

Yes, Lord

walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you;
your name and renown are the desire of our hearts.

Isaiah 26:8 (NIV 1984)



The “Glo-cal” Kingdom of heaven

*News from
Jeff and
Mary Ann
Anderson,
missionaries
serving
globally with
Action
International
Ministries*

*2nd Qtr. 2021
Volume 36*

*All Scripture
references are
in the English
Standard
Version (ESV)
unless other-
wise stated.*

Global Ministry

The past year brought many changes for people around the world due to our worldwide pandemic. For Mary Ann and me our “wings were clipped” but our ministry expanded. Even though we haven’t been able to travel internationally as we planned, the Lord has seen fit to use us through online and locally in-person through mentoring, coaching, discipling, teaching, preaching and hands-on ministry.

We recently had two weeks of thorough orientation and training for nine new workers in South Asian countries. Due to security concerns we will not mention the countries. We, along with others, will individually coach them as they start ministry with ACTION. They have been well-trained in Bible school and seminary and are seasoned servants of Christ ministering among unreached people groups in their countries. Pray for them as they trust the Lord for their financial support and for us as we walk alongside them. Each couple is also trusting the Lord for sixty prayer partners.

We have cried out to the Lord of the harvest to send us workers (Matthew 9:38) and He is doing that. It is our passion and responsibility to send them well-prepared. Thanks for joining us in prayer! If the Lord leads you to partner with new workers through prayer or financial support, or both, let us know and we will help you do that.

Additionally we are helping put together a missions conference for youth in a country of this region. It is scheduled for September and we are invited to teach in-person at the conference and visit ministry for a week afterwards. We accepted the invitation and will go unless the Lord closes the door. Join us in prayer for finances for the conference, our travel and on-the-ground expenses. This is a direct result of a two-week orientation and training we participated in a year ago for South Asian workers in several countries. Since then I have weekly coaching sessions with the field leader of this country. This is pioneer missions!

All4Christ

The Philippines is struggling with the pandemic and the government continues to shut-down in-person conferences and restrict domestic and international travel. As we write this letter, the Philippines is under the world’s longest quarantine, over 411 days and counting, since the first enhanced quarantine was put into effect. This has caused A4C to be creative and to have our monthly conferences by Zoom. In April we had our eighth e-conference.





The Maple Plain Community Church packing crew.

Around 100 Filipino pastors, church leaders, missionaries, Bible school and seminary students from around the country attended live and others participated in our replay on A4C's Facebook page. Filipinos working in Saipan, Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Singapore and Italy also join us as they can.

In March 500 *ESV Global Study Bibles* were sent to Manila for A4C. We were able to purchase them from Crossway for \$5 each which Atonement Lutheran Church in Fargo, North Dakota paid for. They were shipped from Wheaton, Illinois to Maple Plain Community Church, in Maple Plain, Minnesota. Twelve ninety-five pound boxes of Bibles were then packed by a faithful crew of guys from MPCC. The heavy-duty tape, boxes and shipping was also paid for by MPCC. Our shipping

Preparing Bibles for shipment.



company Forex also gave us a discount on the shipping. A4C will distribute these precious Bibles to faithful servants of Christ located in far-flung, hard-to-reach, off-the-beaten-path areas throughout the country along with instructions on how to use the study helps. What a beautiful display of well-planned and coordinated teamwork by God's Kingdom people!

In April A4C submitted a proposal to the Center for Church Renewal for 500 free *Life Essential Interactive Study Bibles*. This Bible has 1500 QR codes (300 hours of video) of Dr. Gene Getz teaching a biblical text. Mary Ann and I have a copy and use it just about daily. I recently finished a rich several week study of Hebrews and Galatians using the LEISB as a resource. Our proposal has been approved so we are working on getting the Bibles to Manila. We are also developing introduction and instruction videos for the Bible in Tagalog. A4C is trusting the Lord for funds to ship the Bibles from Plano, Texas. Each box contains 50 Bibles and costs \$136 to ship. Two boxes have been sent. Pray for the remaining needed funds.

God's Kingdom is spreading throughout the world. Jesus told this parable "*The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hide in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened*" (Matthew 13:33). Like a pinch of leaven permeating fifty pounds of dough, the Kingdom of heaven is having global impact. Jesus is building His church, through His people, and the gates of hell cannot overpower what He is doing among the nations. (Matthew 16:18 and 28:18-20).

Local Ministry

Minneapolis is an immigrant gateway city to the US. According to the February 1, 2018

StarTribune article “Anoka-Hennepin schools see an increase in languages spoken at home” there are 137 languages spoken at home other than English.

The Phillips neighborhood of south-central Minneapolis is the most diverse in the entire US with over 100 ethnic groups represented in the neighborhood. Historically, the largest people groups to arrive in Minnesota were Hmong, Somali, Vietnamese, Ethiopian, Liberian, Cambodian, Bosnian and from the former Soviet Union. More recent arrivals include Karen and others from Myanmar and Nepali-speaking Bhutanese and Iraqis. (Source: Arrive Ministries website.)

When we are not ministering elsewhere we worship at Cityview Church in south-central Minneapolis. Mission leaders of our sending church, Grace in Eden Prairie, know we are urban hands-on, dirt-under-our-nails and boots-on-the-ground missionaries so they referred us to CVC following the death of George Floyd on May 25, 2020. CVC is located near where Floyd died while being detained by Minneapolis police officers and where the subsequent rioting, fires and looting took place.

Last summer we helped CVC with their weekly barbecues on their parking lot. Over free delicious picnic food we had many friendly Gospel conversations with neighbors in this very diverse area. During the barbecues we got to know Pastor Brandon Porter who was in-charge. Brandon has become a good friend and we are discussing with Pastor Walt McFadden how we can further serve CVC. This area of Minneapolis is where we lived before we went to Manila in 1985. Of course much has changed, but opportunities for ministry remain the same. The world’s people have arrived to this neighborhood. God is working His plan by bringing people to us. Habakkuk 2:14 (see sidebar) is His plan and He cannot be stopped.

One ministry we are prayerfully discussing is developing a mentoring, coaching and discipling ministry for urban pastors and missionaries. It would emphasize teaching sound



biblical doctrine, developing godly character and urban ministry skills. Additionally, we will emphasize love for God and a calling to faithful long-term urban ministry, love for the city and its people and having a Spirit-given passionate love God and our global neighbors.

Pray for Minneapolis. We have been the epicenter of social turmoil since Floyd died. The world is watching and listening. We are praying and working for God’s shalom to embed the city. Seeds of mercy, grace, compassion, love and the Gospel are being sown by God’s people who are uniting in worship, prayer and outreach. (The media is not telling this side of the story.)



**“But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.”
Jeremiah 29:7**

**“He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? The voice of the Lord cries to the city—”
Micah 6:8-9**

**“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.”
Habakkuk 2:14**

Jeff praying for Pastor Brandon at the close of a worship service.

Speaking Ministry

For several months I have preached once a month at the Filipino-American Christian Church in Moundsview and First Baptist Church of Anoka (both in Minnesota) as they search and wait on the Lord for their next pastor. We have also ministered in other area churches. It is a joy ministering to and having fellowship with these dear brethren. If Mary Ann and I can serve your church, Sunday school class or Bible study let us know.

Updated Schedule

- May 30: Filipino-American Christian Church, Moundsview, MN
- June 13: Filipino-American Christian Church, Moundsview, MN
- June 21-25: Mountlake Terrace, WA for orientation of new appointees at our ACTION office
- June 26-29: Troutdale, OR
- June 27: Open Door Baptist Church, Troutdale, OR
- July 11: First Baptist Church, Anoka, MN
- August 8 or 15: Calvary Gospel Assembly, Estherville, IA
- August 22: First Baptist Church, Anoka, MN



John & Mary Hartzell (by Mary Ann)

On Palm Sunday Jeff preached at First Baptist Church of Anoka and my parents, John and Mary Hartzell, were able to join us. This was the first in-person service they were able to attend for several months. My parents ministered to the seniors at FBCA for years so it was a special morning. After the service my sister Dawn Sheppard and her husband Steve hosted us for lunch. It was a joyful day of fellowship! My parents have faithfully served the Lord in various ministries for over 75 years. They continue serving the Lord where they now live.

They will celebrate their 70th anniversary soon. If you know them and would like to send a

greeting, please email it to me (see my email address below) and I will print it and bring it to them. I know they would love to hear from you and would appreciate your prayers for them.

Thank-you

Some of our donors have gone home to the Lord and others had to cease giving or reduce their donations for various reasons. Please prayerfully consider giving a one-time gift, increasing your regular support or starting to give. If you are led by the Lord to join us as a financial partner, you can give through the mail or online by credit card, debit card, direct deposit or PayPal. Be aware that giving through direct deposit does not incur a processing fee. Instructions on giving are below.

We are grateful for your ongoing partnership in the Gospel through your financial support and prayer. You are sending us *“in a manner worthy of God”* (3 John 6). *We love you in Christ!* If you would like us to pray for you let us know your specific requests. We are *“God’s fellow workers”* (1 Corinthians 3:9). To Him be all the glory for the great things He is doing in and through each of us!

Action International Ministries

Online giving: www.actioninternational.org/anderson

NOTE: If you would like to receive our monthly email prayer letters or stop receiving our quarterly hard-copy letters in the mail, please contact Mary Ann at the email address below and she will make the change.

All donations are tax-deductible and are accepted with the understanding that Action International Ministries has complete control and administration of their use. Gifts may be sent to one of the addresses below designated for Anderson Support (40012A). Gifts can also be given online by direct deposit, credit card or PayPal at the above website. Email: jeff.anderson@actionintl.org or maryann.anderson@actionintl.org.

ACTION USA • PO Box 398 Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-0398 • Tel. 425.775.4800
ACTION Canada • 3015 A 21st Street NE, Calgary, Alberta, T2E 7T1 • Tel. 403.204.1421
ACTION UK • PO Box 144, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 5WE • Tel. 0151.630.2451 • Reg. Charity: 1058661

