

The Hennigs

Mission in the Kanchanaburi province/Thailand

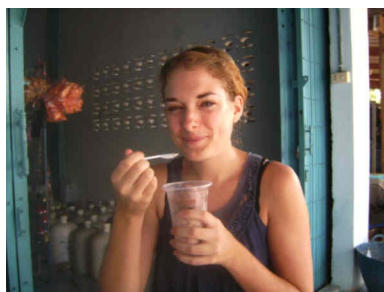
Newsletter 07/2012

Dear relatives, friends and prayer partners,

gladly we bring you some news from Lum Sum. Thank you for the many signs of interest and encouragement we received. They help us to continue on the way we set out.



Visit from Germany



Johanna from Germany visited us from 10th to 17th of June. She had learned about us through the internet and wanted to come to know us. After her exam in January 2012 she has stayed in several countries of Asia. We never had met before, but we were very surprised how quickly we warmed to each other. It was a very nice week. What a pity that she had to depart so soon!

Sunday Services

We continue to celebrate our Sunday Services. They take place at 16:00 o'clock. The number of visitors varies between 0 and 15. At the moment we have one adult visitor at most, Khun Sa, who works for us. The others are teenagers and children of all age groups. If no one comes, we both celebrate alone.



Teaching English at our Primary School (โรงเรียนบ้านเขาสามชั้น)

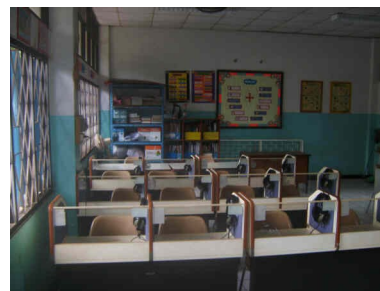
Since June 20th 2012 both of us work as English teachers in the primary school of our village Khaosamchan (เขาสามชั้น). We are both present in all the

lectures we give, but Christine prepares and teaches class 1 to 3 with 1 hour per week each, and Reiner classes 4 to 6 with 2 hours per week each. We enjoy teaching here very much. All our lessons take place in the language laboratory of our school.

We memorize the names of all our 140 students. They are nearly all children of their age group in our village of about 1000 inhabitants. We have learned much more about the situation of our village and we have become much more an integrated part of the village.



Corridor in front of the room, where we teach



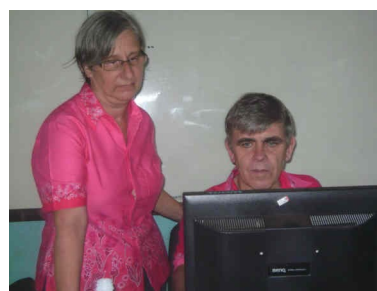
Language laboratory



Christine teaches in classes 1 to 3,



Reiner in classes 4 to 6



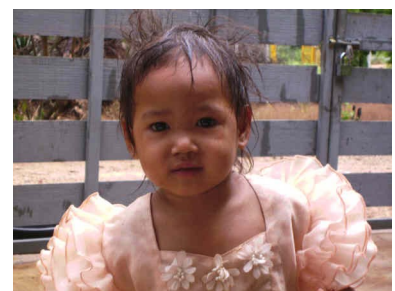
**We are together, however, during the lessons all 6 classes.
On Tuesday all teachers and students at our school wear these pink shirts.**

Teaching English as a wonderful opportunity for God

Thailand has joined ASEAN, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and prepares for a stronger integration in the year 2015. The common language of ASEAN is English. Thailand never was a British or French colony. The knowledge of English, therefore, is much limited in rural Thailand. Now the schools here very urgently need English native speakers, at least one for each school. For those people the doors are very wide open, while it has become more and more difficult for Christian missionaries to get visa for Thailand. To work as teacher, especially at a village school, gives you an entrance to the local population and helps you to get their trust. As the teaching is mostly in English, that may be even an occasion for those, who didn't learn very much Thai. This wide open door may close, however, in 2015, when the frontiers of the ASEAN states open. We expect that then many teachers from neighbouring Burma will come in and fill the vacant places.

Pencils, colored pencils, erasers and pencil sharpeners

It happened several times during our lessons: The students have to write into their note-books. While some of the students had finished half of their task already, others have not even begun. When looking for the reason we discovered that some children don't have any pencils or can't use their pencil, because its lead is broken and they don't have a sharpener to sharpen it again, and they don't dare to ask their neighbours. Sometimes their colored pencils are short stubs only or nonexistent. Reasons for that might be that the parents are very poor or don't have any interest or are unable to care for the children. That might be due to the fact, that both parents are exhausted from hard work on the fields in tropical heat and humidity, or that a mother of one or more children is not supported by the husband who had run away and doesn't support her in any way.



Mother with 10 children

One day we saw that one of our students in class 1 had pain in the stomach and couldn't participate in the lesson. He is very emaciated and his face looks like the face of an old man. We informed another colleague and the director of our school about him. We learned, that he is one of 10 children, most of them twins. The oldest of them is student at class 3 of our school. His mother earns her living by singing in the night bar of our village. This night bar closes at 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning. Coming home late from her work, the mother often

has not the strength to prepare a breakfast for her children, and the children are left to themselves. We think about, how we can help, for example by preparing a breakfast for the children before they go to school.

About the women working for us

The woman who helped Christine once per week in the household can't do it at the moment, because she is pregnant and ill. Khun Sa, who works in our garden, does something in the household now. We need, however, more work to be done both in our household and in our garden, especially because our work at school and the preparation for it at home takes now much of our time..

We need a Thai foundation or a charitable association for our work

We see an urgent need for a foundation or a charitable association as a base for our planned work (baby house and village for children). To get an official recognition from the Kingdom of Thailand is much easier when this foundation or association is founded by Thais only. We need at least 7 persons and the money required by this. As soon as this foundation or association is established and recognized by the State it is easy for us foreigners to join. We are going to ask some of our Thai friends during the next weeks, whether they could support us in this way.

Renovation of our house

The tropical climate in our region causes a quick decay of many things. The house we have lived in for rent hasn't seen an exterior paint job since may be 10 years and urgently needs a new painting. That is planned for November, after the end of our rainy season with its frequent torrential downpourings. Khun Samran, who did a lot of good practical work for us, offered to do it for us at a price of 8000 THB (250 US \$). In the end, the price may be 12000 THB (382 US \$). Besides the big window and door fronts to our entrance, to our terrace and to our office need to be renovated, some doors to restrooms and to the kitchen must be replaced, and the big room where we celebrate our Sunday Services needs urgently a new painting.

Marriage seminar

We checked its contents with Thai friends and have now to prepare details for our first seminar next October in Bangkok. It is our wish that it really might be helpful for those attending it to gain God's perspective on sexuality and marriage. We need time and strength for our detailed preparations.

Personal matters

During the last weeks an infection caused some wounds in Christine's left foot

to turn septic. It took 5 to 6 weeks to close the wounds, the last 2 weeks she had to use strong antibiotics and to go daily to our district hospital (8 km distant) to have these wounds treated. During the last weeks she has regained some, but not all of her former strength. The new challenge at the school has motivated her very much and she approaches it with drive and joy.

For Reiner it has not been easy to act actively and with perseverance. There were, however some days, in which he could achieve a lot.

Due to our work at school we plan our next travel to Germany during the big Thai school holidays March/April next year.

Things to pray for:

- We have to renew our **visa for Thailand** 16th August. We need 1 year visa with multiple entry in order to be able to make short trips to neighbour countries. The main reason, however, is, that we have to leave the country in March 2013. With single entry visa we would need then new visa in April 2013 instead of August 2013.
- With the new visa we need to **extend our work permit for 1 year**
- **Khun Sa** now often comes to our Sunday services. Pray that she accepts Jesus as her Savior and Lord.
- A charitable **association** or a **foundation** is needed for the work God wants to do here at Khaosamchan. Please pray for the persons and for the money needed for it and for a quick recognition by the Thai authorities.
- We are very welcome at our **school** and fill a very great and urgent need there. But we continually need God's protection and wisdom for everything we say and do here.
- That God opens the hearts of many **English speaking Christians** now to serve Thailand **at its schools** in the rural provinces.
- We need good and reliable **help in our household**.
- Good preparation for our planned **marriage seminar** in October.
- A neighbour of ours, **Khun Boon**, had been diagnosed with cancer in the colon and metastases in the liver. He has given his life to Jesus. It is very welcome to him and to his Buddhist family, that we come each day to pray for him. Please pray, that God speaks to Him and to his family and for his healing.



May God bless you richly.

In deep gratitude yours

Christine und Reiner Hennig

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In the Internet:

Our former homepage is discontinued. You may find news about our work here in facebook (www.facebook.com) under the facebook groupname „Freundeskreis Kinderdorf Kanchanaburi“.

You can find us also in facebook as „Christine Margarete Hennig“ and „Reiner Hennig“, and in SKYPE as „Christine.Margarete.Kanchanaburi“ and „Reiner Hennig“.

Bank Accounts:

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

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