



*Bringing the Good News of Jesus to the unreached in SE ASIA*

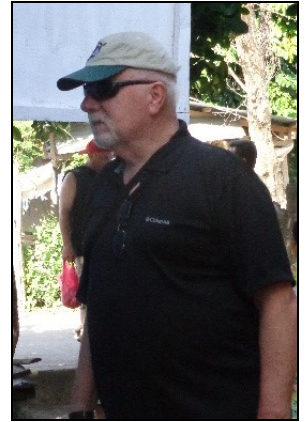
## John Ricards / President's Corner

Feb-March trip

I heard another missionary once describe his progress as “plodding”. Meaning that the constraints associated with working in another culture impede the forward progress that usually accompanies hard work and dedication to the task. That has been the case with our work among the Indigenous tribes on Mindanao. Slow going most of the time. Recent visits to tribal churches, however, showed me that progress is, indeed, being made.

In the Subanen village of La Victoria, where we conducted a medical outreach on March 2, The pastor reported that a 500 peso grant given him just last year for development of a home garden enterprise had over the twelve months increased through market sales to 15,000 pesos! Wonderful news!

Likewise, one of our first permanent church buildings in the village of Baking had a badly deteriorated roof. The couple that pastors the church contacted us and asked if we, as a mission, could help them with restoration. We have been seriously cutting back on church maintenance projects lately, believing that each local church and its members should shoulder these responsibilities. When our team arrived at their place in early March to make an inspection, we were delighted to see that the congregation had responded by completely replacing the framing and metal sheets on their own, and the project was nearly complete! Wonderful news!



## Missionary At-Large, Bob Jensen

By John Ricards

Bob Jensen and I “grew up” together in our faith. We met in the early 1970s, with very similar backgrounds, attending the same small church in Hood River, Oregon. We bonded immediately, and have been close friends ever since.

A few years ago, Bob started making short-term visits to the Philippines through MCN. The nature of the work (helping people in need) really appealed to Bob, and soon he was making one or two trips a year to the field. This led to his acceptance as an MCN missionary, which lent credibility to his fund raising efforts.

Bob has found a unique way to interest others in the work of MCN, and raise the funds needed for these many trips. Carrot cakes and gourmet dinners at his home! He and Nancy invite dozens of friends and co-workers to these events. Bob shows off his culinary skills while raising hundreds of dollars in voluntary offerings from his guests. Having recently retired from Chrysler Corp, Bob is making himself even more available for trips to the Philippines, as the needs arise.

## Opportunities to Encourage

By Janice Tompkins

This past summer I had the opportunity to visit the six MCN missionaries (left) serving the Lord in Sumatra, the least evangelized island of the world. Each of them have labored hard for years to bring the love of Jesus to the Muslims there.

They were all in need of encouragement. Thus, I made it my purpose to spend a good amount of time with each of them. The last week we studied together on "The Armor of God" giving them tools for the spiritual warfare they continually face.

Then this last February and March I, along with MCN board member, John April, was able to visit and encourage MCN missionaries in Cambodia. The Gene C. family \*(left) live in the extreme north bringing the Gospel to the unreached Lao-tian people that have migrated there. After years of perseverance and experiencing great resistance to the Gospel, they now have a home church (right) and outreaches in two other villages. Visitors are very rare, so they deeply appreciated our visit. We then went on to Phnom Penh to visit with the Floyd Y. family\* and their ministry. They run an orphanage and oversee a village outreach (right) and a church. What a joy it was to be with both of these precious families, to have the opportunity to see their excellent work, and offer some needed encouragement. Below is a precious testimony.



## The Gospel came in time for Chanthlai

I first heard Chanthlai's story from Gene C (mentioned above). Chanthlai came to their house when she was 12 years old. She wanted to study English. After attending English classes for a few weeks, she began attending their Sunday School. At age 13, she was one of the children who accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior. At 14, she began attending their worship services for the adults. When Gene started an outreach in another town, Chanthlai was actively involved in teaching songs to the children. Last September 28th, she contracted an illness. Her mother brought her to a hospital but she died two days later. At 15, she became the first soul from their village known to go and be with the Lord.

## Shining their light

MCN has strategically placed missionaries, who call the Philippines their home, all over Southeast Asia. These dedicated servants of the Lord are bringing the light of Jesus into Muslim and Buddhist background people groups, where no one is standing in line to go! Though loneliness, frustrations, misunderstanding, worry for personal safety and a host of other challenges often plague them; they have resolutely stayed the course. In some areas there has been tremendous breakthrough. In other areas it has been the hard work of "clearing the field" to prepare it for "planting."

**These Filipino missionaries are worthy of your support. I challenge you, if you are not able to go into these areas, to consider supporting one to represent you!**



**Go to [mcni.org](http://mcni.org) Ten 40 Go workers  
\*All names withheld to protect the workers on the field.**



# TRIBAL CHILDREN'S LITERACY PROGRAM (TCLP)

## Byron and Joy

There has been a sense of fear and a feeling of uncertainty at Mt. Zion and the surrounding area the past couple of months. Continuous fighting between the New People's Army (NPA) and the Philippine military in the area surrounding Mt. Zion and its nearby towns is on-going. Heavy artillery and exchanges of gunfire have been heard in the middle of the

night which has kept the children in TCLP and their parents awake and in fear for their lives.

Because of this, some of the children in the TCLP and their families have evacuated and moved to other areas which they feel are more safe for the present. Thus, several of the kids in our program have been forced to abandon school. However, many are also choosing to stay so that their children can continue going to school.

In spite of this turmoil and uncertainty, God continues to reign at Mt. Zion. The kids still love going to school and continue to hangout at the playground on the campus. They love attending Kids Klub on Saturdays and church services on Sundays with their families.

Please pray for peace and order at Mt. Zion and its neighboring areas. Fighting has slowed down a bit but it can flare up at any time. Please pray for the Lord to protect our staff at Mt. Zion, the children in our program, and their parents and other relatives.



Let the little ones come to Me! Thanks to the faithful sponsors of the **Tribal Children's Literacy Program** thousands of tribal children and their families have come to Jesus over the last 25 years of the program's existence. To God be the glory for the great things He has done!!

## A Word From the New Guy

By Justin Allen

### 30 Years of Vision 30 Years of God's Faithfulness



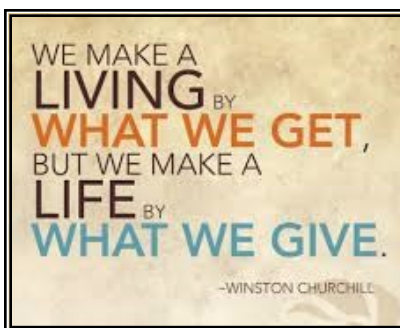
February 12th was the anniversary of the passing of MCN founder Roger Tompkins. Roger played a significant role in my life. He allowed me to travel with him to the Philippines. At the time I was just a young single guy who was still new in the Lord. He helped to introduce me to the idea that I might be used by God in ministry. He was there when I was courting my wife. He helped me and advised me in my ignorance of Filipino culture, and thus played a significant role in our love story. I have him to

thank for some of the best things in my life today. I have a great love and respect for our dear brother Roger. As I learn the workings of MCN I'm constantly amazed at what God did through Roger's leadership. In 1987, God gave Roger and Janice Tompkins a vision for a movement in global missions with Filipinos playing a central role. I marvel as I grow in my understanding and appreciation of the vision that God gave Roger for MCN.

At the time of Roger's death there were 35 tribal churches in as many villages (TGF)...there was a Bible School/ agricultural enterprise training young tribal Christians in the pastoral ministry (MMTTS), a children's literacy program with more than 100 children enrolled (TCLP), nearly a dozen Filipino missionaries in our care (10-40 GO), and a relief/development organization (RTP) helping hundreds of needy Filipinos. All this being moved along by administrative offices both in the U.S., and in the Philippines.

Several times in the Bible, God gave one leader a vision that was then fulfilled by a successor. For instance, God gave Moses the vision for taking the Israelites into the Promised Land, but it was not completed until Joshua. Another example is the building of the Temple in Jerusalem. God gave David the vision for a permanent dwelling for the Ark of the Covenant, but it was not fulfilled until Solomon was king. God gave Roger a big vision for MCN and we are only beginning to see the fulfillment. A few months ago, during an informal meeting, Janice Tompkins made a statement that affirms this. She sees God growing MCN even more in the future than He did under Roger's amazing leadership.

It is an exciting time for MCN. I have no doubt there will be challenges ahead. *The people who dwell in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large (Numbers 13:28).* But, like Joshua, we are holding to the vision and promises given by God. *Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go (Joshua 1:9).* This is a day of revitalization and new beginnings for MCN. There is a sense of anticipation for what God is going to do next. Please continue to join us on this journey. We are thankful for all of you who contribute to the work of MCN. God is working through your prayers and support to fulfill the vision that started with Roger and Janice 30 years ago.



### Giving...

You can be part of the work of MCN by donating. Do this by sending a check to:

MCN International

PO Box 55938

Portland, OR 97238-5938

Or by going online to [mcni.org](http://mcni.org)

You can communicate with us by calling John at 541-288-3017 or Justin at 503-869-0375, or by emailing [mcni.usa@gmail.com](mailto:mcni.usa@gmail.com)

