I. Letters

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I. Letter

1. Paul Emerson <emersonopa@gmail.com> July 21
   Come help build a Dean of Girls apartment at Toraja View Academy.
   Leaving about Sept. 15, from LAX, promotion ticket round-trip into Jakarta $780 plus travel inside Indonesia. Contact Paul Emerson ASAP for details, 805-901-0445, text, or email

II. SULADS Story: JUNIE TUNGKAY, a Follow-up

Rose Ann Cudal
Slong, Ned, Lake Sebu, South Cotabato, Philippines-- 2012

Junie Tungkay is a sitio leader in the village of Slong where the services of SULADS has existed for about 14 years. Junie is a member of the T'boli tribe. T'bolis are the most patient, forgiving and sensitive people I have ever encountered. As I lived with them, I learned by God's grace how Junie had inspired me to serve and love the people.

Junie is a mellow, soft-spoken man, skinny and with a deep brown complexion. He is in his late twenties but looks older due to hard labor in his wide farm every day. He became a breadwinner for his family. He even supported his sister in college and wished all his siblings would finish studying as far as they desired. He had hectares of peanuts and corn on his farm. He always checked in our kitchen to see if we still had food to cook. He is so responsible that he led out in building the church, which my partner and I longed to have so that we could have church services.

One time, I found out that he was eager to learn about the Bible. I encouraged him to read and taught him how to look for Bible Verses. My fellow missionary solicited a Bible for him and gave him a church manual. I avoided asking him about being baptized for I thought it was too early but I wanted him to decide in due time. Many people in Slong were baptized, but when tested, they've grew cold and turned back. I didn't want it to happen to Junie.

He influenced his siblings and relatives, and I was happy to see them together every Sabbath and having potluck. I was even amazed one day when he brought a mini audio box and portable DVD player. He said, "This is for church so people can listen to religious music and videos since majority of them in the village don't have any idea what heaven looks like. This kind of thing will help them understand about the Bible."

I was so happy for Junie’s dedication. His sisters, who graduated from SULADS High School in Santo. Domingo, came back to church and shared her testimony about how she wanted to come back to God. It was a blessed and memorable Sabbath.

When we nearly ended our term, there were souls who wanted to receive Christ. Junie was among them. He wanted to serve God and be active in leading the church services.

We were glad and prayed that God would keep Junie and the rest, who were faithful, to continue even with the absence of SULADS in their own village.

Followup
By Daniel Añosa
Slong Village
September 2014

This story is a follow-up two years after a previous story titled Junie Tungkay.

In Slong Village, I met a newlywed couple- Kagawad (Counselor) Junie and Shiela Tungkay. At first, I was shy to talk to them because I heard that Kagawad Junie was strict. As time went on, I learned that he was totally different. Every time I called for a meeting and bayanihan (community work), Junie was always present and he and his wife were always supportive.
At present, they are our partners in giving Bible Studies with those interested brethren. On September 6, 2014, there were 16 individuals who accepted Christ as their Savior through baptism. We still are doing Bible Studies with Kagawad Junie. We had a goal for the church building to replace the old small church which is about to collapse. We hope to accommodate more people and anticipate greater fellowship. We pray that by God's grace we can accomplish it this year. Help us pray for the active individuals who will not cease to support with their generous hearts the spreading the gospel.

Sheila Tungay, wife of Junie, was from SULADS High School and knows how to sing well and play the guitar well. She is actively assisting us in church.

III. New Churches in Thailand
Selected from President Chanchai Kiaityanyong's "Message From The President" in the June issue of "Shining Light in Thailand"
"Starting from January to June this year we have opened several churches and held church dedication ceremonies of worship places for our church members.
"On February 21 we organized the Doytag Church in Chiangmai Province. This church was built by the ATI Group from Japan and as it has continued to grow, a larger church was built. This group fulfilled the requirements for church status and so the church was officially organized.
"March 18 saw the completion and dedication of the church building at Banmaipattana in North Thailand. This is also a Japanese ATI group project in conjunction with Thailand Adventist Mission (TAM). This is the second time the church has been rebuilt to accommodate the growing congregation. The church members were so happy that they organized teams to come each day to help with the construction. They worked side by side together with the Japanese group and the TAM."
"On March 21 we opened and dedicated the new Haadyai church building. The church membership is growing in numbers and the old church was very crowded. We thank God for continually sending support and donations. The church building is finished although the landscaping is yet to be completed as good shade trees are needed."
"On April 4 we dedicated another church, this time in Nongbua, Thasongyang District, Tak Province in Western Thailand. Brother Scott Hill and his team from the United States made this their seventh building project in Thailand. Brother Scott is the leader of teams who have worked hard for the Church in Thailand and raised funds for their travel expenses and church and school building projects."
"We opened a new church on April 11 in the Ngaw District, Lampang Province, Northern Thailand. This is a new group that Thailand Mission organized following evangelistic meetings and assigned a pastor to visit regularly. There are no other churches of any other denominations and only the SDA Church has entered this area."
"We thank God that we were able to open a new congregation and new worship place right in the city center in Uttradit Province. Northern Thailand, about 6 hours from Bangkok. We discovered some SDA Church members who already lived in Uttradit and so we gathered them together and worship began in a home over a year ago. The group continued to grow, so Thailand Mission rented a townhouse right in the city and officially opened the new congregation on April 11. .""

IV. Bair's Newsletter from Thailand
The Bair Family <missions@danielbair.com> July 30
New Baby and Other Updates
First, our teammates, Gop and Frame, are grateful for all of you who helped them recover from their house fire. And, we are grateful to God for the progress on our All Asia Studio team projects since last year. Early last month, we reviewed what God has done with growing our team, and so we created an updated promo video about the All Asia Studio.
And, wanting to branch out into personal ministries, Frame has just started a small, free English Language class on Sundays at our office, to reach out to the local community.
We were also praying for God’s providence in the birth of Baby Bair number three, and we can now report that God certainly did come through!

** Baby Bair Birth Story
The story of Moses in Exodus Pharaoh told the midwives to kill the Israelite baby boys on the birth stool, and let the baby girls live. The midwives "disobeyed" his evil command, and when Pharaoh asked for a reason, they said, "the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them." (Exo. 1:19, KJV). Some people say that those midwives were lying to Pharaoh to save their lives and the lives of those baby boys. But after the birth of our third child this month, we now really think they were telling the truth!

The night before baby Ginger was born, I had some strong, but not painful, contractions about 7 minutes apart. A few weeks before, I'd had the same symptoms but it had been false labor, so I went to bed to see if resting would change anything. Sure enough, contraction intervals lengthened to 10 minutes apart. So I thought, "well, maybe baby won't be born tonight."

Her due date was a couple days away on July 12th.

But, at midnight I woke up with painful contractions, 7 minutes apart again. The waters hadn't broken yet (which was the first sign of real labor for my first two children), so I thought it would be awhile before the baby was born. But an hour later, the contractions came to 5 minutes apart, and I told Daniel, "Let's get up, I think baby is coming today!"

We got ready to go to the hospital, the waters broke; that was 1:15 AM. Immediately after that, contractions were less than 1 minute apart and very intense. I told Daniel to call friends who live 10 minutes away, whom we had arranged with to watch our kids. By the time he was talking with them on the phone, the peak part of labor, transition, was definitely happening, and I realized there was no way I would make it to even the closest hospital. Baby "Ginger" was born in only 15 minutes, at 1:30 AM on July 11, 2015.

Friends then arrived 5 minutes after the baby was born, and by that time baby Ginger was more alert. As soon as we could, Daniel took us both to the hospital to get us checked out. The doctors found us both in good health, and told us that we didn't need to be admitted, so we were able to go back home.

We really weren't planning for a home birth. Perhaps God had a reason for His kingdom that He allowed the birth to happen at home, though. Because, for a home birth, we had to get the birth certificate papers from our district government office in Mae Taeng, instead of from the hospital.

While Daniel was there, he and Gop had the opportunity to make friends with the district official (which is a blessing because we are applying for a "foundation" for Jesus For Asia ministries in Thailand). The official told us where our foundation paperwork process was so far, and he personally helped make sure we got a birth certificate. (which we needed for Ginger's US passport) It's still hard to believe all this was real! Welcome Baby Ginger!

**CEC’s trip to the USA, Fall 2015:**

We are planning our trip to the USA this year to be from September 21st through December 1st. Friends have offered for us to borrow their vehicle for that time. Thank-you (you know who you are)! That is a really big answer to prayer!

We still haven’t finalized our trip itinerary yet, but we will be working on it in the next few weeks. If anyone would be willing for us to present our mission updates and raise funds for the All Asia Studio at their church, please let us know.

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