

LaiLine

Easter 2009



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Dear Partners in the Gospel,

Easter Greetings! "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life, He who believes in me will live, even though he dies...'" (NASB John 11:25)
This passage was printed on the funeral bulletin of Dominica's father on 24 March. We are buoyed by the Word of God, your prayer, condolence and assuring that Dominica's father is spending his special Easter with Jesus now!

Dominica's father with the Lord

Dominica flew back to Sydney due to the critical situation of her father. She and her mother were present at her father's passing in the nursing home at the age of 87 on 18 March. We were grateful that he had been taken care of by Dominica's sister, Margaret, and her brother & wife, Sing & Rebecca, since we left Sydney in 1997. We didn't expect so many, but 180 close friends and church representatives took time off to attend the funeral and support us at Macquarie Park Cemetery.

Marakwat dedication and BTL Open Day

Elder Edwyn Kiptiness, Daniel's first boss when we served in Africa in 1998, burst into tears at the dedication of the Marakwat New Testament on 21 February. He said, "It was emotional, as the boxes were being opened, the Word was read, children and

Indonesia in 2011. They are Rev Joseph Shao for the Opening Ceremony, Daniel Lai for Day 2, Professor Peter Lin for Day 3, Dr Philemon Choy and Rev Wayne Leung for the Closing Ceremony.

Launching Prayer Network

Following the translation of the Jireh Fund's "Prayer Handbook for New Believers" in Kiswahili, Daniel has now coordinated the translation of it into nine other local languages as part of a literacy project of BTL, as well as two other languages in Rwanda and Burundi.

Through Jireh Fund's friends, a trader couple in Hong Kong donated some new shirts and suits to some pastors and Bible translators in Africa. After receiving a suit, Samson, a translator from the coast wrote, "It is about 11:00pm. I can NOT sleep without telling you how grateful I am. Sincerely God has used you to meet my immediate NEED. The SUIT is so fitting as if I went to a tailor to be fitted. A BRAND NEW FULL SUIT, the second one since I was born. The first was when I was getting married in 1984 and I have not had another opportunity to buy another one."

Another pastor in a remote area wrote, "I serve in one of the local churches as a pastor and I also manage an orphanage centre where we help over 105 children to get their basic needs. The shirt was given to me by Brother Daniel Lai. When he gave me the shirt he didn't know I was in need of one because the two I have been putting on are now old. He gave me the shirt when I desperately needed one... God has used you to bless my life."

Nathaniel's University Studies

Nathaniel had finished his service with OM's MV Doulos at Cebu, in the Philippines on 17 January. PTL! He was accepted by University of New South Wales, which was his first choice for study. He began his engineering studies in March. He is also helping with Grandma's dialysis procedure occasionally and some of Auntie Margaret's

adults sang sweet songs, thanking God for giving them His Word. I cried and it was hard to stop." He had been waiting for 26 years to read the Word of God in his mother tongue.

Bible Translation & Literacy (BTL) had an Open Day on 7 March. The 13 translation teams had exhibitions displaying their projects. The sermon of Dr Timothy Wachira, Vice Chancellor of St Paul's University, on "Theologising in African Languages" was very fascinating. BTL will have a Fun Run for raising money on 6 June.

Discovery teams welcome

Several discovery teams came to visit us this year. A team from Richmond Hill Community Church came in January. They wrote, "Thank you for spending months preparing us and then helping us on this Discovery trip. We felt this has opened our eyes to the work in Kenya and elsewhere."

Rufina Chan, an optometrist, brought her mother, sister and brother-in-law to Africa to help with eye-checking for some orphanages and schools in February. They donated almost 300 pairs of glasses. You are welcome to coordinate a discovery team to visit us before we go on furlough in August this year.

The Rutgers Christian Community Church from New Jersey came in March, and they wrote, "... The smooth co-ordinations allow us to do what we sent to do. We appreciate all driving, answering endless questions and facilitating many of our visits. It has been a wonderful experience and our hearts aching for all the needs in this country. We pray that God will use the trip to release more people from our church to serve the people..."

Program planning for 8th CCOWE

Daniel had a fruitful Program Planning Committee Meeting for 8th Chinese Congress on World Evangelisation from 18-19 March in Hong Kong. Please pray for those who are appointed to continue to plan for each day's program of 8th CCOWE in

domestic work while living with them. He has been offered a part-time job by the Chinese Christian Mission Australia as a website assistant. Please pray that he may settle well in Sydney with minimal re-entry cultural shock after living in Africa for 10 years, and have a balanced school, domestic and spiritual life.

Hannah's final year at RVA

Thank be to God that Hannah maintained highest honour result at the second term. Her soccer team also won the varsity championship. She plans to study Mandarin in China for some months between her graduation on 18 July and university in March 2010.

Praise & Prayer Summary

- Thank be to God for Marakwat NT dedication and BTL Open Day. Pray for the translation of the prayer handbook into other languages and for mobilizing the prayer network in Africa.
- Praise God for fruitful meetings for CCCOWE in Hong Kong. Please pray for Daniel's responsibility in follow up work.
- Thank God for Nathaniel's ministries with CCMA and study at UNSW. Pray for Hannah's study in her senior year and then Mandarin studies in China later this year.
- Praise God for the life of Dominica's father. Please pray for Dominica's mother as she needs to extract all her teeth soon due to bad health.

Serving together with your partnership

Daniel Lai with Hannah in Kenya

Dominica with Nathaniel in Sydney

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***Nathaniel (front right 1) on Doulos
(January, Cebu, the Philippines)***



***Rufina and family checking eyes at Anchor of Hope
School (28 Jan, Ongata Rongai, Kenya)***



***Samson wearing a new suit on BTL Open Day
(7 Mar, BTL, Upper Hill, Kenya)***



***Elder Edwyn Kiptinness addressing at the Dedication
(21 Feb, Tot Primary School, Kenya)***



***Hannah's soccer team won the varsity championship
(14 Mar, Rift Valley Academy, Kenya)***



***The Program Planning Committee for 8th CCOWE
(19 Mar, City View Hotel, Hong Kong)***