"Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do His work and build up the church, the body of Christ, measuring up to the full stature of Christ."

Ephesians 4:12 (NLT)

Exciting Family News



Volume 13, Issue 1

Dear Ministry Partner,

This year we will be in the United States for a short home assignment. While there we have a very special event to attend. Our daughter Crystal is getting married on May 6 to Brad Wil-We are excited for them and looking forward to the wedding. We believe God brought these two together as they desire to serve Him.



While we are in the U.S. we hope to visit many of you. Mary Kay recently arrived in the U.S to help her parents, Crystal (with wedding plans) and our son Tim. Dwight will arrive in Minnesota on April 30. After Crystal's wedding, we will drive to Alabama and plan to be there May 10 - 22. We will return to Thailand on June 6.

While in Alabama, on Saturday May 13 at 5 P.M., we will host a dinner for our Cross-Ties Asia ministry partners. This event will be held at the Church at Brook Hills in the youth building. During this time, we will share our ministry plans and the partnership we have developed with Reach-A-Village. If you plan to attend, please let us know by sending an email to dwimar2010@gmail.com. We hope to see you there.

Thank you for being a blessing to us,

Dwight & Mary Kay Martin

Reach A Village/CrossTies Asia Partnership

Serving as the research coordinator for the Thai church, one of my frustrations has been the observation that though churches are growing, they are growing in areas where there are already churches. Very few churches are being started in unreached areas.



Meeting with Myanmar Church Planters

To make my point, 87% of Thai Christians live in sub-districts that already have two or more churches. In contrast 76% of Thai people live in a sub-district without a church. At the village level, the gospel has reached only 4% of the villages in Thailand.

These frustrations caused me to look for church planting methods that are working in other countries -- to look for methods and principles that could be applied in Thailand. I didn't have to travel far.

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To invest in the ministry of CrossTies Asia please go to

www.crosstiesasia.org

or send a check to CrossTies Asia P.O. Box 12143 Birmingham, AL 35202 For the past seven years, I have been in contact with Bob Craft, the president of Reach-A -Village, an agency that has supported indigenous church planters for over many years. He invited me to visit Cambodia and Myanmar and see what God was doing in these countries. It was amazing to see what local church planters are doing there and how effective they are at planting churches.

During my visit, I interviewed several church planters. I met people who have started 20 churches in five years. A group in Myanmar has started 20 churches in 10 months. (These are not made up numbers.) They showed me how they are using New Testament based gospel church planting principles and doing it in a very intentional manner.

Thus, Reach-A-Village and CrossTies Asia have agreed to a partnership. Working together the two organizations can enhance each other's ministry. Reach-A-Village provides proven church planting methodology in a Buddhist context and CrossTies Asia provides demographics and research to back up the church planting. We have already worked together to fund Harvest Church databases for Myanmar and Laos.

Please plan on attending the CrossTies Asia ministry partner meeting on Saturday May 13 at the Church of Brook Hills. Bob Craft will be there and together we want to share exciting information about this partnership and its potential for making a lasting impact in the countries of SE Asia.

Please confirm your reservation by sending an email to <u>dmartin@estar.ws</u>, calling us at 205-483-2221 or skyping us at "dwimar". We look forward to seeing you there.

Property Update

Praise the Lord **we only need \$19,000** more to completely pay for the property. With your help the property can be completely paid for before the end of this year.



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