



THE NICKELL FAMILY

Missionaries to Thailand



January/February 2025

Sending Church

First Baptist Church
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To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

Acts 26:18

Prayer Requests

- Learn the Thai language
- Wisdom in visa decision
- Souls to be saved and spiritual growth for believers in Cha-Am
- Laborers for God's Harvest

Dear Pastors and Praying Friends,

As we entered this new year shortly ago, I was led to this verse in Psalm 65:11, where the sweet psalmist of Israel said of his God, ***“Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.”*** Reflecting on this past year, it is evident that God’s goodness was poured out on us. Because of this and the everlasting fact of God’s goodness and faithfulness, we can rest assured that this year will also be filled with blessings from our Lord.

Our family was blessed with the arrival of our first visit from our home church in Iowa to our place in Thailand. The team consisted of my parents and siblings, our Pastor and his wife, and a young lady in our church. **Much prayer and planning went into this event, and we were so grateful to have people who we love dearly make the effort to visit us.** During their time with us, there were some special events in our ministry which allowed us the opportunity to work together in ministering to the people of Cha-Am. Thailand has many holidays; just as we in America have Father’s Day and Mother’s Day, Thailand celebrates Children’s Day. On this day, our city of Cha-Am held a special event in their community where many businesses and organizations would set up a booth where they might hand-out snacks, toys, etc. to the children. We prayerfully decided to set up our own booth as Cha-Am Baptist Church. **Those from our American team paired up with the Thai people in our church here to serve homemade funnel cakes and fried Oreos to the thousands of children who were present. While many were handing out these tasty treats, others were passing out invitations to our English Learning Camp which would be held the following week.** It certainly was a special thing to behold God’s servants from very different backgrounds working together to bring God glory. A week later, we opened back up our English Learning Student Center at the church property after being closed for the holidays. We started this new semester with a special English Camp Day with our group from America stepping up in a big way to teach the students. **The ladies from our group took various age classes to teach a session, and our Pastor was able to give a Gospel message via our translator at the church.** Our team from America made a significant impact for righteousness, joy, and peace on our Thai members, on those in the community through the evangelistic efforts, and on us personally as their missionaries. While we were blessed to ***“strive together for the sake of the Gospel”***, we were also blessed to have significant moments of fellowship and quality time together.

Some additional updates from the previous two months are these - we celebrated our little princess Autumn turning two this past January; our Thai language school class began this new semester after being shut down longer than we had expected; and Katrina and the baby seem to be doing well according to the doctor’s reports. Please continue to keep these matters of language study and Katrina’s pregnancy in your prayers.

We would also like to present to you some additional prayer needs. Recently, I began to have some significant back pain. Once it began to impact my day-to-day responsibilities in a negative way, I made a visit to the doctor’s office. **After taking an MRI, they determined I have a slight herniated disc.** This is being treated with physical therapy over the next few weeks. Please pray the pain subsides and the issue will be treated this way without any need for additional measures of treatment. **Another urgent matter we ask you to partner with us in prayer is in regard to our visa.** Due to us having a baby this summer which will impact Katrina’s attendance, we have been advised by our language school to not apply for another Education Visa in May, which is when our current visa with them expires. This does not mean we will forgo language learning after May; it only means our visa must change so as not to rely on Katrina’s school attendance. We are looking at and praying over different options. Please pray the Lord will give us wisdom and guide us to the visa He desires us to have. We are abundantly grateful for you and your love towards us as we serve the Lord in Thailand.

In Christ,

The Nickell Family - Jordan, Katrina, Champion, Emmitt, & Autumn



*Missions trip team with our
Cha-Am Baptist Church family*



*American and Thai Christians working
together on Childrens' Day*



*Our pastor preaching with Bro Mike
Leemon translating for English Camp*