

May 2023



Dear friends and family,

I love the sweet fruits of mangosteen, lam yai, jackfruit, and mangoes at this time of the year. My 2 mango trees have a lot of fruit and an orchid that I bought 3 years ago blossomed for the first time. Although it has been the hottest summer ever recorded in Thailand, it is also a beautiful time of new life, color and abundance.

And God continues to give to our team here an abundance of opportunities and blessings reflective of the season. Below are some highlights.

#### An answer to prayer for our Sunday church service



Our small Thai church meeting at the student center has been in need of someone who has the time and heart to go into the local community and make contacts. The student ministry takes up a lot of our time and the current leader of the church, Professor Awd, is the Dean of the Pharmacy Department at the university. A few weeks ago we had a recent Thai seminary graduate and his wife, Wit and Muey (with son Samuel), visit our team to see if they would like to join us in ministry. Praise the Lord, they decided to join us. They are an answer to prayer. They have already found a small house to rent and have joined in the activities at our small church plant. Wit, Muey and Professor Awd will take over the responsibility of the church and the teaching while we come beside them. Wit and Muey will also help disciple students who may be interested in studying the Bible. We have had a number of male students interested in knowing more about the Bible and Lord willing, good connections can be started with Wit.

#### Finding blessings in random activities

It is term break right now and my ministry slows down. It's actually a difficult time for me as I like the busyness of ministry life. There has been plenty of work to do as we oriented Wit and Muey and went on prayer walks. We have also been preparing for 6 short-term workers to come next month for college internships. However, I have found sweet blessings in some random activities as seen in the 4-picture collage on page 2.

**The blessing of fellowship (Top Left).** At the end of March, I was invited to attend a dinner and Bible story discussion by Professor Phayom, a friend who came to know the Lord while studying in Scotland years ago. Her friend Sandy was in town from the U.S. and led the discussion. It was an evening of good discussion and good food. Pray that Jing, Apple and Pu will reach out to Professors Phayom or Awd to know more about Jesus.

**The blessing of a growing friendship (Top Right).** I continue to get to know Professor Pat better and she recently introduced me to a new professor in her department, Prof. Prae. The three of us had a really nice, relaxing time together. Prof. Pat continues to be a devout Buddhist, spending her days off taking her mom to temples to receive blessings. Her job, caring for her mother and Buddhism are her passions. A great work of the Holy Spirit is needed!

**The blessing of being a blessing (Bottom Left).** A male student, Pack, who you may remember from my last prayer letter, has stayed in town over term break. Just this week he started his student teaching at a high school near the campus. I continue to get together with him and he has consistently attended our Sunday services. It has been a blessing to walk beside him as he has struggled with his mental health. Praise the Lord, he has been smiling a lot more and says that he is feeling a lot better. Pray that he will become a believer!



**The blessing of teaching (Bottom Right).** Lastly, I was able to have a few meals with 4 Pharmacy students who will be doing short internships in Japan and at Auburn University in Alabama. They were coming to our English Corner where we practiced English using stories about Jesus. Pray for Winner and Fame (yes, those are their nicknames!), who will leave for Auburn University soon and for Belle and Soft, heading to Tokyo.



### What God has been teaching me

You may wonder why I usually add this section to my prayer letters? It is both a reminder and an encouragement that in the midst of all the activities that we do, it is more important to BE in Christ. I want to keep the focus on Jesus, not only in what He is doing in Thailand but what He is working out in my heart as well. The Lord continues to sanctify me through this work! He has revealed strengths and gifts that I didn't know I had as well as weaknesses and the sins of my heart. *Phil. 2:13 - "...for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose."* I know that God daily works out His purposes for me even when I don't fully understand what He is doing. I only need to trust Him in the process!

Thank you for reading my prayer letter and praying for the work in Thailand! I would love to hear from you so please feel free to reach out.

May God continue to bless and sanctify each of you for His glory!

Blessings,  
Amy Cottle

#### Prayer requests:

- Praise the Lord for Wit, Muey and Samuel joining our team! Pray for their finances. They are receiving a small stipend from an OMF fund but will need more money for their living expenses.
- Pray that Jing, Apple and Pu will want to know more about Jesus
- Pray for a great work of the Holy Spirit in Prof. Pat's life
- Praise the Lord that Pack has been feeling much better about his life! Pray, now, that he will become a believer.

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