*"The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and **the seed sprouts and grows**; he knows not how. The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when **the grain is ripe**, at once he puts in the sickle, because **the harvest has come**.* *Mark 4:26-29*

Viet Nam

Dear friends,

Darlene and I recently were in Viet Nam and we are very encouraged by the growth we see there in so many different areas. We are encouraged by the faithfulness of those with whom we are partnering as they walk through open doors with wisdom and boldness. Preparing the soil and sowing seeds are an act of faith. Whether it is physically dropping a seed in the ground, or investing in the life of a person, it requires effort and the conviction that some day that seed will produce fruit. Sometimes change seems slow and we wonder how growth will ever come. Thankfully, we have the promise of scripture that God brings the increase. We are happy to report that in Viet Nam:

We see **growth**,
We see fruit **ripening**,
We see the **harvest** being gathered!

A natural harvest from the livelihood projects is impacting lives by providing food for families through the dignity of work. This, in turn leads to a spiritual harvest, as it opens doors to share why we are showing God's love in their communities. It is exciting and encouraging to participate in the spiritual harvest that is happening as people are experiencing the hope and peace that comes from knowing Jesus. In the work with the deaf, and in the leper centers we can also say with joy **the harvest is happening!** We stand in great expectation of all that God will continue to accomplish in the nations of the earth!

Thank you for being a partner in the harvest,

Bob and Darlene McCoy

Vessels of Mercy Ministries

Prayer Requests

Please pray for Bob and Evelyn as they travel to China this month.

Please pray for strength and boldness for our Vietnamese brothers and sisters.