

Bird Seed-March 2010

Matthew 18:20 “For where two or three come together in my name there am I with them.”

Valentine’s Party

We had a great time sharing God’s Love at our valentine’s party. We enjoyed some sweet treats and then most of us went out for a game of bowling. (No comment on my score, but we had a great time!!)

Student Pae

Relationships begin in many different ways. Some are from teaching, some through patronizing local businesses, some from a friend of a friend, but Pae came to me a different way. As I was walking back to the CGM Center from Big C (Thai version of Wal-Mart), I smiled at the local people I was passing by (as I usually do) and politely wai’d the older people to show respect to them. This one particular woman was with her daughter and as they passed me, I smiled and wai’d her. Her daughter turned around and came back to me. In English, she asked me if I knew her mother. I told her I didn’t but that I like to show my respect and to wai and smile makes me happy too. We began a conversation about who I was, what I do and why I was in Bangkok. Two days later, she (Pae) came to the CGM Center to register for a one-on-one conversation course with me. Pae’s English is very good because she lived in the states for about 14 years. She wants to continue to practice her English so she won’t forget it. With her, I can speak in a normal American way and speed. We are into our second term now and have formed a very good friendship. Most of the time, we take our one and a half hour class outside of the center to enjoy life and life situations. We have gone on several outings during our free time also. A couple of Saturdays ago, I got up very early to meet Pae and her mother at a morning market that is near their home. Pae, her mother and I looked around the market for about an hour then we went to their home for breakfast. Her father speaks English well and her mother speaks some. Her father is of Chinese descent and her mother Thai. When Pae’s parents, she and I were ready to eat, I looked at Pae and told her I was going to pray for this wonderful breakfast. Pae asked if I wanted us to all hold hands. (My plan had been to pray for my food, but now, I was going to get to pray for all of us!!) I said I would like that very much, so, I said a prayer

of thanksgiving for the food, the hands that prepared the food, for the love at the table and for our God who gives us all of these wonderful gifts. When I prayed all of these things in Jesus name, Pae and I said amen and her mother and father said amen.....my heart was so happy to have the opportunity to share such a wonderful time with them. I pray there will be many more times such as this with Pae and her parents. A smile and a wai CAN go a long way!!

Trip with Marsha

I went on a trip with a student named Marsha, her daughter Nuor and her sister Bo. We went to the Northeast part of Thailand just a few miles from the Laos border. The person we visited was a lawyer that Marsha knows. The back of his home faces the wooded (jungle) area that leads to Laos. It was dark by the time we got there, so I couldn't see much of the view that he talked about. There was a small manmade lake in his back yard. I could see just a little of it from the lights from the house. He told me about the rock formations in the lake and why they were positioned the way they were (it had to do with luck). He then went to turn on a bright light that lit up the back yard and standing at the lake was a beautiful tiger. I gasped (with excitement) and asked him about the tiger. He said that there are many tigers (and other animals) in the jungle near his home that sometimes comes out at night to have a drink from his lake. I was so thankful to get to see that beautiful tiger and so thankful I was high up on a deck when I saw him!! (No, I wasn't able to get a picture☺)

Sharing during class time

During one of my "Let's Talk 3" classes, we talked about the Chinese New Year. We talked about their traditions and food. The students began to ask questions about American holidays. The first one we talked about was the 4th of July, then, someone asked about Thanksgiving. A student named Bpoo had been to our Thanksgiving party this past year. She began to tell the other students about God's gifts and other things she had learned at the Thanksgiving party. She remembered almost everything we had talked about at the party. I then asked why we eat turkey for Thanksgiving and Be'ah said "because God really loves turkey." We all laughed and I said, I'm sure He does, because He loves everything He created, even turkey."(Our conversation shifted somewhat to creation) Then Be'ah said, "And God said the turkey was good." They also wanted to know more about Christmas and Easter. As I shared and explained, the

questions continued to come. We didn't finish our unit that evening because there were six very interested students in our class that evening.

Kate is a student who has been coming to CGM about a year now. She has been studying with Ar. She has been coming to our between class activities and special activities since she started here. She has also been coming to church for about 3-4 months now. One evening, I invited her to join one of my conversation classes. She is getting ready to be my student and I wanted her to feel more comfortable and confident. I asked my students if it was ok with them if she visited with us for the evening. She did a great job and I know her confidence level rose that evening. One of our questions was, "What is a perfect day for you"? When it was Kate's turn, she said; "My perfect day is Sundays when I come to church with all good person there to pray to Prah Yesu and learn about Him. It make me so happy and make my perfect day." (It was the best spoken answer of the evening!!!)

Congratulations to the Rev. Dr. Mark Bangert family at the arrival of Noah Mark Wolters.

Thanks so much for the prayers, correspondence and gifts of financial support. It's all appreciated more than you could know.

To send support, send your gifts to: LCMS World Missions 1333 S. Kirkwood Rd. St. Louis, Missouri 63122-7295 (please write support Robin McCoy on your check)

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