

Keeping you
praying for
and informed
about GMI

Kennedy Simtowe. On August 12, the world lost a powerful evangelist, a church-planting pioneer, a wonderful husband and father, and a mentor and friend to many. Kennedy Simtowe, one of Grace Ministries International's team members in Africa, had traveled to western Tanzania to help and encourage church leaders when he felt ill, went to the hospital, and went home to be with the Lord shortly thereafter. Many around the world will miss this giant of the faith—a fearless ambassador for the gospel of the grace of God whose ministry impacted countries such as Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Mozambique. Please pray for his wife, Sofia, his children and his mother, as well as extended family and many friends around the world who are grieving Kennedy's passing.



Kennedy's Funeral

month discipleship program in Zambia with 27 students from eight different countries. His focus on discipleship and evangelism through sports ministry has been a powerful tool to plant churches which he looks forward to implementing and developing in Eswatini.

In Nicaragua, the GMI team held its first Kids' Games the first week of July averaging around 200 kids each day who all heard a clear presentation of the gospel. Because of this outreach, three new families have gotten involved with the ministries of Arrigados, GMI's church plant in Nagarote. The event also challenged and stretched church leaders as they continue to develop their ministry skills and talents. The GMI EXITE Team led by Director of Field Operations Don Ten Hoeve traveled to Nicaragua to help with Kids' Games.

Traveling to Honduras, GMI team members from Nicaragua, Emiliano and Aaron, took along with them Yilber—a leader in the Nicaragua ministry—to survey potential areas to plant a church in this prospective new field. The team made more contacts and Aaron plans another trip to Honduras in October.

Burundi is GMI's newest field where our team of Tom and Michelle Sanchez and Method and Omelina Mwendapole are serv-



The Nicaragua survey team meeting with youth from Honduras

The Mwanamoyas are the newest members of GMI's global family. Assigned to Eswatini (Swaziland), they have a target date of June 2022 for their arrival to what would be GMI's seventh new field since adopting Vision 2023 in 2013 which set a goal of eight new fields by 2023. Recently, Simon conducted a one-



Church service in August in Paraguay -- standing room only

ing. In August, the team began a weekly radio program airing twice a week called, "Afya Yetu," translated, "Our Health," to reach the Swahili-speaking population in Bujumbura. The program deals with matters of health using it as a way to also share biblical truth related to the topics discussed in the show. In addition to this new outreach, the team has also begun renting meeting space in the city to use for Bible studies and other ministry activities.

The Panama team is back together. Ronnie and Jaque Mackensen recently returned to Panama from Brazil where Jaque obtained documents necessary for them to receive their residency in Panama. Since government-imposed lockdowns on Sundays have ended, the team has been able to resume services in Alvaro and Mauren Barrantes' home. Lawrence and Barbara Trumbower who served on the GMI team in Puerto Rico for over 40 years recently conducted an online class with those to whom the Barrantes have been ministering entitled, "The Tripartite Being of Man." This is part of Lawrence's new teaching ministry as he visits and coordinates with GMI fields to conduct Bible studies and seminars.

In Paraguay the church plant, Grace Bible Church, continues to grow even as the building remodeling project makes significant strides. At times, there has been standing

room only pointing to the demand for solid, biblical teaching in this metropolitan area of Ciudad del Este with over a million people. Over the summer the GMI team in Paraguay started a kids' outreach in the neighborhood where the church is located. Team members Sandi Bomers and Kim Hodgson also began offering basic and intermediate English classes in August with 16 students attending the first classes. In addition to this, our team there has several other projects and efforts underway to reach this area strategically located on the borders of Brazil and Argentina with the gospel.

Home Office News. After serving in the Home Office for over 15 years, Don Ten Hoeve is retiring from his faithful service with GMI later this year. During his tenure, Don has been responsible for the care of our global team while also arranging for much of their travel, home assignments, church engagements, and all the logistics that go into this. He has led the annual EXITE Team trips, frequently visits our fields, provides resources for our team serving abroad, and often serves as a liaison between churches and GMI. In addition, one of his recent projects has been to oversee the digitizing of Spanish theology books. While we will miss Don, we look forward to filling this role with someone who has their own unique set of skills and abilities which will enhance GMI's mission of sharing God's grace with the world!



Kim Hodgson teaching English classes in Paraguay