

**Our church ...
knows no
difference
between home
and foreign
field. In these
days, all fields
are near.**



May, 2016 – the Month of Mission and Outreach at Gilead Bible Church – All Hands on Deck!

2016年五月-基列聖經教會的宣教月- 全民皆兵!

我們的教會沒有宣教工場地區的分別。在這時刻，所有的工場及機會都是神的禾田！

In January this year, the Serving Board together with the Mission and Caring Committee had laid upon the heart of our congregation to reach out to people with serving opportunities near and far, all for extending His Kingdom as we are commanded to obey. Five months later, praise God for answering our prayers! With His providence and by His grace and strength, we are moving forward with our hearts, hands and feet to reach those in the nearby and faraway places.



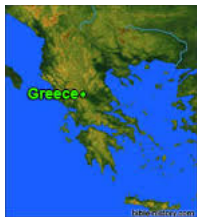
In March, one college student who returned for spring break reminded us to check out community events in the San Ramon area. This idea was brought up in last Fall's brainstorming session, but subsequently has slipped our minds. One brother immediately discovered the 2016 San Ramon Arts and Wind

Festival being held on May 29-30. Although the deadline for profit organizations had passed, applications for non-profit organizations were still open. In a step of faith and away from our comfort zone, the serving board decided to apply. Our goals are 1) to lift up the name of our Lord



Jesus, 2) to make Gilead Bible Church known and 3) to reach out to our neighbors with His good news. Four weeks later, the City of San Ramon granted us an information booth at the festival. With a thankful heart, brothers and sisters moved on quickly with planning sessions every Sunday after church

since late April. Literally we place “all hands on deck”, working together with united heart, mind and spirit. There is an old Chinese saying that “all citizens are soldiers in a campaign 全民皆兵.” What a joy to be in the Lord's Army, as the hymn says! Never have we discovered such a great collection of talents and creativity among us. This will be our first booth in the life of Gilead, and we really don't know what to expect. But we trust God will bless us in this endeavor. Please visit us at the Festival this memorial weekend to see what God is doing for us! Bring a friend and share the good news!



Another senior couple is joining the Macedonian Outreach in a short term mission to Greece, some 6,000 miles away from the US. They will also participate in the joint effort of the Greek Evangelical Churches on a humanitarian mission serving the



Syrian refugees who are now stranded in villages by the border of Greece and Macedonia and in retention camps in other towns. Gilead Bible Church has donated and

purchased thousands of toothpastes and hundreds of toothbrushes and other food items for distribution. We are praying that despite such small humanitarian effort, the love of Christ will touch the hearts of these refugees of different faith who risked their lives fleeing from their war-torn homes. May their hearts be opened to the message of eternal salvation from Christ Jesus. This couple will again visit the Gypsy villages and Chinese merchants in Greece. The Gypsies have not been



accepted into mainstream society. Many Chinese are struggling in their business and burdened with families left behind in China.



They too need the good news of our Savior. May God grace this couple with harvests as the Gilead families support them with prayers at home.

With humility, gratitude, hope and joy, we look forward to serve. “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” Romans 10:15 and “Let’s make a joyful noise to the Lord.” Our sincere prayer is that efforts in this mission month will transform Gilead to be the beacon of light in the San Ramon areas and into the world. May God have all the glory!



**That all peoples
may know Him**

By Mission and Caring Committee: Lin, Karen, Beverly, Annie.