

## Year-end activities

Most likely by the time you receive this letter we will be in Chaing Rei, Thailand. We will be there from November 19-27 visiting an ACTION couple sent from the Philippines. We are thrilled to see global workers sent from there. They are part of an answer to prayer that we began praying several decades ago to help send Filipinos to the nations. Pray we will be an encouragement to them.

When we return we will enjoy Thanksgiving with our daughter Micah Ann Scott, her husband Danny, and our granddaughters Constance and Felicity. They live in the Spokane, Washington area. In mid-December we will go to New Haven, Connecticut to be with our son Amos, his wife Laura and our grandkids Ethan and Lydia.

We'll spend the Christmas and New Year holidays at home in Minneapolis. This will give us time to reflect on the past year and pray, plan and prepare for 2025. In 2024 we made many plans but in God's providence He often redirected our steps. He cancelled some plans but brought other opportunities we didn't anticipate. Does this mean we shouldn't plan? No, we need to plan according to what we think the Lord would have us do, but then put it all in God's hands. Join us in praying for wisdom and direction from the Lord so we know how He would have us prepare for 2025. Let's pray that the Lord of the harvest will keep sending workers.



## Thank-you and a blessed New Year!

Very sincerely we thank you for your faithful prayer and generous financial support this year. Mary Ann started full-time ministry in August 1976 and I started in September 1977, both of us at Midwest Challenge in Minneapolis. We were married in December 1979 with Christ as our center and the Great Commission as our foundation. We went to Manila in December 1985 with ACTION. (You can read more about our story using the weblink or scan the QR code below.)

There was no looking back then and we do not look back today. We continue serving full-time with ACTION and trust the Lord for strength and our financial support.

Would you prayerfully consider sending a year-end gift or start supporting us and our work next year so we can enter 2025 financially strong? We appreciate you doing that. Use the mailing address below or scan the QR code to give online.

We pray you and your loved ones have a blessed Christmas and New Year. We echo for you the Apostle John's prayer for Gaius in 3 John 2. He prayed, *"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul."*

We are grateful for your fellowship in Christ and partnership in the Gospel. We serve Christ and people together for His glory.

### Action International Ministries

Online giving: [www.actioninternational.org/anderson](http://www.actioninternational.org/anderson)

All donations are tax-deductible and are accepted with the understanding that Action International Ministries has complete control and administration of their use. Gifts may be sent to one of the addresses below designated for Anderson Support (40012A). Gifts can also be given online by direct deposit, credit card or PayPal at the above website. Email: [jeff.anderson@actionintl.org](mailto:jeff.anderson@actionintl.org).

ACTION USA • PO Box 398 Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-0398 • Tel. 425.775.4800

ACTION Canada • 3015 A 21st Street NE, Calgary, Alberta, T2E 7T1 • Tel. 403.204.1421

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**ACTION**



# Yes, Lord!

The people who know their God shall stand firm and take action.

Daniel 11:32b

News from  
Jeff and  
Mary Ann  
Anderson,  
serving  
globally with  
Action  
International  
Ministries

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## Travailing with hope

In Romans 8:18 we read of the Apostle Paul's attitude toward the sufferings he endured. He described them in 2 Corinthians 4:14-18 and 11:23-33. In Romans 8:19-27 he writes of the groaning of creation and of Christ-followers as we wait for heaven and earth's regeneration from the curse of Adam's sin and His adopted children receiving resurrection bodies. Creation waits to be restored to its original design (Genesis 1 and 2) and Christ-followers wait, in hope, with travailing faith, for glorified bodies like Jesus' (1 Corinthians 15:25-58). Our salvation is already secure, but not yet complete.

Just to name some things that cause our entire world to groan are natural disasters like earthquakes, hurricanes, typhoons, tornados, wildfires, floods, landslides and volcanos, and manmade disasters and problems like war, famine, death, moral decline, persecution of believers\*, terrorism, cults, pandemics, illness, underemployment or unemployment causing economic pressure, family breakup, mass shootings, and crime-filled streets. We are all affected in one way or another. During our time of already but not yet, God's Spirit also groans in wordless prayer for His people. In our weaknesses and temptations we have the help of the Spirit on earth, in our hearts, while Jesus is interceding for us in heaven (Hebrews 7:25). We are short-sighted and limited in seeing and understanding God's big-picture but the Spirit uses inexpressible groaning to communicate our needs to our heavenly Father, while Jesus also prays for us.

Our Father is in total control and involved with world and national events, and at the same time, with our family and personal needs. Knowing this can give us courage to engage with global, national, and local situations and with

people we know and love. We can have faith in God's reliability to keep His promises. He is sovereign and providential and is actively working out His global and local plan and His plan for us individually as well as for our families. In the meantime, as stewards during our time of not yet, we must faithfully occupy (a business term) till Jesus returns (Luke 19:13 KJV) or He takes us home to be with Him. We are not done as stewards till He determines we are done. He has allotted to each of us time, talents and treasure in order to serve our world, country, city, neighbors, family and church. We do this for His glory by building up our church, by making disciples of all nations, and by spreading the Good News here, near and far.

During our shaky cultural moment, here are a few Scripture verses that are giving me stability as I walk with Christ. Hopefully they minister to you too.

\* According to Open Doors World Watch list, there are 365 million persecuted believers.



October 2024

All Scripture references are in the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise stated.

**Psalms 31:14-15** "But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, 'You are my God.' My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!"

**Proverbs 19:21** "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand."

**Habakkuk 2:14** "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea."

**Matthew 16:18** "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

**Matthew 28:18-20** "And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'"

**John 10:28-30** "I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

## Random?

In October we made a trip to Houston, Texas for our nephew's wedding. While we were there we took a Lyft ride from our hotel to the wedding venue. Our driver was Ryan, a very friendly 21 year-old. I sat next to him and we conversed our entire ride. He shared openly with me about his previous battle with drugs. He said his addiction would either kill him or land him in prison. He reached a time when he was tired of living a life of lies and desperately wanted to change. Soon he went through a faith-based program during which he trusted Christ as His Savior. Now he is clean and has an accountability partner and support group. He was looking forward to joining the US Navy and getting a fresh start. During the course of our conversation I shared

my testimony of faith in Christ. He was very interested and asked lots of questions about Jesus and the Bible. I encouraged him to join a Bible-teaching church. We could have talked for hours. When we arrived at our destination we warmly shook hands and prayed together.

Back home a few days later we met a 26 year-old woman and her two companions who are caring for her. She is undergoing medical treatment for serious health issues. She and her friends realize that "God has their backs" and knows "the big-picture," as one said. They remind us of the four friends who opened the roof of a home where Jesus was teaching and lowered their paralytic friend to His feet for forgiveness and healing (Mark 2:1-12). God has supplied their needs over and over again as they walk together through their

dark valley. We are blessed to join them in their walk by prayer, visits, meals together and assistance when they need food and cash. We are pleased to help carry their burdens.

My conversation with Ryan and our walking with this young woman and her companions is not random. It is obvious to us that God arranged these appointments. He does this as our eyes are fixed on Jesus and we walk in step with the Spirit. Psalm 37:23-24 says, "*The steps (I'll add detours, delays and stops) of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord holds his hand.*"

Let's be alert for God's appointments. They are not random. He does not lead us astray. Jesus is our Good Shepherd. Join us in prayer for these dear people.

## Update on the PCRC

Construction of the Palawan Christian Resource Center of All4Christ in Puerto Princesa, Palawan Province, in the Philippines is ongoing. The groundbreaking was in February. We are in phase one of the project. The project's architect and his crew are waiting for high quality rebar to arrive from Manila. This takes time. The A4C team in the US and the Philippines is trusting the Lord for another \$1 million in order to finish the building.

Our dream for the PCRC, with a Bible school and seminary in partnership with the Center for Biblical Studies Institute and Seminary, is to help Filipino churches send called well-equipped cross-cultural long-term missionaries to minister the Gospel and Christ-like compassion throughout the country and Southeast and South Asian countries. We also pray that some day those countries will send Christ-followers to the PCRC to study and be equipped, and send qualified teachers and trainers. This is a decades-long dream of ACTION Philippines, and of ours. At our season of life and ministry we don't know if we'll be hands-on with ministry at the PCRC in coming years, however, as Solomon blesses the Lord in 1 Kings 8 he remembers his



father David's desire to build the temple in verses 17-20. His words are reassuring and encouraging. He says, "*Now it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of the Lord, the God of Israel. But the Lord said to David my father, 'Whereas it was in your heart to build a house for my name, you did well that it was in your heart. Nevertheless, you shall not build the house, but your son who shall be born to you shall build the house for my name'. Now the Lord has fulfilled his promise that he made....*" Amen. "*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...*" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). God keeps His promises. He chooses people to do His work during their generation.

In March the A4C Philippines and US Boards will meet in the Philippines to prayerfully discuss the PCRC and other A4C ministries like our conferences for under-trained and under-equipped pastors, church leaders, Bible school and seminary students and missionaries.

While there we will also participate in ACTION's International Council meeting and ACTION's 50th Anniversary Jubilee Celebration. We are looking forward to reuniting with the Philippine team and other ACTION people attending the meetings from around the world.

