

Letters from the East

December 2011

Roman & Janice Stefaniw

SIL Mainland Southeast Asia

It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes - Romans 1:16b NLT

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Never had a Christmas season like this one before! It's been more full than any since our nest emptied, yet I feel God's made fresh headway in the peace of my soul in spite of my struggling sin nature. As quoted above, "the power of God at work saving" me makes the twinkling lights prettier and baking cookies for the others around our Linguistics Department more cheery.



Roman and I were proud of the seven Payap Linguistics students who graduated last month. I helped plan our department graduation and Christmas parties. Two highlights for me were decorating with Yui and Tip and hearing the graduates' appreciative remarks when they received their colorful orchid bouquets. I attended the Payap Christmas celebration and appreciated the Seminary choir's beautiful part in the worship service. Understandably, the Nativity playwrights enlarged the parts of the wise men from the Orient and the angel. We appreciate your prayers and pray for you too, especially when receiving your Christmas letters.

Thailand flooding October to December

Chiang Mai flooded in October; our only need is to repaint our kitchen which flooded up over my ankles. But the floodwaters in much of Thailand, including Bangkok, are still present. A total of 657 people were confirmed dead and 3 others were missing in the floods that had inundated the upper part of Thailand for about four months, the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department reported recently. On 1 December 2011 floods still prevail in 15 of 77 provinces and are affecting about 4.8 million people from 1.8 million households.

Eliza is able to live in her Bangkok apartment in the un-flooded Asoke area.

Our Chiang Mai church and others are giving what we can. Thank you for your prayers regarding this widespread difficulty.



Two neighbor households and Roman share the work of sandbagging our homes' doors.

For praise & prayer

- ★ One of our current translation students got married last week to another Linguistics Department student. It was a pleasure to attend their Christ-honoring ceremony and meet their families. Our student, the groom, is already involved in translating.
- ★ Roman checked two Bible translations of two groups in Thailand recently and is in Cambodia checking. Please pray that these Scriptures in three languages transform the hearers and strengthen the church.
- ★ Eliza flew north from Bangkok for Thanksgiving and we hope to see her for Christmas.
- ★ Thank you for your involvement in Bible translation with us. Some people who had been supporting us financially recently had to discontinue doing so. Please pray for them and us that God would continue to provide.



What we checked in 2011

We each checked a lot of translation this year. These languages are in sensitive areas. The Bible portions we checked represent thirteen different languages in five countries. Rejoice with us in these accomplishments in the Lord that you share with us.

Janice

DK - Genesis 1-4, 6-9, 11, and 12-22 selections

Nk - Acts

Lk - 2 Corinthians

Br - Amos

Lm - 1 & 2 Thessalonians and 1 & 2 Timothy

Rm - 1 & 2 Timothy

S - Acts

Roman

SW: 1 Corinthians, 2 Peter, James and 1 Thessalonians

Br: Lamentations, Micah, Hosea, Zechariah and Malachi.

TT: Initial check

Special Audience Project: Luke

Pl: Mark

Ak: Matthew

K-J: Luke 9-24

Roman & Janice Stefaniw
PO Box 328
Chiang Mai 50000
THAILAND
roman_stefaniw@sil.org
janice_stefaniw@sil.org

Please consider direct deposit and label your contribution "For Roman & Janice Stefaniw".
Headquarters address:
PO Box 628200
Orlando, FL 32862