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Dear Brethren and Fellow Laborers,

We are overwhelmed with blessings from God with regard to our dear brothers (friends) in Christ. The miracles are too awesome as God works out His plans with His servants here in Asia.

## **Legacy Youth Program in Myanmar**

Every year, Seng Aung (our pastor in Jawk Tiang) has a special Legacy Youth Program during the time the children and young teens are out of school. This year, we have a very special blessing—because Josh Raudenbush is coming to help teach some English, music, and maybe some sport, etc. He can also teach song-leading and give sermonettes when needed. We are so grateful to God that his boss, Peter Eddington, has given him time off from work for so many days. Additionally, Amanda (Boyer) Miller has been very helpful to give important details for Josh, even suggesting other possible volunteers for this Myanmar youth program. Josh will be leaving the U.S. on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March. He will be picked up at the airport by Seng Aung and stay in Yangon for a night before traveling north by bus to Taungoo with Seng Aung. The Youth Program will last ten days—from the 18th through the 27<sup>th</sup>. Josh will stay for the Passover and the first Day of Unleavened Bread. On Monday, he will be traveling back to Yangon to catch his flight home. We will be awaiting a few pics for our next letter.

Another willing heart to sacrifice his time here was Zach Williams. However, a miracle happened for him: he finally got a much wanted and needed job, for which he has been waiting a very long time. So he had to cancel coming to Myanmar. Zach also sent names and contacted individuals for future possibilities to serve in Myanmar.

The youth program in Myanmar is very similar and yet very different than our Legacy School was here in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The biggest difference is that in Thailand we could do the program for three years. This is no longer possible since 2017.



Josh Raudenbush. I will send photos of him while he is in Myanmar. Since he will be here in the HOT tropical season, maybe he will remember this location! (photo courtesy Amanda Miller)

The Thai government changed the Visa laws from one year to three months. To do that four times a year for three years is unworkable for many reasons, particularly when one brings foreigners from the U.S. and students from Myanmar. The cost became unrealistic. At the same time, Leon and I are not getting younger. I had asked Leon for several years about having a Sabbatical from Legacy. Well . . . it's still not a sabbatical for us—but there is less in the sense of not overseeing the volunteer teachers, and students on a daily basis.

In Thailand we have a saying: "Same, same, but different." The two-week program in Myanmar is similar to the classes we taught in Thailand. As Seng Pan has said before, it's like a mini-Legacy program. They teach the same subjects on a very small scale. One can only do so much in 10 days. Our church youth gets weekly teachings on Friday nights and Sabbath days. Maybe one day we can do more in Myanmar. In Thailand one can visit for three months without a visa. In Myanmar one must have a visa, and can only get a 28-day tourist visa. Business visas are available, but very expensive.

6:00 a.m. get up	11:00 - noon speech and leadership class
6:30 a.m. morning worship	Noon - 1:00 p.m. lunch time
7:00 - 8:00 a.m. work clean surrounding	1:00 - 2:00 p.m. English Speaking class
8:00 – 9:00 a.m. breakfast	2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Music
Start class 9:00 a.m.	3:00 - 4:00 p.m. cook dinner
9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Bible	4:00 - 5:00 p.m. sport class
10:00 - 11:00 a.m. grammar	Everyone happy and enjoy!

## Passover and Unleavened Bread in Jawk Taing

The next miracle began last month when our dear friends, Dave and Denise Dobson, came to visit Leon and me in Thailand. They were not too far away in the Philippines, for one of their annual COG visits. I wrote about their visit in last month's letter. Since then, Leon and I have so much to be thankful for to our friends/brethren that wanted to help Leon during this time, while he cannot give sermons or create them via writing or on his computer.

Our thanks go to so many! There are not words enough to express our gratitude to Vic Kubic, Earl Roemer, David Bensinger, and more, whom Leon and I don't even know, but are all involved. Their BIG HEARTS have humbled us and all on our Legacy board, in how we are being helped at this time.

The trip for Earl Roemer and David Bensinger to visit Myanmar for the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread in Jawk Tiang have become a reality. They will be arriving in Chiang Mai, Thailand, to visit Leon and me before they go to Myanmar. They will arrive in Yangon on the 26<sup>th</sup> and travel the following day to Taungoo by minivan (as Leon and I usually do) with MyoZaw and TooMar (our deacon and his wife). Their son, Zin Muang Zaw, is the driver. Seng Mai, a 2009 Legacy grad, will now graduate from the SDA University in Myau Myau on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March, with a BA Education Major. She will accompany "Achaans" (Teachers) Earl and David as translator. She is very helpful in every way.

Though they will stay at a new hotel in Taungoo, where Leon and I have not yet stayed, they will have worship services in Jawk Tiang. This time of year it gets extremely HOT, so please, brethren pray for all of them that God will miraculously cool things down, not only for the Legacy Youth Program, but also for Passover and Unleavened bread. We also look forward to pics since we will not be there, except vicariously and in Spirit.

## Sabbaths, Passover and Unleavened Bread in Chiang Mai, Thailand

Thank you Achaans Vince Szymkowak, Dave Dobson, and Mitch Showers, for your sermons that we can give here in Chiang Mai. We just had other long-time friends from Ambassador College, Jeff and Carol Patton, whom we have not seen for—I don't know how many years—also ask if he could help with sermons, then sent us their link. Do you think I have even had time to respond???? I just opened up the link and wanted to listen, and then was taken away from my computer AGAIN. I am a grasshopper at the computer lately; but Passover is coming up and I know WHO will help me through each minute. Leon and I are backlogged with profound thank yous from the inner core of our souls and appreciate the incredible outpouring of your love.

We will have Passover and Unleavened Bread right here at our school compound in Thailand. On Sabbaths there are usually about eight to twelve (when our grandchildren come), and on high days up to seventeen.

## **Prayer Updates**

1. **LEON:** Please continue to pray for Leon. He has had a bit of a set-back. He started to build up water in his body, blisters, and wounds started all over again (cellulitis). He also has some congestion that I hear down deep, and don't know if it is in the lungs or heart. The doctor put him on antibiotics, and we already see improvement. We will go to the doctor again on Monday. These trips take all day, because Thai social medicine takes care of this (for which we are grateful). That, and going to physical and speech therapy, takes much time. He is still physically strong and is walking about 15 minutes 2 times a day. Please keep praying for me, too, as we have so much to do in prep for the Holy Days, along with many other responsibilities and regular duties that Leon cannot do at this time. I am now writing the Legacy letter, which I have only done the last three months. Leon is the natural writer. Previously, I have only done the layout and pics. Our dear friend, Teeka Glasgow from Texas is our servant in Christ/friend/editor, to whom we are so grateful so that we are writing in a professional manner.

Leon is able to read and understand all he is reading and what we are saying—but is still not able to come out with many complete sentences. He gropes for the word and knows when the wrong one comes out. Reading is very tiring and writing is very difficult, but improving. The speech therapist is amazed at his sense of humor. The area in which Leon communicates the most and best is always about God, Bible, prayer, and church duties. This part of his life is ingrained.

2. NAW EH EH HKOO: She is not doing well. I speak frequently to both Seng Aung and Seng Pan these days. Both of them keep Leon and me informed. After her hospital visit, it was confirmed that she has throat and stomach cancer. None were aware of her serious condition. The doctors told her that in Taungoo, she could not receive medical cancer treatment and would have to go to Yangon. She has decided, together with her family, that she does not want to go for treatment. She continues to just drink only liquid and still cannot eat. Please pray that God, in ways only He knows best, will care for and comfort her and her family in this time of suffering



Naw EhEhHkoo

3. **NOH NOH POH:** As I mentioned in my last letter, he had become very discouraged after his wife's death. Since then (they and we thank you for all your prayers), he has regained some strength since his wife's death. Though we never forget our loved ones, the pain and grief





SengAung and SawHlaEh



NohNohPoh working at night.

takes time to heal. He is now continuing to lead his family and take care of his children. Two days ago I spoke via Viber with Seng Pan and she said NohNohPoh was helping build the new eating area at the church compound. SawHlaEh (from Sakangyi, far south in Myanmar) is helping our brethren in Jawk Tiang. Building is his business and he had come to help and guide with our eating area. This eating area has been long overdue. A temporary roof will be put on until monies permit us to put on a more permanent roof—and that will cost about 10 Lak (around \$800).



Foundation with posts for the eating area

- 4. **ANITA SHOWERS:** Last time I wrote that Anita had been suffering with hip pain that extends into her side and lower back over the past six months. There has been very little change, but enough that she can get up and is able to get a few things done here and there. With continuing therapy and hope of warmer weather coming to Ohio, she hopes there will be more improvements. Being practically house bound has been very difficult for Anita, and she is so thankful to be able to get out more now. She e-mailed me that she is thankful to everyone for their prayers and concern. This is very comforting to Anita. Also, their daughter Shannon is getting married in July—so there are wedding plans under way.
- 5. UTAIWAN HAN: Utai has rheumatoid arthritis. In the last two weeks, she has had excruciating pain in her shoulder, middle upper back, and shoulder blade. One can only endure so much pain, and we know God will not give us more than we are able. But she said to me so many times in the last couple of weeks that she wants to die. When one has thoughts like that, then we know that the pain is great. Leon has anointed her. She has been to the hospital and doctors to get pain relief shots and upgrade her medicine. Please pray that God takes away her pain. Her fingers and toes are crippling from this disease. Many of you know her and are aware that she is deaf and dumb. Added to that, it is now very difficult for her to even use sign language. Please pray continually for her.

We continue to pray for all of you, our brethren, wherever you are. Leon and I deeply appreciate all your prayers on behalf of those in this letter.

We're also grateful for the financial support you continue to give, particularly during the Holy Day seasons. You make it very special for our brethren here! We can't imagine not being able to keep these awesome yearly commanded rehearsals! Each year we have a deeper meaning of God's plan for all mankind as we get closer to Jesus's return—God's Kingdom—our HOPE—as we await this glorious moment!

In Christian love, Gloria and Leon Sexton