

June 23, 2010

Dear Supporting Churches,

We want to send you thanks for your prayers for Thailand these past several months. We are glad to share that the political situation has improved. Things are still uncertain, but at least the violence has stopped. Thank you also for praying for us personally, and for other mission partners here.

We also want to thank you, at this mid-year point, for your generous and faithful support of our family and our ministry with CCI here in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Your renewed commitment of financial support each year is so important. We thank God for your partnership and for the privilege of carrying out part of the mission of the universal church with you and through our mission agency, Interserve.

As we head into the rainy season, our family is in great spirits. The boys are out of school, after completing the school year partly in the US and partly here at Chiang Mai International School. Thai schools and universities, however, are in full swing, as they took their long break in April/May. And for those of us connected to CCI, it's "Fuen-foo" season--the period when CCI visits schools throughout the country with songs, dances, and dramas with a Christian message. The troupe has been on the road for two weeks now, having performed at two schools in Bangkok. Right after returning from a trip to China, Andy and Christopher (now 14) met up with the troupe this week in Nan, a town five hours drive east of us. Christopher will help with the filming of the *Fuen-foo* program, so that a DVD will be available for students in this school and the many others on the schedule between now and October. Back at home, Jonathan has been spending time with Thai children learning to play badminton and taking swimming lessons, both of which he enjoys. He and Ellen have had some excellent "bonding" time too. Ellen will begin a course at McGilvary Faculty of Theology next week, when the professor returns from a trip to the US. (He happens to be none other than Rob Collins, Andy's father, who will teach New Testament Greek this term to the students in the international MDiv program). Ellen has been away from the seminary for a year, due to our furlough and the timing of our return (mid-semester), so she looks forward to getting to know the new students who hail from several of the countries neighboring Thailand. We are all busy and excited about all the opportunities we have here.

We ask for your prayers for two upcoming events: CCI's participation in the Global Consultation on Music and Missions to be held in Singapore July 5-8, and our annual Interserve regional conference, which takes place here in Thailand (on a beach!) the last week of July.

Andy will be accompanying the group to Singapore, and all of us will attend the Interserve gathering which is always a great blessing and encouragement.

Some of you have written to ask when we plan to be back in the USA. Our hope is to head back in June of 2011, and stay for about 9 weeks, returning to Thailand in time for the boys to start school in August. This will be less time than we usually spend, but hopefully will give us the chance to reunite with family, visit some of you, and enjoy a stateside summer! A year from now is a long time, and yet we know how time can fly. One concern as we plan for a home-leave is that we will need additional funds added to our 2011 budget. We are praying that we can find

a few more good churches that want to join our partnership, or some individual supporters.

Please keep this need in your prayers as you pray for us. Know that we pray for you too, and your many ministries. It is always encouraging to hear from you and to read newsletters that keep us abreast on church activities and news. Please greet your church family for us, and thank them for their role in our mission work.

God bless you all,

Ellen, Andy, Christopher and Jonathan