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Indonesian Challenge

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Reaching Indonesia for Jesus

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“...if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed,...nothing will be impossible for you.” From Matt. 17:20

Greetings to you all in this New Year

REJOICING - Wednesday afternoon Linda returned from land office looking very serious, but didn't say anything. She had been going to the land office almost every day for several weeks. When Bob came into Jan's office, Linda said, "I don't want to work any longer," and asked Bob if he had been in his office. Pessimistic Jan asked why? What happened? Linda didn't answer. Optimistic Bob ran into his office to get the three certificates (land titles) off his desk. When Jan saw them she ran and hugged and kissed Linda and then we got the big smile that is in the photo.

LAND TITLE GRANTED – Yes, after twenty-eight years in dispute, it's a done deal. Today secretary Linda Kaligis came home and laid the three land certificates of full unencumbered title on Bob's desk. This act represents years of work on her part and yet more years for us. In 1988, twenty-eight years ago our first sponsor died and a relative of his widow told her, "We can take that land." But now after winning the land suit in the district court, appellate court and finally a journey to Manado where a court session was held in the widow's living room, we can say, "no you can't take that land." What should have been the end though was only a new beginning. This was followed by enumerable visits to the land office and related offices characterized by incompetence, carelessness, and constant extortion, all followed by one of the few legal fees, the land title transfer fee of some U.S. \$25,000 paid with personal money since the mission didn't have it.



All this time and expense is predicted to be rewarded by an enormous increase in value which will be returned when the property is ultimately sold. We will have more about this another time, but the theme of this article is to say, after all this time, money, and work, until last night we could have told you exactly what we said in November 2014, "The land office promises the title in a few weeks." **But Praise God that's no longer true – today we have the titles in hand and can say of this long ordeal, "It is finished; the land titles are here."**

REUNION IN HARJAMUKTI, CIBUBUR - On January 31 we travelled to Cibubur with Pak Dolvie, (our Secretary Linda's husband) Evangelist Arlin and Martius and son Alfie. We had a delightful time visiting old friends, and making new friends. We have great memories of this church; it was the first one we helped start in Jakarta. Pak Harno, a Christian from Central Java, introduced us to his brother Pak Dodo and we began a small meeting in his home and later in Pak Pangemanan's home until Bob and Pak Dodo bought a small narrow piece of land and built the present building. I even remember teaching SS outside. We remember driving our Land Rover Jeep through Jamboree (scout camp)



Pangemanans – 3 generations

because it was quicker. We can no longer do this. Now Cibubur is a thriving city and the church is tucked in out of the way, but people find it. Keith Johnston from Rosemead was here as an intern in 1984 and he preached for a few weeks with our sons, Mike and Tim, translating for him (they were in high school) while Bob was in the states. On special occasions, we had potlucks and Bob named Pak Tewu's dogs "Paskah" (Easter) and "Natal" (Christmas) because Pak Tewu, a Manadonese brought dog meat to the potluck! We were preaching and teaching there for a couple of years until our Indonesian students and teachers began working there. Now Pastor Hadi and Natalis, former



Pastor Hadi, Bob, Jan, and Natalis

students of ours have been there twenty years. Ibu Arlin was one of their teachers. We were pleased to see the little narrow church filled with about 100 people. Not many of the old timers are there because they've gone on to glory, but there are a couple of three-generation families there. We were happy to see a large group of young people.

BLESSINGS IN SALATIGA – We spent a joyous three weeks in December in Central Java. It started on December 11 watching the Elementary School Christmas musical; three of our grandchildren were in the play. Bob preached at the special Christmas celebration in Kopeng where Marwito (a former Sunday School student of ours) pastors. He learned about Jesus as a child and became a Christian in High School. We attended several special Christmas services in Salatiga and one in Solo where our translator, Berlian, pastors a small church. We attended the wedding of Supri and Vanti at Eklesia Christian Church and a reception in Salatiga on Dec. 19th and then a very special reception in Supri's hometown of Boyolali on December 20th. This reception was all Javanese including the clothing, traditions, music, and language. Supri's home village is Jelok above Boyolali, where we began evangelizing in 1976. This was a time of reunion for us also; we had our photo taken with many people. Christmas day began at four



a.m. at the Salatiga town square where thousands of Christians worshipped together. After that we went to our son, Michael and Corrin's and had breakfast with them and our five grandchildren. We were house and dog sitting so we went back there for a nap before we joined our family again and went to an expat Christmas gathering and a delicious dinner. We attended two Christmas celebrations on the

27th (Christmas is celebrated until the middle of January here) and returned to Jakarta the 28th.

4:38 a.m. Dec. 25

MINISTRIES – Publishing – Our six volume workbook series on “Rencana Penebusan” (The Scheme of Redemption) is coming along with two volumes ready to print, two more being proofed, and the final two due next month. Four of the press runs are already paid for by LATM in Joplin, Missouri. But now we discover the foundation name we are using needs to have new officers appointed and be reregistered. This is a small problem; the chief disadvantage is it will take time. Do please pray for this. **Worship Services** – There are two we are directly concerned with. The one here at Bukit Indah is just starting. The preaching post in BSD has been in operation for several years. Please pray for growth at Bukit Indah, and for the BSD leaders to share leadership so it can grow into a fully functioning church. **Special Seminars and Events** – We are working toward having four seminars to involve committed Christians not already in other ministries to learn about HIV AIDS and how the people who have these diseases can be helped to overcome the illness, find acceptance in church and be witnessing Christians. These seminars will enable Christians to become involved in a compassionate ministry. The seminars are being conducted by Duane Crumb of HIV Hope, but we have to set them up.

MAILING ADDRESS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS AND/OR PAYPAL. Please remember our mailing address for correspondence and contributions is: **ICM, 870 Vermont Street, Gridley, CA 95948.** We've also made it easy to contribute using **PayPal.** This allows contributions to be made via Mastercard, Visa, and AMEX in an easy and secure way. The link is: <https://www.paypal.com/home> If you click on the link, a payment wizard will appear that walks you through the payment. The transaction will automatically be credited to the ICM account.

PRAYER AND PRAISES:

1. We praise God our land titles are in hand, and thank all of you for your persistent prayers.
2. Thank you to all who contributed to our roof repair; it is done now and no danger of falling on anyone!
3. Please pray for all the ministries listed above, that they all might go smoothly.