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Indonesian Challenge

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Reaching Indonesia For Jesus

"BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE LORD" Job 1:21

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Greetings to you all; we wish you a very Blessed Christmas



THANKSGIVING – We pray you all had a good time celebrating all your blessings with your families. We celebrated with our brothers and sisters in Christ and our Muslim workers. There were 19 adults and 9 small children. We had baked, stuffed chickens instead of turkey. Otherwise we had a very typical “American” Thanksgiving meal except for the hot sauce on each table! Two of three tables are shown here.

SELAMAT HARI NATAL – (Merry Christmas). We attended our first “Natalan” (Christmas worship service and celebration) last night, December 4, at our Indonesian sponsor’s Bible College. It started with a duet singing “White Christmas” in English. Indonesians really like this song and it’s on all Christmas CDs. We did sing “Go Tell it on the Mountain” in Indonesian. We had a candle lighting ceremony during the singing of “Oh Holy Night”. There were several good dramas by the students. “Jingle Bells” was sung during the offering. The service, including a meal afterwards, lasted 3 ½ hours.



NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE MISSION

We are proofing books 4, 5, & 6 for the six workbook series for Rencana Penebusan (The Scheme of Redemption). We want to take final copies to the National Library to get ISBN’s (International Standard Book Number) before the Christmas break when the government shuts down for a ten-day Christmas-New Year’s holiday. Then they will be ready print.

We have set in motion the plans for several seminars to teach Christians how to help people with HIV/AIDS. We will do the planning meetings in Salatiga next week for April 2016 seminars. This is an important issue for Christians to both help with and prevent further infections. An American nurse working in Jakarta once told me they expect Jakarta to become the aids capital of the world. True or not, this suggests how serious it is.

For some years I have been corresponding with a Christian woman in a southern state of America who feels God has put on her heart the need to help sex-trafficked women and girls in Indonesia. She is already working with trafficked women in the USA, but feels God wants her in Indonesia. Next spring she and her husband are coming to explore ministry opportunities. We already have a few Indonesian women doing this and they are eager for her visit.

Some long-time friends are working with us to reinstitute the regular neighborhood prayer meeting we once had shifting from home to home and drawing Christians from the whole 1200 home subdivision of Bukit Indah.

Today our secretary, Linda, brought home the receipts to claim the three land titles when they are completed. It’s beginning to look like this 26 year-old ordeal will end soon.

PREACHING IN JELOK



On Sunday, November 8, at 7 a.m. Bob was privileged to preach at Jelok Christian Church, one of the first churches we helped start in 1976. This is where Pak Tarto, preached until he went home to glory October 9, 2015. The ladies on the right are serving us breakfast after the service in Pak Tarto's home where his sons, Supriyanto and Widhia Purnawan now live.



CONDOLENCES - Friday, November 27, Dolvie Kaligis, our secretary Linda's husband, made an emergency trip to Manado to be with his father in the hospital. He was able to be with him through the night until his father was called to be with the Lord Saturday afternoon. His father had spent six weeks with Dolvie and Linda in September and October. Thursday, December 3rd, Linda received word that her cousin in Central Java had been in a motorcycle accident; he died December 4th. Sunday, December 6, we visited our neighbor to offer our condolences to a young couple who lost their three-year-old daughter. The child was admitted to the hospital because of a high fever and measles. She was getting well and they were planning to take her home the next day planning to celebrate her third birthday. She died in her mother's arms while still at the hospital. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to these families. Dolvie's father was Christian, the cousin was Hindu, and our neighbors are Muslim. Please pray for these families.

COMING EVENTS: Preaching in Kopeng - On December 13 we will be in the mountains above Salatiga in the town of Kopeng. Bob will be preaching at Kopeng Christian Church for their Natalan.

Women's Area Celebration – Jan will be attending the Central Java Christmas celebration on December 17 in Jogjakarta, Central Java. Hundreds of ladies will be in attendance from the Central Java churches.

A Special Wedding – December 20 and 21 we will be attending the wedding ceremony and receptions, for Supriyanto and Vanti, first in Salatiga and then in Boyolali. Supri is 43 years old, the son of Pak Tarto, the village preacher who died October 9th. Pak Tarto had been praying for Supri to find a wife for many years.

December 24th and 25th - We will be celebrating with thousands of Salatiga Christians in the town square 5 a.m. Christmas morning and then with our son, Michael's family later in the morning.

PRAISES AND PRAYER NEEDS:

1. Thank you Westfield Christian Church for your love offering of \$800 to help repair the front roof. We need about \$1,200 more for this project.
2. Land taxes are paid and the documents are in the land office. Please pray there will be no more delays.
3. We are thankful for all our faithful Christian friends here and in the U.S.
4. Please pray for evangelists, preachers, and Christians as they prepare for their "Natalans" (Christmas services), that they might glorify God, and reach out to non-believers.