

The Sullivants in Thailand

Michael, Jr. & Maureen
Jessica, Wayne, Wyatt & Charity



August, 2020

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Wow, this has been quite the year, hasn't it? We realize that churches everywhere are feeling the stress of the Covid-19 restrictions. With that in mind, we want to let all of you supporting churches know how much we appreciate your faithfulness in continuing to support us here on the field. We appreciate it in times like these more than ever.

We are praising the Lord that Covid-19 restrictions were lifted to the point where we have been able to have in-person services since the beginning of July. At first, folks were slow to return, but we are pretty much back to where we were pre-Covid. We praise the Lord for a number of first-time visitors that have come since we opened up the church building for regular services again. We ask that you please pray especially for these folks.

An old school friend of one of our regulars started attending our services. There has been no communication between the two for over 30 years, but they are friends on Facebook. They just 'happened' to bump into each other after all these years. This lady's daughter had been watching the Gospel presentations from our church's Facebook page that our church member had been posting. The daughter had come to her mother and told her that she had become a Christian, and asked to be brought to church. They have been attending fairly regularly for the last 2 months. Please pray for their salvation. The mother has not made a profession of faith, but has asked for books her daughter can read at school. She is pulling her from the buddhist meditation time at the beginning of the day, and wants her daughter to be able to study the Bible during that time instead. Very encouraging!

We have also had several co-workers and/or neighbors of our regular attenders visit the church. Some have returned more than once, for which we are grateful. Please pray this continues.

I am also teaching Bible Institute via online classes again this year. I have finished a course on "The Biblical Family," and am now teaching a New Testament Survey class. Please pray for each of these students as they seek to study the Bible further, while still being available to serve in their own local churches.

While the Covid-19 restrictions have changed the way we are all doing ministry these days, one of the major results of these restrictions has been the decimation of the economy. This is fueling the political protests that were back in motion before the Covid-19 lockdown was enforced. The protests in our city have been minimal, but the protests in the capital are once again drawing considerable crowds. I realize that this situation is unfortunately not unique to our field either. Of course, we do not know if this attempt to overthrow the current government will be successful, but if it does come to pass, this will be the 4th time in the 12+ years we have been here. I guess we should be well adjusted to this by now.

Our main concern, is that no matter what happens politically, that the freedom to worship and proselytize would be preserved in any future constitution that is written. Thailand is currently on it's 20th constitution since 1932.

Looking forward, we would also like to request prayer for our visa extension. Our annual visa expires in September. Normally, we have already been able to extend our visa by this time in August. We don't know what the hold-up is exactly, but would very much appreciate your prayers in this matter.

We appreciate all of your birthday greetings for Wyatt and Jessica. We would ask that you continue to pray for Jessica as she looks toward repatriation to Canada. Currently, we can leave the country, but there is no return flight quotas for religious or volunteer visa holders. So that means, until travel restrictions are lifted, she would be forced to go back alone. The ban on return flights for religious and/or volunteer visas has been termed by the government as "indefinite."

So we are praising the Lord that we are still here on our field and able to still minister face to face with the people God has called us to reach. The future is in the Lord's nail-pierced Hands. May all of our faith be increased as we seek to follow our Savior.

God Bless,

Mike Sullivan Jr. & Family

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