvest. In other areas, there will not be enough rains to support another planting this year. There are at least 90 people in our churches in that area who were affected and 13 of their homes collapsed due to the rains and winds. In two other areas nine other church members’ homes were destroyed.” The missionary team in Malawi is helping both members of the churches affiliated with GMI and others in communities suffering loss during the flooding.

● **Answered prayers—Bolivia.** We have been praying for another missionary to join GMI missionary Frosty Hansen as he develops the theological training program

at Grace Bible Center in Santa Cruz. Around 30 students have attended the first modules surpassing expectations and reinforcing the need to have another missionary work with Frosty. Recently, the board of Grace Ministries International approved GMI missionaries Talo and Patty Vergara relocating to Bolivia to meet this need. We and they are thrilled to have Talo and Frosty working together to train the next generation of Bolivian pastors, missionaries, and lay leaders.

● **Answered prayers—Nicaragua.** We have also been praying that God would raise up more missionaries to help GMI missionaries Emiliano and Raquel Seravalli with their growing ministry in Nicaragua. Lily Ortega grew up in the churches affiliated with GMI in Bolivia. She has international ministry experience serving on the Logos Hope ship for two years and ministering in Uruguay while also studying theology there for three years. We are excited she will be a part of GMI’s Nicaragua missionary team in January 2020. She has a heart for discipleship, evangelism, reaching the less fortunate, and encouraging others to serve in ministry. Though Lily



Malawi graduation—March 2019

will make a huge impact working alongside Milo and Raquel, continue to pray for more missionaries to serve in Nicaragua!

● **In Phalombe, Malawi,** five pastors graduated from the Chichewa Bible School program becoming the first to do so. These pastors will continue their studies through a third year of theological education. GMI missionary Joseph Asong and his team traveled to Phalombe for the ceremony of this first graduation for Chichewa-speaking Bible students.

● **On the Island of Bonaire** Genade Kerk Bonaire (Grace Church Bonaire) held its inaugural service Easter Sunday, April 21. Six months ago GMI missionaries Carlos and Denise Brunk began having conversations and praying about starting a Dutch-speaking service with Netherlands native Adrian Godegebuure. For the past three years Adrian has been part of the Papiamento-speaking church and was this new church plant’s first speaker. Adrian gave a powerful message on the new life one can have in Christ. Several visitors indicated they want to come again and be a part of the church.

● **In the Rukwa Valley of Tanzania** GMI missionary Ted Rabenold praises the Lord sharing, “It’s hard to explain but we thank God for the change in the valley. These days

people are seeking us out for agricultural help. We don’t need to seek them out. There is a radically different view about development than there was in 2001 when we first came to live here. This gives us a much higher impact level than we had before.” As the Rabenolds’ team expands its agricultural outreach, they need to construct new training centers in order to gain footholds in new parts of the Rukwa Valley. Currently, they are raising funds to construct a higher altitude training center in Sandulula which will house classrooms, training facilities, and living quarters for the Rabenolds and their trainers to stay.

● **Church plant in Malawi!** The Area 44 church in Lilongwe, which had been meeting in a rented school classroom for a few years, now has their own property and held their first service on April 7. It is called the Grace Church in Chiuizira.

● **Home Office News.** Tammy Huienza and Whitney Miller both began their tenure with GMI the third week of April. Tammy, taking over for Jim Molenkamp as the Business Manager, and Whitney, replacing Paula Lenger, are Grace Christian University graduates and both have missionary experience. During these coming weeks they will be trained by Jim and Paula who have each faithfully and joyfully dedicated more than 20 years of their lives serving with GMI.



Dutch church with Adrian preaching