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the MORSE dateline

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✘ A Simple Backyard Christmas ✘

Coming Together to Celebrate God's Gift

Although you will be receiving this Christmas letter late, and you are probably well into navigating your new year, here in Thailand at least, our Christmas tree is still up, as the entire country seems to be gripped by a celebration fever!

All this may just be a collective sigh of relief, coming at the end of a relentless year of nationwide flooding. Then again, it may be the case that all this partying is being fueled by a mass dread of what the future may bring.

Many people today are apprehensive about the future. All they see when looking around is failure on every hand! In some ways this does seem to be the case.

In the midst of this bleak picture, Jesus has this to say about our situation.

“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).

No matter what the future may hold (or what our circumstance of the moment may be), we can be sure that there is hope for anyone who will put his or her trust in the LORD.



*Katherine Posing As
Santa's
Little Helper!*

Decorate

Prayer Focus:

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.”

Luke 2:14



Join us in praying for the Rawang community in Thailand. Many young adults work in Chiang Mai's Night Bazaar, or work as domestic help in people's homes.

Pray also for Thailand's speedy recovery from last year's unprecedented floods.



Rawang Youth Celebrating With Song And Dance

In addition to attending a number of Christmas gatherings in the villages, this year we held a Christmas celebration in our own back yard. Nearly 60 people attended the outdoor service. Most of the folks who came were from the Rawang community living in Chiang Mai. We were blessed to have Dana and Victoria Deardorff and their two boys Ryan, and Joshua join us as well. When the Deardorffs, who are from Boulder, Colorado visited us, they were four months into a family trip that will eventually take them full circle around the world. The traditional dance steps of the Rawang people also depicts a journey. The energetic movements of the Rawang dance tell the story of their epic migration from their ancestral homelands on the Tibetan Plateau.



The Christmas Story

It's not everyday that God breaks into the world and takes on human form. The birth of Jesus ranks as the single most important event in world history. How can the birth of this one child be the determining factor for all humanity? It is because our very life (both now, and in the future), depends on Him. We were not created just for today. We were created for eternity. Do we believe this? Can we bring ourselves to buy into this truth? If we can, we will enter into the full measure of God's plan for our lives. The centerpiece of that plan calls for us to enter into a vital relationship with Jesus Christ.

A Word of Appreciation

Nangsar and I want to thank all of you for the privilege we have of extending your love to the people we are serving here in Asia. We know that we are able to be here only because of your faithful prayers and support. Even as we bring one year to a close, we are looking forward to a new year in which we can all serve together to further God's work in this corner of the world. May God continue to watch over each and every one of you. May He also give you good health, and bless your every endeavor.

