

April 2010

Dear Friends and Family,

A couple months have gone by since our last update. Though we haven't traveled anywhere except for a couple trips to Chiang Mai, life in Chiang Rai has moved along at a good pace. God has been so very good to us and the work of MMF.

On the ministry front, MMF's institutional donors have confirmed their support for many of MMF's major projects for 2010. Meanwhile, the new cross border HIV/AIDS initiative with Burmese migrant people, which is being carried out through a consortium, is just getting off the ground. Sixteen participants from Eastern Shan State in Burma attended a week-long health worker training in April.

On the family front, the kids had two weeks off of school at Easter. Their Easter break coincides with the Thai New Year Water Festival. To escape the April heat I took a few days off as well and with my family climbed up Khun Tan, a favorite mountaintop retreat.

Over the past three months during my spare time, I've been working on a earthen pizza oven with lots of coaching from Chuck Fox, a fellow IM worker who works with the Akha here in Chiang Rai. I finally, finished it this month. No, I'm not opening a pizza parlor. This is a hobby and helps me unwind.



I'm sharing few more pictures of family events:

The Thai New Year is a time of blessing and asking for blessing from our elders. Here, Tan pours water on her elder's hands in a ceremony of blessing.



Tan joined the women in our Thai church for an overnight women's retreat on a lake.

And Alisa poses proudly with her brothers in her prom dress last weekend.



As many of you are aware, there is a very serious political crisis in Thailand which continues unabated. Two main factions both claiming the support of the Thai masses, have clashed several times in recent weeks. Troops have been called out to break up demonstrations that have clogged main business centers in Bangkok. People have died and violence continues. While we are safe where we are, I ask that you please pray for negotiation and compromise, which I believe is only way to find a peaceful solution.

The MMF staff team and our families are will attend a 4-day retreat in May. Please pray we will all be renewed and re-energized, and be drawn closer to each other. I would also appreciate your prayers for me since I am to lead much of the retreat.

I plan to come to the US this June to visit some of you all. I will be accompanied by my son Silas and one of my colleagues at MMF – Boriboon. Silas and I will return to Chiang Rai in July to rejoin Tan and our other two kids.

Thanks for your prayers and faithfulness,

Scott and Tan