

# **Wayne and Sally Dye**

## **2018 report**

(also in PDF attached)

## **Spring**

Dear friends,

We praise God for all of you who make our ministry possible. Because of your loyal support we are able to continue to do the kingdom work we feel God has called us to. Over the years God has moved us to a place where we are able to participate in global missions through teaching and writing. Without you that would not be possible. Thank you.

Here are some of the global events you are investing in:

### **EMDC Conference**

It took 50+ hours to go there and come back, but EMDC was worth all the effort. EMDC is a conference of media specialists and in-country Christian workers. It has grown every year since it was started in 2010. This year there were 500 people in the course week and 650 in the main conference. It was held at a conference center just outside of Chiang Mai, Thailand; its many flowers and ornamental shrubs made it my favorite. The focus, though, was on meetings, formal and informal, and on absorbing mind boggling new information. More than half of the 193 organizations represented did not exist 10 years ago; God is doing new things through His workers from Asian countries and around the world.

I was able to talk with many former students and other colleagues and learn about new Gospel initiatives all over Asia. The 25 students in our course week on Scripture engagement were inspired as well as informed. Then, during the main conference, I was able to do 4 lectures on key missiological topics to a total of 300+ people

### **Evangelical Missiological Society (EMS) meeting**

My lecture there was on changes in immigration that provide new mission opportunities. Because phoning another country is now so easy, large numbers remain involved with their extended families back home. For those of us who realize how wonderful it is to know Jesus, this is both challenge and incredible opportunity. The challenge is to welcome immigrants, helping them resettle, learn about our country and adjust to it while at the same time maintaining the strength of our nation. We take our instructions from passages such as Zechariah 7:10: "Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor. Do not plot evil against each other." (Also, see Deut. 10:17-19, Jeremiah 22:3, and Matt. 25:31-46 and other biblical commands) The opportunity is that we can introduce some of them and their families back home to our Savior. Mission trips to overseas strangers can be replaced by visits to relatives of our new immigrant friends.

## **Our courses**

Here at GIAL we teach three Scripture Engagement courses in the Spring term. For the first time, I was not the head teacher for two of them, but I was involved in all three. Tim Hatcher, who assisted me with one of the courses for eight years, has now completed his PhD and is the new head teacher. Michelle Petersen, whose vision got the third course started, now does most of the teaching of that course.

Yes, that means I am finally slowing down. I have transitioned from Assistant Professor to Senior Professor, so I am no longer required to take a full teaching load. I can now focus on several GIAL projects that have needed more time than I could give them and finally finish several articles that have been in the works for years. Here are two of the projects:

- A team of us are developing an online cross-cultural training program for people going on short term mission trips.
- Two new certificate programs are being set up, one in Scripture Engagement and an exciting one-semester course set for people planning to work in another language and culture but who don't expect to be doing translation or literacy.

Be watching for our name change! We have grown from an institute teaching Bible translation and documenting languages. GIAL now also has a Center of Excellence in World Arts (study of indigenous art to be used in worship), and Abrahamic Center (study of Jewish, Islamic, and Christian world views) as well as an undergraduate College of International Studies. GIAL will soon become Dallas International University. Stay tuned for the official announcement!

If all goes as planned, 2018-19 will be a good year.

## **Our health**

My health is about the same, good enough to do brain work and to enjoy life. Sally is also experiencing the joy of life in Jesus but her strength has diminished considerably. Our doctors have not identified what is happening, but her PCP wants her to keep up her daily exercise, even if she does not have energy for it.

## **A bit about our family**

Edie just finished another book, this one on the challenges faced by MKs when they return to their home countries. Typically, they are suddenly plunged into American life as young adults, but most of their life experience has been in the very different contexts of the countries where they grew up. Value conflicts and even challenges to their understanding can be intense. The book is *When Cultures Collides: Adult missionary kids*. Find it on Amazon.

Despite numerous serious health challenges, Joy is continuing to research her novel about the Oregon trail. She is retracing the route, taking pictures and notes, and pondering what it must have been like to take that journey with a covered wagon.

Tom is in Oklahoma, soon moving to a new area and a better house. Pam, his wife continues to care for him while updating their “new” home, though her health is not what it was.

Last Fall we told you that Jamey finished writing *From Fear to Freedom*, about how God worked in our lives and the lives of our Bahinemo friends in our early years in Papua New Guinea. The day after he finished the last major revision of it, he got an email from his boss saying that the contract he and his team had bid on a few years earlier was now ready to start construction. It also said their part of the job was worth about \$250 million and that he was design manager. It seemed to us that God allowed him to take advantage of a slow season in his life to produce this history of our work in Papua New Guinea. If you haven’t read it yet, have a look. It is on Amazon. All income beyond out of pocket costs goes to a scholarship fund for Bahinemo young adults, so they can become teachers or health workers in their home areas.

Much has happened since those early years in PNG, but our God still guides, guards, and enables. We are grateful for your prayer, gifts and encouragement over these many years. We don’t know how many more years God has for us, but we do know the end will be good.

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