



# The Banfe's Newsletter September 2024



## **SPECIAL EDITION**

*"Yea, so have I strived to preach the Gospel, not where Christ was named,"*

We are so thankful that we can partner with you all in the work of Christ in the uttermost. We are entering our busy season for edification and evangelism. October-November, God willing, will be an amazingly fruitful time of Gospel witnessing to hundreds of Burmese and teaching scores of pastors and Christians, God willing, and with your support.

The Lord Jesus Christ gave His church two major objectives: Edify the church and reach the lost. First, the church is to edify its members, nurture and grow them in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus in preparation the work of God. Secondly, the church is to be sent out to witness His Gospel to a lost and dying world, to bring a light into dark places. Pews are not to be graves where the dead or dying are placed, but they are to be launching pads, they are to prepare us and arm us with His armor to be soldiers of the Lord.

The purpose of the church is clear: Edify the church and send it out. If a church fails in either of the two objectives, the church is a failure. So we are overjoyed that we get the unique opportunity to fulfill the purpose of the church in these coming months. We have stepped out on faith and ask that you partner with us in this promising season of labor.



### **Edify the Church**

We have prepared multiple courses to teach sound fundamental doctrine to Burmese pastors who have few opportunities to be taught. Burma right now is a catastrophe and people are fleeing the country. Faithful pastors are under extreme stress and really need the opportunity to reset and be encouraged and trained. We are providing support for them to find a way across the border into Thailand for 4 days of peace. These warriors for Christ will have a safe place, good food, lodging and fellowship with brothers in Christ. Other pastors from Thailand, some who have already fled the country, will also attend. I have written a 200-page commentary on the book of Hebrews in preparation for the conferences. There will also be courses on cults, the tabernacle, defending the Word of God, fundamental doctrines of our faith. They can then take this new knowledge back with them and teach their churches in Burma.



### **Reaching the Lost**

The Wild's and Camps Abroad are working with us to hold a youth camp for Burmese Buddhist refugee youth as well as other Burmese youth who are part of the "invisible people" in Thailand, living day to day without hope. One dear Christian brother came up to me with tears in his eyes and told me about an offering his class had collected for the youth conference. He said that he can't imagine what these 4-5 days would be like for these traumatized and confused young people, but that it would be like a slice of heaven. At the camp they will experience love as they have never understood it. And they will have experiences only possible by the AGAPE love of God's people.



### **~PRAYER REQUEST: EDIFY AND REACH CAMPAIGN~**

We are still around \$5,000 short to supply what we need for the Burmese pastor conferences and the youth camp. But the good news is that a donor has offered matching funds of \$3000. They will match dollar for dollar any donation anyone makes for this year's October drive. You can send whatever God puts on your heart to our mission board. This can be done online at [www.mwbm.org](http://www.mwbm.org) or mail a check to their address on the website: "MTB Edify and Reach Campaign".

We do thank all of you that already have given to help us achieve these goals. Your love, prayers and support are so appreciated. Thank you all for the blessings you have bestowed upon us by co-laboring with us in the ministry of MTB..

**Donations to: [mwbm.org](http://mwbm.org), Macedonia World Baptist Missions, Dr. Peter and Sherrie Banfe Sending Church, Central Baptist Church, Ocala Fl, Pastor Andy Bloom**