



As I write this, it is 91° outside with about 60% humidity. We are still in “cold season” so most of the locals wear jackets, hats and gloves in the mornings. Even some dogs are in sweaters! It does cool down at night this time of year. It even got down to 55° one night! We were all scrambling for warm clothes and blankets (houses and most cars here don't have heaters).

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. We value your prayers to help us remember why we are here and not get so caught up in tasks or allow the difficulties and business to overcome us. We are looking forward to seeing everyone when we visit the States in June/July 2008.

John continues to be busy supporting Bible translation with computer related issues both at the main office and at our Northern Training Center. This includes a wide variety of things such as programming, helping translators with issues, converting data to newer fonts, general computer support, and traveling up north each month. Recently the final translation checking of several New Testament books and one Old Testament book were completed. Bible translation is moving forward even though situations are sometimes difficult here in SE Asia.

John hasn't seen an American football game since last year's Superbowl so he's looking forward very much to watching this year's Superbowl at a co-workers house, even though it starts at 6 am Monday morning. A few months ago he was able to watch the Rugby World Cup finals (from 1 am to 3 am) at a British neighbor's house.

Kimberly is very busy with helping to coordinate our upcoming group conference, preparing and teaching conflict resolution seminars, and training to become one of the Associate Directors in our SIL area. She also teaches 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade Children's church with two teen helpers. She finished getting a Certificate in TESOL last semester, but has decided to discontinue the Master's program at this time.



Kristen, Tyler, and Sarah are all doing very well in school. Kristen maintains a very full schedule with JV basketball, student council meetings, a filming club, Bible studies, and orphanage visits. She recently had fun dressing up for a school social. Tyler played soccer and flag rugby this past season and is now playing basketball. Sarah is learning to read and has decided to start collecting Sandra Boynton books.



In December we were again involved in bringing Christmas to several orphan homes in the area. The kids were told the story of Jesus' birth and we then had cake to celebrate His birthday. There were also crafts, candy, toys to play with, and each child received a gift to open (Kimberly got to be one of the shoppers).

During the holidays we were able to take our first trip to Bangkok as a family. It was a long nine-hour drive each way, but was worth it since we were able to go to a small amusement/water park and attend a professional soccer game between Thailand and Iraq. We also enjoyed all the New Year's decorations that were in Bangkok.



*Clowning around at the amusement park in Bangkok.*



*During warm-ups at the Thailand vs. Iraq soccer game we attended.*

Please pray as you feel led for the following:

Please pray that we will be able to maintain our busy schedules. We would also like to begin studying Thai again but we haven't found the time yet.

Safety for Kristen as we enter basketball season. You may remember that she has had two significant basketball injuries recently (a chipped finger bone last January which benched her for the season, and more recently, she just got off crutches from a second degree ankle sprain she got playing basketball in PE). Needless to say, I am not as excited as she is about the upcoming season! Update: In the time between writing this and sending it out, Kristen sprained (minor) her *other* ankle, playing basketball, of course!

We mentioned in our last letter that a group is trying to take back part of the property that GIS (our kid's school) purchased. Since our last letter, the group has filed a lawsuit to try to take the property so this is an ongoing prayer request.

Please continue to pray for our monthly financial support, which comes from churches and individuals. As the dollar continues to weaken it diminishes our buying power overseas.

With love,

*The Ross Family*

*John, Kimberly, Kristen, Tyler, Sarah*

*<http://www.rosstracks.com>*

*What the Apostle John said about the birth of his close friend, Jesus:*

**The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.**

**We saw the glory with our own eyes . . . "This is the One!"**

**John 1:14-15 The Message**