

THE SARVERS

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A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYWHERE

Up until just recently, we've spent the better part of the last few months in constant travel mode. It all began with an unexpected trip home in mid-December, to visit our families for the Holidays. Thanks to the generosity of family, we were able to return home (much earlier than we ever could have dreamed!) for 4 weeks of reunion with our loved ones, celebrations, seeing snow, and reconnecting with friends. What an incredible blessing it was!

Upon returning to Thailand mid-January, there were meetings and other matters to attend to after being gone for a while - neighbors to spend time reconnecting with, church members to see, language learning to resume, doctor's appointments to make, and jet-lag to battle for a couple of weeks before we'd be off for yet another month of moving around.

From then until now, every week has been in a different location - thankfully, with a couple days in between to regroup! One week was spent working on strengthening our own relationship, along with another couple, at a Marriage Course put on by the OMF Field Medical Advisor. The following week, we were invited upcountry for a conference focused on continued language and cultural learning for first-term missionaries in Thailand. We even had the opportunity to lead worship while in attendance, something we so enjoy doing!

Next up was something we'd never done before - we filled in as overseers at a missionary guesthouse, 4 hours South of us along the Gulf of Thailand, while the regular workers took a much needed break. It was a busy time of shuffling schedules, managing the Thai staff, and providing a place of rest for OMF workers from all over East Asia.

Now that we're back to Bangkok, the process of finally getting back into the swing of "normal life" has begun once again. We're looking forward to picking up where we left off, and are greatly encouraged by how much we actually missed our life here and being "at home" in this city.



All bundled up after a real snowball fight!



Marriage conference group.



Leading worship at the language conference.



Guesthouse in Prajuab.

All kinds of news!



Surprise!!! We're having a baby!

We found out just before our trip to the USA, and it was tough keeping it under wraps while there. Our estimated due date is August 12, 2011 - which just so happens to be Mother's Day here in Thailand, as well as Queen Sirikit of Thailand's birthday.

In other news, we were also able to witness the arrival of two new nephews - one on each side of our families - in the last couple of weeks, thanks to the wonders of Skype and Facebook. It seems our families are growing bigger by the day, and thanks to modern technology, we don't have to let our physical distance separate us from sharing in the joy together!

As we jump back into life here in Bangkok, it appears as though the coming months will be filled with lots of big and exciting things. Boy, is it going to be busy!

Just a few upcoming events (outside of language study and regular duties) to keep in mind and in prayer -

- * Retreat to Khao Yai National Park with the youth from our church in late March.
- * Weekly prayer meetings held in our home and bi-weekly visitation trips.
- * OMF church planting conference in April.
- * Managing the guesthouse again in May.
- * Organizing, preparing for, then running the All-Thailand OMF Annual Conference in June.
- * All of the preparations, doctor visits, excitement, and everything else that goes into getting ready for Baby Sarver to arrive in August!

POINTS FOR PRAYER

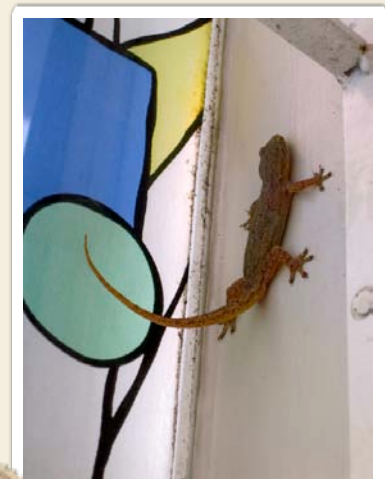
- ✦ **Praise** God for good time spent with family and friends back home during the holiday season.
- ✦ **Praise** God for safe travels over the past few months.
- ✦ **Praise** God for the blessing of starting our own little family!
- ✦ **Praise** God for the opportunities we've had to serve both Thai and fellow missionaries in the past few months.
- ✦ Pray for the **youth retreat** and organization of **future outreach** events in our church body throughout this coming year.
- ✦ Pray for peace, patience, good health, and wisdom as we prepare for **the newest Sarver** to arrive.
- ✦ Pray for our **language studies**, that they would not get lost among the busyness of daily life.
- ✦ Pray that our relationship with the **local Thai church** would continue to grow deeper as we find our role in ministry with them.

Ways to Get Involved

1. **PRAY!** - Remember to lift us up during our first term in Thailand!
2. **SEND!** - Please make checks payable to:
Churches of God, General Conference - PO Box 926 Findlay, OH 45839
Designate gifts for CC 2762 - Michael and Sara Sarver Support
or visit <http://www.cggc.org/CCMSarver.htm> to give online!

3. **KEEP IN TOUCH!** -

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Just one of our several friendly housemates, known as a chirping Thai house lizard, or "Jing - Joke."