

Message from The Gilberts – Missionaries to Thailand – February 7, 2008

Sawatdii (hello) from Don & Sandra Gilbert!! This is our sixteenth newsletter to update you on our missionary journey to Chiang Mai, Thailand.



Both mother and son of the Thai family who lives with us were **baptized** at year-end. The assembled church sang songs, prayed, then watched as five people total were immersed in the river. Then they spread their food and everyone celebrated as

they ate fried chicken, rice, and chocolate cake, all Thai style. Praise God for their faithfulness, and pray for the Thai churches as they reach out to Thai people!



The violence in Bangkok has subsided as the government agreed to oust the accused politicians and install a new government. We praise God for this peaceful resolution, and pray for continued peace in Thailand.



Don was able to join with a team from Houston, Texas in a mission trip to Mae Sariang, a poor farming community in the mountains. A single Christian man on the school board there has convinced the board that schools can spend a week a year holding an “**English Camp**” led by a visiting church. What an opportunity to share the Gospel! If you or someone from your church would like to join us in an English Camp mission trip to a small school in late July, write back right away. Four people from our former church in Poughkeepsie New York will be there!



Our ministry at Grace International School is doing well! In addition to her seventh grade classes, Sandra was able to teach English Literature (her college minor) for a month and really enjoyed getting to know the seniors at Grace. Continue to pray for the two Buddhist girls in her class, Lita and Kwan. Pray also for a student’s mother who was mauled by a tiger two weeks ago. She is a key driver for relief ministries to Burma, and is still in the hospital.



Don and 30 students did a prayer walk around the inner city of Chiang Mai. Each group prayed out loud for the many lost – Chiang Mai has more Buddhist temples per capita than anywhere else in the world. He has also been searching for a new Computer Services director so he can move into school administration. Please pray that the right person will be provided by God!

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Don has also spent a lot of time helping with **teacher recruiting**. This August, instead of the normal teacher turnover of maybe 12 people, Grace is looking for almost 30 positions! Please check out our new video “Teach in Thailand” at our web site, www.gisthailand.org and tell some retired or mission-minded teachers that you know to watch it as well. Note also that we need someone to do programming and web design! If you would like a DVD with lots of videos about Grace ministry to show at your church, let us know. Pray with us that God will supply each position needed!

Sandra has started a new ministry to help her meet Thai people. She saw a new Thai video store opening and offered her expertise as a consultant (having spent years as a district manager in video chains). The owner enthusiastically accepted her offer (although he couldn’t believe she would help without pay), and now she is expanding her circle of friends. Please pray that Sandra will reach many people and be able to share with them!



Don has continued his music ministries with students at Grace and at The Gathering, a growing church in Chiang Mai. Pray that Don’s music student, Gale, will receive Jesus as Savior. A few weeks ago, Don & Sandra were privileged to go to a concert put on by Hillsong, a church in Australia that has greatly influenced contemporary Christian music. This gathering in Chiang Mai drew Christians from countries across Asia and with almost 10,000 people, was the largest Christian gathering in Thailand. It was awesome!!

Thank you all again for your continued prayers for [Sam, our grandson](#). We have a weekly Skype video session with him (and his mom, Teesa!). At 28 months old, he is potty trained and loves to tell us about his exploits in the mountains of Boone, NC. He loves to sing worship songs at church and at home, Teesa reports. He has had no heart problems since last April, and is a miracle baby!



Thank you all for your many prayers, letters, and calls! Our US telephone number is always available (about 12 hours different from US time) if you can call us: 919-848-3514.

In Christ,

Don & Sandra