

Praise

- We are very grateful and thank the Lord often for your prayers and support.
- All three kids have done well this year at the international school.
- We feel like we are settling into roles that fit our gifts and interests.

Prayer

- Please pray that our Thai visas for another year will be approved without any problems and for additional funds to cover this significant expense.
- Please pray for our kids as they are grieving the sudden death of our dog, Pepper, which we believe was bitten by a poisonous snake.

Hot! Hot! Hot!

We are surviving our first hot season here. A friend here said that someone back home (who still had snow on the ground) commented to them, “Well, it can’t be *that* hot in Thailand in *April*, can it?” The seasons run differently here. April and May are the hottest months. We’ve had many days with 105+ degree heat and high humidity. It is so hot that the water comes out of the tap warm (and sadly this applies to the shower too). My glasses even fog up when I step out of the car! It does cool off a bit when it rains, but when the rains stop, it is like a sauna. I’ve always heard that you have to sweat to lose weight. Well, I hope it’s true!

Computer Viruses Beware!

John has been very busy in the computer support part of his job here lately. When someone is having a computer problem they call in “Dr. Ross.” And much to their surprise, he is always happy to make housecalls, usually right away. He has been doing a lot of help and upgrading of the computers at one of our training centers. It borders a closed country and is pivotal to the work there. Tribal Christians can cross the border to us easier than our linguists can to them. They can come to learn how to do a Bible translation for their own people, then go back home and work on it. At the current training workshop there are 19 people from 7 different language groups. The last time John made the journey there (3+ hour drive), they told him of an unexpected visitor who had shown up. A man in his 70’s from a tribal village had heard about the center. He had a Bible in the national language of his country, but he longed to read the Word of God in his own heart language. He traveled mostly on foot, crossed the border, and found the center. The linguists at the center used word lists to try to identify his tribal group and language. When they couldn’t find a match, they tried to find a similar language that might have some vocabulary overlap. In the end, they had to send him home empty handed. There just wasn’t a Bible translated in a language close enough for him and his people to understand. *“The harvest is great, but the workers are few. Matt. 9:37 NLT*

John has been busy finding and purchasing the computer supplies they need and plans to make another trip out there next week to network their computers and help them get hooked up to the internet.

And in My Free Time . . .

I (Kimberly) have been very busy as well. I have done more substitute teaching. I am now the Children's Director at our church, which has me busy planning the summer and fall curriculum and recruiting helpers (which isn't easy since there is only one service). I am also the Assistant Conference Coordinator for our upcoming regional conference. And, since I'm not quite busy enough, I just got accepted into a Masters in TESOL program (taught in English) at a local university here, which starts in August. In December I'll be taking over the role of team leader for our members serving as teachers here in Chiang Mai.

New Friends

John and I are progressing, slowly but surely, in our Thai studies. We have developed a friendship with our Thai Buddhist neighbors across the street. They have a girl Kristen's age, a boy Tyler's age, and a niece who lives with them close to Sarah's age. The husband is outgoing and speaks excellent English. He and John chat almost nightly. The wife is very shy. It has been much harder for me to get to know her. And wouldn't you know it; John has been over there fixing a problem with their computer!

Family News

We just celebrated three birthdays. Kristen is now 14, Tyler is now 11, and I just reached the Big Four Oh! Yikes!

Kristen has been very busy filming movies with her XTTV group. She even made me a mini movie for my birthday! It is now futsal season for Tyler. Futsal is basically soccer played on a basketball court, so the games are like a cross between soccer and hockey. He loves it. Sarah was moved up in ballet to an older class. She is thrilled with the new stuff she is learning.

Pray for our New Visas!

Our visas which allow us to live here expire next month. Please pray for us as we wade through the necessary paper work to get our new visas. It is a long, difficult, and expensive process. But when it is finished, we won't have to travel out of the country every 90 days!

With sweat and smiles,

***Kimberly & John Ross
Kristen, Tyler, Sarah***

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