

Jan 8 – 28, 2015



# THAI LIGHTS

Comedy is a key attraction for Thai Folk Drama (Likay)

Our CCI Troupe performed Likays 14 times on a 20 day trip in 7 Lisu, Karen, Thai, Lao Song, and Plang villages. They also performed dramas in 2 schools 3 churches.



The CCI team took their bus 9 hours to a Lisu Church (right) near the border. Then they loaded 30 people and equipment into 6 vehicles to drive through the 1219 sharp mountain curves to Umphang district, Tak Province.



Each night there was preaching and a call for decision. We took names for follow-up.



Many children came forward too. Some people dismissed the children as too small to understand, but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." Joan came forward at 8 and Allan at 9. We still vividly remember our decision.



Wichada (Left with Laurie) is a 10<sup>th</sup> grade Pan Rak scholarship student. She gave her testimony at Laytongku, saying she had been badly frightened by graphic pictures of Buddhist hell that her sister showed her when she was about 6. She thought, "I am a sinner. Who can help me?" We used to park our truck at their house before we walked into Laytongku, and her family became Christian. She saw how her mother and father changed and overcame alcohol and tobacco addictions. Before they were Christian, her parents had no time to listen to her problems, and she began to talk to herself. Her friends teased her, and she thought she might be losing her mind. Then she found that she could talk to God and find understanding and care. She said, "I learned to tithe. From my 5000 baht (\$160) scholarship, I gave 500 baht to the church. Now I give a tenth of what I receive and find that I always have enough money to get by.





Dedication of the Laytongku Health Center, Jan.16. Representatives from the Thai Army, Thai Border Police, Burmese villagers and Karen Buddhist Army leaders came to show support.



Christian wedding in Saw Mae Village.

The villagers asked the “old man” (Allan) to perform 20 baptisms and 2 weddings in three of the villages.

(Right) At Laytongku, May from CCI was baptized with 4 other villagers.



(Left) Sam Yek Church 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We ordained two elders and installed the new church board. The president is Achan Sopah (left). She became a Christian when she was in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade while we lived there. She shared how she was very touched when Joan served soft fried eggs to “the poor children like me.” Another board member brought us a gift basket and told us how touched she was when Joan served her ice cream as “a poor little child in our school.” Another Lao Song man who received his DMin in the US, told how he began to first really believe in Christ when Joan invited him into our home and served “this poor little boy” tea.



(Right) Pai Hu Chang Lao Song village. We had taught these ladies when they were small children and now they hosted the Likay troupe for two night performances. There are no Christians living in the village because ancestor worship is so strong, but 9 adults walked forward and gave their names to accept Christ as Lord and Savior. The near by Lamkajao Lao Song Church will follow up. The Thai PBS put us on TV.



Plang Christian ladies danced to praise the Lord before our Likay. The Likay backdrop represents the stairway to heaven



Our grandson Dave Dawson (Left in red) drove, taught children, carried loads, took pictures, and even performed with our 3 Lawa young ladies, on his left. These university graduates received Pan Rak scholarships, and they joined the team to lead games with the children and help in many ways.



Pan Rak helps the beginning church in Umphang. The new building was dedicated Nov. 16, 2014

Thank you for your prayers and support.

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