# The Hennigs Missions in Kanchanaburi Province / Thailand

### Newsletter 1 / 2015

# Dear friends and prayer partners,

an old song states: Persons who pray work wonders. We give, therefore, thanks to God and to all, who prayed for us, and we want to share with you the miracles we experienced.

### 1st miracle: Our Visa

Christine's visa ended at December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014. On December 17<sup>th</sup> the letter needed for the new visa had arrived, and we could go to the Immigration office in Bangkok. There we got the long awaited one year visa until December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 with multiple entry.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> miracle: Christmas party at December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014

As we had so much traveling to and fro because of our visa we had not enough time, power and ideas, how to make our Christmas party for the children of our village.

Pastor Yupin and her niece Khun Yotaka from the "House of Grace" Church in village 11 of Lum Sum drove us with her pick up for a large scale buying of things for our Christmas party. On the road we talked about some of the preparations for the party.

Both women and some members of their church came already at the morning of December 20<sup>th</sup> to help with the preparations, and they brought food, most of it already prepared. And they brought lots of comics, that explained in a very simple and impressive way, why Jesus, the Son of God, was born. Khun Yotaka and Khun Paitoon held a great introduction and taught the children to sing the first verse of "Joy to the world" in Thai. Reiner held a short sermon about the great love of God and hope for us humans. It followed a part with games and fun and a delicious meal. In time after the lunch a man suddenly appeared on his motorcycle with a mobile sales point for Yoghurt. We were glad, that thus all the 80 – 90 visitors got a healthy dessert. And we were glad, that this salesman got a big Christmas sale. As a farewell each child got a bag with things for school and for hygiene.

When we compare this Christmas party with all the others we held before, we must say, that it was the one with the worst preparation, but the best and the most beautiful for the children and for us.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> miracle: To your discretion

That was the remark noted on a bank transfer we got on our bank account. We used a part of it at December 22<sup>nd</sup> for 2 nights in a wonderful small resort at Kanchanaburi City. We could relax very quickly after the many things during the last weeks and had a feeling as if we would have been in holidays for a long time.

### 4<sup>th</sup> miracle: Christine survived again

Around Christmas Christine got a heart attack. She had to go for 3 days to our district hospital and for 2 day to our big provincial hospital. She got a good professional treatment. She returned home at December 30th. In Thailand there is no rehabilitation program or a period in a health resort, as we know it from Germany, and people spend much fewer days in the hospital. Now Christine has to take a lot of medicine. The strength of her body is much reduced. She can't work more than 1 to 1.5 hours apiece and needs very long breaks afterwards, sitting or lying down. Therefore she can't do much work in our household, and we need much more help for it. And she can't now work with children, and that is very hard for her.

### 5<sup>th</sup> miracle: We asked God for help in house and garden

Khun Fon, who came twice a week, to work in our household, has at the moment much to do on the fields of her family and had therefore to drop some appointments with us.

Pastor Yupin and her niece Khun Yotaka did all the transports needed for Christine to and from the hospitals, and they and other members of her Church have helped us a lot in many ways.

Khun Yotaka told us, that she feels herself to be called by God to help us as far as possible. We have agreed that she will come 3 days per week. Khun Yotaka has a gift to work with children, and that will be her primary work. That is a big relief for Christine.

Pi, a teenager from our village, was ready to do paid work in our house and garden.

### 6<sup>th</sup> miracle: Pi

Pi was 9 years old, when he came to the hours held for children in our first house in Lum Sum. Today he is 15 years old. At the age of 10 he gave his life to Jesus. But the pressure in school and family grew too big. He was beaten in school, because he had a small New Testament in his satchel. His mother forbade him to be a Christian. For years we saw him from afar only. Last week he came to us and asked us, whether he could

work for us, because he couldn't find any other employment. After receiving consent from his mother we decided to employ him. In addition to it he attends the Kosono, a school that offers courses leading to a high school degree for people that were not able to attend high school. He has to go there one day per week. We find that this is very important for his future, and we pay him for this day, too.

## 7<sup>th</sup> miracle: New tenancy agreement

Our old tenancy agreement for our house ended March 2015. Up to now we had rented our house together with the left half of the plot we are on. We couldn't use the northernmost quarter of our part. On the right half of the plot there is a small house. Khun Oat, who had lived in that house, had planted Cassava in the northern and southern third of the right half of the plot, but had moved out of the small house 3 years ago. Now this house is decaying. We asked him, whether he would like to return to that house some day again, but he told us, that he doesn't because he has now a better house. Therefore we asked the owner of our house for the changed contract on a Friday. Next Thursday he came from Bangkok with the new contract. Now Khun Oat gets more land for agriculture, we got the small house and some land around it and the owner gets 2000 THB more per month from us.

# 8<sup>th</sup> miracle: We sought persons to work for the repair of the new house

For our new small house we plan two single rooms with own entrance each, a new toilet and a shower room outside, everything, including the garden around that house adapted to the needs of persons, who have to use a wheel chair.

But who can build that? We don't have nor the strength nor the time for it. We told Pastor Yupin about it, and she said: "My husband has learned to build houses, and we would like very much to do it." And when we told Khun Fon about our new project, she told us, that her husband can build houses, he had built their house, and lay tiles. We didn't expect to find the people needed within two days.

### 9<sup>th</sup> miracle: The world of the termites

It is very surprising and impressive that those small animals measuring some millimeters only, can produce so much damage. Our beautiful bamboo fence was destroyed by them. We decided, therefore, to have a fence with concrete posts and wire netting. That is not as beautiful as the old one, but we didn't like any longer to build each 1 -2 years a new

fence. We were told, that in our climate that fence may stand up to 10 years. Khun Fon, her husband and her father built the new fence within 2 days. We are impressed by their precise work.

### **News from our region**

- 1. At the moment we have the coldest winter within the last 6 years. During Daytime we have up to 25 30 Degrees Centigrade, but during the nights the temperature goes down to 19 degrees or less. For the people here that is very cold, because they wear their shirts on the bare skin, have no or very thin blankets or comforters, and they don't have any heating in their houses, but often an airflow through it. During nighttime we use thick blankets double layer and thick clothing.
- 2. Since three months street lamps along our main road 323 have shed their yellowish light during nighttime in our village.
- 3. Along the road 323 many small shops and restaurants, sprung up. Our village gets some urban flair.
- 4. Since the military coup in Thailand the prices for petrol, car gas and oil for kitchen have been much lower then before. The price for bus travel in the public transport has been constant since more than 6 years. That, too is a miracle.

## We give thanks for

• all the miracles listed up above.

### We ask God for

- Pi's perseverance and success at school and work,
- protection at our building project,
- · healing for Christine,
- help in preparing our foundation.

We are very grateful for the connection with you.

**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.

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# **Christmas party 2014**



Here children sing songs with movements of their hands.



They hear about the birth of Jesus (some hold the booklet with the comics)



The bags with the gifts are ready and some parts of the midday meal



Yoghurt for all our guests, paid by us.



Reiner preaches about Love and Hope.

# The little house we rented in addition to our house



This is the little house, that has been vacant for three years. We plan to put its doors to a different place and to make it suitable for people on wheel chairs.



This is the little house seen from the main road. Thai persons usually live outside of closed rooms. Life happens mostly under the canopy. They stay inside the house for sleep only.



A part of the cassava field of Khun Oat



The old bamboo fence will become compost.



The little termites had plenty to eat.



Wooden posts seem to be extremely tasty.

# The new fence with wire netting, 68 m, built in 2 days by Khun Fon's family



