



# connection

Newsletter of Go Ye Fellowship Fall/Winter 2016 • Vol. 15/No.2 "Go Ye into all the world" Matt. 28:19

## New Name, Same Focus: The Great Commission GlobalGrace FELLOWSHIP

**"Go Ye... is that Chinese?"** responded some college students when I told them the name of our organization. The Old English "Ye" sounded Chinese to these students. However, if I said *"Ngohdeih yiu heui saai gaai chyun fukyam,"* you might have no idea what I was saying, but a Cantonese believer would light up, knowing that those words mean "Go into all the world and preach the Good News of Jesus."

And if I quoted a passage from Chaucer memorized in high school,  
*Whan that Aprill with his shoures soote,  
The droghte of March hath perced to the roote,  
And bathed every veyne in swich licour...*  
you might wonder what in the world I was babbling about.

Today "go ye" sounds as archaic and incomprehensible as Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. "Go Ye into all the world" touches the hearts of people who grew up with King James Bibles. And many Psalms or hymns in King James English are beautiful. But to younger people they may sound more like a foreign language.

Our board, staff, and missionaries have had many discussions about changing our name to communicate our vision to the current generation while still affirming Go Ye's rich history. In September, after much deliberation and prayer, we agreed on **GlobalGrace Fellowship**. This new name carries much of what Go Ye Fellowship suggests – a fellowship of people committed to carrying the gospel of grace to all peoples.

**"Global"** highlights our commitment to work toward going to **all** peoples globally.

**"Grace"** is the heart of our message – God's incredible, costly, contrary-to-what-we-deserve favor.

**"Fellowship"** represents a band of people committed together to Christ's global mission.

**We are building on the long legacy of Go Ye Fellowship.** Since 1932, the name Go Ye Fellowship has gone into more than 40 countries. Many have been eternally impacted under this banner. Great missionaries have carried that name and advanced Christ's Kingdom.

*Continued on page 6*

## "Come Away"

*The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves.*

*Mark 6:30-32*

I love this! Jesus cares for his disciples and takes them away from the crowds to a place of refuge to rest.

Missionaries are often living in another culture surrounded by needs. Over time they can become drained and need to *come away* to rest and be refilled.

Knowing this, GYF enables our missionaries to *come away* for a one-week retreat every five years. During the summer of 2017, as we celebrate our 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we will meet again at Pine Summit in Big Bear, CA.

Missionaries from all corners of the globe will slow down together and be recharged through a week of good Bible teaching, fellowship with like-minded people, debriefing with a member care professional, relevant group discussions, and by receiving personal prayer as well as quiet times of reflection with the Lord. And their children and teens will again get to take part in a fun, age appropriate program designed just for them!

Please pray for your missionaries, that God would open up that time for them to attend and for the means to be able to travel to the States next summer.



# Opportunity in the Philippines:

## Philippine Outreach Gets "Technical"

**F**or three years we prayed and sought God's direction for *Great Commission Missionary Training Center*, and the Lord showed us His new vision for the Center. It is to open our doors and expand ministry to the Out-of-School-Youth and Persons-with-Disability community in our area by starting a trade and technical school program in partnership with the Philippine government trade program, TESDA. This program provides accreditation to trade skills such as culinary arts, baking, hotel and restaurant services, arc welding, metal and wood machining, massage therapy, and plumbing, among others.

**More exciting is that this program is a great evangelistic opportunity for us and the local churches in our area.**

Every time we teach a trade skill, we devote 3 hours for skill training, 30 minutes for financial literacy, and 30 minutes for spiritual development. The spiritual development portion of the training is actually part of the Philippine government's Moral Recovery Program. We are all excited to work on this program. In fact, some of our staff have also taken a trade skill course themselves so that they could be our instructors in the future.

### Livelihood and Skills Training program:

We have held two six-week *Massage Therapy* sessions. A total of 21 people graduated from this course, and of these 14 came to know Jesus through the program. These new believers are being followed up by volunteer staff through Bible study.



*Massage Therapy graduates and staff*

In our partnership with the nearby drug rehab facility, 25 residents completed the *Plumbing and Scaffolding* course. An additional 20 drug rehab patients are taking the second Plumbing and Scaffolding course. We have also conducted the financial literacy and spiritual foundations course with them.



*Plumbing & Scaffolding*

### Looking for a mission opportunity in the Philippines next year?

*We could accommodate your small group who can do carpentry, welding, painting or plumbing. Your group could do renovations in our school or teach basic welding, painting or plumbing.*

### Please Pray:

1. Pray for God's favor on all of our students.
2. Pray for partners willing to invest in this program, particularly to build/set up our laboratories. We hope to build a welding and machine shop laboratory and a kitchen facility for culinary arts and repaint the whole building by next year.
3. Pray as we seek accreditation with the TESDA office as an authorized center for livelihood training.
4. Thirty Filipino pastors in Mindanao (a predominantly Muslim region) are requesting pastoral training seminars on preaching, financial literacy, and marital health. We hope to begin preparations in the next few months and run this program in February 2017.
5. After years of difficulty, Jason's voice has partially recovered. He is now able to take speaking invitations; however, by the end of the session, his voice is strained and his throat hurts. So he can only take limited speaking invitations or once-a-week teaching assignments.

We are grateful for you as you faithfully uphold us in prayer.

***Jason and Donna Tan, GYF missionaries in the Philippines***





## Teamwork for His Glory

God often brings about His Kingdom goals through missionaries working as a team. Go Ye has several missionaries in such team settings. By far our largest team effort is the *Isaiah 55 Ministry* in Reynosa, Mexico. The core of the ministry is two schools for deaf children, one traditional and one vocational – but there is so much more! During the summer months, Isaiah 55 hosts several large short-term teams from various US churches, often doing construction projects and Bible camps for kids. They also have sports ministries as well as various practical outreaches to the surrounding community. Go Ye just added to our fellowship two more men who are joining Isaiah 55, and we want to introduce them.



Mario & family

**Mario Xoca** and his wife Keila have been living in Reynosa, Mexico for 17 years. They have two teenage children. As a young 18 year old finishing high school, Mario was “looking for something” that would give meaning to his life. He prayed every day and started to read his Bible, but could not understand it. When he met Keila and she shared the Gospel with him, Mario finally knew what that “something” was. He accepted Jesus as Lord, and was baptized. Mario has served in several churches in the Reynosa area. As a bi-vocational pastor, he has a passion for sharing the Gospel and leads Bible studies three or four evenings a week. Eventually, Mario and Keila started a church in their home which soon reached 50-60 adults and 25 children.

Two years ago, Mario started leading VBS with Isaiah 55, and the relationship grew. Now he has been asked to serve as the full-time pastor of the Isaiah 55 ministry, leading the staff and teachers in devotions, Bible study, and worship. Using his many years of experience as an engineer, he will also play a key role in further developing the vocational and production ministries in Aquiles Serdán, the impoverished neighborhood where Isaiah 55 is working. In the evenings, Mario will continue ministry with his local church fellowship.

**Please pray for Mario and Keila** in their new roles with the ministry. Mario is a very hard worker and we do not want him to over-extend himself. Pray that the love of Jesus will naturally overflow on those God brings his way. Also, pray for Mario and Keila as they trust God for the much-needed financial support for their family as they serve.

**Carlos Gutierrez** grew up near the U.S. and Mexican border. He was raised in a Christian environment and his grandfather was a pastor, but Carlos did not know Jesus in a personal way until age 28. He had been seeking a purpose for his life, and five years ago God led him to find this purpose – to proclaim God’s Kingdom, especially in the realm of education. An invitation by his cousin Mario Xoca led Carlos to take a look at the Isaiah 55 ministry in Reynosa. He saw this as an opportunity to work with deaf youth to bring them to relationship with Christ. What Carlos did not initially see was an opportunity to bring him into a relationship with a young lady as well....

At Isaiah 55, Carlos met Go Ye missionary **Erin Knobloch**, and in God’s providence the two married this past July. Several people had encouraged Carlos to pursue the relationship, including Mario’s mother-in-law (thank the Lord for mothers).

Carlos has begun his role of creating/consolidating a Gospel-centered curriculum and also providing Biblical training in Spanish for the deaf and hearing teachers so that they, in turn, can teach the deaf students. Erin has been working in Mexico for thirteen years. She continues to be heavily involved in the administration and vision of the ministry and has begun to shift into a more advisory role, allowing the newer missionaries plenty of hands-on opportunities.

**Pray for Carlos and Erin** as they adjust to married life and also as they fit in as a couple now with the Isaiah 55 missionary family. Finally, pray for Carlos to make new friends as he continues to adapt to life and ministry in Reynosa.



Carlos & Erin

## Our Cup Overflows!

### Good News from Brazil

**We** wish you could have been here to see the excitement with God at work in hearts and lives. 135 kids came to our Vacation Bible School. We ended with distribution of Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes from Samaritan's Purse, and, as the Gospel was shared, many of the kids gave their lives to Christ.

Then we started the **Greatest Journey Discipleship Course**. It's a 12-week course presenting the Gospel, how to grow in Christ, and how to share Christ with friends. We added six new classes just for the number of kids that came. PTL! Please cover these children in your prayers that their parents will bring them to church and that parents will want to stay and learn from God's Word and be saved.



### FIRE!

*In the last Connection we requested help for the Warkentians to repair their home. Thank you, Go Ye Family, for your generous response!*

**Our burnt house is being fixed, and we praise God for all that have generously helped us.** We praise God for protecting us from electrocution!

Many of our **Light of Life** students have written this month that they had prayed

to receive Christ while studying their lessons. Some have written from prison stating how pleased they are to be able to study the Bible courses and learn about God. Free Bible courses come to them as God's answer to their prayers. God bless you so very much for helping to change lives in Brazil through your support for the Light of Life Bible Courses!

Kingdom Builders with You,

**Phil and Rita Warkentien**  
Go Ye Missionaries

As part of his GYF service, Phil is on the Samaritan's Purse Leadership Team for Brazil



## We Can Do What We Do Because of You

**B**efore we joined Go Ye Fellowship (soon to become GlobalGrace Fellowship) I wondered how the Mission Operating Fund (MOF) donations and offerings were used. Let me share with you what I was blessed to learn.

**Your gifts to the MOF help to support the home office staff** that prepares our missionaries to get to the field, answering their questions, facilitating training and fundraising, and taking a personal interest in their lives. These gifts allow us to provide a 501(c)3 covering, keep records of all monies sent to missionaries, and provide tax deductible receipts to donors. The home office staff helps with communications, missionary care, and sending out prayer letters.

**MOF gifts also enable GGF leaders to visit our missionaries** and their ministries on the field. This helps us understand how life is going for them, and where we can come alongside to advise, encourage and support them.



*Jose Rodriguez and John Dunckel meet with pastors in training in Tanzania.*

**Every five years, we sponsor a Family Reunion for our missionaries** (see page 1). Gifts to the MOF provide for the conference center and speakers.

**Our missionaries frequently tell us they are grateful for a home office support team that cares about them and knows them personally. They like that we are not just a sending agency but a ministry that treats them like family and helps them answer God's call for their lives.**

We appreciate so very much your prayers and support of your GYF/GGF missionaries, the home office staff, and the missionary care team! We couldn't do it without you.

Love and Blessings,

**Sandy Rodriguez**  
(Wife of Int'l Field Director,  
Jose Rodriguez)

*Sandy holds on tight while crossing a river with GYF missionaries in Indonesia.*





## We are a Fellowship!

In the lean years of the Thirties, while the nation was experiencing economic collapse, a Sunday school class in Los Angeles began praying for unreached peoples, then pooling any spare change to send their own members to the uttermost parts. They called themselves the **Go-Ye Fellowship** – and that's how we began.



### Fellowship...

Synonyms:

- communion,
- companionship,
- camaraderie,
- comradeship,
- friendship,
- partnership,
- mutuality...

*Yes, we really are a fellowship!*

We are a full service missionary sending organization – and we are more than that. We are here for missionaries who need our administrative services, but we also know and love all our missionaries, pray for them, visit them, and serve them with a personal touch, treating them like family.

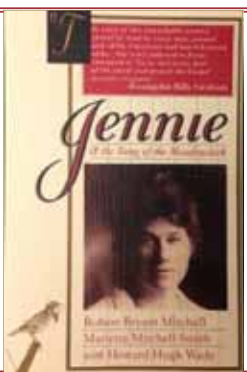
**Virginia Bentson** is one of our longtime missionary “family” members. For 62 years she served in Argentina and Bolivia. Following the death of her first husband, Virginia continued in missionary service, and the Lord brought her together with a Go Ye missionary widower, Keith Bentson. When Keith passed away in 2005, Virginia continued in ministry to women. Now in her eighties, she has recently returned to the US to be near some of her family. She continues to reach out in her retirement to those that God puts in her path.

*Doreen, former Office Manager, and Stephanie, Candidate Secretary, had the opportunity to fellowship with Virginia recently and enjoyed home-cooked lasagna in her lovely Minnesota apartment.*



**First as Go-Ye... now as GlobalGrace... always a fellowship.**

***“Jennie & the Song of the Meadowlark”*** is the engaging story of our founders and our beginnings as Go Ye Fellowship. It's a delightful missionary biography. You may use the enclosed response form to request a free copy.



## New Name, Same Focus

*continued from page 1*

***Our name is changing, but not our purpose, identity, or history.*** Founders Andrew and Jennie Mitchell powerfully modeled what we will continue to do under our new name as many new missionaries go out under this new banner to take the glorious Good News of Jesus to a lost world.

In reading Go Ye's history I've been impressed that our very first missionaries went to the most difficult places and the most unreached peoples on earth. We want to build on that legacy and send more missionaries to the last unreached and unengaged people groups. Our video of Andrew and Jennie and the history of Go Ye Fellowship will continue on our website. We would be happy to send our book, ***Jennie & the Song of the Meadowlark***, the story of our founders and the early days of Go Ye Fellowship.

**Please pray with us** that through GlobalGrace Fellowship, many new missionaries will be raised up to go to Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, animists, and atheists with the Gospel of our Lord and Savior. May His name be glorified as workers are thrust out into the harvest fields!

Laborers Together for the King and the Kingdom!

**Larry Phillips, Executive Director**

### Note:

Please continue to make your donations to “Go Ye Fellowship” through December 2016. This will allow us time to make the transition to GlobalGrace Fellowship official with gov't agencies, our bank, etc. **Thank you!**

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#### Gifts to Go Ye Fellowship,

a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, are tax deductible.

#### Go Ye Donations Online

You can make a donation to Go Ye Fellowship online. Visit [www.goyefellowship.org](http://www.goyefellowship.org). Click on Donate Now.

***We thank you for your partnership in this missionary endeavor.***

Enclosed is my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ For the ministry of a missionary highlighted in this Connection:  
(or other missionary) Name \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ For Go Ye's Mission Operating Fund  
(See "We Can Do What We Do Because of You.") \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Family Reunion travel gift for \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Free copy of "Jennie" book (\$3 suggested to cover shipping) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street (or P.O. Box) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email or Phone \_\_\_\_\_ New address? ☐

• Go Ye Fellowship, PO Box 539, Monrovia CA 91017-0539 •

***Thank you for your partnership***

Go Ye Fellowship (GYF) considers your gift toward our work a sacred trust. All gifts to GYF, a registered 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, are tax deductible, except those which tax laws specifically exclude, such as personal gifts for birthdays, etc. Gifts to GYF will be used to further our purpose, which is the fulfilling of the Great Commission. Donors may indicate a preference to support the work of a specific missionary. GYF will also honor any donor restrictions on gifts to a specific GYF-approved project. However, donors must understand that while every effort will be made to apply your gift according to an indicated preference or restriction, any donations, according to IRS requirements, are under the full discretion and control of GYF. You will receive a tax deductible receipt for your gifts to GYF.

**PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO GO YE FELLOWSHIP**

(Checks made payable to individual missionaries are not tax-deductible.)

