

November 2011

THANKSGIVING

Dear Friends and Family,

My last letter to you all was one of complaining about the rain. Soon after I wrote that, the floods hit the central part of the country. But now we are thankful that it's been a full month since the rains have come to an end. I really find this time of year absolutely perfect in northern Thailand. Everything is still green from the rains, people are getting their harvests in, the weather is cool, and the air is clean. So it's really easy for me to wake up in the mornings and thank the Lord. And we really do have so much to thank Him for.



This letter I had two things:

1) THANKS to each of you for your cards and notes, prayers, and financial

support during 2011. Once again, your support and prayers this year have kept us able to continue to serve here without any fears of how to cover our family costs. We know that your giving to us has not been easy for some of you because of the economic situation in the USA. Not only have you supported us, but some of you and your churches even contributed to the building costs of our children's school here in Chiang Rai. You really have been an incredible blessing. Thank you so much. We thank the Lord for each of you.

2) Speaking of support, I'd like to ask if you'd like to sponsor an old man and two of his teenage boys in a sprint triathlon fundraiser for a basketball k if court for the Chiang Rai International Christian School on December 3rd. If you are already supporting our family, rather than ask for more, I would be asking you for permission to divert some of your support to us this month toward this need.

As you may have gathered from previous letters, the kid's school, the Family Learning Center, has been building a new facility and just moved onto it's new premises. I was involved (up to my eyeballs, actually) in the building process for the entire year. However, we are still without a lot of basic things, like grass and an area to play sports. A donor has pledged to match anything we raise from our sprint triathlon next week. We are swimming (at 7 am, burr) 750 meters – which is about a ½ mile, biking 20 kilometers – about 13 miles, and running 5 kilometers. At 48 years old, it is a bit of a struggle for me to pull this off. So any of you willing to sponsor me for a few dollars/ per kilometre for any parts or all of the race, please let me know. Our goal is to raise about \$2,000 (for a total of \$4,000 with the matching grant). Then the kids can have a place to play volleyball and basketball!

In closing, just wanted to give you a heads-up that most of you should also be receiving a Christmas letter in the mail from our family sometime in the next few days. This was graciously made possible by our Missions Partnership Team. So I don't want to make this too long, especially, this time of year when you are smothered by letters and notices.

With a Grateful Heart,

Scott and Tan Coats