Dwight and Mary Kay Martin Serving in Southeast Asia

Volume 5, Issue 1





## Fulfillment of a Vision

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever." Isaiah 40:8

#### **Praise**

We were able to sell our house in this economy

Kids are settled in a good location

God has kept us safe as we travel around the country

The relationship's we have developed with national pastors throughout the country

### **Prayer**

Health of family members

Pastor's conference in May. God would use it to spread the gospel to unreached parts of Thailand

For our office employees that they will continue to grow in their relationship with Jesus. When God called us to SE Asia, a vision He gave us was to provide Christian resources in a digital library format for Thai believers because most have very few of them.

We are grateful we have been able to achieve the initial goals of this vision. This library currently has 4,000 files all of which can be accessed on the internet at <a href="http://www.thaicrc.com">http://www.thaicrc.com</a> or from a USB flash drive for those without internet.

This website has been online since October 1, 2008. It is exciting to see the use of the website grow each month. Since January

2009, usage has grown 180%. What is really exciting is that 51% of the users come back over and over again.

In fact 8% have returned over 50 times!

The most popular resources are materials for teaching Bible stories to children. We have met several children's teachers who have told us how grateful they are for this website because it enables them to be better teachers. Many have limited education and to have lessons that guide them gives them confidence in what they teach. The children enjoy it as well because each lesson has a craft.

So far over 700 USB flash drives have been sold to pastors and Christian leaders around the country.

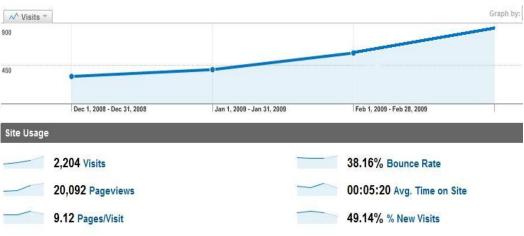
Last month we attended a pastor's conference where over 160 pastors purchased one. They were very excited to receive this tool. Many who purchased a flash drive earlier expressed to us how useful they were. One pastor told us he uses it every week to prepare his messages. It has really helped him.

We continually update the library as we receive new materials to put in it.

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Graph showing the growth of the thaicrc.com website since December 1, 2008

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## Family Happenings

"Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our ministry. We are thankful you are part of our work in Thailand."

Dwight & Mary Kay

The last four months have been a time of transition for us. In December, I (Mary Kay) returned to the U.S. to pack up and sell our home in Alabama. That was quite a feat and could not have been done without the help of friends.

In January, Crystal moved into a townhouse/apt. which she shares with her roommate, Shan. God brought them together and Crystal's living arrangements are much better, especially since the burden of the

We have truly been blessed

with the young ladies who

work with us in ministry.

house has been lifted.

It was bitter sweet for me as I handed over the keys of the place we had called home for many years. There were both tears and relief. It really put my faith in God to the test because I don't know where we will live in the future, but we know He does.

Crystal continues her studies, but we are excited she will join us this summer to help with the ministry and to spend time with us. I look forward to giving her

some hugs and her daddy looks forward to seeing her again after 1½ years.

Our son, Tim, returned to Alabama from Thailand in the middle of January and through God-ordained circumstances, he and his cousin were able to rent a place in the same complex where Crystal lives.

Tim is busy with work. We are grateful for the opportunity he has been given. We miss him, but know this is where he needs to be during this time in his life.

# Ministry Happenings



Karen Tribal Wedding

Last month I had an opportunity to see them in action at the pastor's conference in the northern city of Chiang Rai. The pastors were so excited to get the digital library on the USB flash drive. These ladies patiently explained how the library works and spent hours tirelessly manning the booth to answer questions. It was an extremely busy time and

In May all of us at the office are traveling to Bangkok to assist with the 7th Thailand Congress on Evangelism. 4,000 Thai pastors are coming together to attend.

they handled it with poise.

Please pray for this meeting that God would use it in a mighty way to spread the Gospel throughout Thailand

In February I attended the wedding of one of the girls from the office at their village. Since Dwight was out of town I had to drive for 4½ hours up a mountain road that has over 500 hairpin turns. The whole village attended. They dressed in their traditional Karen tribal dress (single women wear white and married women wear dark colors). This tribal group has adopted many western traditions in their wedding ceremony, even down to lighting candles. We ate dinner at the bride's house - most people

stood around tall tables to eat, but those from the office were invited to sit in her parent's home.

In March, Dwight and I attended another wedding of the daughter of a Thai friend. This was a traditional Thai wedding with a lot of Buddhist influence. While the ceremonies were performed, the bride and groom with close family members and friends sat in the house while the other guests mingled outside. They served food at the house and then later had a large dinner at a hotel for about 600 guests.

There was quite a contrast between these two weddings.



Thai Wedding