



The Seeker

"Seeking the Souls of Men and Pointing Them to Christ"

May 2024

Volume13, Number 4

Dear brethren,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Carolyn and I just recently returned from a 40 day trip to Singapore and Malaysia. In Singapore I had the privilege of speaking at the Eastside church of Christ which is a new congregation in Singapore. I also had the privilege of speaking at chapel at Four Seas Bible College. We were able to bring some books to the students there and also some books for the school library. While in Malaysia we had the privilege of working with 5 congregations. While we were there 3 young men were baptized into Christ. The work in Malaysia is difficult because it is a Muslim nation. The Christians there enjoy some freedoms but it is difficult for non-Muslims in Malaysia. We were strengthened and edified by our brethren there and hope we were able to do the same for them. Our brethren in Singapore and Malaysia gave us funds to bring back to purchase Bibles for Africa. Our thanks to them for their help with these Bibles.

During the months of March and April in Africa IBTM schools and preachers reported 642 baptisms and 186 restored/confessed sins and 9 new congregations started. Our brethren there are doing a great work in spreading the Gospel of Christ. One of the projects that is getting great results is our program to send \$300.00 for each Gospel meeting. These funds are used for fuel, hotels and food for the men going on these Gospel meetings from the preacher schools. It seems that we get reports each month of 8 to 15 baptisms from each meeting. This is a great work which is getting great results! If you would like to sponsor a Gospel meeting in Africa send your funds and we will let you know the results of the meeting when they report to us. Many of the 642 baptisms for March/April were from these meetings.

We are continuing to work on two containers to send to Africa. We now have both containers almost ready to ship. Barry is working on one that will go to Malawi and I am working on one that will go to Kenya. Our thanks to the churches and individuals that have brought boxes of books and clothing to us for these containers.

The Bible in local languages is something that is in great demand in our work in Africa. We are continually seeking to raise funds to purchase Bibles for new converts in Africa that do not have a Bible. These Bibles cost from 12 to 15 dollars each. They are printed by the Bible societies of the African nations. They are the equivalent of the NKJV of the Bible. There is a great need for these Bibles. We reported 642 baptisms in March/April and most of these do not have a Bible. Purchasing 642 Bibles at \$12 each would be \$7,704.00. As you can see the need for Bibles in local languages is a great need and one that is there each month.

We continue to work on raising the needed funds for our mission trip to Africa this year. At this time we have half of the needed funds for this trip. Many of you have helped us in the past and we need your help again. There are 8 of us planning to go on this trip. We will be in Solwezi, Zambia working with the preacher school there and then Livingstone, Zambia. We plan then to fly to Lilongwe, Malawi and finish our trip there. Last year there were 10,000 people there for the Gospel meeting. There are several things that we need to do before the trip. Please consider helping us this year! Make checks to Ronald D. Gilbert-Mission fund and mail to Rock Valley church of Christ, PO Box 49494, Cookeville, TN. 38506 and make for, "Africa trip".

Please continue to keep our work in your prayers and help us as you can to take the Gospel of Christ "into all the world". Ronald D. Gilbert-Director-IBTM

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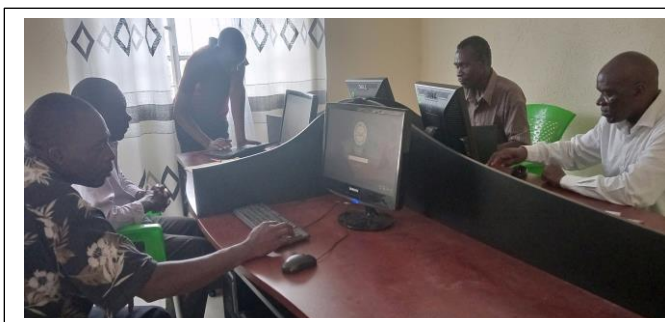
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Malawi Bound

Thanks to all who sent funds for the expenses associated with the shipping crate that we will be sending to Malawi in Africa. We raised our goal of \$12,000 for the shipping expenses and are now in the final stage of gathering the supplies that will be packed on the crate. The container will hold approximately 700 banana boxes of goods. Congregations and individuals are donating clothing and other important needs that have been identified and these will be distributed once the container arrives at its destination in Lilongwe, Malawi. We are also sending on this crate several thousand English Bibles and New Testaments, Bible tracts, Bible correspondence courses and religious books to help build the libraries of the African preaching schools that International Bible Teaching Ministries and good brethren support.

In addition to the English Bibles already purchased, we are asking brethren to help purchase Bibles in the local languages of the brethren in Africa. Though many do read and speak English, there is a segment of the population, especially older Africans, who only understand their own local languages, so these Bibles will be extremely helpful when working with these potential converts. If you would like to assist with this special need, please send your contribution and let us know that it is being given to buy Bibles in the local languages for Africa. **Barry Gilreath**

SSOBS-Instructors getting training on computers



12 baptisms-Zambia April



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Websites

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Things You Helped to Accomplish

Baptisms.....	46,569
Restored/confessed sins.....	42,587
New congregations started.....	833
ICOTB students.....	556
Preachers to graduate.....	878