Over the Christmas holidays and New Years, we were blessed to be able to visit with 3 of our children and their families in Redding California. Our oldest daughter, Janie and her husband, Joel live there with their two young children. Our youngest daughter Rachel was there and Josiah, our younger son, and his wife along with 10 month old daughter were able to fly out and be with us from Florida too. It was a very special time of reconnecting with all of them. We love our family very much and are proud of them all! We draw so much joy from our relationship with them. Honestly, one of the hardest things about being a missionary is being apart from them. But sometimes separation can cause us to love and appreciate one another even more.

Although we weren't able to be with our oldest son, Isaac, during Christmas, we were able to visit him in Mae Sot before we left. Thanks to your generosity we were able to give school supplies and other gifts to the teachers and children in the school he supports. This is a school for the children of migrant workers from Myanmar. It is a great outreach to over a hundred children and their families.

On the day we returned to Thailand we were blessed to have Norival and Christina Trindade come minister to our leadership team and to some of our beautiful saints. They lead a mission organization that trains Christian leaders all over the world and were in Bangkok to train leaders from Southeast Asia. They graciously made the time to come and minister to our brothers and sisters. What a blessing they were to us on a personal level as well as to our spiritual family here. God is faithful to send us help when we need it!

While we were in the USA our team faithfully continued serving, loving, and sharing the gospel with people. On returning we heard testimonies of healings and new people coming to Jesus. Praise the Lord!

As we begin this new year, we are full of expectation of good things ahead. This year we will see many come into the Kingdom of God!

Thank you for helping us be a part of what God is doing in Thailand!

Mrs. Lum, a faithful believer in our fellowship, reached out to Mrs. Dow who was very ill. Her liver was hardened and her stomach protruded as if she was about 8 months pregnant. She was going to the doctor frequently to remove the fluids from her stomach, but the swelling always came back. She was unable to work to support herself in this condition and she felt quite hopeless. Mrs. Lum and Mrs. Ban visited her and began praying for her. After a while, she opened her heart and received the Lord. Within a few days the swelling went down, her strength has returned and she is able to begin supporting herself. Praise the Lord for his merciful kindness to heal and save!

Mr. Joy came to the Lord because he could not find peace. He was angry and bitter with a relative who had borrowed a large sum of money from him 4 years prior and had not paid his debt nor even mentioned why he hadn't repaid him. Mr. Joy was bitter over this and couldn't sleep because he was so upset. One day Mr. Don, a new believer, shared that Jesus could help him find peace. After hearing the gospel, Joy received Jesus and was able to let go of the bitterness over the money. The relative has yet to pay him back but he is at peace. We recently met with him in his field to encourage him in his faith. His adult daughter came and listened to the gospel while we were there. She opened her heart and was baptized.

Mrs. Som had been a believer for many years but was not a part of our fellowship. She began having demonic dreams at night and was very frightened. Some of her relatives began pressuring her to go to the spiritualist to get the demon to stop bothering her. After a while she agreed to go. The spiritualist said in order for him to help her, she would have to stop being a follower of Jesus. She agreed to turn her back on the Lord. Afterwards, the dreams stopped but Som felt miserable. Her little restaurant was doing very poorly so she asked one of our believers if she could use her building. Mrs. Lum agreed but began praying for her and sharing God's love with her. One day, Som confessed she felt so bad about what she had done and wanted to come back to the Lord. We prayed a repentance prayer with her and she wept as the Lord touched her heart. Since then, her food stall is doing great business and she is trusting in the Lord again. Please pray for her and others who have similar situations. If bad things start happening to Christians their friends and relatives often pressure them to go back to the old ways. Pray that they will have grace to be faithful no matter what happens!

'Thank you for your prayers and support! We love you!' Bill & Julie Hughes

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