



Grapevine

November 2022

press

Zooming the Nations by Lynette Parker | Student

“May your unfailing love be with us, Lord,
even as we put our hope in you.”
Psalm 33:22 NIV

Unfailing love and hope, two concepts sharing a deep connection. Since the military take-over in February 2021, those living in Myanmar have been in desperate need for both.

Back in March 2020, I had a life-changing injury that, when combined with the pandemic, led to early retirement from my beloved teaching career in ESL. With time on my hands, the online courses offered by *The Vine Institute* were a gift.

After starting classes, I met Sui, a sushi chef from Myanmar, who became an immediate friend. As her language mentor, my recent ESL training became useful and

our friendship quickly grew in sincerity and authenticity. Little did we guess what else the Lord had planned for us!

In Spring 2022, Sui and I enrolled in *The Vine Institute's* course Teaching the Christian Faith, Sui saw an opportunity to help Burmese-born parents reconcile the cross-cultural challenges of raising their English-speaking children. At the same time, I was missing my teaching career and so was quickly on-board. Together, we started teaching Burmese students in the U.S. through Zoom. Three families from Utah, Tennessee and Florida joined.

The Lord then revealed a bigger plan when Sui began speaking about a family still in Myanmar, who would like to join! It boggled my mind! From my apartment in Nevada to Myanmar...shocking!

After our first meeting, I was moved to tears; through technology, we gathered with our family in Christ! Christian leaders from both countries now meet and learn teaching strategies when electricity allows.

With the Jesus Storybook Bible as our guide, we utilize Power Point, short-videos, and engaging activities to share the good news. God's plan to share His story to a country in crisis is growing my dependence on the Holy Spirit. Even within Myanmar's dire situation, people are being baptized into the family of Christ to serve our Living God!

“Call to me and I will answer you
and tell you great and unsearchable
things you do not know.”
Jeremiah 33:3 NIV

Celebrating Graduates by Alex Manship | Administrative Coordinator

Khuah Cung is a member of the Leadership Team of *Faith Christian Church*. Throughout Capstone, Khuah's goal was to grow in his spiritual life. Through consistency and application, his faith impacted his family, Myanmar community, and church. After completing the Christian Leadership Program he feels better equipped to help with leadership in his church!

Joshua Pisha Dumsa is the Senior Leader of *Uduk Ministry* in Salt Lake County. His Capstone Project was focused on developing better strategies to help the children's ministry of his church. He hopes to support the ministry by encouraging teachers and working with fellow peers. Joshua's project will continue beyond *The Vine Institute's* Christian Leadership Training.

Sanstilaus Godo is the Chairman and Preacher at *Christ for the Nation Church* in Salt Lake County. Using the support of our materials and the South Sudanese Community, Sanstilaus focused on Practicing and Developing Preaching during Capstone. He continues to strive for better structure and organization of teachings.



Graduation 2022 | Students & Board



Graduation 2021 | Students & Dr. Peter

Graduates 2021

Mai Sungte | Utah Myanmar Grace
Van Thang | Faith Christian
Sang Thar | Utah Myanmar Grace
Jerome Lwin | Faith Christian
Jennifer Everett | K2
Gire Pilipu | Christ for the Nations
Ricardo Flores | Comunidad Cristiana

Please consider supporting
The Vine Institute in the mission
field of Utah!

Partnership & Action

by Dr. Peter Asiamah | Executive Director

Even in the midst of political tension, social mobility and technological change, God is at work orchestrating events and people to advance His Kingdom. He has uniquely positioned and equipped *The Vine Institute* as a catalyst to bring people together from many nations and train them for ministry and leadership. Our classes, programs, and other events are expressions of the Great Commission and the Great Commandments. We accomplish this through action, financial partnership, and prayer support.

I grew up in Ghana with a traditional theological upbringing. My thoughts about God were dogmatically shaped in my youth. I understood that God is omnipotent and omniscient, and so not to be questioned. I also believed that if God wants to do anything, He does not need our involvement.

However, I later learned that God calls us to partner with Him and one another to bring about His Kingdom transformation across the nations. This is how I came to the United States and to serve as the Executive Director of *The Vine Institute*.

By partnering with God and putting our human, material and financial resources together as God's people we can powerfully advance the Kingdom of God - God's Kingdom without Borders.

At the moment, *The Vine Institute* is partnering with 32-ethnic and immigrant churches around Salt Lake City training and mentoring pastors and leaders. Three students just graduated from our Christian Leadership Program, Global Day of Prayer had record attendance, and 11 nations were represented at our conference on Culture, Ethnicity, and Diversity. We believe that the Body of Christ works together "to declare God's glory to all the nations" Ps 96:13.



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Call to Partner: I invite you to join what God is doing through *The Vine Institute*.

Your partnership is essential! Your prayers and financial support help us to connect and equip Christian leaders in Utah with pastoral and theological education. Together, we can plant and build healthy families, churches and communities that sustain the work of God.

Your financial partnership enables us to continue awarding scholarships and to keep our ministry viable. If each individual reading this newsletter can give a one-time donation of \$30, *The Vine Institute* will meet our \$24,000 goal by the end 2022!

Set up recurring giving or make a one-time gift here!
vine-institute.org/donations/

