

# Family & Ministry Update

## THAILAND



Leading a discipleship forum for the leadership team of a church in San Sai District of Chiang Mai Province. This church is a vibrant community of faith with a high percentage of new believers, many of whom come from backgrounds of neglect and exploitation.

**Student Ministry Day Outreach of Grace International School.** Emily and her classmates spent a fun day at an elementary school in Hang Dong District of Chiang Mai, playing games, teaching English and loving the kids. While this event happens only once a year, Emily is part of a club that ministers regularly at a children's home. She is also co-leading a Bible study for 7th grade girls each Wednesday night.



**Serving on the advisory board of a charitable foundation in Chiang Rai Province.** This organization is focused on bringing social and spiritual transformation to ethnic Lahu communities through relational discipleship, Bible teaching and community development.

**Sharing the gospel at a Christmas party at a university in Lampang Province.** A church we partner with organized a Christmas outreach for professors at a university where many of the young people of the church attend. One of the professors (a believer) said that this was the first time anyone had shared the Christmas story and gospel with professors there.





## THAILAND CONTINUED



**Thanking the janitorial staff of Grace International School.** Angie organized a special thank you for school team members who are often taken for granted. This is her eleventh and last year teaching first grade at Grace International School. After this school year, she will be transitioning to new ministry focused on encouraging mothers with young children.

**Coaching leaders in Mae Taeng District of Chiang Mai Province.** These Lahu leaders are sharing the gospel and making disciples in various communities in northern Thailand. We met to discuss how they can help the people they serve to become faithful disciples of Jesus and overcome the obstacles they face along the way. This was the first of several sessions we will have together over the next year.



**Serving as Strategic Development Officer and board member for Family Connection Foundation in Chiang Mai.** This foundation has 15 projects and programs bringing social and spiritual transformation to Thai communities in three provinces. The focus of the Strategic Development Team is to strengthen existing ministries and develop partnerships and opportunities that will lead to more fruitfulness.

**Celebrating the formal dedication of Grace International School's new campus.** Exactly three years after breaking ground at the school's new campus, government officials, former and current staff, students and parents joined together in celebrating God's faithfulness to the GIS community.





# MYANMAR

OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 10, 2019



It was a great blessing to spend almost two weeks ministering in Myanmar. My first stop was Yangon where I led a discipleship training event for pastors and ministry leaders who serve all over the city and in its surrounding rural communities. Then, I shared the gospel in a traditional Burmese home at “KT Village” north of the city. We will be providing an interest free loan to help one of the few followers of Christ in that village to be able to support her family as she starts to make disciples there. After that, I traveled north to the city of Pyin Oo Lwin to visit a ministry partner and share in his church. Then, we traveled together to the city of Magway to lead a discipleship training seminar for pastors and church leaders throughout that province. Magway is one of the most unreached areas of Myanmar, and disciple-makers there face significant opposition. It was a blessing to hear their stories and provide encouragement. One of our partners from the Philippines also joined me on this trip.





## PENANG, MALAYSIA

NOVEMBER 21-23, 2019



It was a great blessing to visit friends and ministry partners in Penang. Over three days, I had six meetings with Malaysians and missionaries who are faithfully serving the Lord there. It was good to hear their stories and exchange ideas with them about life and ministry. We are praying that God opens doors to expand our ministry network beyond Penang as well as looking for ways to strengthen our relationships with the people we already partner with.

## TAIWAN

DECEMBER 27-30, 2019

We took a family vacation to Taichung City and Taipei, Taiwan to visit good friends who minister there. Our friends were excellent hosts who introduced us to several beautiful and interesting places in their city and in the surrounding area. It was a good time to both relax and to reflect upon the goodness of God that has been poured out on both of our families. It was also encouraging to be able to share with one another some of the challenges we face as we have similar ministries.



## EAST JAVA, INDONESIA

JANUARY 9-12, 2020



During this short trip, I shared a devotional with the staff of a social foundation, met with ministry partners, and led a retreat for men and women who share the love of Christ with thousands of poor and oppressed people in the city of Surabaya. We discussed how we can invest our time in pursuing long-term transformation, which can only happen as people enter into true relationship with Jesus Christ. This can be challenging in the often hostile religious context of Indonesia.

# PHILIPPINES

## JANUARY 28 - FEBRUARY 4, 2020



The primary purpose of this trip was to facilitate a small business training event for believers from three provinces of the Philippines in partnership with friends from World Ventures. This training helps disciple-makers understand the process of setting up small businesses that can support their families and ministries. Three of our ministry partners from Indonesia also joined this training. In addition to facilitating this seminar, I also shared at a church in Angeles City, met with a group of pastors from Pampanga Province and spent many hours coaching and making plans with our ministry partners.

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### PRAISES

1. Our ministry network in South East Asia shared the gospel with more than 1000 unreached people around Christmas time and our partners are now following up with those who desire to know more.
  2. We received reports from our partners of new believers expressing their faith through baptism in Thailand, Myanmar, Philippines and Indonesia during the past three months.
  3. Our network of discipleship mobilizers (people who are committed to being faithful followers of Christ in all aspects of their lives and then helping others do the same) is growing.
  4. Through your generosity, our financial support for 2019 was enough to cover our personal and ministry budgets.
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### PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for traveling safety, good health, and protection for Angie and Emily as Shaun travels to the following places:  
Nairobi, Kenya from February 24th to March 3rd  
Mae Sot, Thailand & Myawaddy, Myanmar from March 18th to 23rd  
Illinois, USA from April 10th to 22nd
  2. Pray for better health for Angie, Emily and Jacob and for wisdom on how to resolve some of the health issues they are experiencing.
  3. Pray God's provision of the financial support we need for our personal and ministry budgets for 2020.
  4. Pray for us to walk faithfully under the leadership of the Holy Spirit so our lives can glorify Jesus in all that we do.
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Thank you for your partnership with us. We really appreciate you!

*Shaun, Angie & Emily*