

TIDINGS FROM THAILAND

Karl & Sun Dahlfred - Missionaries to Thailand
scotland edition

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Prayer Points

- Completion of Karl's Ph.D thesis
- Practical details for our return to Thailand
- Growth in holiness as we are stuck together 24/7

Praise God

- Praise God we are all healthy and surviving lockdown well.
- Praise God for virtual ministry opportunities while stuck at home.
- Praise God doctoral studies are coming to a completion.

Calendar

6/11-22 Karl in Thailand for visa renewal and preaching

Stay home until we don't have to anymore



Dear Family and Friends,

In this crazy time of Covid-19, lockdowns, cancellations, and general uncertainty, we are thankful for God's blessings over the past months. The first half of 2020 has not gone how we imagined it would but our family is well and still hoping to head back to full-time ministry in Thailand at the end of the year.

Ph.D Progress

When Scotland locked down at the end of March, all five of us found ourselves together in our small apartment and it took some time to find new work and study routines. But now the kids are able to do their studies and I am able to write. Although distractions abound, I am pleased to report that I am now writing the final chapter of my thesis. Lord willing, I hope to submit my finished thesis and have my oral defense this coming fall. It has been a long road and it is not done yet, but there is light at the end of the tunnel! Please pray for steady progress on my Ph.D with the aim of wrapping it up before the end of 2020.

Future Plans

I (Karl) had a trip to Thailand planned for this past June to renew my missionary visa and do some preaching, but my trip got cancelled when Thailand banned incoming flights. I thus lost my missionary visa and will need to re-apply later. Nevertheless, we are hopeful that by the time I finish my Ph.D later this year, Thailand will have eased travel restrictions and we can return to theological education and church planting in Thailand. That's the plan, anyhow. At the moment, we think that our current support level will allow us to return directly to Thailand from Scotland, but we won't know for sure until later this year when we work with OMF to put together a budget for 2021. Please pray for the many logistical and practical details that need to come together for us to return to Thailand.

Local and Virtual Ministry

If you recall from our previous letter, I was leading the youth group at our church here, and Sun and I were leading an English language conversation group using Bible stories. When



Scotland locked down at the end of March, that all came to an abrupt end. Sun managed to revive the English conversation group via Zoom, though "attendance" was extremely low. The English group is now on summer hiatus and we will try to start it up again later in August. Yet even as we have found ourselves at home, other opportunities presented themselves. A Pakistani Christian brother whom I knew in Bangkok invited me to share God's word with a prayer meeting in Pakistan that he leads via Zoom. Also, two Thai Christian brothers got in touch with me for advice and guidance since they both want to write Th.M theses related to Thai church history (my specialty). One of them asked if I would be willing to supervise his thesis. Helping to develop upcoming Thai seminary and bible college instructors is one of the opportunities that doctoral studies is preparing me for and which I anticipate will be one part of my ministry going forward.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support. We really appreciate you and your partnership with us in God's work. Please pray that this time of further equipping in Scotland will be a real blessing to the churches in Thailand as prepare to head back in six months or so. We'll be in touch, and would love to hear from you.

by Christ's grace,
Karl & Sun Dahlfred

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