

# BALLOU FAMILY

REACHING THAI PEOPLE WITH THE GOSPEL



We are the Ballou family, serving in Lamphun, Thailand. Thanks so much for following and praying for our family and ministry. At the heart of everything we do is the desire to see Thai people turn to Christ, grow in faith, and reach others within their community. Ten years in with "Sila" (Cornerstone) Baptist Church, we thank God for fruitful ministry in a missions team resulting in a thriving local church.



REACHING BOYS  
THROUGH SOCCER



FUTURE HOME OF SILA  
BAPTIST CHURCH



RECEIVED PROPERTY  
DEED JANUARY 21

Recent Ministry Highlights

Dear Friends,

Thanks so much for your faithful prayer and support for our family! We are experiencing many blessings in the regular rhythms of ministry in this season.

#### Yoo salvation: Fruit that remains

A young adult man by the name of Yoo has been attending recently. I've been connected with him through social media for so long I am not exactly sure where we met. It may have been through one of our English classes. Last Sunday I stood with him after service and took the next step in the conversation about salvation. I was inviting him to study with me about repentance and belief in Jesus. His response? "Oh, I did that last year when you gave the opportunity at the end of a service."

The encounter was another tremendously encouraging example of unknown fruit that comes over time. We labor to see progress in the lives of believers, and we trust that God is doing work that we don't even know of at times.

#### Land and building

We want to express immense gratitude for God's provision of our church property. Many of you have given generously alongside our local church. We now have a clear deed for the land, and following the official land survey this month, the process of development will begin in earnest. Please pray for the stages of design and building permits underway now. Our timeline is to break ground and begin construction on the building at the beginning of November. We will share regularly as the people of this church move forward in the process of seeing this land develop into the future home of this local church!

#### Asking God for more...

On the basis of what we have seen God do in the lives of Thai people over the past 10 years, we are seeking to step forward in faith and ask him to do even greater things in the next five years. Over the first two months of this year, my heart has been stirred often to have the courage and faith to ask God for more, and to depend on him for the strength and guidance to labor faithfully. Specifically, we are praying to see as many people saved from Buddhism in this 5 year period as we saw in the first 10 years of the church. Thanks for interceding for on our behalf!

God Bless!

The Ballou Family

Last Sunday I snapped a quick photo as I walked through the church kitchen. It's the most normal scene you could imagine for us, but the joy of seeing some of our ladies serving together was a great encouragement to me in the moment.



I had a similar picture of the guys who were working to prepare our men's barbecue a few days earlier. It never gets old to me seeing former buddhists who are growing in discipleship, serving the Lord, and forming this beautiful local church in Lamphun, Thailand!

We have had the privilege of helping others put together a yearly camp in the the south of Thailand for MK's in our region since 2016. Our own kids are old enough to be campers now, and we all come away from the week with many blessings.



I was blessed by the invitation to attend the recent opening ceremony for the brand new US Consulate in Chiang Mai, one province north of us. Many distinguished US and Thai guests were in attendance and the experience was quite unique for me. We are quite thankful for the privilege of our citizenship and the excellent care for US citizens abroad.