

A close-up photograph of a young girl with dark hair, wearing a blue and white striped sweater and a white knit hood. She is smiling warmly at the camera with her hands clasped together in a prayerful gesture. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

Prayer and *Petition*

FIRST QUARTER 2010



The Golden Rule by Steve Gumaer

When a warning came that Burma Army forces were approaching, Swe Htoo Hey quickly gathered his two children, his pregnant wife, and his bed-ridden mother, and rushed to hide in a bamboo thicket. From this sheltered hide-site less than a mile away they watched the smoke from their burning home, along with nine of their neighbors' homes, billow into the sky. This was the second time the Burma Army had burned their home down, the third time all their possessions had been stolen by the soldiers of Burma Army Regime.

Swe Htoo Hey's brother-in-law was killed in the attack, leaving behind a toddler, a one week old infant, and a destitute widow still recovering from child-birth.

He told me his story last January while his 2 year-old son and 6 year-old daughter stared at me with wide eyed wonder. His wife served me some cloudy tea as Saw Htoo Hey added "The only thing we have left after the Burma Army came is the clothes on our back. Now we just try to survive from day to day."

The victims of the war in Burma are largely humble rice farmers like Saw Htoo Hey who live earthy, wholesome lives while they raise their families and work the land their ancestors worked before them. In partnership with the Free Burma Rangers, Partners helps them by delivering aid and bringing hope during their time of crisis.

My short visit with his family reminded me how important it is that we all live by the golden rule, that we all do for others as we would have them do for us.

With the golden rule in mind, I gave him some money to buy a waterbuffalo. With that he said he could farm enough land to feed his family again. I prayed with him and his family and continue to do so to this day.

If you get our email updates you know that last month more than 10 villages were burned down displacing more than 1000 people. By the time our team reached them with provisions, the Burma Army had destroyed more villages resulting in the fleeing villagers swelling to more than 2000 people in one group.

Our team is helping them now, reminding them that they are not alone and that God cares for them despite the actions of evil intentioned people. With their whole being, they are living the golden rule.

I feel satisfaction knowing that on the other end of my keystrokes today, people like Swe Htoo Hey will receive vital help from our team. In addition to our ongoing relief work to serve the victims of war, we have initiated an advocacy program to tell the story of the people we serve. Read on to learn more about this new program and how we at Partners are striving to use our freedom to help the people of Burma gain theirs.

Of all the sickening stories I have heard and experienced, the abuse and molestation of children in the ethnic states creates the most powerful sense of indignation and anger in me. To physically help them is important, and we will keep doing that. But as of this year, we want to do something to stop the abuse. If you are interested in joining us, lending your voice to ours, and asking the policy makers and governments of the world to stop this sort of abuse, please visit our web site at: <http://partnersworld.org/usa/take-action> to find out how you can help us reach out to people like Saw Htoo Hey and bring free, full lives to the children of war.

Learning to live the golden rule,

Steve Gumaer
CEO, Partners Relief & Development

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Our vision: Free, full lives for the children of Burma

Founders: Steve and Oddny Gumaer

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Photos: Partners Staff and Volunteers

Front cover: A Karen IDP child. Photo by Steve Gumaer.

"This photo means a lot to me. I took it in January 2009 after the sun rose over a cold ravine in the jungle. Because of its obscure location, roughly 200 displaced people made this their temporary hide site. Because of Burma Army attacks, they had to abandon their village and subsequent hide sites twelve times since 2006. They served us smoky tea and smiled at our strange ways. Their daughter had an irresistible smile and happy spirit. Her smile reminded me that hope is alive, even in the darkest and least hopeful places

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“Love cannot remain by itself ... it has no meaning. Love has to be put into action.”

– Mother Teresa



Emily Paw

By Oddny Gumaer

When Emily Paw put on the dress I gave her she was just like my three girls were at that age. She twirled around like a princess at the ball, showing everybody how pretty she was. She was almost three and although she was living in a primitive village in the jungles of Burma with a life that was very much different from that of my own children, she was still a little girl so much like them. The dress had belonged to my youngest daughter. To watch Emily Paw dance brought tears to my eyes.

We were sitting on the bamboo floor of a house in a remote village of Burma. Emily Paw and her mother Naw Moo Wee had walked for some hours just to meet me. They wanted to tell their story.


Their home is He Poe Der village in Karen State. It is very much like most Karen villages with around 15 bamboo houses, each one the home of a family with a few children. The villagers are all rice farmers whose fields are a bit of a walk away from the village, often on hills in the jungle. It was a simple and peaceful lifestyle until the village was occupied by the Burma Army. Since then it has become a bit like a beautiful prison. They can still live in their homes, but their freedom is severely restricted.

The soldiers will demand that the villagers do slave labor, portering heavy equipment, doing the construction of roads and buildings and other tasks the army wants done. They force them to be minesweepers, walking before the soldiers in order to detonate mines placed there by the soldiers in the past. They steal the villagers' food and make rules about when and where they are allowed to go.

"We have to leave our village in order to work on our fields," explained Naw Moo Wee and the other villagers I was talking to. "We can obey the rules of the soldiers and starve, or we can disregard their rules and hope they don't notice that we are gone." One of the rules the soldiers enforce is that no villager is allowed to leave the village after dark.

Emily Paw's dad did. He disobeyed the rule and went hunting for food for his 23-year-old wife and daughter one evening. They are poor and finding enough food is often a challenge, so 25-year old Paw Koh went looking for an animal in the jungle.





"Where is my
Daddy?
I miss him."

The soldiers guarding the village found out that he was missing, hunted him down and made sure that the villagers understood the severity of breaking their laws. They shot Paw Koh to injure him, tortured him on the road where they met him, and then finally shot him twice and killed him. He was left on the road for the other villagers to pick up the next morning. It happened on December 16, 2009.

Naw Moo Wee told the story without shedding a tear. She was looking down as she spoke. I got the feeling that there may not be any tears left. While she was talking Emily Paw was busy unwrapping some candies I had brought. She seemed unaffected by what had happened. The most important thing for her at the moment was to get the candy in the mouth so she could get up and run around again. But then she heard the name of her dad mentioned. She stopped, looked up at her mom and said: "Where is my Daddy? I miss him."

We gave Naw Moo Wee some money so that she could buy food for a while. We also gave her and Emily Paw some more clothes. What we gave them seemed so insignificant. What they need is their husband and dad back. What they need is their freedom. What they need is to be able to grow their rice in peace and to go to bed at night without the threat of soldiers lingering over them.

I felt a little hopeless that day. No amount of money will be able to give them freedom and security. No amount of money can give a little girl her daddy back. It made me determined to fight harder and longer to bring justice and peace to Burma.

In my hopelessness there was hope though. It was given to me by Emily Paw and Naw Moo Wee themselves. Along with the other villagers that had come to talk to us they thanked us for caring and loving them. "We need you to tell our story," they said. "It is the best help you can give us. The SPDC hate it when the West finds out what they are doing. They really, really hate it. By sharing with the world what is happening here, you can protect us." 🚫

Displaced Childhoods

A new direction for Partners

By Spencer Kerrigan



Partners and the Free Burma Rangers will release our first human rights report this April. You may wonder, Why? Consider Jane's story.

Jane is a vibrant teenage girl living in a large IDP (internally displaced person) camp just inside Burma. She studies hard with other IDP children to get an education and improve her situation. Jane did not always live in an IDP camp. She actually grew up in a small village in the jungles of Shan State, Eastern Burma. When she was five years old, her mother was raped and killed by Burma Army soldiers. The death of her mom sent her dad into a terrible depression. He eventually committed suicide. Later, the Burma Army kidnapped her 17 year-old brother and forced him to do hard military labor. He was never seen again. At 10 years old and orphaned, Burma Army soldiers came to her home and raped her. Eventually, she was forced to flee her village because of Burma Army violence.

Jane's story is gut wrenching and at times it can be hard to grasp. Is this really happening? Did soldiers orphan this girl, ravage her body, and then destroy her community? Sadly, every detail is true. Compare this with the fact that more than a million children live in Burma's conflict areas; and thousands of those children have similar stories. With no significant intervention to date, we are compelled to appeal to the international community to help. It is our duty to report unchecked crimes against children and innocent civilians.

The report briefly

Based on Jane's tragic story and other equally brutal accounts, Partners and FBR, in consultation with two independent human rights attorneys, developed Displaced Childhoods.

According to attorney Amanda Carroll, Displaced Childhoods, "Provides a detailed account of the deplorable conditions in

which internally displaced children live. Children in Burma are displaced with increasing frequency due to armed conflict, irresponsible development, economic repression, and human rights violations."

She went on to add, "Children make up approximately a third of Burma's entire population. They are particularly affected by displacement due to their physical and emotional vulnerability. The displacement of Burma's future is especially egregious and detrimental to any possibility of usurpation of the reigning military junta."

Our goal is to pressure the UN to demand the SPDC (Burma government) abide by international law and uphold their obligations to protect children. The report will be delivered to lawmakers around the globe and to the United Nations beginning in April.

Jesus and human rights

Should a Christian relief and development organization enter the world of human rights?

Not once does Jesus mention 'human rights'. Yet his world was rampant with crime: slavery, forced labor, religious persecution, government oppression, and abuse of minorities and women.

He did not draft a human rights report, appeal before a legislative body or speak at a press conference. But what he did do went farther than anyone could have imagined. He defied conventional wisdom by declaring a new decree for all humanity: To love.

To that end, love drives our motivation to produce this report. We aim to expose the situation of Burma's ethnic people. We strive to protect them from their oppressor. We seek action in response to their unjust treatment.



Your help is needed

You can help Partners and Burma's children. Here's how ...

For starters, you can **SHARE** the report with your congressman, senator, Member of Parliament, or local lawmaker. Encourage them to endorse the report.

Also, ask them to **URGE** the government to implement the recommendations found in the report. The report will be available on our website this April.

What **CREATIVE** talents do you have? Use your skills and abilities to spread the word across your community and the planet.

I also encourage you to **PRAY**. Pray for Burma's leaders, for displaced children and families, and for freedom and reconciliation.

Equally important, you can **SUPPORT** Partners mission materially and financially.

By helping Partners, you can be a force in preventing future abuses against Jane and her people. Thank you.

- Spencer Kerrigan, Director Partners USA

Why

Why Pray for Burma?

Written by David Eubank



We pray for Burma, because we care about the people of Burma and need God's help in God's way.

We pray because we are dependent on God who has the power to defeat the spiritual and temporal powers that rule Burma and whose love for His children drives our prayers.

We pray because we believe prayer works and is one of the ways we God works through us.

I met Aung San Suu Kyi in 1996 and it was her request for prayer and unity that inspired us to call people to pray and act on behalf of the people of Burma. I believe that God guides and uses people to bring about justice, to defend the cause of the fatherless, the widow, and the oppressed (Isaiah 1:17).

The dictators have committed their lives, fortune, and honor to keeping power at the expense of others. If we want to be a part of freedom in Burma by resisting the power of hate with love, we can do no less.

We put together this year's Global Day of Prayer for Burma materials from inside an ethnic area of Burma that is under attack by the Burma Army. We are with multi-ethnic relief teams bringing help, hope and love to the displaced (with the help of Partners and their supporters).

The people of Burma live in terror and are attacked, raped and killed by their own government. As we help the families under attack, we pray, "Would we do more if these were our own children?" If we continue our work as it is and do not try to stop the Burma Army; when we meet God in heaven, maybe God would say, "If your own children were killed, your wife raped, your home burned, would you not try to stop the attackers. Would you not try to stop them from hurting others? Would you just give relief? You hypocrite, all you care about is your reputation, your funding and keeping yourself safe". But if we decided to attack the Burma Army to prevent them from attacking these people, maybe God would say, "Who told you to attack the dictators, it may be the right thing but it is not what I called you to do, you were not serving me."

As a former US Army Ranger and Special Forces officer I would like to try to directly stop the Burma Army. But God has not given us that role. The answer to our prayers is not "March on the dictators" but "Feed my sheep."

Our role is to serve those in need, to comfort them, to bear witness to what is happening and to call people to pray. When they cannot run we stand with them and face the attack together. Some of our team members have died. We pray for the dictators knowing that we are also fallible and that the line separating good and evil passes not between the dictators and the people but through every human heart.

When under pressure it is easy to ask the question, "What will become of me?" The more important question is "What should I do?" We find the answer in love. We go compelled by that love in heart, mind, and soul. We love the people of Burma and stand with them, this is our heart. We believe that oppression is morally wrong, this is our mind. We go because the people of Burma are God's children and it is right to help them. This is our soul. We pray for God's will and His way. Then we follow Jesus into Burma for the sake of human hearts, human decency and to be part of God's answer in love. Please pray for what God wants you to do.

May God bless you,

David Eubank

Free Burma Rangers and Christians Concerned for Burma

For more information please visit:

www.freeburmarangers.org

www.prayforburma.org

or contact us at info@freeburmarangers.org

"Lord Jesus, use us in Burma for spiritual and political freedom, for justice, repentance, reconciliation and for all of us to know and follow you. Thank you for opening the door, help us follow you through it boldly, careful for nothing but our souls, and in obedience to you and your power of love. Overall of this we ask for your will to be done, Amen." - Dave Eubank

"God please convict Than Swe and the other leaders of the SPDC of their gross violations of all that is sacred and bring them to their knees where they can meet you and learn to love where they have lived to hate. I beg you for redemption in Burma and a future where reconciled communities live in peace and where children enjoy free, full lives." - Steve Gumaer

"I pray that the Burma Army will get so constipated that they fall over and die" - Kristin Gumaer, Age 8

"We pray that You will be with the people of Burma in the eye of the destructive, devastating storm they are in right now". - Ruth Corlett

*"Give the kids who don't have a mommy and daddy anymore a new mommy and daddy."
- Madison Kerrigan, Age 4*

"We ask for a miracle in Burma. We pray that you would cause a radical change of heart for the Generals that they become motivated by love instead of greed. May the fighting cease and may there be an abundance of freedom." - Claire Gibbons

"I pray that the Burma Army will fly away on a kite and fall into the ocean where they get eaten by sharks." - Kristin Gumaer, Age 8

"Dear God, we pray that You will soften Than Shwe's heart, and that everything will go Your way." - Aliana Corlett

"For Peace to be seen in Burma. For all communities to be reconciliation and the ethnic people to know what peace is" - Saw Tah Doh Moo

"Pray for the migrant workers (ethnic) people in Thailand. It will risk about their system. Now many people are hopeless even they live in Thailand." - Sarah Lapa

*"Violence shall no longer be heard in your land, Neither wasting nor destruction within your borders; But you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise."
- Shaune Vincent from Isaiah 60:18-20*

"I pray that the people of Burma will be freed. I pray that You will help the people to get over their differences, and unite, so that soon Burma will become free." - Carissa age 14

"Dear God, I pray for the people of Burma. I pray you will give them shelter and protection, and make many miracles happen in their lives. I pray that you will soften the Burma Army's hearts so that they will be able to have eternal life too even though they have killed many people. I pray that they will be able to become friends with the Karen and the Shan, and that there will be peace in their lives." - Caleb Corlett

Help Us Keep



5 **ALIVE**

50 dollars is enough to keep a family of 5 alive in the jungle

It costs 50 dollars to buy basic essentials to keep 5 alive for one month.

For the 1.5 million internally displaced people living in hiding from the Burma Army right now every day is a struggle for survival.

They lack everything.

The 5 most essential items they need to survive are

A plastic tarp (for cover in the rain)

A machete (to cut down bamboo and build shelter)

A cooking pot (for making food and boiling water)

A lighter (to make fire)

Rice and salt (main staple food)

Do you want to help us provide this for 5 people?

Use the attached envelope and send your check today. Or donate online:
www.partnersworld.org





In September 2009, we were thrilled to have Brad and Joyce Hazlett join our team.

Brad has taken on the integral role of leading our relief and development work in Thailand and Burma as Partners Thailand National Director. Joyce is also an important part of the team and upon arrival promptly put her decor skills to the ultimate test by helping Partners move into a new office. The Chiang Mai staff have also been the willing recipients of the first class baking that Joyce brings to team meetings.

Before joining Partners Brad served as a pilot and mechanic with Mission Aviation Fellowship from 1987 until 1999, then as the Asia Regional Director for MAF until 2009. Brad said they joined our team because, "We heard of and admired the passion of Partners' work to reach the oppressed people of Burma", and of course, because they felt God was leading them into this new season of work and leadership.

Brad and Joyce grew up in Indonesia and also have two children Brian and Lauren who are studying in the United States. They join our team with a wealth of seasoned experience and an unquenchable thirst, as they put it, "... to love God wholeheartedly, and then love others like He does." We are grateful that we have these new coworkers and wholeheartedly welcome them and their family into ours.

The Hazlett's can be reached at brad@partnersworld.org.

The Trail Behind

Written by Brad Hazlett

As our team wound its way through the jungle I had many hours in the darkness to reflect on the path I had traveled. The light from my head-lamp shone only a few steps ahead but my thoughts were focused more on the familiar trail behind. The winding path we followed was not unlike my own journey to this point in time where I was now visiting a remote part of Burma. How was it that I arrived here in Karen State from a childhood spent in the jungles of Indonesia?

I knew at a young age that my life was to be one of service. My wife and I were raised in remote parts of Indonesia where our early experiences formed in us a desire to help others in need. My path took me to flight school and then into mission service as a pilot in Indonesia. At the time this seemed like a final destination in our journey but now we see it as just another step in the process of following Christ.

The trail of experiences then led us to Thailand. During the past ten years in Thailand we've become increasingly aware of the plight of the people in Burma. The Partners team, with their passion and vision, showed us that our path was changing course. A desire to help developed and grew in our hearts. We became increasingly more focused on "Free, Full Lives for the Children of Burma". When the call came to join Partners' we prayerfully considered. Clearly God had led us to this point.

The path I followed in Karen State took me to a remote village where, along with the rest of the team, I heard more stories of abuse and cruelty at the hands of the Burma Army. I heard stories of rape, murder, injuries from landmines, and also burned villages, including homes, schools, and clinics. Along with these stories, I heard other stories of hope, determination, and love in spite of unspeakable atrocities. The people of Burma have a message of hope that is not easily explained. I came away with a stronger resolve to help and with a greater respect for Partners' role.

The journey continues and may have changed but this part of the trail is filled with the assurance of knowing I'm exactly in the right place. The trail behind for many in Burma is filled with horror and brutality. They need our help, and like you, I'm determined to do all I can. Thank you for your part in making a difference for the people of Burma and giving them the assurance that their hope is not in vain. 🙏



Fight the Good Fight *of Faith*

1 Tim 6:12

This year has seen more attacks on the Karen people in Karen State, Burma. So far over 3,000 people have been displaced, having to flee from their villages into the jungle, some able only to carry what they wear on their backs. Homes have been burnt, schools forced to close and livelihoods destroyed.

On the 7th February we received word that 200 Burma Army soldiers came into Tee Mu Ta village and burnt down one of the Partners supported clinics as well as two villages nearby. Medics and villagers were able to escape into the jungle, although fighting still continues around the area. Partners had just sent in the normal 6 months supply of medicine for the clinic, thankfully that had been safely moved into the jungle prior to the attack, as villagers were warned of the impending assault. While some of the medicine remains hidden, our medics are also using the essentials to bring help and relief to the displaced. IDP's living in the damp, cold jungles are likely to get diarrhea, malaria and respiratory infections very easily.

The Burma Army is continuing its offenses in Ler Doh Township, Klee Lwee Htoo District where over 2,000 IDPs are now hiding in the jungle. 11 schools, 4 Nursery, 4 Primary and 3 Middle schools, have been closed, and children have been forced to continue their studies while on the run in the jungle. The BA has fired mortars into the forests, deliberately aiming at the helpless women and children who are hiding there. Currently there are four SPDC battalions in the area with another battalion on its way from the Eastern part of Karen State.

We recently received a message from a team member inside:

"He gave them comfort, hope and encouragement through a team formed by himself and supported by Partners. The team members come from various background – Missionaries, Medics, Soldiers, FBRs, teachers and even a villager. With a guitar they sang Hymns and songs with the villagers, prayed together, slept together, ate together and suffered together in their anguish."

Partners is determined to continue fighting the good fight of faith – we are standing with the people of Burma in our prayers and by providing emergency medical supplies, temporary shelter and food supplies to those in hiding. We have already sent in money and our staff is among the community helping to rebuild 12 homes that were burnt down. For families that have lost everything, we are providing practical help, encouragement, and love to help rebuild their lives.

Written by: Sonya Claase



Who will stand

for the children
of Burma?



NEVER FAILS

Thank you for your faithful support during our Love Campaign

The following are the totals of the generous gifts of love to the children of Burma that we have recieved from our supporters around the world to date:

Learn for life:

348 gifts of education for children going to school in Burma's war zones

Pigs:

274 pigs for nutrition and income for displaced families

Simple Grain:

Rice for 164 familes

Hygiene:

Basic hygiene supplies for 58 children

Lifesavers:

74 gifts of medicine and medical training

Gifts of Love are still available to be purchased www.partnersworld.org



Creative Fundraising

From around the world

Around the world hundreds of people are faithfully supporting Partners every month. Without all these individuals sending us their support we could not even dream of fulfilling our vision of free, full lives for the children of Burma. Here are a few examples of the fun and innovative things our friends have done to raise support for Partners.

CANADA



Several years ago in the fall of 2005, Partners sent Trent and Connie Loewen and their children Emily, Colten, Ethan and Camden a newsletter. The newsletter mentioned the fact that children were freezing in Burma because they were ill-prepared for the colder nights as they were fleeing and in hiding. Their family felt that they could do something for \$5.00 per blanket or sweater. They

schemed a little and since everyone enjoyed making cards they decided that there was something they could do. Trent and Connie saw how excited the kids became and encouraged them by doubling the amount they raised. In the final end the kids made over \$200.00.

UNITED KINGDOM

In July last year, an amazing team of 14 people completed the Three Peaks Challenge and raised almost £4000 for relief in Burma. They faced the challenge of the three highest peaks in the UK (Ben Nevis, Scarfell Pike and Snowdon) through sleep deprivation, driving rain, blisters, knee injuries and exhaustion, but somehow still came out smiling.



We would love to help facilitate such a challenge again this year, and possibly even arrange a Yorkshire peaks challenge and a sponsored sky dive. If any of these interests you then please do let us know at info@partnersworld.org.uk

AUSTRALIA

In Australia, Partners supporters have been using their feet for freedom by raising more than \$10,000 from their annual Run for Relief in 2009. For a million people in Burma, running is NOT a choice. For the rest of us, we can join together around the world choosing to run for our brothers and sisters in Burma in Run for Relief fundraising events.



NORWAY

In February, the school where Steve and Oddny Gumaer's daughters attend arranged an international fair. Groups of two and three students focused on a country and made a stand with their country. They had food samples, posters, info and paraphernalia from the countries. The fair was held at the town gymnasium and you had to pay to enter. They sold about 400 tickets and all the money raised was given to Partners.

NEW ZEALAND



Urban Vision is a contemporary Anglican Order serving those on the margins in the urban community of Wellington, New Zealand. Urban Vision recently put together a community production of the musical *Oliver* to raise money for Partners! The four performances raised \$5,500 for Partners, as well as enabling an excuse to have a magic time with people of all ages and ethnicity. The theme of *Oliver* tied in very well with the issues of injustice, orphans and child slavery which relate

to the work of Partners. What an inspiring example of a local mission group supporting a global mission group, in a church culture that often puts these two ministry groups in competition with one another!

Welcome to the family

NEW STAFF MEMBERS AT PARTNERS



Amanda Carroll

Amanda joined the Partners team in August 2009. She is currently on loan to us from Pepperdine University of Law where she obtained her Juris Doctorate (and also recently passed the California Bar Exam!!). She is researching and documenting human rights violations in Burma and is the driving force behind our Human Rights Report.



Holly De Land

Holly is from Fairbanks, Alaska and joined us at Partners in September 2009. She is studying Thai language at Payap University in the mornings and helping with the Partners children's homes in the afternoons and weekends. We are all in awe of her amazing language skills after only being here six months.



Lise Lovrod

Lise is the newest member of the Partners team. She arrived in Chiang Mai from snow laden Norway in January. She's helping out in the office and with our weaving projects and in her spare time has been teaching us all about Norwegian culture and how Norway has 3 types of Santa Claus! here six months.



Daniel Chairman

Daniel joined the team in August 2009 and has been studying Thai as well as teaching information technology at Grace International School. He's also been connecting the children at the school with the children of Burma. We're all excited about Daniel coming on board full time in the office later on this year.



Sacha Olson

After diverting a plane in New Zealand, Sacha was given a very clear call by God that Thailand and Partners was where she was meant to be. Since September 2009 Sacha has heading up our graphic design efforts and she is totally passionate about telling the world about how they can help the children of Burma.



Mon Parker

Mon is from Australia and is on secondment to Free Burma Rangers. She leads their maternal health programs and also helps run medical training for relief teams. She shifted to Thailand in mid 2009 and can often be found making fun of anyone with a New Zealand accent.



Josiah Ecker

Josiah is a ten year resident of Chiang Mai and is our office intern. He often does the jobs that no-one else wants to do. We love his servant heart and really appreciate that he types up minutes, buys pig food, does airport pick ups and catalogues photos!



Yim

Yim is Karen and she grew up in Thailand. She has joined us to work in assisting with the children's projects in Mae Sot as well as with teams. She speaks several languages and she will be a great asset to our team.

Dear Lord

God, we come before admitting that we are weak and in need of you. In your presence we desire to know your heart, and also to feel your pain. In your presence we lay down our burdens.

We are burdened by the needs of the people of Burma. We see no end to their suffering and our hearts fill with hopelessness. Help us, God, not to see only defeat. We want to see with your eyes.

To say we can understand their pain would be untrue. But we know you do. We ask you to ease the grief. We ask that the ones who have lost so much will know your presence. Comfort them, God.

We pray that you will multiply our efforts. Use us and our resources to help in ways that we thought impossible. Make the food feed more and the medicine last longer. Help us spend our money in ways that help many. Provide when we think there is nothing left.

Lead our workers on the field who risk their comfort and safety to help others. Guide their steps. Help them make wise decisions. Use them to bring change and to save lives. Protect them from harm. Cover them with your presence.

We pray for the people around the world who are working for change in Burma. Use them as your hands and feet. Make their efforts shine.

Bring an end to the suffering that have lasted so long and caused so much death and sorrow. Bring your justice to Burma. Reveal yourself to the leaders who are responsible for the unrighteousness.

God, our desire is that the children of Burma will experience free, full lives. Only with you will that be possible. Fulfill their dreams. Fulfill our dream.

In Jesus' name, amen.





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