



Bill and Rita Johnson



international christian publishers

Sponsored by Calvary Baptist Church, Hamburg, Arkansas



John and Sharon Sanders

Newsletter

January 17, 2016

BILL JOHNSON'S NEWS

"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness," Psalm 48:1. Indeed the Lord has greatly blessed the ministry of ICP/His Offspring Ministries. As is our custom at the beginning of a new year, we have prayerfully considered His blessing during the past year.

God has provided for the ministry by sending John and Sharon Sanders to partner with us. Already they have encouraged Liviu to set new goals for the ministry in Romania. It has already resulted in more children receiving the literature in the Romanian language.

He has blessed with the expansion of ministry in the Philippines. Last year saw new records in Bible and literature distribution with Jeremiah Abay redoubling his efforts in church, translation and distribution. A new record number of VBS books were prepared for 2016.

We were able to begin work on the new curriculum for use in schools in the Philippines.

"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised!" —Bill and Rita Johnson

JOHN SANDERS' NEWS

Since our last report, Sharon Gay and I have enjoyed visiting churches in Arkansas, Missouri, Colorado and Texas. I am so grateful to each pastor who allowed me to not only share the ministry of ICP but also to preach the Word of God to his congregation.

A tremendous blessing came December 27 when I was privileged to baptize my granddaughter Alexa at Loveland Baptist Church.



FIRST CONTAINER HAS ARRIVED

The upstairs attic of the rented building we call home has been filled and the second container is due to arrive in February. It brought dresses, Bibles, VBS materials and so much more. The building is full and still another one on the way. God is greatly to be praised.



(above) The first of two containers has been unloaded. Jeremiah Abay reports that nineteen men worked several hours to get the boxes out and up the narrow stairs to the attic of the office building.

VALUES FORMATION CURRICULUM

Below is a picture of the first copies of the new curriculum we are developing for use in the churches and schools in the Philippines. We will be testing it during our trip there in February and March. Everyone is so excited to be able to produce our own materials for the children of the Philippines. (see next column)



We will have several teams teaching in schoolrooms during February and March. This will give us an opportunity to fully test the materials.

Volunteer writers are Jeanie Cash, Nicole England, Brenda Jackson, Carolyn Daniel, Sarah Johnson and Lisa Bailey. Thank you ladies!

—Bill Johnson & John Sanders

FAN BOX NEWS



A Fan Box has been awarded to Paul Ashcraft for his generous gift to the Philippine Building and Land Fund during December. As you can see from the pictures of the filled attic and assembly area, a new facility is becoming more necessary.



Will you become one of one hundred to receive a "Fan Box"? Send your contribution (in any amount) to ICP Philippine Land Fund, P. O. Box 2587, Texarkana, TX 75504. We have extended the Fan Box awards until the supply is depleted or the entire amount needed is raised.

A Fan Box will be awarded to those who contribute \$1,000 or more.

LAND & BUILDING FUND	
JANUARY 16, 2016	
Received - - - -	\$ 17,620.56
Goal - - - - - - -	\$129,000.00
Needed - - - - -	\$111,379.44

With the help of God's people, a permanent home for ICP in the Philippines can become a reality.

—Bill Johnson

Testimony of Myanmar (Burma) Student at USA Seminary

I, Jacob Tubal, was born in a small village in Northwestern Myanmar (Burma). There was no electricity or transportation in my village, which is seven miles away from the nearest town. When it was necessary to go there for supplies such as soap, rice and other essentials which we could not raise or make at home, mother usually walked alone two to three hours to get there.

Corn was the main food although we also had homegrown pork and chicken occasionally, usually prepared with rice. Agriculture is the main occupation and excess vegetables, beans, cabbage and tomatoes, are taken to the town to sell.



Villagers make their living on small farms. Because the mountain is too steep for rice, corn and other vegetables are grown for food. Excess is carried to the distant city by foot and sold to buy such staples as salt, sugar and basic medical supplies.

God blessed me with strict, loving parents who, when I was still young, took me, along with my siblings, to church every Sunday. Although about 89% of Burmese people are Buddhists, there are none in our area. Most of the two hundred or more villagers attended one of three Baptist churches. To my parents, to miss one church service was inexcusable. However, being born in a strict Christian family and going to Church regularly did not make me a believer.

Taking care of six children was not an easy task for my parents; besides, education was low in my village and surrounding villages. Moreover, more money was needed for my education, which created a great hardship for my parents. Therefore, at the age of ten, I had to leave my home and my parents for a better edu-



Jacob with Burmese traditional dress called "longyi," (lon-gee). Every man in Myanmar wears a longyi almost every day. Even at school, the uniform for men is a longyi.

cation. I was raised at a children's home in Yangon where my conversion took place at age eleven under the teaching of



This picture, taken in 2003, shows the children and their teachers at the Children's Home in Yangon where Jacob was raised. The middle one at the back is Bro. Paul Van Hre, who started this ministry. Paul was the first ICP translator in Myanmar. Ms. Rhoda, director of the Home, is on Bro. Paul's left. Jacob is on the front row left.

Ms. Rhoda who works at the Children's Home. Since my conversion, I have had a desire to know the Bible more; therefore, when I finished high school, I enrolled in Bible College (Biblical School of Theology) in Yangon, Myanmar.

After I finished college, it was my desire to continue my study somewhere abroad. The "where" was unknown for the whole summer until Dr. Bill Johnson and his friends visited Myanmar in July 2013. Then, God, through Dr. Bill Johnson, and his friends, opened the door of my education in USA. I am looking forward to finishing my study in the coming semester, God willing. My study here in the United States happens because of the help of ICP and some other churches. I am filled with joy whenever I think about being a part of ICP in the future to help children learn about God and help them grow in the knowledge of Christ (2 Peter 3:18).

Note: Jacob will earn his Master's degree in May 2016. He plans to continue to earn a second Master's degree in May 2017, then he will return to Myanmar to begin working with ICP to provide materials for the churches. He will be well qualified to translate the Bible and to write children's Bible study literature.

—Bill Johnson



Villages like the one where Jacob was born in Northwestern Myanmar are very remote. Above, a person who needs a doctor's care is carried on a stretcher by four down the mountain to the city where there is a hospital. It could take up to two days to make the walk.