



Bob and Jan MacLean  
 P.O. Box 162 BMD CPA 15330, Indonesia  
[mackurus@yahoo.com](mailto:mackurus@yahoo.com)  
 SKYPE rcmacca or jklmac1

# Indonesian Challenge

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## Reaching Indonesia for Jesus

Indonesian Christian Mission  
 c/o Scott McMillan  
 870 Vermont Street  
 Gridley, CA 95948  
 530-632-9152  
[reserveaf@comcast.net](mailto:reserveaf@comcast.net)

“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” Rom. 8:28

Dear Friends and Supporters,

March and April were exciting and fulfilling. Here are some of the highlights:

**HIV SEMINARS** - We just finished working with Duane Crumb of HIV Hope. This required much work in contacting people and finding hosts for these seminars. Then we travelled with Duane, seeing that all was ready, translating, and doing whatever was needed from March 31<sup>st</sup> to April 24<sup>th</sup>. He taught two and three all-day seminars in three locations in Central Java, one in Serpong, Jakarta, and one in Medan, Sumatra. He also had a one-day seminar at a Bible College in Jakarta and one at our house on Saturday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>, and a meeting with a general who wants him to teach the army next year. These seminars were limited to 20 people who want to minister to and in some cases were ministering to HIV infected people. Each person attending had to participate in group discussions and work on a project



that could be used in ministry. There were t-shirt designs, poems, skits, and songs. At the end of the seminar, Duane presented each participant with a beautiful certificate. These seminars really opened our eyes to the need of Christians to understand the HIV disease, and to learn how to love and give hope to those infected and bring them into the body of Christ. Duane was surprised at how little people know about HIV in a country with millions infected with the disease. We will continue to build local chapters of HIV Hope. This is a ministry of teaching and helping the church universal (not limited to our own smaller circle of congregations) to develop ministries that will both help people living with HIV and develop an appreciation for participating in Christian compassionate ministry to demonstrate the love of God to all mankind in the larger unsaved community. There is a real need here. Statistics are not adequate because the majority religious population here doesn't want to admit their people have this problem. In Central Java, a young woman shared with Duane and then with the group that her husband died 30 days before with Aids. His family has not told anyone what killed him because they were ashamed. A Muslim lady, government official, attended one of the seminars because she is ministering to the HIV community.



HIV Seminar for evangelists and church workers



Pearl Foundation, Salatiga

### BOOK TRANSLATION AND PRINTING MINISTRY

We are just now ready to print all six volumes of the study series on Rencana Penebusan (The Scheme of Redemption). We are starting to translate a TEE formatted study book on the Gospel of Mark. We have also started a comic/pictorial commentary on the book of Acts. We have one translator planning to start a Master's degree in Theology this August. Printing of these books will continue to be paid for by LATM in Joplin, MO. We are in the process of calling a brilliant, dedicated Christian young lady to do translating. She is already working on the Book of Acts translation. We will place new emphasis on distribution and sales of all books. Minimum press runs dictate printing more books than we can use in our own direct ministries.

**BUKIT PROPERTY** is now up for sale. It has been used for ministry, a Bible College, church plants, housing for eight families, and now that the title has been granted, it is time to move on. There is now a small mosque in front of our front wall, ministry opportunities are more limited at this location now. We will have an Ascension Day service here May 5. The income from this property will help provide the means for our publication ministry, for Seth and Dina's move, and a retirement fund.

**FURLOUGH PLANS** Bob and Jan will furlough for deputation in July or August with two specific goals in mind:

1. To call at least two new families to join this mission.
2. Enhance the financial support of fellow workers. While ICM board member, Travis Dahms, was here in December, he worked out an "ideal" budget for the new missionaries we want to call which is a modest \$3,126.00 a month.

**AROUND OUR NEIGHBORHOOD:** On April 21, Indonesian schools celebrated Hari Kartini (Kartini Day). Raden Adjeng Kartini was a Javanese princess born in 1879 in Jepara, Central Java. She helped free women from oppression. Indonesian girls and women, all religions, have opportunities to go to school, become doctors, teachers, lawyers, judges; they can pursue their dreams. Elementary, Junior High, and High School



students dress up to celebrate the day. In the photos we can see different islands represented, boys in classic batik shirts, and girls dressed like princesses. The two little girls on the left are our Indonesian granddaughters, Tias and Tari.



On April 28, we walked two blocks to the volleyball court which was transformed into a "palace" for a wedding reception. This was done by erecting a large blue tent and decorating with many flowers. Here we are with the bride and groom, Teguh Prasetia and Ita Rosita and their parents. After greeting them, we enjoyed a buffet lunch with the other guests. The whole neighborhood was invited and guests paid their respects any time from 10 a.m. until evening. There was a box for guests to place their "envelopes" to help the parents pay for the celebration.

### **PRAISES:**

1. HIV-Hope Seminars opened the eyes of many Christians to begin showing the love of Jesus to people infected with HIV.
2. Six-volume workbook series "Rencana Penebusan" (The Scheme of Redemptions) is ready to print.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

1. Pray for fellow workers as they look for housing in Central Java to begin a new ministry
2. Monthly giving is still running behind, but in spite of our little faith, our dear friends and supporters always come through with enough to cover our salary and ministry needs.
3. Continue to pray for evangelists in Jakarta, Central Java, and East Java.
4. Please pray that we have patience to wait for the right buyer for the property here.