The Hanna Newsletter



Good news from a far country" (Proverbs 25:25)

Missionaries to Taiwan

June 30, 2018

Dear Praying Friends, Family, and Supporters,

"There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices [languages] in the world" (1Cor. 14:10, KJV). During our recent travels, we have heard a few more of these languages! Thank you for your continued faithfulness in praying for us, while we have ministered in Taiwan and elsewhere. Here is a report of some of our most recent ministries.

Cornerstone Baptist Church (Kaohsiung, Taiwan): Matt continues to preach through the book of 1 Corinthians in a series that he began back in November 2015. Since we were gone for most of 2017, we still have a way to go before we complete it; so far he has preached 33 messages in this series. We are now getting into the section dealing with spiritual gifts—particularly the gift of tongues. Because of the influence of the Charismatic Movement on Christians and Christianity in Taiwan, this section is especially pertinent to our people and

important for them to understand. Please pray for growth and stability in the congregation.

Our plans and preparation are progressing for two major summer ministries involving our church. **Summer youth camp will be held from July 9-14**. This year's camp will include two men from the Wild's Camps Abroad, who will be providing training for camp workers and preaching to the campers. We expect about 60 people to attend the training module on Saturday and Sunday, July 7-8, which will be conducted at our church. This year's camp will include participants from more than 10 other Baptist churches from various regions of Taiwan. Several of the young people from our church are not yet saved.

Our church VBS program will be held August 20-24 and our congregation has already begun distributing invitations at local schools. We hope to reach into families in our community that we have touched in the past as well as attracting new children from families with whom we have not yet connected. In addition to these summer events, we are also in the planning stages for our annual **"Missions Emphasis Month," which will be held in October**. We have invited missionaries from both inside and outside of Taiwan to come and challenge our people. Please pray for these ministries.

The Stewart and Bollon families continue in their full-time language studies (Mandarin Chinese), but in the near future they will begin to transition into greater ministry involvement. They have already been ministering in various ways in our church and privately through personal contacts, but they will soon begin to move toward less study and more ministry. They both have upcoming furlough trips to the US, after which this transition will begin to take place. Pray for them as they study and minister.



Matt and Marla traveled in May to several islands in the Pacific to visit with BMM missionaries (as part of our BMM member care responsibilities). We spent time on Guam, Saipan, and Chuuk. In Guam we met up with Rhonda Green, a single BMM missionary working in conjunction with Harvest Baptist Ministries. In Saipan we visited one of our supporting churches; and in Chuuk we spent time with Jody and Terry Colson who are church planting under very difficult conditions.

matt@hannas.org * PO Box 88-64 Kaohsiung, Kaohsiung City 81399, Taiwan R.O.C. * http://www.hannas.org Baptist Mid-Missions * PO Box 308011, Cleveland, OH 44130 * http://www.bmm.org

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Terry translating for Matt

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The sights in Guam



Bible Baptist Ch., Chuuk

Matt also recently had the opportunity to teach a week-long Bible course to house church leaders in a secure location. This is the same ministry in which he has taught in the past. Please pray for missionaries and Christian nationals in Creative Access Nations. Due to governmental and societal opposition, it is getting more and more difficult to carry on ministry in these places.

July 16-20 we will travel to Okinawa, Japan to visit another BMM work, only 300 miles northeast of Taiwan. Pray for our safety and ministry there. Additionally, the Joel Wagner family from Myanmar will be coming to visit us in Taiwan at the end of July, as they travel for visa renewal. Finally, we plan to return to the US for the whole month of



September as we attend our mission governance meetings and participate in BMM's Launch Seminar for appointees preparing to depart for their fields of service.

While we are in the US we also plan to visit with our children who are scattered from Alabama to Vermont. Our son-in-law, Mike (married to Rose), completed his 16-week law enforcement training at the end of May and has transitioned into new responsibilities in his rural sheriff's department in Vermont. Our daughter, Beth, will finish her one-year post-graduate training program in medical laboratory technology on August 3 (Lord willing) and will begin working full-time at the hospital in Columbia, SC where she is receiving training. Her eventual goal is to pursue ministry in medical missions somewhere in Asia. Luke, is living in a newly rented home and working in the Huntsville, AL area, where he is serving in his local church.

With our busy and constantly changing schedule, we need a great measure of God's grace to stay on an even keel. It is challenging to balance the varying ministry responsibilities that have been entrusted to us. Please keep us continually in your prayers as we teach, preach, counsel, administrate, travel, and juggle all of these aspects of ministry!

In Christ,

Matt & Marla Handa Cornerstone Baptist Church, Kaohsiung, Taiwan Field Administrator for Asia and the Pacific