

## THE FULLER FACTS

### *Life in our ministry here in Thailand*

- Changes in our Visa Situation.
- Future Ministry.
- Ongoing Projects
- Family News
- Cultural Tid-bit

We praise the Lord for the continued opportunity to serve here in Thailand and thank you for the part that you play in our ministry here. We really do see you as a vital part of our team.

### **Changes in our Visa Situation**

As you know in order to stay in a foreign country – one needs a visa. For us we have always had a one year religious visas.

Problems arose in June, just two months before our visa expired. Religious affairs, the governmental department in charge of religious visas, stopped signing paperwork for visas like ours. So we needed an avenue for getting our visa.

NTM of Thailand was already in the process of setting up a foundation for all of its missionaries. For us this meant we had to fill out the necessary paperwork, and leave the country to change over to a visa under the “Sure Foundation Foundation”.

August 27th- one day before our visa expired our family flew to Malaysia and applied for a 90 day “volunteer” visa, with plans to extend to a year visa upon return to Thailand. We were granted the 90 day visa, but are finding it more difficult than expected to get a one year extension.



## PRAYER ITEMS

- Our projects will be approved
- Finances for extra travel to Chiang Mai
- Branch office to open at our house in Dong Noi.
- Good relationship with Governmental officials
- Continued good relationship with co-workers
- Receptive hearts as people hear God's Word
- Camilla's continued health
- Camilla and Hannah's schooling
- Schumachers on home assignment

## Future Ministry

What does having a volunteer visa mean to our ministry? Most importantly our goal of church planting remains the same. Now as a “volunteer”, we are required to do projects that fall under educational, agricultural, and/ or humanitarian categories and submit those projects to local governmental officials for approval. If they don't sign off on our projects we will not be granted a visa to stay in the country.

We have always felt it necessary to be involved with the people through doing projects and by taking on a likeness of our neighbors through gardening, raising animals and being farmers ourselves. Many of the projects that we will be doing are activities we have already done in the past, and indeed are currently involved in.

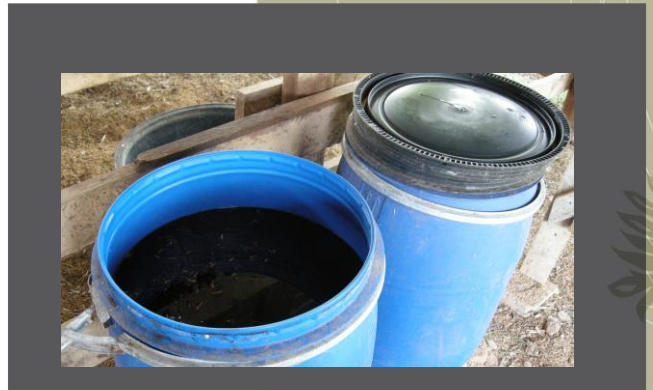
Part of submitting and getting approval for projects also involves the establishment of a branch office of our foundation in our province, specifically in our home. Due to paperwork, we have to wait at least 6 months to have our own branch office at our home. In the meantime, we will need to work at projects out of the main office in Chiang Mai.. This means that we have to travel to Chiang Mai about once a month to sign paperwork, visit and talk to government officials, do projects such as teaching at a Burmese School...

At times we feel divided trying to live here in our village – yet having to do projects in Chiang Mai in order to keep our visa. Lord willing we can get the branch office in our house soon and will be able to continue reaching out the Isaan folks.

## Ongoing Projects

Projects we are planning to propose targeting all ages.

1. Teaching English/writing curriculum for the young people in Dong Noi – We would be teaching groups and hope it would be about an hour a day M-TH. In the future we would teach about 1 ½ hours and include Bible lessons after English.
2. Teaching and making liquid fertilizer for rubber tree plantations and help subsidize the purchase of 50 gallon plastic barrels for interested families. This will help reduce the use and expense of purchasing chemical fertilizers. This project would be directed to the working age group in the village.(once a year)
3. Eyeglass project (as an on-going project once or twice a year) but targeted for folks 40 and up.





# Family News

## Camilla

During her first year of Bible school, Camilla really struggled with her health. She enjoyed the studies, the students, and the school, but her health was very low. As she spent the summer with Laurie's sister she was able to find a Christian doctor that truly cared enough to find out what her health issues were. Because of a hormonal imbalance she had no energy and she couldn't fight off even a simple common cold. Now she is on medication to help build her immune system and on vitamin supplements. She is feeling much better now and is just starting her second year at New Tribes Bible Institute in Jackson, MI.

## Hannah

It is hard to believe, but Hannah is in 11<sup>th</sup> grade this year. She continues to work hard at her classes and has especially enjoyed Home Economics.

About 2 months ago Hannah was able to go to a work project, where she helped plant grass and carry rocks, as part of a flood prevention project at a small Bible college.

She was with many of her friends, so she had a great time, even though it was hard work.

Recently, she has been teaching English on Saturdays to a young girl named Nom. She is enjoying getting to know Nom and they have a good time together.



## Praise Item

We want to praise God for His constant care and enabling.

We want to praise God for the way He has gone before Camilla and provided all she needs.

We want to praise God for safety as we have traveled many miles.

We want to praise God for the opportunities He gives us to represent Him here.

We praise God for the people who stand with us in prayer and support.

September, 2012

## CULTURAL TID-BIT

Here in Thailand in every little village and town- each year folks observe Buddhist Lent. This is a time that the Monks stay in the boundaries of their temple area. They are restricted so that they don't trample neighbor's rice as they have done in the past.

Also during this 3 month period Aug. to Oct. young boys are ordained as novices. This tradition is very important to help bring fortune and merit to the family – especially for the mother who, as a woman cannot become a monk.



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