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#276, March 9, 2023

# Same Sponsor but New Mailing Address – Please be advised.

To all the brethren and especially to the treasurers of congregations, and to individuals who contribute monthly to the Indonesia work, please be advised that our sponsoring congregation, the BCS church of Christ, has had to open a P.O. Box to receive support checks from you, because of the continued theft attacks on their mailbox located on the church property. The BCS elders tried a



locked mailbox at the street, but it only took one week before thieves broke into it.

We regret the inconvenience to all of you who write checks and send them to the BCS congregation, but the elders feel they have no choice but to make this move. **Please notify your church treasurer** about the change so he can make the necessary address corrections. I will be sending out a letter to each of you also. **New address -- BCS church of Christ, P.O. Box 2805, Bryan, TX 77805 – Please make checks payable to BCS church of Christ – Earmark: Indonesia Work** ------ Just as you have always done.

This change of address does not affect those of you who have your contribution sent **via Bank Draft.** However, those of you who send funds **occasionally and monthly**; please take note of the change. We are always thankful to you for your continued support.

### The Staff Reports About Continued Evangelistic Efforts

#### Prospective new work in the port city of Bitung (pronounced – Bee-toong)

"Bitung has a population of 200,000 people. It takes about thirty minutes to drive from Manado via a toll road. One member of the Sawangan congregation, her name is Like (pronounced Lee-ka) Heatubun, has a lot of family members who live in Bitung, including her mother, brothers, and sisters. When we first started the Fishers of Men class in 2021, sister Like taught her mother all the SFT lessons, but she did not obey the gospel. Last year when we had FOM for the second time, Beny Rarung, a Sawagan congregation member and sister Like's husband, began to teach the SFTs to one of sister Like's brothers and continues to the present.

Our continued education graduate, Yarman, and brother Beny are teaching another young man in Bitung

## Sponsor <u>"NEW"</u> Address and <u>Contact Info:</u>

BCS Church of Christ P.O. Box 2805 ----<u>"NEW"</u> Bryan, TX 77805 -"NE<u>W"</u>

Contact is: Dinc McDonald (elder) Phone – 214-923-1120 E-mail: <u>docdinc@gmail.com</u> the SFT lessons, and they are on lesson four. Brother Timbul, one of our school instructors, and brother Hendrik, the local preacher, have started an SFT study with sister Like's older brother, and they are now in lesson two. We hope to establish a new congregation in Bitung if several of these prospects obey the gospel."

#### Prospective new work in Malalayang (pronounced - Ma-la-lie-yang)

"Yarman met a lady in Sawangan who was visiting her relative in Sawangan and gave her some tracts. She is from Malalayang. After a few days, the lady called Yarman and wanted to study the Bible. Yarman and Elvin, both school graduates, went to her house to make an appointment. They met another lady and developed an interest in studying the Bible. They are now in lesson four. Yarman and Elvin also met two young men from the island of Nias who live near Malalayang, and they, too, want to study. They are now in SFT lesson three."

#### The new congregation at Air Mediri/Kema

"The newly established congregation at Air Mediri/Kema is only about a thirty-minute drive from Bitung. For a time, any new members from Bitung could attend the Air Madiri/Kema congregation, where three have already obeyed the gospel. And there are more prospects in SFT studies, and it would be great if we could establish a new congregation in Bitung. Bitung is a growing city because it is the port city for Manado."

#### **Graduate Profile:**

Brother Alex Daniel, the Director, writes,

#### "Alumni Profile.

Sunia (Nia) Ndruru graduated in 2021 in Manado. After graduation, she continued her education at Apollos Christian College in Manado, receiving her Bachelor of Education degree (B.Ed) in 2022. While attending that college, she worked as a student teacher in a Secondary School located near our North

Sulawesi School of Bible Studies. She also worked part-time in our library and helped classify and number our new books.

While teaching in Secondary School, Nia had the opportunity to teach the gospel to her senior students aged 14-15. One of her students obeyed the gospel as a result.

In 2022 Nia moved to Medan, North Sumatra, which is closer to her home island of Nias. She worked as a teacher in a High School in Medan and taught children in Sunday School in a local congregation. While attending the church in Medan, she saw unscriptural practices. (The preacher is not a graduate of our school and does not teach the truth.) For example, women were leading some prayers in Bible classes where men were present, and they had children's Bible classes during the worship. She did her best to convince the preacher to correct these things but was not satisfied with his response or willingness to teach the truth. These errors and others were unacceptable to her.



Nia moved to her home island of Nias and soon received an offer from her former High School

headmaster to teach as their "Bible" teacher. (Every public school in Indonesia must have at least one teacher of Christianity.) So, in December 2022, she returned to her home village to work as a teacher in a government-run High School. However, at first, she worked as a librarian and was entrusted with arranging their library correctly. (She used her past library experience in our school to help improve it.) The headmaster was very satisfied with her work, and since mid-February, she has been officially a full-time teacher. She will be able to teach Bible to about one hundred and forty students. This number is



the complete student body in the High School. Her home village is remote and has a small population.

We continue to supply Nia with our tracts, Bible correspondence course materials, and Fishers of Men's "Search for Truth" lessons. Nia uses all these materials to teach her students the truth. Unfortunately, there is no church of Christ in her home village. So, she must ride a motorcycle taxi for about forty minutes to the nearest congregation. The preacher, Joni Laia, at that congregation was a former student in our school in Lampung, South Sumatra before we moved the school to Manado. Joni is a faithful preacher, and he has helped us recruit students from that area of Nias to attend NSSBS in Manado. Two of our present students are a result of Joni's recruiting work. Nia will work with Joni to do follow-up teaching with her High School students. She is a helpful addition to the congregation because she is a worker.

We are greatly encouraged by their work and let us remember them in our prayers."



Picture on the left:

On the right, Hendrik Mandawaly, the local preacher, in a Bible Study in the Sawangan area. This is where the shool is located.

Picture on the right: Forefront, Yarman teaching two prospects in Malalayang.





Picture on the left: Forefront, Elvin teaching a prospect in the Sawangan area.

Thank you, dear brethren, for all you do for us. We appreciate your support and your prayers. Yours for the cause of Christ, Barry and Melany Hatcher