

Fosters On A Mission

July 2018

Greetings Dear Friends,

We want to thank each of you for supporting us in our ministry. Please reach out to us and share a prayer request that you have, that we might exercise our personal relationship with Jesus by lifting up a brother or sister.

Ministry Update

The four of us embarked on a mission this month to the distant reaches of our quadrant ... to the greater Washington D.C. area.

We started with the Good Soil Basic Evangelism & Discipleship training, which has better equipped us to share God's story of redemption while understanding the "worldview noise" within the Thai culture that may confuse or hinder the good news message we are trying to share.

Next, we attended the Missionary Enrichment Conference, where we were blessed to be surrounded and embraced by ABWE staff and missionaries from around the globe. We heard many accounts of how God is working in the lives of missionaries at every stage of their ministry. One couple having returned from 35 years of service, and another just getting started. It was also a wonderful opportunity to meet and share with some of our Southeast Asia team members.

Karen has started to get more excited about going to Thailand, and had a great time with the other missionary kids (MK's). An organized MK trip to The Spy Museum and the torrential rain afterwards were very memorable for her as well. Andrea and Karen also saw fireflies for the first time.

On page 2, you will see how the missions-minded focus of our Church has helped lead us to this work, and how God continues to prepare us.

Support Status

We are now at 20% of our monthly support requirement. Even with health and scheduling issues hindering our efforts, God, in his grace and mercy, has



Andrea, David, Karen, and our newest addition, Sarah

provided above and beyond our goals. We still have several more couples and individuals who have verbally committed to support us financially and are prayerfully considering what amounts to give.

Again, the best support you can give us is to participate in our newsletter and partner with us in prayer. God will call our financial partners.

Prayer Requests

Our family continues to deal with minor health issues that are impacting our schedule. **Please pray for health and rest for each of us, as Andrea & I work towards scheduling more meetings and trips.**

Praise for God's provisions! Our missions related expenses to date have been covered, and the impact of David's unpaid time off from work has been greatly reduced. **Continue to pray for the 80% in regular monthly support that we still need to raise.**

Additionally, as finances allow, we would like to take a survey trip during the first quarter of 2019 to better prepare for our ministry and move to Thailand. **Pray for all four of us to be prepared financially, physically, mentally, and spiritually for this trip.**

Contact Info

David & Andrea Foster
FostersOnAMission@gmail.com
(509) 438-5893
FostersOnAMission.com

A Step Towards Missions: Part Three

A series during our pre-field development to explore and present the path towards our ministry as missionaries to Thailand.

In the 1980's, our church was thriving. Attendance was growing rapidly, the youth program that David was a part of was exciting and spiritually impactful, and the missions focus of our church was just that. Focused!

An annual "Missions Month" was highlighted with "Missions Week", and a conference that brought in several participating missionary families. Each night of Missions Week was an opportunity for a highlighted missionary family to tell the congregation how God was using them to share the gospel to various parts of the world. Several events were designed to include every church member, and their entire family. **Throughout Missions Month, we were regularly called to personally assess how God might use us in the carrying out of The Great Commission.**

Our church has sent out over 25 full-time missionary couples or individuals since the mid-80's, and several with ABWE (our missions organization). For a church with about 220 members, this is certainly not typical. It is a testament, however, to the provision of God. In addition to full-time missions, our church has been regularly sending three teams on short-term (1 to 2 week) mission trips, since the turn of the century, to Mexico, Thailand & Cambodia, and stateside.

Time traveling to the year 2011, Karen (age 6), started to regularly say that she wanted to be a missionary and tell people about Jesus. We recognized at the time that Karen had understood the gift of salvation was offered to everyone who believed, and that she was determined to share her knowledge of that great gift with people who might not hear otherwise.

This, and other events that we will explore in our future newsletters, helped lead the three of us to an opportunity to join a short-term missions trip to Thailand and Cambodia in 2014. Andrea and I offered a choice to Karen that year of A) going on a short-term mission trip to southeast Asia, or B) going to Disneyland for her first time. It was a very Christ and missions focused 9-year-old who chose Thailand & Cambodia over Mickey Mouse and the California coast.

On this trip, we fell in love with the people in Thailand who desperately need to hear the hope of salvation.

"If you want the kingdom speeded, go out and speed it yourselves. Only obedience rationalizes prayer. Only Missions can redeem your intercessions from insincerity."

-- William Carey (1761-1834), *Father of Modern Missions*

We ask our friends to read the following passages for an insight into our calling, but even more importantly, a look at God's abundant power and amazing grace: Romans 1:8-17, Matthew 10:27-33, Luke 12:8-12, Revelation 7:9-17. If you do not have a Bible, you can google search each of these passages for easy access.

DID YOU KNOW?

Thailand is home to 115 People Groups. 83 who have not heard the gospel.

Thailand is part of the 10/40 window. An area between 10 and 40 degrees north and from the west coast of Africa to the east coast of Asia. 86% of all unreached people groups lie within this region.

818 unevangelized ethnolinguistic people groups have never been targeted by any Christian agency ever.

Only 10% of foreign missionaries work among the unreached people groups.

Around the world, about 30 million people this year will perish without hearing the message of salvation.

The average American Christian gives only 1 penny a day to global missions.

American Christians spend 95% of offerings on home-based ministry, 4.5% on cross-cultural efforts in already reached people groups, and .5% to reach the unreached.

Out of 648 million evangelical Christians, 70% have never been told about the 1.6 billion unevangelized individuals in the world. You know now.

God has numbered all the hairs on your head. Luke 12:6

The Fosters are sci-fi fans. (Doctor Who, Star Trek & Star Wars, Chuck, and more)