Ballou FAMILY

REACHING THAI PEOPLE WITH THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

HOME BIBLE STUDIES AND DISCIPLESHIP

A couple of months ago we changed up our ministry focus for one evening of the week. On the night when Alisa and I had usually gone out visiting church members or discipling individually at church, we started a rotating home bible study instead. So far the results of this new routine have been tremendously encouraging. While it lends to a bit of a later evening than usual for our family, it allows us to catch up with church members when they are getting off work. Each week a different church member volunteers to host, which has taken us to quite a variety of locations around our city, including different homes, a school, and even the office of a local village elder. Most weeks, unsaved family members are present for dinner, then they move to a comfortable distance, yet still within earshot, as we take prayer requests or praises and study through a passage. I believe the potential of this routine is extremely high, as believers are encouraged and growing while unbelievers are being lovingly welcomed into casual fellowship in a way that helps them to engage with our church family.

Last Sunday the advisory board of our church surveyed and prayed over a property that has tremendous potential to be the permanent home of this church. The church family has been praying and giving by faith since November of 2023, and we are enjoying the journey of seeing the faith of a church family grow through the process. Stay tuned for future updates that will invite you participate in supporting the vision for this church to impact this city and region with the gospel.

Love in Christ,
the Ballou Family

KWAN IS PICTURED ABOVE IN THE WHITE SWEATER. SHE HAS BEEN COMING FOR A WHILE AT THE INVITATION OF HER FRIEND SEENG. A FEW SUNDAYS AGO SHE TRUSTED CHRIST. ALISA AND A FEW OF THE LADIES GATHERED WITH HER FOR A PICTURE, THEN WHEN I HAD SNAPPED THE PHOTO THEY BROKE INTO A SPONTANEOUS CHEER FOR HER COURAGE TO FOLLOW CHRIST.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR PONG, PICTURED TO THE RIGHT IN AN ORANGE WORK POLO. HIS WIFE HAS BEEN A BELIEVER FOR OVER A YEAR NOW, BUT DISTRACTIONS HAVE KEPT HIM FROM STARTING HIS OWN JOURNEY WITH CHRIST. THEY RECENTLY HOSTED A HOME BIBLE STUDY, AND HE REMAINS FRIENDLY AND OPEN TO CONSIDER CHRIST.

MEN'S BBQ WAS IN MY HOME THIS PAST MONTH, AND WE WERE ENCOURAGED TO WELCOME "BIEW" FOR THE FIRST TIME AT ANY CHURCH EVENT. HIS WIFE SAI HAS BEEN A BELIEVER FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND FAITHFULLY PRAYING FOR HIS SALVATION. TOEY, OUR ASSISTANT PASTOR, HAS CONNECTED WITH HIM THROUGH FISHING AND HAS SEEN HIM GRADUALLY WARMING TO THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL.

WE WERE ALSO BLESSED TO HAVE CHURCH PLANTER LUKE CHERMUE DRIVE UP 2.5 HOURS TO JOIN US WITH "BALL" WHO WAS SAVED LAST MONTH. THE FELLOWSHIP OF OTHER MEN IS CRUCIAL TO DISCIPLESHIP IN ANY CULTURE.