



THE NICKELL FAMILY

Missionaries to Thailand



May/June 2026

Dear Pastors and Praying Friends,

A familiar adjective to be found in connection with ministry and often applied to missionaries specifically is the word "flexible." We have experienced the need to be flexible in a number of different events as we live in a different culture with unfamiliar habits, foods, and methods. A recent example of our needing to be flexible has been in the area of visas in Thailand. In our previous letter we were able to share with you the good news of our being accepted by the Thai missionary organization for a missionary visa, meaning they would be our representatives to the Thai government in helping us acquire this visa. While we have been accepted in this way by the organization, we now must wait as our visa application goes through the proper channels within the Thai government and immigration. We had been told to expect a waiting period of a few months before we can come in the country on the missionary visa. With our education visa ending in early June, we had been researching a short-term visa to use for the summer while we waited for the missionary visa. I had met with a Thai lawyer in April to begin the process of meeting the requirements for this short-term visa; but when I returned to the office in mid-May, I was met with unfortunate news. The short-term visa we were praying to receive had changed many of their rules and requirements two weeks before, making the process overly complicated. Each law office I met with that day told me they were no longer assisting applicants for that specific visa due to numerous rejections by Thai immigration. **This led us to our knees in prayer, seeking direction from our Lord. We also spoke to our Pastor, our mission board, and other missionaries to receive counsel on what options we might have. We quickly had to make a flexible decision and take an unplanned trip back to the US for a few months.** In the midst of this, we were blessed to not be overly concerned with the expense of our flight to America. In October of last year, our Pastor and home church graciously offered to cover our expenses and fly us home for our missions conference in August. The tickets already being purchased and the expense being covered for us, we only needed and were able to change the date of our flying out of Thailand from August to June. **Little did we know, but the Lord knew we would be in need of an unplanned trip to the States!**

While it has been refreshing to be home with family and friends this past month, it has been difficult to be away from the place the Lord has called us. I am encouraged when I read the epistles of Paul to different churches, and how he too desired to be with them in person when he could not. Our heart remains in Thailand, and we long to return. Recently, I was studying the passage of Elijah on Mt. Carmel and his contest with the prophets of Baal. Our prayer for the Thai people echoes the prayer Elijah prayed for the people of his day when he said, **"Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again."** Please continue to pray for the Thai people, specifically for those in Cha-Am, that they would come to know the Lord as their God. **We rejoice in hearing from our mission partners that they have been counseling two ladies, Anna and Noi, for baptism later this month. Please pray for their spiritual growth and commitment to follow through in believer's baptism.**

We do ask that you would please pray for our family as we attempt to rightly steward this time in the States by visiting a number of our supporting churches, in addition to new churches who may be led of the Lord to partner with us in prayer and financial support. We praise the Lord that He has provided the meetings to quickly fill our calendar for the times we are available. We are grateful to everyone of you for your faithfulness in praying for us and for the Thai people to be reached by the Gospel of Christ.

In Christ,
The Nickell Family - Jordan, Katrina, Champion, Emmitt, Autumn, & Hadassah

Sending Church

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To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.
Acts 26:18

Prayer Requests

- Learn the Thai language
- Missionary Visa Progression
- Safety traveling in the US
- Souls to be saved and spiritual growth for believers in Cha-Am
- Laborers for God's Harvest