

## Taiwan Times

Byron and Melissa Manners Newsletter Blog: <a href="http://taiwantimesblog.wordpress.com">http://taiwantimesblog.wordpress.com</a> Website: feaministries.org/missions/manners November 2024

Greetings again from Taiwan. It was a privilege to be able to meet some of you while in the US. We also made some new friends. While in the States, we traveled over 12,000 miles through 25 states. We had six deputation services, visited a Christian school in North Carolina, and filled the pulpit at a church without a pastor one Sunday. We did a lot of shopping, hiking, and visiting with family and friends. We also attended the School of the Prophets, a real highlight. It is the first time I have attended any kind of ministerial training since becoming a pastor. As we presented what God is



doing on this side of the world, over and over we heard how encouraging we were to you. You also greatly encouraged us.



We arrived back in Taiwan October 10. Our church retreat began nine days later. I presented material on how to read the Bible, pray, and how to enjoy time with God. Attendance was down somewhat this year, but some of our new people participated and really seemed to enjoy it. The feedback was all positive and at least one told me he is having his devotions and enjoying them. I had requested prayer

for this retreat while in the States, and God answered those prayers abundantly. There is new life in the church, and I have several new students attending the Friday Bible study. My assistant also launched a new Chinese Bible study for some of the ladies.







The other big project we have been involved in concerns my position as field director. It was time to renew the contract on the building where Nanzi Church meets and where Nathanael Bundy is living. Some funds for the church from the States had been held up all summer, and some in the church were concerned about the rent going up. I met with the pastor, with Bundy, and with the church, and we decided we can afford it if we can find a couple of students to rent one or two of the rooms upstairs. They are furnished for missionary guests, but we need to make better use of them. Once that was decided, we had an installation service for Pastor Pan the first Sunday of November. The church was completely full for this happy occasion.

At the end of October we had a pastors' meeting at a coffee shop. One of the pastors could not come, but the rest of the pastors had the opportunity to meet Pastor Pan and his family. We also decided which church was doing what when we have our outdoor service together in December. It was a wonderful time of fellowship for both the men and the ladies.

November 11 some in our church joined with the church in Nanzi to have a meal together to say goodbye to Bundy. He is flying back to the States to begin his

furlough. It hardly seems like he has been here almost two years already.



In getting ready to return to Taiwan, the Lord gave me Joshua 1:9: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go" (NIV). Already there have been challenges, and the project in Thailand is not moving as quickly as I would like. God is helping me not to stress out about the obstacles and delays and wait on His time. As we celebrate Thanksgiving this year, what I am most thankful for is His presence. He has been with us personally over all the miles and new experiences we



have had. He is also present with us in our church services, and it is a joy to be back with my people.

We have several new people receiving these letters, so I just want to mention that my blog address is on the top of the first page. It has a lot more information about what is happening in our lives. Thank you so much for your prayers. It was so encouraging to meet so many of you who told us you are praying for us.