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# Indonesian Challenge

July – August, 2017 - Volume 43 Number 4

## Reaching Indonesia for Jesus

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**“Not by might nor by power,  
but by my Spirit says the Lord”  
Zachariah 4:6**

Dear Friends,

**PRESENT WORK** - We have just sent off three sets of the Rencana Penebusan (Scheme of Redemption) workbooks to LATM in Joplin, Missouri who funded the actual printing. Now we must start final proofing on the study book Mark T.E.E. which has just been translated. We are also developing and registering our village teaching program. This is a big project which must be submitted to the National Department of Religion and the National Department of Education. We are also working to complete preparation for three HIVHope seminars in October. Until my leg heals, I'm not going out much so we are having meetings at our house. The preacher and his wife were here last week and we explored some ideas for growing GJKI Victory (Victory Christian Church) which is now meeting in a church building. We have met with Dolvie and Linda, our former secretary, about various aspects of evangelism; they want to start a meeting in their home. This week we are planning to meet with Wiwid and Lea, our former evangelists to Aceh province. We are going to be studying “Gerakan Kelompok Pemuridan” GKP or in English “Church Planting movement” CPM which teaches methods to reach Muslims. Wiwid and Lea have a Sunday morning service in their home and in the afternoons they are helping another church. Lea is teaching some ladies how to be successful in evangelizing. This new study should be very helpful.

**YAYASAN BERITA ANUGERAH** - In Salatiga we completed the work to register the foundation Yayasan Berita Anugerah. As of August 14<sup>th</sup>, the yayasan is a legally registered foundation. Berita Anugerah sponsors our publishing ministry and will sponsor our village leadership training program and many other ministries.

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY PARTY JULY 8** - July began with excitement and joy. On Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup> we had a nine-hour open-house to celebrate our 57<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Although many could not attend, we hosted more than 30 thirty close friends. One family, the Wanmas came on Friday and spent the night. They were from West Papua and we hadn't seen them for ten years so they wanted more time with us to catch up on news. I sang “At Dawning” to Jan which my brother, Tommy sang for us on our wedding day. Hardy and Febe, a young couple, said they cried because it was so romantic! Most of our day was centered in greeting, visiting and just “being” with friends.



**REMEMBERING OUR BEGINNINGS** - The next day July 9<sup>th</sup> we commemorated our first entry to Indonesia 43 years ago. A few pages of writing can but begin to outline the changes in us or in Indonesia these past 43 years have brought. But a few highlights just for fun – Jan insists on a “freezing” temperature in the bedroom of 75 degrees F. while Bob huddles under a sheet, blanket and bedspread. There have been a lot of changes in 43 years; in Boyolali, we didn't even have electricity and our children went down in the well to pump water. We baptized in streams in Central Java; at times our boys helped move rocks in preparation. In Jakarta we use swimming pools. Twenty years ago most Muslim women wore western clothes and no head coverings; now the majority wear head coverings. In Central Java, the villagers studied the Bible to see how early Christians worshipped. In Jakarta there is always comparison with denominations and excuses why

things can't be done. We always use respectful titles talking to everyone. In Indonesia you could actually function using titles without even knowing names.



**IN SALATIGA** - Joy plummeted to deep sorrow when we heard Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, our dear friend, Ira Utary Martono, a beloved professor and preacher's wife in Salatiga ended her struggles with illnesses that turned to lupus. Ira had been in and out of the hospital for six months. We joined quite literally, as in really, hundreds who celebrated her life and upheld her husband and family in their sorrow at parting. Ira Martono was only 43 she left a husband and four children ages 2 to 18. Please pray for her husband Martono and their four children - son, Tio, who is just beginning his studies at Satya Wacana University, daughter Tia just beginning high school, son Teo, fifth grade, and Tobi age two.

**GATHERING OF LONG-TIME FRIENDS AND BOB'S ACCIDENT** - After an emotionally challenging week in Salatiga, we returned in time to welcome local missionary friend, Phil Walker, who brought to us friends from forty years ago in Salatiga, but while helping a little boy climb on to a limb, I managed to lose my balance, ran down a hill backwards and fell hard enough to fracture my left femur, the largest bone in my body (I learned). After 5 days in the hospital, I was sent home with a walker and instructions to put no weight on my left leg for two months. There was a lot more pain and trauma than this sketchy statement suggests, but I sit in my office writing this, feeling good and returning to productivity as well.



#### **PRAYER AND PRAISES:**

##### **Praises:**

1. Yayasan Berita Anugerah is registered.
2. Mark T.E.E. is finished and in final proof reading.
3. 23 year old Daniel Wanma had a successful cornea transplant; continue to pray for complete healing. Daniel's parents taught in our school and lived with us when Daniel was born.

##### **Please Pray For:**

1. Plans for the two Bible studies.
2. ICM finances – salary and pension funds are in arrears, and there is a \$3,300 medical bill on Mastercard.
3. Bob is convalescing from his leg injury but must use a walker five more weeks.
4. ICM nonprofit status.
5. Bukit Property –We continue to entertain many potential property buyers. We place our trust in God and continue in His work.
6. Pak Martono and his four children as they go forward without a wife and mother.
7. HIV Hope seminars in October.

We want to take a moment to say thank you for your faithfulness in prayer and financial support.

Bob & Jan