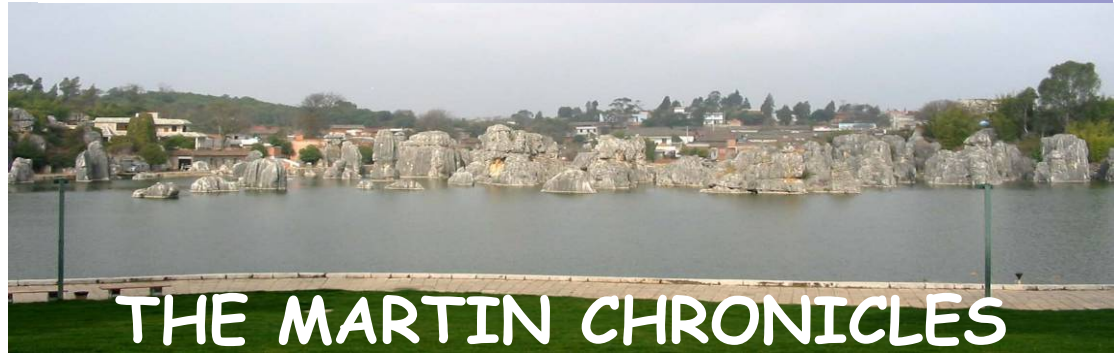


May 2006

Volume 2, Issue 2



## *Our Current Status*

*"For I am the LORD, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you." Isaiah 41:13(NIV)*

We received this promise from the Lord as we are getting ready to leave for Thailand. There have been some difficult times during this process and we are reminded that God has us by our right hand and He will help us. And He has! In fact, many of you have been the hands and feet of God in providing this help. We are very grateful for those who have been praying for us as we prepare to leave. It has been a source of encouragement and strength. You have also helped us by giving valuable advice on various issues, and in many other ways in helping us get ready. Finally, we couldn't go without those who have joined our ministry support team. **God is so faithful in providing for us and allowing us to reach the 100% monthly support goal.**

We have tickets and visas to **leave for Thailand on May 30, 2006.** As you are reading this **please pray for our family as the separation from our children will be difficult.**

Prior to leaving we attended non-technical training with MAF in Redlands, California. During these two weeks in April, we had sessions on a variety of subjects, including medical issues we may face, cross-cultural awareness, spiritual warfare, and on relationships with your family and spouse. It was excellent training in getting us prepared for issues we will face as we live in Thailand. After the first two weeks, Dwight remained in Redlands for technical training, where he learned more about the tools and techniques used by MAF's Learning Technologies so he will know what resources he can draw upon.

Mary Kay returned to Birmingham where she continued to pack and get the house prepared for the kids and for roommates for Timothy. **Please pray that God would send the right people to rent part of our house.**

Timothy is finishing up his school year at Samford University. He still has another year before he graduates. He has been enjoying his classes and continues to do well in college. **We are trusting the Lord he will find an internship job in his field of study for this summer.**

Crystal has been working at Starbucks and putting in a lot of hours. She enjoys her work but doesn't like some of the early morning hours when it is her turn to open the store at 5:30 AM. She has decided to attend Baylor University in Waco Texas where the Lord graciously provided enough scholarship money to fully cover tuition. It will be a difficult transition for her to move to college by herself in the fall. **Please pray for her as she makes this transition.**



In Redlands for MAF training

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## *Advancement of the Gospel through Technology*

We usually don't think about how technology has played a role in the advancement of the Gospel. By looking back through history we can see it has had an integral part. Here are a few examples:

Before the time of the Apostle Paul, the Romans built a system of roads which made it possible to move long distances at speed. These roads were built primarily for the military but also provided Christians the opportunity to spread the Gospel rapidly to distant parts of the empire.

In 1455, Johannes Gutenberg demonstrated a new printing technology allowing individuals to own copies of Scripture resulting in more people having access to God's Word. Wealthy individuals could purchase a Bible for the price equivalent to three years' wages. This was significantly cheaper than a handwritten Bible which would take a single monk 20 years to transcribe.

Sixty years ago Mission Aviation Fellowship started using airplanes to fly missionaries and national Christians to reach people in some of the most isolated parts of the world. Prior to the airplane, it would take days, if not weeks, to access these people groups. Now it only takes a few hours to reach them with the Gospel. As a result of this technology, thousands of individuals have come to know the Lord.

Since the 1980s, computer technology has dramatically changed the way Bible translators work. Consequently, the Bible is being translated faster and into more languages than previously thought possible. I like the perspective of a Bible translator I met earlier this year. He stated, "God created the computer for His work, everybody else just gets to use it."



With the rapid expansion of communication and computer technology worldwide, it only makes sense that it be used for Kingdom purposes. This is what we will be doing with MAF's Learning Technologies in SE Asia. Using the digital technologies available in each country, we will be applying it to teach Christians God's Word to reach the world with the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. **It is clear that technology is God's gift to the Church - a resource to make it possible to fulfill the Great Commission.**

### *Praise*

- ◆ 100% of our monthly ministry support has been raised.
- ◆ We have completed all of our training.
- ◆ Crystal received full tuition scholarship from Baylor University.

### *Prayer*

- ◆ Separation from our children.
- ◆ We will find Christian guys to rent the spare rooms in our house.
- ◆ Safety in travel.
- ◆ Summer job for Timothy.
- ◆ Crystal as she plans to go to college in Texas.

## *Questions and Answers about Giving Financially to MAF...*

### **Why don't I get a bill each month from MAF?**

MAF does not send out "bills" but they do issue a letter acknowledging receipt of your prior gift. On the bottom of this letter is a "tear-off" that you return with your next gift.

### **If I miss a month, what should I do?**

If you miss a month, please consider "catching up" the month that you missed. If you are unable to catch up, just start again as God enables you.

### **I sometimes forget to send my monthly support. Is there an easier way for me to donate than a monthly check?**

MAF has numerous ways for you to donate money to our ministry. MAF can set it up so money is electronically taken from a checking or savings account automatically. Please call Donor Services to set this up for you. Or, you can save a stamp and donate online by going to: <https://www.mymaf.org/cgi-bin/app/donation.pl?desig=9617>

### **With MAF headquarters moving to Idaho, when will we receive your next prayer letter?**

We anticipate everything should be back to normal by September 2006. So expect to receive our next prayer letter around that time. Please send your email address to [marykaymartin@maf.org](mailto:marykaymartin@maf.org) so we can continue to communicate with you during this time.