



CMO

Equipping Believers for Greater Impact

Christian Mission to the Orient
P.O. Box 2363, Joplin, Mo 64803

March, 2019

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Greetings!

Did you make your New Year's Resolution? How is it going?

You know most New Year's resolutions don't make it past January 12th! The realities of our busy lives just get in the way and our excited promises to make a change fade away.

New Year's resolutions result from a inner desire to grow and improve. And change is a good thing; stopping old habits or striving for new goals can be motivating and exciting.

Our New Year's Resolution: To Continue pressing forward

Well, CMO also takes a look at the past year; to identify our successes and evaluate our failures to see what changes or new goals we need to pursue in the new year. This year, our New Year's resolution is simple: *to continue to press forward.*

With this annual report, we invite you to rejoice with us in answered prayer, marvel at God's goodness and pray with us for God's continued blessing as we strive to accomplish our Vision: *"to prepare workers for God's Kingdom."*

Lanna Theological Center Celebrates 15 Year Anniversary



2018 marked the 15th anniversary of the merger of the Center of Biblical Studies and Chiang Mai Bible Institute to form **Lanna Theological Center.**

Together, the schools have released a multitude of workers into the harvest fields of SE Asia serving their communities through a variety of ministries. Ministries such as; evangelism into unreached people groups and villages, church planters, pastors, and shepherds of local church bodies. Many others are working with non-profit foundations that serve the poor, care for the orphaned, rescue the enslaved, and minister to the sick.

On March 7th, LTC held its biennial Homecoming. It is always a joy to reconnect with our

alumni and hear their stories of God's faithfulness in ministry. We are thankful for the commitment of so many in the face of difficult situations. We invite you to read about one of LTC's alumni who is serving as a pastor to a small group of believers in the mountains of Northern Thailand. [Click here to read about Mr. Sirisak.](#)

Meet Our New Staff



In October, 2018, LTC was delighted to welcome back Mr. Bundit and his wife, Mai. Bundit and Mai are not really new as they served with LTC from 2003 to 2012. Bundit is from the Lahu Chale tribe. He and Mai are very active with a church planting team reaching into the Lahu Chale. Mai is gifted in English and teaches the freshmen English class.

LTC welcomed Mr. Boyd as a full time staff member. Before enrolling in LTC 4 years ago, Boyd and his wife Tuu were free-lance media consultants working with Christian Broadcasting Network and Freedom Films. They were challenged by missionaries with North Burma Christian Mission to consider full-time ministry specifically with the deaf community. Boyd accepted the call, quit his job and enrolled at LTC.



Now that he has finished his studies, Boyd is working two jobs: He is the director of deaf ministries under NBCM and a full-time staff member at LTC. His primary role at LTC will be in recruitment, public relationships, and teaching media skills.

2018-19 Freshmen Class : Answered Prayer



Springtime in the USA is Thailand's summer. And just like in the USA, summer means church camps and college decisions.

Every year we pray earnestly for God to lead those whom He has called to enroll at LTC. The 2018-19 freshmen class has proved to be an answer to those prayers. 6 students enrolled, but one of the girls had serious health problems and she had to withdraw.

The remaining five have a tremendous testimony of God's call to ministry. Each faced a season of opposition as well-meaning elders warned them against the financial difficulties of ministry. Yet God gave each one an affirmation that sealed their calling. In the course of this first year, each freshmen has excelled in their studies, spiritual growth, and service. We couldn't be more proud and privilege to be apart of their preparation for Kingdom service.

We invite you to read about freshman student, [Jack](#) as he gives witness to God's ability to fight for his children.

We also covet your prayers during the next few months as we actively recruit and select those whom God has chosen for ministry.

DOR TEAMS Continue to Make an Impact with Youth!

3 Years ago LTC created the DOR Ministry Teams. (*DOR stands for Dormitory,*



Orphanages, Renewal) DOR teams go and hold youth revivals and help with summer camps; ministering to youth from all over northern Thailand.

In 2018, LTC DOR Teams ministered to nearly 1,000 children and youth and are in high demand to help with youth events.

One of the goals for the DOR Teams is to encourage Christian youth to seek a deeper walk with Christ and challenge them to consider pursuing a life of ministry and service. We are beginning to see results! At this time, we have already been told of 10 or more students who have expressed interest in preparing for ministry by enrolling in LTC!

We are excited about these potential workers. However, there are so many who simply cannot afford the \$500 a year tuition cost. The reason is that many come from orphanages, broken families, or unbelieving families. Therefore, CMO is currently raising a special fund called the Next Step Scholarship Fund. Our goal is to raise funds for 100 students.

Would you consider contributing to this important scholarship fund?

As of this writing, we have 12 four-year scholarships already raised. Will you help us sponsor 88 more workers for Lord's Field in SE Asia?

[Click here to make a contribution to the Next Step Scholarship Fund.](#)

Short Term Volunteer Opportunities:



College Freshman, Michele Rietz assists in dental clinic.

CMO welcomes volunteers to come and partner with us in Thailand. In 2019-20 we have several opportunities. Our primary volunteer program is the **Community of Blessing Teams**. COB teams work in partnership with LTC faculty and students to host medical clinics in remote villages. Before you start to think "*medical, I can't do that!*"; the truth is...YES you can! COB teams needs BOTH medical professionals AND Non-Professionals!

COB clinics are comprised of three stations: Health Exams and Pharmacy, Vision Exams with Prescription and Reading Glasses, and Dental Exams. The health and dental do require volunteers with some level of training in those areas. All other positions are open to anyone with a heart to serve.

We have 5 trips scheduled for the next year **Our June 3-12, 2019 team still have openings for dental and vision.** The other teams are scheduled for December 28, 2019-January 8, 2020; March 7-13 2020; May 19-27, 2020 and July 8-16, 2020.

Work Team: July 1-13 CMO is inviting volunteers to come and do some maintenance projects around the LTC campus. Current projects include white washing the wall and repainting the wall around the campus. *There are still some open positions for this opportunity!*

If you feel God stirring your heart to serve with Lanna Theological Center in any of these opportunities, [click here to contact CMO](#) to begin your adventure of service.

Update on David and Deloris Filbeck

Carmen Filbeck brought David and Deloris Filbeck back to the USA and settled in Joplin, Missouri. The medical care for David's Parkinson's was the primary reason for this move. He is

slowly getting weaker. We ask your prayers for him that God will continue to provide all he needs as he journeys this road. He and Deloris do enjoy hearing from folks. If you would like to write them a note of encouragement or share a memory, please send it to Carmen at carmenfilbeck@gmail.com.

Carmen Filbeck: Available to Represent CMO FALL 2019



CMO has released Carmen to be based in the USA for this season. She continues in her role as Director of LTC, representing CMO, speaking and fund-raising. She makes 2-3 annual trips back to Thailand for planning sessions with the staff and often video chats with the faculty to facilitate decisions. In 2019 she is available to represent CMO from July to December. Please contact her [here](#) to at to schedule a Special Report from the Field.

We are grateful for your continued support in helping prepare Christian leaders in Southeast Asia.

Sincerely,

CMO Team

You may [click here for a Print version of this newsletter](#).



LTC's Faculty and Staff