

The Hennigs
Missions in Kanchanaburi Province / Thailand
Newsletter 4-6 / 2013

Dear friends and prayer partners,

We have returned safely to our home at Lum Sum. Now the rainy season has begun with heavy tropical rainfall. The plants thrive and grow and the land is covered now with vegetation in a rich and juicy green.

Our Great Travel

We are very happy and grateful for the great travel we began end of March and ended mid May. We flew to Frankfurt and spent some days there. Then we went to the Ruhr region to visit Christine's brother and spent several days with the protestant sisters (diaconesses) at Amerongen in the Netherlands. We went on to see friends in Schleswig-Holstein (near the Baltic Sea) in the North, and in Saxonia in the East and Reiner's mother and sister in Bavaria in the South. We went to Heiligenstadt to meet the Christians that sent us out and collect the donations for us in Germany. Then we went to Mammolshain in the Taunus mountains, not far from Frankfurt. During these weeks we went more than 5000 km with a rented car.

Our friend Kanda, who went with us to Germany, sent the following message:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am Kanda Poochiewchanvit. I was on a mission trip with Reiner and Christine from 27th of March to 30th of April 2013. We traveled to the Netherlands and around in Germany. I stayed in many brothers' and sisters' houses. I'd like to thank all brothers and sisters. God blessed me a lot through them. I always give thanks God for them. I'd like to thank Marianne, a woman of God, God served me through her. I learned that she gave all to God what she has. I'd like to thank Christine's brother and sister in law at Bochum. I'd like to thank Zuster Irene, Zuster Greet Verhoeven and other Zusters at Amerongen where I stayed 5 days, especially Zuster Irene, she took care of us very well and cooked every meal for us. Thanks for the Wilkens family, because they gave us 2 nights at their farm in Malente Hafkamp after they knew that we are missionaries. Thanks God!! Thanks for brother Friedemann in Hennesdorf im Erzgebirge, where we stayed 1 night. Thanks to Petra and Werner Hielscher and to Anja and Rene Fischer, who have supported 3 Thai students. They gave us the biggest dinner and a warm night. I always miss Mrs. Eleonore Hennig at Rinchnach, Reiner's mother, who gave us a very warm hospitality in 5 nights with her. I love her like my mother. From there we went to visit OStD Rudolf Grenz, he gave us a big lunch at a restaurant and showed us his big house full of books. Thanks to Ingrid Erichsen-Kragh who gave us a big supper and a special gift for me (Keys of

heaven). I'd like to give big big thanks to Otto and Gabi Audenrith and their son and their only daughter. They were so kind to me, when I spent with them 5 nights and many meals. Gabi taught me how to serve God in a special way. I always remember her smiling face and active character. I give thanks to Pastor Heinrich Schuster of the Church at Heiligenstadt, who gave us a big lunch and gave me good advice. Thanks to Michael Radlmaier and his parents in law. Thanks to Christine and Thomas Boos and to their daughter Charlotte, and to Ruthild Geiß. And I want to give special thanks to Hans and Gertrud Strabel; they welcomed us into their house of prayer, and we could stay there more than a week.

I have many things in my mind that I can't write in words. I remember them in my prayer. I love you all from my heart. I have nothing to pay you back, but I promise I'll pray for God to bless you more than I ask.

May God bless you richly, and I love you.

Kanda

On May 1st Kanda flew back to Thailand. We were allowed to stay more than one week longer in the house of Hans and Gertrud Strabel. As in the week before we had several occasions to visit friends in the region around Frankfurt. Our main task during these days however, was to look through the things we had to leave in Germany during the years before. Of the things we decided to take with us we put some in our luggage and we sent the rest by 4 big parcels to Thailand.

During our big travel we had many great encounters and we have been very grateful for the warm reception, the hospitality and the help we received from so many friends. I was a wonderful time. We are very grateful for the keen interest and the good encounters at several events in April: On 2nd at Frankfurt the celebration in God's honor at the Maria Magdalena Church, at Heiligenstadt in the Lutheran Church on 18th at an evening gathering, on 21st at the Sunday Service and an open tea time in the afternoon, on 27th at our "Day of Missions" in the rooms of the Maria Magdalena Church at Frankfurt, on 28th at the Michaelis Church at Frankfurt and on 29th at a house group of Christians meeting that evening at the home of Hans and Gertrud Strabel at Mammolshain.

We would have liked to visit more friends, but we regret, that we had not enough strength to do it. We had a time that was both wonderful and exhausting, especially for Christine. After arriving in Thailand we needed, therefore, urgently a time of rest in a hotel in Bangkok, before we could return to our house at Lum Sum. Ploi and her sister had cared for our house, our plants and our animals during our absence, and we found again all our cats and dogs.

Christine's Health

We are pleased about Christine's blood pressure coming back to normal thanks to her new medication. Christine has become very weakened, however. She had to stay in hospital until 2 days before our departure to Germany. At her release she was informed that she had caught the hepatitis C virus, but she was allowed to go and to come back to a check up at May 20th. When she came for it, they didn't find anything exceptional but asked her to come for a new checkup two months later, looking for her liver and may be diabetes. Now she has small strength only and Reiner has to take part in the household chores. There are days, when Christine is so weak that she has big difficulties to get up at all. Often she doesn't know what to eat, because many kinds of food, as rice or pork on some days, make her sick. Often she feels sick day and night, has pain in her joints and pains in esophagus and intestines due to too much gastric acid.

News from our Garden

The begin of the rainy season is the right time to start gardening again. Our garden had suffered a lot by harvesting the teak trees there. The fence of the garden has big gaping holes. Our two dogs like to dig holes up to one foot deep, especially at those places, where the soil is worked to receive new seeds or plants. We had, therefore, our fence repaired and a new fence built to deny access of our garden to our dogs. We have got a reliable and hardworking man, who works now 2 days per week in our garden. He repaired and extended the water pipes in our garden and connected the two big water vessels we got some weeks ago with our water system. He planted new fruit trees and some vegetable patches.

News about Pupils and School

Noi left high school after class 3 in order to work at a repair shop for motor-cycles. Instead of Noi we support now Sonram, Nickname Chai, the brother of Phatsun (Ploi). Khun Jit, their mother had asked for it. Sonram told us: " I am 13 years old. Since May I have attended class 1 of the high school at Wang Pho. I want to attend high school in order to become a policeman." Nanthida (Pop) now attends class 2, Phatsun (Ploi) class 3. In addition to them we decided to support Miaow, too. She is 13 years old and lives with her parents at Wang Pho. We invited the whole family to our home in order to come to know them, and we had a very good impression of all of them. Miaow likes to learn English, but the other subjects at school are not easy for her. She wants to go to high school in order to become a teacher at primary schools. As her home is not far from school she doesn't need to pay for the bus to go to school, but for the daily midday meal at school. She needs, therefore, a monthly amount of 400 THB (about 10 Euro), but her parents don't earn enough money to pay that amount on a regular basis. For the pupils we support, the English language is very difficult. We offer, therefore, to give them private tutoring in English.

The new school year has begun at our primary school at Thursday, 16th of May. As before we teach 1 hour per week at Friday afternoon, 13:30. Each of these lessons is for 2 classes together: Classes 1 and 2, 3 and 4, 5 and 6. We are very grateful for the ideas God gives us for these lessons.

About Learning Thai Language

We made progress in learning the Thai language. We do it by self study. After a long search we bought a very good and systematic grammar of the language. And we use now a computer program to learn words. Both things help us a lot. Last Sunday Reiner was able to preach in Thai freely without a detailed manuscript.

New Project: Khaosamchan-Publishing

During our time in Germany it has become a very clear leading from God, that we have to start publishing in addition to our project of a village for children.. We want to serve the rural population, and especially the poor Churches in a rural setting. That means, that we have to write a very simple style of Thai. As rural people are not accustomed to read much, we have to limit our publications to not more than 2 pages. Those publications must give correct information, but must be as easily understandable as possible.

Concerning possible subjects, we think at the moment about the following themes:

- 1) Why should I believe in God? Why to become a Christian and how? Why to give your life totally to God? How to grow as a Christian? What is love and how to live it? Why and how to read the Bible? Introduction to books of the Bible.
- 2) How to understand the world? Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Meteorology, Mathematics. May be we can give basic and understandable explanations about the things the students have to learn at school.
- 3) Basic things I need to know at home: How to prepare for a marriage? How to live in a marriage? How to educate children? How to use my money? How to use my time well? How to plan and manage bigger projects? How to care for sick and aged persons in my family and among my neighbours?

Name of the publishing house: Khaosamchan Publishing (3 Hills Publishing).

Mottos: จากหมู่บ้านเพื่อหมู่บ้าน (from the village for the village) and อ่านให้เข้าใจ (to read in order to understand).

Two Thai friends are willing to translate these texts into Thai. We learned from friends, that these texts might be urgently needed in other rural regions in South East Asia, too.

We have reasons to give thanks to God:

- for the great travel to Germany and the Netherlands with so many wonderful encounters, the warm hospitality and the generous help we got there,
- for the new garden and our new worker there,
- for new ideas how to teach the children at school,
- that we we could buy everything we need for our life here: Drinking water, service water, electricity, telephone, internet, food for us and for our dogs and cats, as well as two helpful books about Thai grammar and about Buddhism.

May we ask you to pray:

- for more people to become willing to hear and to read God's word,
- for the Christians in our village, that they allow God to work more in their lives, and that God protects and encourages them,
- for Khun Samran, that he leaves his wrong way and gives anew his life totally to God, for a healthy liver in Christine,
- for God's help in designing our homepage,
- for the publishing we plan.

May God bless you richly.

In deep gratitude yours

Christine and Reiner Hennig



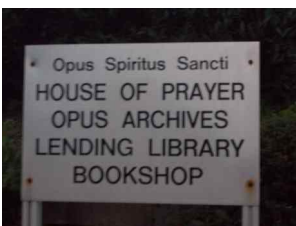
Kanda, our friend from Thailand



Otto and Gaby Audenrith in Siegritz: They invited Kanda to stay with them for 5 days.



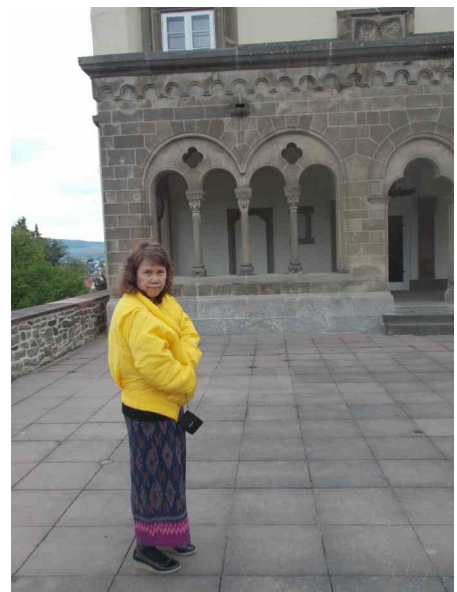
We were invited to stay two and a half weeks in this house at Mammolshain.



We are to tell about our work.



Heiligenstadt: Reiner is preparing to play the organ for the Sunday Service in the church.



Kanda at Bad Homburg



Sonram, the pupil we have supported since May this year



Children visit us.



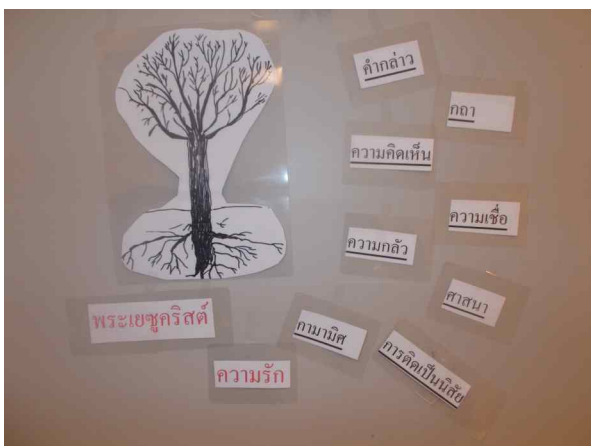
New water pipes (blue) in our garden



Christine in the kitchen



Recently connected water vessel



We need to have strong roots anchored in Jesus and in love, that enable us to withstand the manifold attacks and temptations.



After our Sunday Service at June 9th, 2013

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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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