The Hennigs Missions in Kanchanaburi Province / Thailand Newsletter 06 / 2015

Dear friends and prayer partners,

time is passing quickly and often we ask ourselves, what happened last week. Probably you may experience something similar. But we can state, that it's never boring.

Reiner's health

In our last newsletter we wrote: "Reiner's health is fine." We could, however, see, how quickly things can change. At May 20th, Reiner said: "I don't feel fine, I have to lie down." The next day there was no real improvement, and he went to our district hospital for a check-up. They found an atrial fibrillation, that means, that only a part of his heart can pump and that his body, therefore, is now much weaker than before. Reiner was sent back home the same day, since the physicians couldn't do anything about it. Reiner can't lift up heavy burdens, and he must lie down often. How good, that we now have honest and willing employees, who lift the heavy things for us. Thus the situation of our lives has changed again a lot. It remains, however, Reiner's task, alarmed by a piercing cry of Christine, to meet certain guests, such as cockroaches, centipedes and scorpions, who honour us by their unexpected appearance, and to provide for them a safe end of their travels.

Christine's health

has improved in the meantime. She needs now less additional oxygen to breathe and her body has become stronger again. Thus she can cook warm meals everyday and do light work in the home. To go up and down our stairs, she can do it now several times per day, if she does it slowly. These are small steps of progress, and we rejoice about it. For longer walks, however, and for big buys in a supermarket, she continues to need a wheelchair. Her improved strength made it possible for Christine, that children from the neighborhood could stay with us again for hours.

Thus we help each other. Sometimes Christine has more strength, sometimes Reiner, and we have a wonderful opportunity to practice the word: "Accept each other as Christ has accepted you."

Learning Thai language

With Reiner it has been going on quite well and he likes to do it. He had a very good language training at high school and had gladly and successfully learned several other languages by himself afterwards. He can very well work with the method he has adopted now, and takes now more time for it as before. He holds our Services at Sunday late afternoon in Thai and preaches in most of them. For this he has got a lot of help from God.

For Christine, however, it has been very difficult. At school, she had no language courses whatsoever, and in becoming a missionary, she had to learn both English and Thai. In English she has made great progress by herself and can communicate quite well. In Thai she can communicate with the Thais working for us and with the children, wo come. Sometimes she preaches in Thai. In 2009 she went to a language school in Bangkok for 6 months. During 2 months, however she couldn't attend that course because of sickness, and she had to start the course several times. In addition the way this course was taught didn't seem to be helpful for Europeans. And she has experienced, that it has been difficult for her to keep newly learned words in her memory. All these experiences produced within her a strong mental block against learning Thai. We urgently need help from God, that she can see, what precisely blocks her and how to overcome it, in order to learn well and successfully Thai.

Visit at the Immigration Office in Bangkok

We have to visit the Immigration Office in Bangkok every 90 days. When we went there on June 3rd, we met there brothers and a sister from CTTM and had a good talk with them.

We decided to get, if possible, resident visa. They cost quite a lot, but allow us, if we meet the requirements for them, to stay in the country indefinitely, and we wouldn't need to renew our visa every year.

Sunday Services at 5 p.m.

We have our Sunday services in the late afternoon. During the last Sundays 5 – 7 children and teenagers came. We were surprised and glad. We realize, that they give their full attention in spite of the fact, that we don't have electrical guitars, professional drums, a beamer, special lighting and other show elements.

About the first two boys, who wanted to live with us

We told you about them in our last newsletter. In the meantime a school

bus has started, that brings children from Lum Sum village 1 and even Lum Sum village 11 to the school they attend. Thus both boys don't need to get up earlier and to come to the main road 323 in order to get this bus. Both boys can continue to live at home, and we think, that this is better for them and for their parents than to live with us.

Help for poor families

If you go from our house to the road 323 and cross it, you enter a small group of about ten houses. Children from that place come to us for play and for Sunday services. Sunday evening, June 14th, after our service, two teenagers came to us and asked us: "Can you give us food, because we don't have anything to eat at home?" As we don't want to give, if we don't know the situation, Reiner asked them: "Please ask your mothers to come, so that we can talk with them before." Within five minutes four mothers sat down in our house. And then we learned the following: In that group of houses there are about 30 people who can work. Most of them hadn't learnt other things than working on a field and live by day wage. But during the rainy season the work on the fields is finished, and now about 15 persons, half of them, don't have any work. That means, that 15 people only bring home 250 THB (less than 7.00 Euro or about 7.40 US\$). With that amount they have to feed the spouse and often 3 to 5 children and to provide clothings and things for the school. That doesn't work. We, therefore, give a part of the needed food for 7 families with 32 members. We asked the mothers, which other possibilities there are to earn money by other means, because our means are limited, and what will they do, if we can't continue our support someday.

Up to now we haven't got any real helpful solutions to help them to help themselves. We are grateful that we got some hints and ideas. The world market, however is so swamped with cheap products, that it is really difficult, to find something useful that these women could produce and sell. Tourism, too, is in a big crisis in Kanchanaburi province. Many busses with Russian tourists had come to our region. Since the crisis in Europe they have stayed away. On this we can see, how dependent the countries are of each other. No one in this world can live for himself.

We think about a project run by 2 or 3 collaborating women, starting a bakery by means of a micro credit. Sweets are very important for Thai people. They want to sweeten their hard lives, even with muffins 5 THB each. We have yet to think more about it.

Last week Christine asked Khun Kanitha, what she would like to do or to learn. Khun Kanitha was very open. She likes very much to work in the

household, to cook, to create things and to sell them. She would like to learn how to bake, but had never done it before. Christine made together with her 3 kinds of muffins. These small cakes are easy to produce in several varieties. May be that might be a new source of income for her. Besides it, she would like to learn to sew with a sewing machine. Maybe there is a way for that, too.

Progress in construction of house nr. 3

As you can see in the pictures at the end of this letter, things were done during the last weeks in our house Nr. 3 The plumbing is now mostly finished. Yet to be done are the installation of the electricity, the sliding doors and windows, the laying of tiles on the concrete floor outside of the house, the furniture inside, the garden door and the garden.

Our vegetable garden

did produce a lot of cucumbers, beans and dill. We have eaten a lot, put a certain amount into conserve and gave to our neighbours. For this we are very grateful. The salads didn't grow well. Water melons and pumpkins have a lot of flowers promising a rich harvest.

Reasons to give thanks

- for the wonderful help of Khun Fon and Khun O in our household, in our garden and in the work at house nr. 3,
- for their readiness to serve us with their car, when we have to buy things or to go somewhere (that s a great help for us),
- for Khun Somdjit und Khun Khamfoi (the parents of Khun Fon), for their efforts with the construction and the ensuing quick progress,
- for Khun Kanitha, who works with us two times per week, if Khun Fon works at the construction of house nr. 3 or in our garden,
- for all the provisions God gave us during the last month.

We ask God

- for a quick and good finishing of the construction of house Nr. 3, and a really safe electric installation,
- · for help with the preparation of our foundation,
- for Christine, that she can see the things, that hinder her to learn the Thai language, and overcome them,
- for getting resident visa for Thailand.

We send you warm greetings from Lum Sum

Yours sincerely

Christine und Reiner Hennig

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We can withdraw cash from this account via ATM in Thailand. The expenses for it are much less than for a transfer from a German account to a Thai account.

In Thailand:

Mr. Reiner Georg Dr. Hennig

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Mr. Reiner Georg Dr. Hennig **Mrs. Christine Margarete Hennig**

ชนาคารกสิกรไทย,

สาขากาญจนบุรี,

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House nr. 3

Tiles are laid in the restroom (below) and in the room with the shower. (left) The shower is to be mounted on the big blue rectangle. In the meantime the plumbing has been nearly finished.

The toilet bowl is emptied into a recharge basin. It is flushed by a hand held vessel. That will save a lot of water in our village poor in water.







3 new tanks for service water arrived at June 15th.

Each one of them holds 1200 I.

Now we have 2 tanks at one side of the house and 4 tanks at the other side.







At the front side of the house the roof extends 4 m forward. Thus we get a room without walls. There a handwash basin was built to make life easier for persons, who need a wheelchair.

At June 17th Khun Somdjit finished 2 new dog kennels using building material left over from the old house 3. The kennels thus fit well into the surroundings.

Left below you see our dog Rüdiger Weißfuß Grabowski in front of his new domicile, right his little sister Moppel,













Things, mostly food, we give to families in need