

## The Hennigs Mission in Kanchanaburi Province / Thailand Newsletter 1 / 2013

**Dear friends and prayer partners,**

in these insecure and quickly changing times we wish you a glad and richly blessed year.

### **We have many reasons to be grateful:**

- for you who continued to stand with us, to pray for us, to write us, to donate us money and to look forward to see us in April/May 2013
- for all the protection here at our village from accidents and bites by snakes, insects scorpions and foreign dogs
- for all the money we got to pay for all our expenses and for the support we could give to three teenagers to attend High School
- for the food, toys, pencils and notebooks we could give to poor children in our village
- for our marriage, that has become more and more beautiful and good and for the spiritual unity we have experienced in it
- for our dog Moppeline, which had to be fed by bottle and has grown very quickly and has got along very well with our adult dog named Rüdiger Weißfuß.



*Moppeline and Rüdiger Weißfuß*

### **Christmas Party at Philadelphia Church International Lum Sum**

As in the years before we had a Christmas Party, this year in our house and garden. After a lot of preparation it was scheduled at December 22nd from 11 o'clock to 15 o'clock. We are very grateful for some of our teenagers who helped us much in our preparation. The first children, however came already at 6:30 am to our door. Before the official start the mayor of our village brought us a lot of snacks for the children. We began the party by giving rules how to behave here and said that we would sent home immediately those who don't



*Reiner preparing Christmas gifts*



behave. We were surprised, how peacefully they behaved this year. We sang "Joy to the World", a Christmas song we had taught nearly all our classes at school during the weeks before. We began the party by giving rules how to behave here and said that we would sent home immediately those who don't behave. We were surprised, how peacefully they

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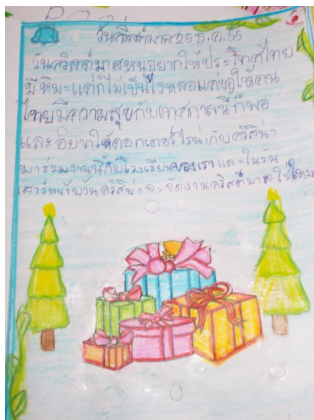
*Attending the games to start.*

For lunch there were noodle soups with vegetables and meat balls or fish balls and orange drink and strawberry drink. Reiner told about what Christmas is and what it means for us. He had to do it in Thai. Then we had games in the garden with very eager participation. Afterwards we let collect all the garbage thrown away before we distributed the gifts. The children got a package of coloured pencils each, because we had often found in school, that children had either no coloured pencils or some mis-erable remnants only. We could distribute 105 packages. We hope very much, that the Good News we proclaimed put down roots in the hearts and minds of those who came and bring fruit.



*Don't drop the balls when you run!*

### Christmas at Ban Khaosamchan School



*A Christmas card*

A tree in our school yard was decorated as Christmas tree, and a small Christmas tree was put into the room where we teach. Often we heard the sound of Christmas songs pouring out of the loudspeakers of the school. We were asked to let the pupils create Christmas Cards to be attached to the big Christmas tree of the school. To help the pupils Christine loaded down small Christmas drawings from the internet. We were surprised how eager they were to produce these cards, and how nice most of these cards were. We gave these cards to the teacher in charge of the Christmas tree, but they were not attached to it

It was planned to have a Christmas Celebration for the school at Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>. The day before, however, this celebration was cancelled, because there were no regular lessons in so many days during the last weeks. (We calculated at least 10 days of a total of 38 since the beginning of the second term in November.) Instead of it there was a celebration at December 28<sup>th</sup>, for both Christmas and New Year. That celebration was about fun and food, but we heard nothing said about the meaning of Christmas. For the 25<sup>th</sup> we were told to speak in our English lessons about Christmas. We did that, and the pupils, especially in class 4, listened very attentively



*At the New Year Celebration with the Director of our school*

### **Christine's mother died at Christmas**

In 2012 Reiner's mother had her 87<sup>th</sup> birthday and Christine's mother reached the age of 91. We would have liked to meet both of our mothers during our planned visit to Germany in April 2013. We were, however, informed by a phone call from Germany, that Christine's mother died December 25<sup>th</sup> at 9 o'clock pm.. As she had wished before, she fell asleep peacefully and alone to awake never in this world. Thus she had not to give up her flat, where she had lived for 54 years and move into a home for senior citizens. While Reiner stayed in Thailand to teach all the 6 classes English, Christine flew to Germany December 31<sup>st</sup>. She was warmly received and cared for by her brother and his wife. The mother was buried at January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013, with close relatives only present. Christine came back to Thailand on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Christine has suffered a lot because she was not able to meet her mother a last time to talk, to embrace and to say farewell.

### **Regular English teaching has ended for the time being**

At Monday January 14<sup>th</sup> Christine came again together with Reiner to Ban Khaosamchan School to resume her teaching. As she taught in Class 3 in early afternoon, Reiner was called out of the classroom. The colleague who speaks English well and had helped us a lot, told us, that the regular English classes will be taken over by her. We instead have to give one hour each Friday afternoon, one week for classes 1 – 3 combined, the other week for classes 4 – 6 combined. We are free to plan it ourselves, it might contain exercises in talking, songs or some passages out of books. For this decisions the following reason was given to us: There will come English tests organized by the Kingdom of Thailand, and now lessons are urgently required in which the English grammar is explained to the pupils in Thai language. We were assured, that our work contracts will continue and that we shall receive contracts with the same conditions for the next school year. That would mean, that we can expect to get visa for one more year after the expiration of our present visa at March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. We were shocked by this decision, on the other hand have we now more time and freedom to do other things we need to do.

### **Working together with Khun Dentai?**

After finishing our lesson we decided to go immediately to Sai Yok Noi to buy there some things we needed. As we stood at the Bus stop, a car stopped besides us. It was Khun Dentai, a business man from Bangkok, who has lots of land in our village. Pujai Deng, the mayor of our village, had given the advice to Christina, to work together with him, because he also wanted to build a village for children in need in our village. He had offered her a plot of land for a children village, but at that time Christine didn't have the impression, that this land is the right place. Some weeks ago he had visited us, and now he invited us to come with him. We agreed, and he drove us to a place, where he builds a museum for precious stones like marble and of gems. He trades these kinds of stones. Then he showed us a land of 200 Rai, about 32 ha or 79 acres. At the moment this land is not cultivated and you need an off road car to drive there. It is a beautiful land, and Khun Dentai builds here a reservoir to collect water from th nearby



*With Khun Dentai*



mountains to have water in the dry season, too. The land is adjacent to th State road 323 as it is our house, and is about 700 m distant from us. He wants to use this land for a children village and told us, money wouldn't be a problem. We told him that we urgently need a Thai Foundation, because we as foreigners can't own the land and the children village. Khun Dentai would be ready to build such a foundation, even with the name we wanted: Foundation Ban Saiyairak (Banner of Love). It looks very nice, but we need to have a very clear leading from God about it. And we up to know we continue to have the impression, that the land God intended is on the other side of the road 323, a land the proprietor didn't sell up to now, because he wants us to buy it.

### **A House for Babies?**



*The house of Khun Suriya seen from the way to our school*



*The house of Khun Suriya seen from the Highway 323*

Khun Suriya, our nearest neighbour, died in November. Since his death no one has lived in this house. had been uninhabited. This house could be transformed easily into a house for abandoned babies. The state of the house is excellent, and few changes seem to be necessary to make it fit for its new destiny. The house lies directly besides a bus stop with 50 minutes traveling distance to the provincial capital. Christine had done a lot of detailed planning for setting up and running a baby house, and she knows the house from within, because we came there to pray for Khun Suriya. She estimates, that it would take 3 weeks only to start the regular care for babies in this house, if there is enough money and if there are enough reliable workers. The sister of Khun Suriya told us, that at the moment the house is not for rent, but for sale at a price of 1.5 Million Thaibaht (approximately 37500 Euro or 50000 US\$)

### **May we ask you to continue to pray:**

- that at this village the victory and the Lordship of Jesus is revealed,
- that people here are set free to give their life to Jesus,
- that our teenage Christians are protected by God as they become adults.
- that we receive wisdom from God with the people here, and especially with the teachers at our school and with the officials in the public offices,
- that God leads us concerning the foundation, the baby house and children village.
- that we get good coworkers for our services, for our work amongst the children and the poor in our village and for the baby house and the children village

- that God uses our marriage seminar February 28<sup>th</sup> at Mueang Kanchanburi Church at Kanchanaburi City
- that God protects us from magical and demonic attacks; we experience at the moment that we are amidst a raging battle in the invisible world.

For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

Ephesians 6,12 American Standard Version 1901

May God bless you richly.

In deep gratitude yours

*Christine und Reiner Hennig*

### **Our Address:**

Dr. Reiner Georg Hennig	ดีออกเตอร์ ไรเนอร์ จอจซ์ เฮ็นนิก
Christine Margarete Hennig	คริสติน่า มากาเร็ตต้า เฮ็นนิก
299 Moo 2 (Muban Kaosamchan)	299 หมู่ 2
Tambon Lum Sum	ตำบลลุ่มสุม
Amphoe Sai Yok	อำเภอไทรโยค
Kanchanaburi	จังหวัดกาญจนบุรี
71150	71150

Tel. ( 0066 ) 034 - 585054

E-mail: henniglumsum@yahoo.com

### **Bank Accounts:**

**In Germany:**  
**Dr. Reiner Hennig**  
**Account Nr. 5403753110**  
**ING-DiBa (BLZ 500 105 17)**  
**BIC-/SWIFT-Code: INGDDEFF**

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.

**In Thailand:**

**Mr. Reiner Georg Dr. Hennig**

**Mrs. Christine Margarete Hennig**

**Kasikornbank**

Office Kanchanaburi

**A/C NO. 221 - 2 - 94827 - 9**

**Mr. Reiner Georg Dr. Hennig**

**Mrs. Christine Margarete Hennig**

ธนาคารกสิกรไทย,

สาขากาญจนบุรี,

**A/C NO. 221 - 2 - 94827 - 9**