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Sabbath and funeral of GrandMom ShadanHtuShan in NaMawn, Kachinland

Dear Brethren and Fellow Laborers,

**MAY-JUNE 2018**

**ASIAN BRETHREN KEEP PENTECOST**

SengAung, Pastor of JawkTaing, suddenly was called to come to NaMawn, Kachinland. His ailing, and aging GrandMom, ShadanHtuShan, died at 84 years old. AhJar, who had left Legacy as our translator in March, had gone home after Passover and Unleavened Bread to help her mother take care of GrandMom. God was merciful and SengAung had barely enough time for the long travel to keep the Sabbath, do the funeral, and the next day keep Pentecost.

While SengAung was away, the assistant pastor, MoPalel, gave the sermon and Htoo Gay helped with this double Sabbath. Of course, Seng Pan and our Legacy grads took care of our regular Sabbath School for the youth. We continue to be so very grateful to our Tulsa Church of God brethren who provide for our young people in supplies and other needed items throughout the year. They also write letters to each other—though Leon and I are not sure that all the letters are arriving as we would like.



L to R: ZarNeeHlaine, EhDawOoh, Blessing and HtayNayHtoo.



L.to R: MoPalel and HtooGay speaking on Pentecost



L to R: Daniel Bair, Utaiwan Han, baby Ginger, Gloria, Stelle, Leon, JoHtoo, and his wife, NawMya.

In Chiang Mai, Leon read a sermon entitled: “Peter’s Call to Repentance on Pentecost 31 A.D.” by Jim Morgan, who is in David and Denise Dobson’s area. This was right after Leon had another mild stroke. But God gave him strength—and still does as Leon continues to improve. Stelle Shwe translated into Karen’, led songs, and played guitar.

**JESUS WILL COME AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT—BUT NOT TO ALL!**

Leon and I still do our Bible reading together every day, so we will discuss what Jesus (via John), Peter and Paul say on the subject.

The apostle Peter describes the Day of the Lord “in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.” Peter also tells us that this description of that day will come as a thief in the night (2 Peter 3:10).

Peter tells us that the other apostles of our Savior—and even the prophets of old—also foretold the end times. Peter wanted to stir up “your pure minds by way of remembrance” (2 Peter 3:1-2). All of us brethren must also be stirred up and (as Mr. Armstrong used to tell us) have a sense of urgency. We brethren continue to read and sing about these future times yet ahead. I grew up in the Church of God from the age of six and remember the words of two songs that come quickly to mind about this future time. “Blow the horn, let Zion hear!” by Dwight Armstrong, taken from Joel 2. Here are the words in its entirety:

Blow the horn, let Zion hear, for God's day is now at hand; Let the people tremble in this day of clouds and gloominess; Troops so great and mighty strong, there has never been the like; Nothing shall escape as they devour the stubble on their way.

Fire before them shall devour, flames ablaze are left behind; Such as Eden was shall become a wilderness that's desolate; Like the noise of chariots; and as horsemen do they run; Nothing shall escape as they devour the stubble on their way.

People are faint at their sight, for they run like mighty men, Moving each on his own way they do not tangle in their paths, Each does follow his own line, climbing walls like men of war; Then they charge as warriors and advance like fighters on their way.

They upon the city leap, break thru weapons each unharmed; Run up on the walls and climb in houses thru the windows leap; Earth is quaking as they come, heaven shake, stars cease to shine; Then the Eternal thunders and the sun and moon become both black!

The other song is “Behold the Day Will Come.” We hope they are still in your song books for you and your children to learn and keep singing. These songs are a helpful reminder for us to “**keep**” (hold fast, guard, or watch) the words of Jesus Christ in our hearts and minds as Revelation 1:3 tells us to do.

Jesus Himself tells us through the words of John in Revelation that He will come as a **thief**. In chapter 3:3 it says: “Remember therefore how you have received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore you shalt not watch, I will come on you as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.” And in Revelation 16:15, Jesus says: “Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watches. . .”

The apostle Peter tells us “the day of the Lord will come like a **thief in the night**”. Peter then asks the question: “. . . what manner of persons ought you to be in all holy conduct and godliness. . . Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?” (2 Peter 3:10-12)

Peter doesn’t stop there. He encourages us to look forward to the new heavens and a new earth wherein dwells righteousness, according to promise, and to “be diligent that you may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless” (verse 13, 14).

Not only does Peter encourage us, but since we learn and know about these future events, he warns us to “beware lest you also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.”

In I Thessalonians 5:2, the apostle Paul also tells us that we “know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a **thief in the night**.”

There is one BIG difference that Paul discusses, and it is most encouraging—but also sobering. He reminds us of who we are and who we are not during the horrible time ahead when our Lord and King will return.

***But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. You are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*** (v. 4, 5)

We brethren have an obligation to NOT SLEEP, but WATCH, and BE SOBER, to put on the breast plate of FAITH and LOVE, and a helmet—the HOPE OF SALAVATION—since God did not appoint us to wrath (verses 6-9).

We are to comfort and edify each other with these words, and also to exhort. You can read the whole chapter of I Thessalonians 5.

“Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man” (Luke 21:36).

BE ENCOURAGED, you, our brothers and sisters in our Savior Jesus the Christ! “***You are all the children of the light, and the children of the day: for that day to surprise you as a thief.***”

**BURMA SCHOOL CHILDREN**

While Mr. Earl Roemer and Mr. David Bensinger were in Jawk Taing for Passover and Unleavened Bread, they recognized that a large amount of our church congregation are, in fact, our young people. We will quote from his report: “God has built a Church here that is probably 60% or 70% under the age of 35 providing the platform for growth. But these young people need God to open doors. Advanced educational opportunities are challenging as are job and business opportunities. First, it is a developing nation that is just now starting to have some semblance of peace. And second, some of the educational opportunities are either poor, require study on the Sabbath, and/or are expensive. This is why the Legacy Institute education has been a priceless gift for many who are now young adults. . . This is a matter to pray about. If God starts opening those doors, the Church will become self-sufficient and the reach of these young people into the society of Myanmar could be powerful.”

I also quote Josh Raudenbush, who was there to help teach at their Youth Program: “The quality of the students helped make that experience great. They wanted to learn, and most of them actively participated throughout the classes I taught.”

| <b><u>SDA SCHOOLING COSTS</u></b> |                                |                     |                                     |                           |                   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Name / Age                        | Grade Level <sup>1</sup>       | One-Year COST       | One-Year Writing Supplies, etc.     | One-Year F&B <sup>2</sup> | Yearly TOTAL      |
| HtooGay / 20                      | 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade         | <del>89,500.</del>  | ◀Sponsored 30,000.                  | 720,000.                  | 750,000.          |
| NayBlooHtoo / 21                  | 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade         | 89,500.             | 30,000.                             | 720,000.                  | 839,500.          |
| HserNayPaw / 24                   | 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade hostel  | <del>310,000.</del> | 190,000. + ...                      | -----                     | Sponsored         |
| HserNaySay / 23                   | 11 <sup>th</sup> Grade hostel  | <del>310,000.</del> | 190,000. + ...                      | -----                     | Sponsored         |
| Doi Bu / 18                       | 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade         | 89,500.             | Still have some funds<br>30,000.    | 720,000.                  | 720,000.          |
| NayZayAung / 17                   | 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade         | <del>89,500.</del>  | -----                               | -----                     | Sponsored         |
| BweHteePaw / 15                   | 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade          | <del>89,500.</del>  | -----                               | -----                     | Sponsored         |
| HtooSeng / 15                     | 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade          | 89,500.             | Still have some funds<br>30,000.    | 720,000.                  | 720,000.          |
| Cherry Oo / 16                    | 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade          | 89,500.             | 30,000. + 20,000. for<br>2 uniforms | 360,000.                  | 499,500.          |
| LayLuSay / 13                     | 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade          | 13,000.             |                                     |                           | 13,000.           |
| AprilPaw / 12                     | 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade          | 13,000.             |                                     |                           | 13,000.           |
| KhawnYe / 23                      | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year SDA Univ. | 600,000             | -----                               | -----                     | 600,000.          |
| Lu Thoi (LuLu) / 21               | 4 <sup>th</sup> Year SDA Univ. | 600,000.            | -----                               | -----                     | 600,000.          |
| <b>TOTAL KYATS</b>                |                                | <b>1,584,000.00</b> | 110,000.00                          | 3,240,000.00              | 4,934,000.00      |
| <b>TOTAL U.S. DOLLAR</b>          |                                | <b>\$1,163.00</b>   | <b>\$81.00</b>                      | <b>\$2,379.00</b>         | <b>\$3,623.00</b> |

If you are able and would like to help with the education or other needs of the above youth, please make a note on your donation to Legacy Teaching Institute stating “youth education.”

<sup>1</sup> In Burma, this means 10<sup>th</sup> Standard plus 1 = 11<sup>th</sup> grade or plus 2 = 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

<sup>2</sup> These are the students that SengAung and SengPan have generously opened up their home to and care for. This also includes other toiletry or needed supplies, repairs, and a bit of pocket money.



## JULIUS AUNGMIN

Leon and I would like to share with you some exciting news about Julius, son of Jack and Elizabeth AungMin. Many years ago Jack, Elizabeth, and their three children (Julius, Cannon, and Novaline) came to Legacy School in Chiang Mai. Jack came to services with his family and was always enthusiastic and eager to translate Leon's sermons and other material into Karen'. He also translated the first booklet about God's holy days into Karen'. By the time he left, we had a box of translated material. That was 2002. Julius, at the age of 14, was one of our first students at Legacy. This was also Legacy's first year. According to our school records we started out with nine students of which five graduated. Julius was not able to graduate, since his family gained refugee status and had to leave for Bangkok. They stayed in a refugee camp, which was very difficult for their family. (But, previously there were even harder times, that only a Karen' soldier and his family are miraculously alive to even talk about.)

Jack has served the church wherever he could and has been an example to his whole family. Last year he was made a deacon. The whole family has continued to be faithful in the truth!

It is now nearly twenty years later, and we learned about a very special occasion concerning Julius. We want to share with you that he has continued to choose God's way of life and serve the church with his family. He gave his **first sermonette**, entitled "God's Love is Unconditional." We here at Legacy congratulate Julius AungMin, pray for continued guidance and blessings in his life in service to God, and for his wife Isabella, who serves beside him.

### Reminder regarding Burma Youth Program

If any of you would like to follow in Josh's footsteps and help out with our bi-yearly Legacy Youth Program, please let us know if this would be a possibility for you. We are planning to have the next one during the December/January break. (This is also a time when students are not in school for ten or more days.) Please write us at: [mail@legacyinstitute.org](mailto:mail@legacyinstitute.org).

**SEE PRAYER UPDATES ON NEXT PAGE.**



Julius and his wife Isabella, daughter of ThaSein, were married on 26 July 2017.

## PRAYER UPDATES

**DAVID and CASSIE (MCQUOID) FISCHER:** As I mentioned in my last letter, Cassie was a former volunteer Legacy teacher and served here in Chiang Mai for a year. She had just married, when ten days later her husband, David Fisher, was in a terrible motorcycle accident.

After talking to Cassie last week, we also discussed what we are and still have to learn—which is so very much. But one thing for sure, we grow in FAITH. I just spoke to her again—actually by accident when trying to dial another number. Her update was so miraculously encouraging. Here is what Cassie had to say: “Dj is making leaps and strides with Gods help! Dj is going home on June 6th! He will continue to need 24/7 interaction and won’t be able to work for 6 months + depending on outpatient therapy and 1:1 therapy with his Cass wife, Annie mom, or close friends. Dj’s new mom (Cass’s mom Tammy McQuoid) will be up for a month starting the 13th of June and will be able to cook and a few other things with Dj so Cass can do other chores or relax some too. He will be getting his skull piece back on in the next few months hopefully and need lots of continued prayers!! He’s a miracle that God has really blessed us with!! There is no way he could be doing so well without Him. Something dj is struggling with is switching between things, organizing, short term memory, memory gaps, fixation on certain things, and having an appetite. Thank you all for everything thing!”

**HERB VIERRA:** Herb’s new therapy, called “FitMi,” is showing no progress. He is still totally lame on his left side, but was able to get his right hand to help his left so that Ann did not have to do this therapy with him every day. Now Ann will again be helping him for an hour a day. Please pray for Ann especially! We all continue to pray for this ongoing very difficult situation.

**NAW EH EH HKOO:** Leon and I do have some sad news to give you. EhEhHkoo died early last Friday morning (25<sup>th</sup>) at 1:20 am. God is letting her rest in peace now, and her struggles are over. But her family mourns her loss. I know that she has 2 sisters (MoPalel's mother, NawDawDaw, and DawEahPaw), and a brother (NohNohPoh, whose wife died last year). Please pray for the whole family, as they must again go through another loss. EhEhHkoo's daughter (BawMooHtoo, who works in Singapore) is coming back for one week to be home for her mother's funeral. Please pray for BooMooHtoo. She does not really want to work in Singapore and wants to come home. She cannot keep the Sabbath, though she works for a Christian family. She is stuck in this trap because there is still a huge family debt for even taking this step to work in Singapore. Now she has no mother or father. I am sure there was some corrupt middle-man agent/broker/”loan shark” holding out the fruit like Satan did with Eve. BoMooHtoo’s 13-year-old sister, EhHtoo, lives with MoPalel's family.

**LEON:** Leon had a setback. About a month ago Leon had another stroke—but the doctors said it was minor and that he was very lucky. It covered a larger area, and had it been severe he would have been left paralyzed. Our doctor also said that Leon should NOT fly at this time. So we had to cancel our trip to the U.S. Now it’s only one week after Pentecost and we have seen improvement. Last Sabbath we found a sermon Leon did seven years ago. As I read it to him, he made some changes and additions. What was most encouraging was that he expounded more freely again. Leon is also getting on his computer for a few minutes each day. He is trying to write a sermon about lying and covering it up or saving face (as they call it in Asia). Please continue to pray for the sores on his legs. They are almost healed, then new blisters show up.

**SEE ABOUT BURMA FEAST OF TABERNACLES ON NEXT PAGE.**

**FEAST OF TABERNACLES IN MYANMAR (MONDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER—MONDAY 1 OCTOBER)**

If you would like to come to Taungoo and Jawk Taing for the Feast of Tabernacles, we still have a few openings.

There is a new hotel that is just a couple of years old and the staff is very kind and helpful. The room rate has been discounted again to 35,000 Kyats (\$26), **for one or two people**. Included are breakfast, WiFi, mini bar, air conditioning, private bathroom with hot water, T.V., hairdryer, and towels. If you want to check it out online, type in “Pathi Hotel in Taungoo.” There is also a nice restaurant on the premises. Please book through Legacy for the above-mentioned rate by writing to us at [mail@legacyinstitute.org](mailto:mail@legacyinstitute.org). We will e-mail you your booking confirmation. Please pay the hotel at the end of your stay.

We will have no “package” available, though we will have feast activities. You will be responsible for payment should you participate in any of the activities. We will let you know activity amounts as we find out the number of guests that are interested.

Logistically, you will fly to and from Yangon and stay at a hotel of your choice. (Best Western in China Town worked very well for Mr. Earl Roemer and Mr. David Bensinger, and you can book it on-line.)

You will need to get a “Myanmar **Tourist** Visa” online. The Burma Embassy will want a copy of your booking reservations and dates of travel. The purpose for your visit will be as a “**tourist**.”

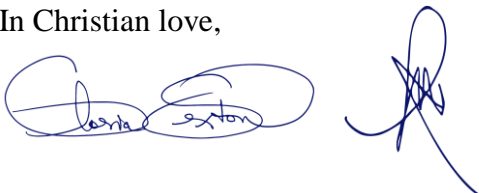
From Yangon, you can make your own travel arrangements to take a bus to Taungoo or make other arrangements of your choice. More details will be forthcoming. The Pathi Hotel will pick up from the Taungoo bus station for free; just give the bus number and time of your arrival in Taungoo. To return to the bus station, there will be a charge.

Here is a brief outline for travel in Myanmar for the Feast.

Wed. 19<sup>th</sup> Sept.: Atonement in Chiang Mai. Leon and I will leave the next day to Yangon.  
Sabbath 22<sup>nd</sup>: In Jawk Taing (30 minutes from Taungoo).  
Mon. 24<sup>th</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup> Day Feast of Tabernacles at Pathi Hotel meeting room.  
Sabbath 29<sup>th</sup>: At Pathi Hotel meeting room.  
Mon. 1<sup>st</sup> Oct.: Last Great Day at Pathi Hotel meeting room.  
Tues. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Travel back to Yangon

There will be daily worship services at Jawk Taing and feast activities when it’s not a high day or Sabbath. We all look forward to keeping the Feast with you!

In Christian love,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The signature on the left is 'Gloria Sexton' and the signature on the right is 'Leon Sexton'. Both are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gloria and Leon Sexton