



Tom & Christine Poovong

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November 14, 2013

Hello everyone! Greetings from Thailand from all of us (Tom, Christine, Joseph and Phimchanok).

Thank you for your prayers and support and for encouraging us to follow our call. We thank God and our Lord Jesus Christ for giving us the grace to follow Him into His mission field.



We finally made it to Thailand safe and sound. Joseph traveled well. We landed in Thailand on Thursday October 3, 2013. Christine and Joseph stayed at her dad's apartment in Sriracha a city just west of Bangkok. Tom went right away to Chaing Mai to attend the CHE (Community, Health, Education) training course which ran from October 7-11. It was a very good training there. I picked up many good tools to put into my tool box for doing our work well.

After the training we went up to the village where our newly adopted daughter lives and spent the whole week with her and her family. Her name is Phimchanok and she is Christine younger brother's daughter. As you can see that God is really blessing our family, we left Canada as three and when we got to Thailand our family increased to four. We pray that God will do the same with our ministry in Thailand with the Isaan people.

We thank God that Gordon Janzen, our director for Asia Ministry, and our Pastor William Loewen, from Trinity Mennonite Church, came to travel with us for discernment and consultation. For ten days our family traveled together with them and our new daughter who did very well. We were also blessed to have the Thai pastor and his wife from the Borabu Living Water Church also traveling with us.

We are thanking our Lord Jesus Christ for making everything possible for us. We want to give thanks to Mennonite Church Canada for sending Gordon Janzen, and Trinity Mennonite Church of Calgary for sending our pastor Will, and also Living Water Church of Borabu Thailand for allowing their pastor Uten and his wife Pon to travel with us. Gordon introduced us to five Anabaptist/ Mennonite workers and their ministry. During this time we were very encouraged to hear what God is doing among the Isaan people.



For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. - 1 Cor. 3:11

We welcome your contributions for this ministry. Please send your gift to: Mennonite Church Canada (attn: Witness)
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This region of Thailand is so ripe and more workers are needed to harvest this field. We are excited to participate in this great harvest. The information we gathered from the trip is that there are over twenty million Isaan people living in twenty provinces of North East Thailand, and the majority of them live in the rural areas where most of them are farmers. This region of Thailand is less than 1% Christian, so a church planting ministry can have a great impact in this region. Our job under Mennonite Church Canada is to do just that. We believe God is sending us here to live and work with the Isaan people to form a people of God and build an Isaan Anabaptist/ Mennonite community and to strengthen the national Church and become an active global church. We are glad for the connections that we now have with at least five groups of Mennonite workers and a Thai Pastor couple.

Also our connection with Christine's family in Thailand will be a big help to us. Next week (November 14-21) Tom is going back to the Isaan region to do more survey and looking for a place to rent. Christine and the children will continue to stay in Sriracha city.

Please pray for traveling mercy for Tom as he heads back to the Isaan region. Pray that the Lord will give him wisdom and understanding. Pray that he will see and hear what the Lord is telling him to do. Pray that he will find the man and woman of peace. Also please pray that God will provide a few families where Tom is going who will open the door for us all. Pray that Tom will find a house to rent for a good price. Pray that Tom will have favor with God and man as he connects with people there. Please pray for Christine, and the children for protection and good health. Pray for patience and wisdom for Christine to find right way to teach our daughter Phimchanok. Pray for a healthy and smooth transition between us as mother and daughter and for her to be a big sister for Joseph. Pray for Pimchanok as she learns English and Isaan as new languages.

We would like to take this opportunity to give praise to our God and to give thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ for sending us. (John 20:21) Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." As we doing our work here in Thailand we will continue to pray for MC Canada, partner churches and supporting individuals, that God's peace will dwell in you. Thank you everyone for partnering with us may God continue to bless you richly.

We also invite you to support our ministry in Thailand. Please visit <https://donate.mennonitechurch.ca/project/Poovong> or call 1-866-888-6785 and ask for Daniel Horne.

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