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## April 2008

“One day, a poor boy who was selling goods from door to door to pay his way through school, found he had only one thin dime left, and he was hungry. He decided he would ask for a meal at the next house. However, he lost his nerve when a lovely young woman opened the door. Instead of a meal he asked for a drink of water! She thought he looked hungry so brought him a large glass of milk. He drank it so slowly, and then asked, “How much do I owe you?” You don’t owe me anything,” she replied. “Mother has taught us never to accept pay for a kindness.” He said ... “Then I thank you from my heart.”

As Howard Kelly left that house, he not only felt stronger physically, but his faith in God and man was strong also. He had been ready to give up and quit.

Many year’s later that same young woman became critically ill. The local doctors were baffled. They finally sent her to the big city, where they called in specialists to study her rare disease. Dr. Howard Kelly was called in for the consultation. When he heard the name of the town she came from, a strange light filled his eyes. Immediately he rose and went down the hall of the hospital to her room. Dressed in his doctor’s gown he went in to see her. He recognized her at once. He went back to the consultation room determined to do

his best to save her life. From that day he gave special attention to her case. After a long struggle, the battle was won. Dr. Kelly requested the business office to pass the final bill to him for approval. He looked at it, then wrote something on the edge and the bill was sent to her room. She feared to open it, for she was sure it would take the rest of her life to pay for it all. Finally she looked, and something caught her attention on the side of the bill. She read these words, “Paid in full with one glass of milk” (Signed) Dr. Howard Kelly. Tears of joy flooded her eyes as her happy heart prayed: “Thank You, God, that Your love has spread broad through human hearts and hands.” (the writer not known by us) Ec 11:1 Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.

Our family has been helped not only by monthly support and prayers which has allowed us to be involved directly in the formation of one church and via that church involved indirectly in formation of four or five others. There has been another facet of help that has come our way in the form of looking after and helping our own kids when they have gone to the States. . How do we say thank you to these people, some of whom we know and some we do not? The only thing we can

say is. “Thank you God that your love has been spread broad through human hearts and hands” and has been returned to us many fold.”

Isaac: is going back to the States on the 16 of this month to catch up on some things. He does not really see himself as an American. Marci, our #4. wrote a song that concludes; she wasn’t a Thai and that she wasn’t an American but a citizen of a land she has neve seen. Kids going back to the States from the mission field have it hard. We appreciate, beyond words, The Lord expressing his love through you, giving many of you hearts of service and helps. We pray that you too will find“thy bread (you cast) upon the waters” Thank you!

This is one of the few times I could sit down and write another prayer letter -- I may. Let me suffice it to say we need your prayers. We have some new Christians and even ourselves that need protection from the attacks of Satan. We are seeing growth like we have not seen in twenty years. If there is one thing I have learned its -- Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

Needing your Prayer

Tim & Maureen

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## December 2007

It has been a roller coaster year; mostly up hill, wondering which direction the next corner was going to take but knowing that we are in it for the ride wherever it takes us. We wondered when the down hill was going to come and how fast. I have never thought of it like this but as I am sitting here it is not a bad analogy.

Since our last letter, Sye Chone brought his wife to church. Oat has brought his wife and twins...it was a challenge preaching over two cooing babies in the back of the church. (I'll gladly put up with that "imposition"). Baan, his wife Bee and their 7 year old have started coming --- probably not saved. Things have picked up noticeably. Needless to say we are thankful.

Today was our Christmas celebration. Midway through the song service an older gentleman we had never seen before came in and told Tim he was ready to be baptized. After Tim got over the initial shock he invited the man in to worship with us. It was very evident he knew his Bible. As it turns out he is an ex con, just out after serving three years. While in prison he took the correspondence course offered by AMG. Tim took Chew Cheep home after church and talked with him about his salvation. He also said he wanted to dedicate himself as a religious servant for a length of time. He was thinking in

Buddhist terms of becoming a Christian monk.

It has been a joy to see our latest female convert begin to serve, quietly, not asking for any recognition. Amnuay, has taken over the kitchen responsibilities which has been a great help. God has given her a gift of diplomacy.

After church we gave each of the families in the church a 5 kilo bag of rice. Sye Chone turned around and knelt, a sign of respect, in front of one of our elderly women who has no one to take care of her, and gave her his bag of rice.

Ting, our 28 year old mentally challenged member sweeps the front of the church. This is his regular job and he does it well. We give him 15 baht to do his job. Tim taught him that he keeps 10 baht and 5 baht he gives in the offering. Today, after the meal, while Tim was dishing out cake and ice cream, Ting was found to be washing dishes in the water used to mop the floor. He was very proud that he was helping. Bless Amnuay, she praised Ting and very silently waited until he left and began washing the dishes all over again. Ting came in to ask for his money from Tim. I reminded Tim that we had not taken an offering. Tim didn't say anything about giving to Ting, but Ting went over to the offering bag and put his 5

baht in, very pleased that he could do so. No one else in the church thought to give. Ting only knows and comprehends that God is great and his favorite song is "How Great Thou Art."

For some time we were bemoaning the fact that we had people with a lot of baggage. In August we were accused of having a church with undesirables. And when we really thought about it, it is true, former prostitutes being made whole because of Jesus. Alcoholics coming back again and again because they are looking for the peace in their lives that Jesus give. Ex-cons, adulterers, mentally challenged, these are the type of people God gave for us to work with and for. When these people have tried everything and found themselves in the balance, Jesus was there. We his instruments almost missed the awesomeness of seeing these lives changed.

Its been challenging year. I'm sure it has been the same for you. In Jesus name thank you for your sacrifice. A special thanks to Mrs. Joy Hardin for a phenomenal amount of work she did on our Thai Hymn Book. All 322 songs are finished!! Glory!! Go to Google and search on Hymn Book Thailand. We are #1.

Tim & Maureen

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# Thailand

October 7, 2007

The saying goes, “Birds of a feather flock together.”

In our last prayer letter we said something about it taking about 10 years to know what impact we have had on any individual.

Over 10 years ago we taught English in one of the poorer areas of town. We handled it like a Bible Club. From that contact a boy named Oat began coming to church. He was never faithful at anything except playing his guitar. He came and went, came and went!

10 years later, a month ago, Oat comes to the house with a lot of questions. He then came to church and brought with him another man, SyeChon who Oat led to the Lord. Oat and SyeChon play and sing in one of the local “clubs”. Together they began bringing 2-5 more men and women every service. Oat, on his own has been going to jails witnessing, playing his guitar for an opener.

Noi, the drunk man who broke up our New Year’s baptismal service almost two years ago, came back and apologized publicly and asked permission to come and worship again.

The lady who literally “threw a fit” that we mentioned in our last prayer letter grew increasingly aggitated and caused a very noticeable disruption during one of the services. When asked, she said she doesn’t want all these sinners in church! It was decided she was going to find a church with no sinners!

So we have Baeow, a former Muslim (married 7 times and the one he’s with is not his wife). Sounds Biblical to me! Ammnuy a new Christian. Both are goat herders. Bling and Loon, both former prostitutes. Ding, a 27 year old retarded man from the village. Oat and SyeChon, bar players and Noi the town drunk!

**IS GOD TRYING TO TELL US SOMETHING!**

This month the schools are out for midyear. Teen camp is the 8-12. We have canceled our two men interns this month as well our English classes.

We are waiting for the children’s department to come for a visit before we can conclude the adoption of Benjamin. Oh yes, we have a 16 year old, young boy, named Dong. He comes to

us after getting caught for stealing a motorcycle. He had a penalty and restitution to pay. He has worked off the bill and continues to be faithful coming to work. He seems to want to make something of his life. Pray specifically for his salvation. Oh yes, we will send you a follow up in 10 years!

Please pray for:

- 1) Salvation of Dong.
- 2) Noi to stop drinking. I believe he wants to.
- 3) Loon one of our older woman has terrible pain in her eyes.
- 4) Isaac to continue growing emotionally and Spiritually.
- 5) The adoption process to kick into gear. This is holding up any decisions to be made.
- 6) Our finances and the need to raise our support to make up the loss of 30%.
- (7) For a Thai pastor to come and love our people.

Praise the Lord for our many churches and individuals that have been faithful for years. “Thank You” dosen’t seem a strong enough word.

In the Paddy  
 Tim & Maureen  
 Isaac and Benjamin

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# Thailand

Aug 15,2007

**AMNUAY:**

Amnuay is the girlfriend of one of our men, Bow. Bow who was a Muslim accepted the Lord about 4 years ago. About a year ago he began bringing a lady to church. Single women usually don't go anywhere with a single man alone, so he also brought his 70 year old mother also. About 6 weeks ago, Maureen asked Amnuay about Salvation. Bow answered and said she had accepted the Lord. Tim went and talked with her that afternoon and she just said she felt good going to church. Two weeks later, Maureen talked with her about being saved again. Bow began to answer and Maureen insisted that Amnuay talk for herself. Amnuay explained how she came to believe in Jesus, but she was afraid to tell Tim. She was afraid that Tim would force her to be baptized and she is really afraid of going into water. Maureen keeps asking her when she is going to make it public and she keeps saying, "Soon."

**CHURCH:**

For a long time things at church have been tranquil and I was tempted to think we were actually growing. Usually, if someone asks me how the church is doing I'll answer, "Wait 10 years and I'll tell you." Our people were asking questions even while I was preaching. They were cleaning the church and food was being made every

week. If we had 9 adult members 99.9% of the time we had 9.

This past month we may have taken a step backwards. Maureen was teaching Lah to teach Sunday School. Lah blew up and walked off because one of the kids wouldn't read for her. The same "teacher" threw a fit when we asked each member to take a week preparing food. On the other hand two unsaved ladies said they wanted to help. The result! One of the "unsaved" is getting up courage to tell the people she has accepted the Lord. Responsibility has been divided and the nationals are paying for it. So was our step backwards or forwards? You will have to ask again in 10 years.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Teen camp is coming up in October. We expect to have 10-15 teens going this year because of our outreach in the village.

A Thai preacher in Korat wants to put the **Soul Winning booklet on DVD**. He is making plans with Tim to do this.

The **Thai song book**, Karoke style, is about 1/3 finished. A very big "Thank You" to those who have volunteered to help. After we get the files from the States it takes many steps to finish each song. We once thought it would take five years to finish. The way it is going,

we hope to have it finished by furlough early next year.

**ISAAC/ACCIDENT:**

Isaac had an operation to take the metal screws and wire out of his knee. The doctor told him his femur wasn't strong enough to have the metal plate taken out. We really thank God those of you who prayed for him. He has gone through a time of transformation the last month, for which we have prayed and worked toward for several years now. Two weeks ago we took the insurance receipts to the insurance office. Since the accident last October, about \$3,000 was spent up front on the vehicle, hospital for two people, and rehabilitation. Some receipts were stolen at the hospital. The insurance company decided not to cover some of the receipts on the vehicle and a \$300 check was taken by the passenger in the car. We will be reimbursed about \$2,000 sometime in the future.

**FURLOUGH / SUPPORT:**

**Thank you for those who are investing in the Lord's work here in Thailand!**

Sometime early next year we are planning a furlough. The devaluation of the dollar, loosing several churches as well as added responsibilities is putting a strain on finances. We need to raise support.

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## Thailand

### June 2007

**CHURCH:** March, SS 4 yrs. to 14 yrs. 9 gifts have been given to kids who memorized the names of the books of the NT with key context phrases.

March - May is summer vacation. The attendance was really down. One teen girl won a contest for attendance, personal Bible study and Bible Memorization.

**Family camp:** Hosted by Surin Baptist Church this year. We had 4 adults and 1 child besides our family. Two of the adults are not saved but considering. April 2009 Nakorn Nayok Baptist Church will be the host.

**May:** School began and attendance is up. Two unsaved adults and 4 kids are attending besides our regular members. La, our SS teacher is teaching every Sunday with Maureen now being the assistant.

A teen program in Tha Daan village has begun with 2 men from Ricky Salmon's Bangkok work heading it up. This gives Jay and Nate experience before they head off to begin their own work. They have had an average of 19 in attendance.



**Wiang Khan:** We've been supporting and helping a Thai national Pastor begin a new work in the North. To date three adults have been saved with an average of 7 adults visiting every Sunday.

Midweek prayer services are being held in two differ-

ent locations. One in Tha Daan on Wednesday and on at another members' home closer to town on Thursday. Both are well attended.

**PROJECT HYMNAL:** The music from our hymnal is in the process of being recorded. To date 120 of 400 songs have made it to disk. We need pianists to help record the remainder. Office workers have typed and programed the music into a the computer and put everything into Karoke style DVD's. It has been checked and rechecked and the final work is being done. With new churches springing up all over the country, this DVD will enable these new works and those without pianists to have a decent song service.



**FAMILY:** We are doing fine. Our little guy Benjamin has lived with us 4 of his 7 years. In Feb. we began adoption proceedings. By the years' end Benjamin Robert Searles will be a member of our family.

We are thinking of taking a furlough beginning Feb or March for about 5 months. If you desire to have us for a meeting, please let us know. For one reason or another we have lost the financial support of 6 churches. That and with the devaluation of the dollar, we have lost an equivalent of over \$1000 a month. Our need is to raise more support.

In Juses Name thank you for your love and support. We thank Him who has NEVER let us down and given us an opportunity to see Him work in this very different country.

Tim & Maureen