

# CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM BOB AND JAN MACLEAN

*Merry Christmas*

*Sugeng Natal  
(Javanese)*

*Feliz Navidad  
(Spanish)*

*Nollaig Chrìdheil  
(Gaelic)*



*Selamat Natal  
( Indonesian )*

*Vrolijk Kerstfeest  
(Dutch)*

*Joyeux Noel  
(French)*

*Blithe Yule  
( Scots )*

*We wish you a Merry Christmas, but more than that, we wish you Christmas blessings as well.*

*We want to share some of our Christmas blessings with you:*



This year we received our full, unrestricted land titles so a struggle of twenty-eight years is now over. In April we directed several HIV/Hope seminars taught by Duane Crumb, – a Double Blessing – a blessing in helping people living with HIV and their families and in helping the churches develop a community outreach and social conscience. We have Indonesians preparing to teach HIV/seminars next year. This social ministry to the country at large has started.



In May Bob received his permanent residence visa to Indonesia with no time limit on this one so he has gone from month-to-month, to annual, to five years. Now his visa just says report in five years, not renew.

In July after years of preparation, planning, developing relationships, and forging friendships, Co-workers opened a new ministry in Salatiga, 320 miles and ten hours east of us. A blessing and major step forward, they have just bought land for a future mission site and home.

On Monday, December 19th, Pak Berlin will be at the National Library in Jakarta to get the ISBN (International Standard Book Number) for each of the six copyrighted work books we plan to use in our village teaching program. This is the final step in a planned one-year production schedule that so far has consumed 23 months.

We are blessed with a study paper just completed we intend to use to challenge and inspire small, dormant inward focused bodies of believers to teach the nature of a church. That is to help them abandon a faulty model to become a body of witnessing believers.

Jan and I both rejoice in the blessings of continued good health.

We are blessed by loving and faithful ICM board members - Caroline Hanstad, Treasurer, is a high level professional bookkeeper bringing everything up to date and acting as an enthusiastic supportive witness to the church at Visalia. She has not only brought the bookkeeping up to date, she has also managed to pay most of the arrears and has also sparked an interest in ICM and other missions supported by the Visalia church. Scott McMillan is a forwarding agent who can't be beat. He tracks our income and meets all of our requests almost instantly and with great good humor. Travis Dahms assisted in producing an appropriate budget for present and new missionaries coming on board. Polly Apodaca has been with us from the beginning and still with us today. She visited us in Indonesia many years ago. Donna Bernbrock



has been with us many years and worked with us as Treasurer and President of ICM. Mauney Clary and Dona Botts are faithful long-time members. We are thankful also for newer members, Dave Eaves, Bruce Fleenor, and Michelle Wulf.

**We are blessed by all of our faithful supporters that have made it possible for us to serve the Lord in Indonesia for more than 42 years.**

**A Few Current events:** We were in Central Java November 17 – 25, where we were able to see our son, Mike, direct the orchestra and all music for “Little Mermaid” and his daughter, Cosette, play the part of Ursla. Of course she was fantastic. We also met with our translator, Berlin, and several church leaders about HIV seminars in 2017 and new ministry opportunities. We spent Thanksgiving Day with co-workers at a restaurant with beautiful views. In the past we have celebrated Thanksgiving at our house with Indonesian Christians and Muslims. We did have a good time though. Michael and staff were in Hong Kong Thanksgiving Day for an Asian accreditation meeting.



On Friday, November 25, we returned to Jakarta in time to attend a memorial service for Jeko, a seven year-old boy, who drowned at a construction site along with a friend. Bob also preached at another memorial service for Jeko on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for Pak Barce, his wife, Vera, daughter, Clara, fifteen years old, and baby Cheri, seven months. On Saturday, the 26<sup>th</sup>, we attended the wedding of Edo, the brother of Yuyun, preacher’s wife in BSD. The wedding was two hours away in Bekasi.



**We are looking forward to the following Christmas events:**

December 18 – a Christmas celebration at 9:00 a.m. at Victory Christian Church and six baptisms to be held at 5:00 p.m. at a local swimming pool.

December 25 – Worship service in the morning and pie making in the evening.

December 26 – A Christmas celebration at our house for about twenty adults and ten children.

**Our Earnest Christmas wish for you and all of us.** Christmas ought to remind us all of the great compassion of God for each one of us. We who are Christian ought to show His compassion to all knowing that we all fight battles with temptation. Christmas is a celebration of God’s great love for each one of us, the disobedient as well as the obedient. We all, each one of us, bear burdens of temptation and even sin. So we who love Christ and in obedience follow Him must take Christmas as a wonderful reminder of the great salvation we have in Christ and display that love and compassion to all whom we meet. We know not what battle they fight or what burden they bear, but we do know the One who brings victory in all our spiritual battles and lifts all burdens. Let us then meet all people with His banner of Love over us. Do go forth and bring Merry Christmas to those you meet, not a greeting only, but a reality.

We remain yours and His for a Christian Indonesia.

*We wish you a truly Merry Christmas*

*Bob & Jan MacLean*