

CHRISTMAS 2008 UPDATE

Thailand Newsletter from the Hilderbrand's

www.worldbasethailand.org

UPDATED WEBSITE!! Please see our newly designed website for Worldbase Thailand. Thank you to Larry LeLievre of Xhype Communications for the design and management of our new website.

Weather

This has been the longest cold streak we have ever experienced in our ten years here in Thailand. We have not turned on our air conditioner at night for several weeks. The air is cool and clear, sometimes we are downright cold. You can walk down the street without dripping sweat. Old timers tell me that this is how it used to be in Thailand. The winters were comfortable. People wore sweaters at night. It's that way again. So much for global warming.

The Witch Doctor and the Baptism

Right before Matthew arrived home from Azusa Pacific, I drove George Butron (Our Asia Area Missionary) and Scott Haken to Mae Sot. We arrived in time to join a Christmas party at our Mae Sot International Church. The next day George Butron participated in the baptism of eleven people at the Mae Sot Foursquare Church, including a former witchdoctor.



Bajan, a village witch doctor, had not been able to sleep for over a year. She had spent almost \$1,000 on other spirit doctors trying to help her be free of the spirits that were controlling her. She finally heard of Pastor John and the Foursquare Church in Mae Sot through a family member who had just become a Christian. She came to church where several people prayed for her to be set free. That night was the first night that she was able to sleep in a long time. She immediately burned her idols, upsetting some other family members, but set her heart on following Jesus and in December she was baptized.

Moving Furniture

The Pastor of our Burmese Church in Bangkok came to me about a two weeks ago. He was apologetic about his church not being able to contribute more to the construction of our new ministry center. So he made a play on scripture by saying, "Gold and silver have we none, but what we do have, we give to you, our men and our muscles to move furniture." This past week, several men from the Burmese church have worked hard to move the heaviest items into the new building, even moving large desks and file cabinets from the fifth floor of the old building to the seventh floor of the new.



We are still moving equipment into the new building. We have to clean and scrub both buildings. One to get ready to hand back to the owner, the new one to get ready for our opening ceremony on January 9.

Praise Report and Prayer Need

We have the parent of a student at our English school who is a computer programmer. He is willing to design a computer program for our school that would include registration, accounting and even allow us to take registration online. Right now we do it all the old

fashioned way – paper and pen. Plus, he will do it for FREE!

However, we do not have the hardware to operate the system. All our computers are old and out of date. Pray about helping us purchase the hardware to run the system. The cost would be about \$3,000 to \$4,000.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray that we would be fully operation in the new building by January 5 when English classes start again. Everything needs to be up and running again by then.

Please pray for more language teachers. We will have four full time teachers for 700 students by January. That's enough, but we could use more.

Please pray for our language teachers by name: Evan, Andy, Tina and Corey. Pray that our teachers would develop friendships quickly and be effective in sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray that these “seekers” and new believers can be disciplined in the Thai church.

Pray that God would raise up new leaders so that we can follow through with our plan to plant more churches in Bangkok.

Pray for the New Bible College that we would grow and be able to raise up new leaders for the future.

Pray for the new Drug Rehab Center in Chiang Mai and the finances to continue its operation.

Continue to pray for everyone's health. Also pray for our continued protection, especially as we travel.

Let us know how we can pray for you.