



November 2016 News

In This Issue:

* Ministry News:

Spiritual Sons & Daughters pg.2
Top Stories pg.3

* Features:

Article - Divine Hoppers pg.1
Article - Board Member pg.2
Article - ThaiLights pg.4
Item - Prayer Points pg.4
Article - On a personal note pg.4

Donations:

Online via PayPal
www.firstlightinternational.net

By Mail, payable to:

Firstlight International
P.O. Box 252
Springdale, PA 15144-0252

As a registered public charity 501 (c) 3 nonprofit corporation, all financial contributions are U.S. tax deductible by making checks payable to Firstlight International.

Contact:

www.firstlightinternational.net

Tel: 724.254.6145

E-mail: helloeckers@gmail.com

Look for us:



Divine Hoppers

“And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.” Mark 16:20 NAS

Just before Josiah was born, the Lord spoke a guiding word over our lives through Bro. Costa Dier. In an altar call, we knelt together. I opened my heart wide to receive whatever the Lord had to say. Our plan then, was to move to Scotland to pastor young people, working with Joe Ewen. When Costa laid his hands on our heads, he prophesied that we were ‘Divine Hoppers.’ He saw us hopping, hopping, at the beckoning and direction of the Lord all over the earth, free to move wherever the Lord directed us and that we had obedient hearts to do whatever the Lord showed us.

Unknown to Costa, Dan and I had already lived that life for 4 years. We had traveled the globe, serving wherever the Lord showed us, often taking only our bibles and our guitar. Very little money, certainly, and sometimes we left the US without the wherewithal to get home. When it was time for us to circle home, He would provide those means. We had just agreed to go and work in Scotland for five years. That did not feel like ‘hopping’ nor, in my heavily pregnant state, did I feel like much of a hopper anymore. But, “Divine Hoppers’ is what He said. We looked at each other and wondered what on earth the Lord could be thinking?

We DID go to Scotland and stayed five glorious years. We loved countless young people who turned up at our door. We were known and loved in that church, and in that community. Dan

took two teams to Croatia during the Balkan conflict, and also led 2 teams to China. I trained 2 teams to be able to do worship for outreach, one for Germany, another to Croatia.

Then. The Divine Hopper call came back knocking on the door of our hearts. We heard. And we “hopped’ back to Asia.

26 years have past since that word. Last month in Malaysia we found ourselves in meetings with a large group of other hoppers. ‘Friends’ we call each other. In that room were many faces of our past and present meeting up together. From Hong Kong, and China, and Burma, and Laos, and Cambodia, and Thailand. Some we had not seen in decades. Some in a decade, some in years, some in months. Family, all. These were the ones we had laid our lives down together with to reach the lost and to see this gospel of the kingdom reach the furthest corners of the globe till the King comes back. Till Jesus says: Enough. It is time.

Divine hoppers. I might feel daunted at the task the Lord has called us to; still, I know: it is He who has called us. He will also do it. Amen.



DEBBIE ECKER
Vice President
Firstlight International

Never Give Up: Pray! Give! Go! Send!

As you read this article there are 50 church planters in Myanmar who are being equipped, and mobilized to reach some of the most unreached people in the world.

Because of your prayers and support the 1 million Pua Laung people of northern Myanmar are becoming exposed to the gospel, and receiving Christ as their personal savior. When the power of giving, going, and praying are activated the kingdom of God gets built, and the lost are reached.

God has called both Firstlight International, and Frontier Harvest Ministries to be generous to the poor,

and help mobilize our church planting teams into the most unreached regions to release His blessings, and salvation.

From October to the end of December, our ministries have joined armies in training, and sending for three months straight.

At the beginning of next year all the new converts who have come to Christ will be gathered together in our training base for encouragement, and follow through training. It is exciting to see God's hands move among the most remote, and lost souls of the world.

It all starts with Giving, Going, and Praying. *He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.*

Please continue to mobilize your giving, going, and prayers into Northern Myanmar. As you do the miracle of multiplication begins to take place!



CHUCK LENHART
President
Frontier Harvest Ministries
Board Member
Firstlight International

Raising Up Spiritual Sons & Daughters Releasing the Father's blessing to the next generation



It was our greatest joy for Debbie and I to attend this year's annual meeting of the Blessing of Thailand Church Association (BOTCA) in Hat Yai, Thailand last month.

Thirty three church leaders representing sixteen churches gathered for three days of: worship, fellowship, prayer, planning, and more! Three of our Firstlight Fellowship Church Network - Thailand, churches were represented.

After each of these church leaders shared their reports, opportunity was given for each one to receive personal prayer, impartation, and prophetic ministry.

Many thanks to Pastor Chan Wit, the Chairman of BOTCA, the Board of Directors, and all of the BOTCA Thai church leaders for giving Debbie and I the honor of serving together with each of you to see Christ proclaimed throughout all of Thailand.

Together we can do this!



DAN ECKER
President
Firstlight International

Top Stories - *SEAPC - Friends Around the Table*

The SEAPC "Friends Around the Table" event took place in Melacca, Malaysia last month with over 100 attendees.

What a joy to celebrate with Friends from 35 different countries, all coming together to celebrate what the Lord is doing in some of the 75 countries where SEAPC partners are serving in ministry. We had seven representing Firstlight in Thailand, and in Laos.

The morning sessions were filled with worship and prayer followed by reports from various ministries, and SEAPC project updates. The afternoon sessions there was teaching by Dr. Dick Eastman, President of Every Home for Christ International (EHC). And the evenings were filled with more worship, prayer and the ministry of the Word. The theme was: "Mobilizing Malaysia for Missions."

Special thanks to Mark & Ellie Geppert, Matthew & Jessica Geppert, and everyone of the SEAPC staff, and volunteers for organizing and hosting such an amazing event!



Top Stories - *On the border of Thailand & Laos*



Standing at a border marker in Nan province, northern Thailand, and the country of Laos. One side is Thailand, and the other side is Laos.

In this mountain region where these two countries meet there are thousands of Thai / Lao, Hill Tribe peoples who are waiting to hear the Gospel, many for the very first time!

As part of the E-Five Project - Dr. Tony Foster through Firstlight Intl., has empowered Pastor Nott and his team to plant churches among the Luwa people group. Over the past two years, eight new churches have been planted.

Last month Debbie and I trained 30 local Thai church leaders who are serving with Pastor Nott with a goal of planting three new churches in this area in 2017.

Pray! Pray! Pray! .. Breakthroughs are happening now!

ThaiLights: Eye Care Screenings for Christ

What a blessing and great opportunity to be part of this big Family of God.

This was the fifth year of serving the Lord as a language interpreter with Firstlight Intl., and His Servants Ministries, (HSM) in Thailand, through these eye care screenings for evangelism in rural villages. Every year is different but the Lord is faithful each and every time.

This year close to 1,500 people received eye care screenings and 60 plus came to Christ in six days! It has been such a blessing for me to have the opportunity to put words into action as a follower of Christ and to see many people's lives touched for the glory of God.

In Matthew 9:35-37 it says that Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. It says that when he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Even though this was said about the crowds that Jesus saw that day, the same could be said about many of the towns and villages in Thailand today. We saw hundreds of people each day who were lost. This makes me want to do more to see that they can come to know Jesus. We are all called to carry the light of Christ with us and

to let it shine so brightly as we share the gospel and to do what God has promised and command us to do. To open their physical eyes as well as their spiritual eyes.

I am so thankful for Dr. Rooney, Dr. Martin, Firstlight Intl, and HSM for giving me this opportunity to serve each year.

Thank you for helping to reach Thai people with the gospel through these important eye care screenings each year. Lord, let them see JESUS!



JENNIE SUWAKRAI
Language Interpreter
Firstlight Eye Care Team

On A Personal Note



November is a season for giving thanks, and I am so, so thankful for the many graces and blessings the Lord has poured into our lives this year. This year began facing the mountain of cancer. Then, just as suddenly as the diagnosis had come and taken over our lives for months on end, that mountain was removed and cast into the sea. One week before I boarded a plane to return to Asia for a month of ministry, I had my 6 month CT scan. It was all clear. Oh, thank You, Jesus. As I re-entered Asia, our first week was in Malaysia with our dear friends at SEAPC. A gathering of hundreds of friends from 34 ethnicities, a large contingency of whom we have had the honor and pleasure of working with over the past 33 years. It was a week of joyful reunion, laughter, stories, hugs, deep worship and prayer. Family. When Ellie Geppert and I laughed at how we could not seem to get a moment together, there were so many people to visit we had not seen for so long, she said, joyfully, 'It's like Christmas!!' Indeed. She is right, because whenever we are with family, it is a joyful celebration. Please have a joyful, loving Thanksgiving with your loved ones.



DEBBIE ECKER
Vice President
Firstlight International

Prayer Points

“I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you.” Job 42:2 NLT

Please pray for:

1. Our church planting in northern Thailand & Myanmar. (see pg.2 & 3)
2. The follow up plans for the 60 plus who came to Christ during the eye care clinics.
3. FWF second Thai school term \$5,000 needed. * 70 children in six locations being reached.
4. God's abundant provision for Firstlight International during this 4th quarter of 2016.