

Prayerletter September 2013

*Thus saith Jehovah, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, Jehovah of hosts: I am the first, and I am the last; and besides me there is no God.
(Is. 44:6)*

Children's club

It's Saturday morning, half past nine. Some children from the neighbourhood sneak into our yard. That's not uncommon; they play at our place every now and then. But this time they all brought pencils and paper. Soon we discover why: They're all ready and set for the children's club! They needed to be a little patient, because the club wouldn't start until late afternoon. The village broadcasting had announced already that 'the foreigners' would do a children's club. We didn't know how many children would come, but our neighbourhood kids would be there, that was sure! In the end, there was an attendance of about 30 children. Also a couple of (grand) parents were present. The children played games, did a craft, sang songs together, listened to a Bible lesson and learned a memory verse.



Enthusiastic children during the children's club

Despite the hindrance of language, it all went well. It's an honour to tell the children about Jehovah, the King of Israel, the first and the last, the Only God.

Visitors and inmates

We went twice to the airport of Khon Kaen in July: One time to pick up family members and one time to pick up the teacher for our children. Both times were exciting for the children. We spent some nice weeks with Anne-Marie parents and other relatives. Adaja,

the teacher, has finished one month of language learning before she started to teach. Via a shipment from the Netherlands we got a lot of school materials. It will be a big change for Celeste and Irene: The classroom is about 4 times bigger as their previous classroom and this year there will be a 'real' teacher! Both David and mom and dad will have to get used to the new situation: The girls will be at school every morning instead of being at home. We don't expect David to be any less naughty though...

In the meantime we also got 2 new inmates: 2 cats, called Trixi and Maxi. The children love them, although they show their love for them in different ways... Hopefully they will keep some unwanted

Prayer requests:

- Give thanks that the children's club in our village has started
- We are thankful that the church has opened and many people are interested
- We are thankful for good contacts with our villagers
- Pray for a good school year with teacher Adaja and the children
- Pray that our new tasks during the home assignment of our colleagues will go well
- Pray that the language won't be a hindrance in our relations with the people

visitors at a distance. Since we live in Isaan, we've spotted several scorpions in and around our house. We've also seen several snakes. We prefer cats in the house.

Church



The building for the church, school and apartment for the teacher

It didn't fit in the house of our colleagues anymore: their house church grew so fast that we had to look for another building. Our colleagues live about 5 km apart from us. On a weekly base, there are coming about 10 adults and 10 children to church, and that's a lot more than a few months ago. We found a 3-story house that will be used as a church, school and apartment for the teacher. We had quite some renovation work to do, but a couple of weeks ago, the church of Nong Ruea was opened! It was just in time before the home assignment of our colleagues who are in the Netherlands at the moment. Because of their assignment, we will have more responsibilities in church and in the Sunday school program these months. Mark will preach a couple of times and has other tasks. Anne-Marie will take care of the Sunday school every week. It's challenging, but we know Our Lord will take care. In the near future we would like to start an 'English Club' in the

church building for students of the secondary school. We also would like to start a children's club in this village.

Rest

'The bell rings, dinnertime!' No, you won't hear this at our home, but at the holiday resort of OMF, the organisation with whom Kimon cooperates. In this holiday resort, missionaries from South East Asia can take a rest for a reasonable price. There's laundry service, meals are prepared 3 times a day and it's very child friendly. A great place to take a rest! The children love this place! Bikes, games, a trampoline, swimming pool and of course the beach; it's all there. We enjoy meeting other missionaries and take trips in the surroundings. We hope we will have enough energy for the busy times that are ahead of us.

During the spring of 2014 we hope to spend about 3 months in our hometown in the Netherlands! Our support committee is already busy in arranging all kinds of things. We are looking forward to meet many of our loved ones!



In Him,

Mark & Anne-Marie, Celeste, Irene and David

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