



## UPDATE FROM OUR MISSIONARIES

JANUARY 2018

### Gil and Norene Zinke -Training Leaders International

Updates: Gil returned safely from Ethiopia the day before Thanksgiving with a renewed sense of the importance of TLI's work there.

Prayer Requests: January 15-17 Gil will be in Minneapolis at the Bethlehem Conference for pastors and church leaders. January 18-February 5 he will be training in Mindanao, Philippines with a visit to Japan on the way back. Pray for these upcoming events.

### John and Elaine Mehn-Japan

#### Prayer Requests:

These are the upcoming events John will be involved in:

- CPI Grace week intensive Gospel renewal training in February and May. John and Elaine are both teaching and providing spiritual mentoring
- Over 7 CPI regional equipping seminars in over 6 cities throughout the year
- Partnering with the Rengo, alongside Converge Japan, doing outreach and teaching ministries
- More partnering within Ease Asia regional network for church planting effectiveness
- Preparing for a large national gathering Church Multiplication Vision Festa in September

### Seth and Laura O'Day - Home assignment

Updates: The O'Days report that school began in Manila this week. As Faith Academy begins second semester, they begin the second half of their home assignment.

Prayer Requests: Pray for the opportunities they will have to tell their stories about God's work in the lives of missionary kids and other students. Pray for continuing new or increased partnership commitments. They needed \$2200 per month and have currently raised \$800 of that amount.

### Dan and Laura Swanson-Missionary Aviation-Ethnos 360

Prayer Requests: Dan's job has required extended hours at work and he needs prayer for the strength and stamina to do a good job. Laura needs continued prayer for her health. Dan will be representing Ethnos Aviation at a missions conference in Portland, Oregon the weekend of January 19<sup>th</sup>. In February he will go to the headquarters in Arizona for a weekend to help out with a large Open House. This will involve giving flights to people and information about the mission. Pray that God will open the door to make a deputation trip to Elk Grove and Arizona this summer. Laura's health would need to be stable to take such a trip and the mission would need to give Dan the time off of work.

### Derek and Lacey Joseph-Pioneers, East Asia

Updates: Lacey organized a Christmas get-together for their church. She has finished her fall semester of part-time teaching. Derek has taught several "Theology Times" for a group of newer M's. They spent New Year's Eve studying with them. New teammates are arriving on Friday January 12<sup>th</sup>. They are new to the organization and new to the country. This will involve a lot of transition for everyone.

Praises. Jackie remains a source of joy as she shows her faith. Milk has continued to grow in her love of Christ and his word through the Skype study in Romans. Harriet attended a Christmas

performance and heard a gospel presentation. Pray it will take root. Praise God for sustaining the Josephs for the six years they have lived in their country.

Prayer Requests: Pray that the Uyghur believing friends would become church members-either of existing churches or one the Josephs start. May the friends continue to grow in the faith or become Christians. That Derek and Lacey would live for God's glory in all things.

#### Ken and Deb Hall-iTee Global

Updates: The Halls had a joyful Christmas season. The family all got to visit with one another at some point. This included their son, Benjamin (an officer in the army) daughter Anna, a nursing student at Berea College, and son, Jason, who works and lives near them.

Prayer Requests: One of Ken's major efforts right now is to help plan a training consultation in Nairobi, Kenya, hopefully in February. Ken wants to dialogue with their core of trained facilitators so that they will catch the vision of carrying the Biblical and discipleship training to the next generation. Pray they will connect with the leaders of God's choice for this key event. Pray for a small discipleship group in Lusaka which is showing interest in the training. Continue praying for long term peace in Kenya. Pray that the government and the opposition will work together on issues that are dividing the nation. The new Moodle online learning system is up and running. Pray for the technical team to make good headway in the remaining work and for the need for funding. Pray for Deb as she works at the pregnancy center. Jason has been facing a difficult situation with his housemates. Benjamin began a 23 day of Special Forces selection training on Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>. He needs prayer for physical strength, good weather, and for God's grace in his personality skills. Anna begins her final semester in her nursing program and needs physical endurance as she does weekly 12-hour shifts at the hospital and manages her three classes.