

Maraats in Thailand

March 2021

Dear Beloved Partners and Friends,

Have mercy on us, our God, have mercy on us, for in you we take refuge. We will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed (Psalm 57:1). As it is now more than one year that the world is suffering because of COVID-19, truly, "It is through the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness, O! Lord!" Lamentations 3:22-23

Thank you beloved for standing behind us in prayers and faithful giving. We are always indebted to your generosity for without it we could have never made it in our 29 years of doing foreign missions. Your partnership keeps us going!

Verna and I are thankful for the internet as we use it to connect with our families, mission partners, co-missionaries, church members and friends. However, social media is flooded with so much fake news and irritating information, so we have to do some filtering. To us, the advantage of social media outweighs the negative. We are thankful that Messenger and other Apps are very handy in communication. We cannot travel because of the pandemic but we can always communicate for almost for free through different social media applications. It is amazing that so many countries did impose lockdowns, but the gospel is still preached through social media. Churches do online worships, preaching and prayer meetings. Many schools and universities implemented online classes. We can be thankful that the world never stops despite the worldwide pandemic. God is good, and he is very much in control!

Verna and I have some added responsibilities as worship leaders in our church. Worship is very important to a local church's existence. For many years, Andrea and Josiah, Nathan and Jessica Killion and a few others were in charge of our Church's music. Starting the last week of July 2020, Genesis was forced to lead our Church's worship as the Killions left for America. It was really difficult to scramble and work hard practicing my guitar skills and at the same time lead the songs in the Thai language. Every time I led the singing, I felt butterflies in my stomach. Now we are thankful that Verna and I have improved a bit but still have so much to learn. Please help us pray that God will provide good musicians for our church, as music is very important to Thai culture.

Thailand is in need of missionaries! Please pray with us that God will raise up individuals or families to come along and serve as TCM missionaries to Thailand. Nathan and Jessica Killion are no longer returning to Thailand. We need people who are motivated to learn Thailand's difficult language and willing to persevere, as reaching out to Thai Buddhists requires a lot of patience. Verna and I have now been almost 13 years doing missions in Thailand, but the result is very minimal. However, we are thankful that we have sown the seed of the gospel to many Thai people through preaching, giving out gospel tracts and through our life's testimonies. If you know someone who is interested to join us as a TCM missionary to Thailand, please contact TCM or write us!

Our church members decided to give out a gift-bag two times last year to neighbors and a few communities. Inside each gift-bag are rice, sardines, noodles, masks and a gospel tract. Each member helped in distributing them to communities in Chiangmai, Kilikluang and Banthi. The recipients were so appreciative as so many people are burdened financially due to the result of COVID-19. Last year, Chiang Mai Grace Church sent donations to our brothers and sisters in the Philippines. Many families were without food and houses were flooded as a strong typhoon hit Northern Luzon, Philippines. Also, Chiangmai Grace Church sent a Christmas gift to the TCM ministry in East Timor.



Ladies preparing the gift-bags



Joe prepares the gospel tracts



Gift-bags are ready for distribution



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Address Correction
 Requested



Maraat UPDATE



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Our Christmas celebration at Banthi went well though our attendance was down. There were around 30 individuals who came for our Christmas evangelism. During the previous two years, our attendance was in the 70s. We praise God for the opportunity of sowing the gospel among the people of Thailand.

Family update. Andrea is finishing up her two-year contract of teaching Biology at Yongsan International School in Seoul, South Korea. Josiah is in Dumaguete City, Philippines studying Nursing at Silliman University.



Banthi Christmas Celebration 12-19-2020

Prayer requests

- Please pray for continued protection for Josiah in the Philippines and Verna and I in Thailand as it is still hard to get COVID Vaccines.
- Pray as we are in the process of renewing our visa since it will expire second week of May. The process is very tedious and expensive as we have to do it every year.
- Pray that God will send a missionary to help us here in Thailand.
- Pray for a Thai person who will become a spiritual leader to our Church.
- Pray with us that those who heard the gospel will one day respond positively.
- Pray for a miracle rain. This is the time of year when there is so much burning of fields and forests in Chiangmai and other northern provinces. It creates hazardous smoke in the air.
- Pray for open doors in Thailand as a result of the pandemic.



*Chiangmai Grace Church
 Christmas Celebration 12-27-2020*

Beloved, partnership is very vital in missions. We sincerely ‘Thank You’ to everyone for standing behind us in praying and giving!

With much love in Christ Jesus,

Genesis and Verna Maraات

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