

Taiwan

Imo and Erika Scharrer together with their Thai Staff and short-term missionaries, sponsored a retreat for the many Thai migrant workers in and around Taipei in January. Some 260 Thais attended this three-day camp, 100 of whom were not Christians. About 40 of these non-Christians made decisions to follow Jesus!



Imo and Erika Scharrer

Thank you for your continued prayer and financial support for these growing ministries! Please pray for spiritual growth in the lives of these new-born believers. Pray they might get grounded in faith and become mighty witnesses for Jesus. Thank you! 🙏

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Dear Prayer-Warriors,

The newspaper called him a Good Samaritan, though he was Canadian. Victor G. of Winnipeg, Manitoba stopped his truck near Menomonie, Wisconsin to help change a lady's flat tire.

The driver, Lisa M., thanked Victor for his generosity and said good-bye. Minutes later Lisa saw Victor's truck at the side of the road.

Lisa stopped and saw that Victor was having a heart attack. She called 911 and began CPR. Wisconsin State Patrol arrived and took over using an automated external defibrillator.

Victor regained his breathing ability before a medical helicopter flew him to the hospital for treatment.

What if neither had given their concern and help to each other? What if both had been too busy, too preoccupied, to care?

What if in Jesus' parable the Samaritan had not given his *time, talent* and *treasure* to the Jewish man who was beaten, robbed, naked, and left for dead? (Luke 10:30-37)

Jesus calls us not to be like the Jewish clergy, but to become like the Samaritan lay person. How do they differ? The religious professional kept going; the layman stopped. The religious professional distanced himself from the man by crossing to the other side of the road; the layman moved closer to the victim. The religious professional gave nothing to one of his own kind (a fellow Jew); the layman gave his *time, talent* and *treasure* to a stranger, in order that the stranger (even an enemy) might have life.

Our missionaries are giving their *time, talent* and *treasure* so hurting people can live. Let's not pass by the opportunity to support them with our own *time, talent* and *treasure*. For all of you who pray regularly for the ministries of Liberty Corner Mission, we want to thank you today!

Sincerely,
Mike Rattee

Canadian Pastor Mike Rattee became a member of our Liberty Corner Mission Council in 2010. He pastors the Christian Fellowship Church in Waterloo, Ontario and serves on the Board of the Fellowship Deaconry in Canada. Pastor Mike's willingness to sacrificially serve the Lord encourages us all.

Liberty Corner Mission is the foreign mission arm of Fellowship Deaconry, Inc., Liberty Corner, New Jersey. Ministering in cooperation with Marburger Mission of Germany, we preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, hold high the Cross, make disciples and plant churches, that God might be glorified among the nations. Presently Liberty Corner Mission serves in Taiwan and Japan.

Thai Retreat in January 2012

Family of Pastor Nikorn

Bible Teacher Miss Daruni

Staff & Leadership Team

Imo and Erika Scharrer, serving in Taipei, Taiwan since 2000, were formerly missionaries to Thailand for almost 20 years. Their ministries now include serving Thai migrant workers in Taipei and teaching at the Lutheran Seminary in Hsinchu. They also visit foreigners in detention centers.



Bi-monthly newsletter of
Liberty Corner Mission

P.O. Box 204
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Return Service Requested

Bridges

Liberty Corner Mission

Building Bridges between God and Man

Japan



Andy and Shoko Pfeiffer

they appear apathetic and shy, and often lose their friends. Their return into Japanese society is difficult because of the huge expectations placed on the maturing new generation.

At his baptism on Christmas morning, 18 year-old Seitaro shared about his struggle with *Hikikomori*. A year ago, his family contacted our church for help. It was quite difficult for him to attend youth group because of this sickness. He soon began, however, to feel accepted and understood by the other young people. Seitaro participated in youth meetings and camp with increasing joy and anticipation. He soon asked to be in a one-on-one Bible study and began attending Sunday services. Our congregation gently took care of him, and soon came to enjoy his company. Best of all, Seitaro discovered the love of our Savior Jesus Christ and began having a daily Quiet Time. Everyone could observe the steady healing process.



We were reminded of Jesus' words to the ten lepers: "Go, show yourselves to the priests" (Luke 17:14). Seitaro did exactly that, showing himself to our great high priest, Jesus Christ. He accepted Him into his heart and life. At his baptism, Seitaro gave thanks to our Lord for providing a way out of his illness and for helping him pass the university entrance exam. It was a very inspiring Christmas service for us all. We not only celebrated our Lord's Nativity on earth in Bethlehem some 2000 years ago, but also this young man's new birth at Yamanomachi! Please pray for Seitaro, as well as three other teenagers from our neighborhood who suffer from *Hikikomori*. And do accept our heartfelt thanks for your continued prayer and financial support. 🙏

Andy and Shoko Pfeiffer serve at Yamanomachi Christian Church in Kobe, Japan since April 2009. Andy has recently completed his formal language study and needs our prayer as he begins fulltime ministry.

"One of them, when he saw he was healed...threw himself at Jesus feet and thanked him." Luke 17:15

The Japanese Ministry of Health estimates that approximately 700,000 young people, mostly teens, suffer from an illness known as *Hikikomori*. These youths withdraw from social life, refuse to attend school, and often lock themselves in their homes, sometimes even for years. Affecting both boys and girls,

Taiwan

"We Filipinas start the day with a smile", explained a woman from the Philippines to us recently. After hearing about her situation, that really sounded unthinkable to us. Today I want to share with you about the fate of many Filipinas who come to Taiwan to earn money for their families and children in the Philippines.

Many of these women are in a detention center in Hsinchu, a city near Taipei. Why have they been incarcerated? The reasons vary. In many cases, when their employer doesn't treat them fairly or pay them honestly, they run away and try to find a different workplace. The dilemma is that their work contract, which initially brought them to Taiwan, was made with their original employer. The moment they break this contract by running away, they are living in Taiwan illegally and are in constant fear of being caught by the police. The Filipinas we met in prison were placed into detention for this reason.

"If we wouldn't be in here, we would not have met you", one of them told me. Can they really experience something positive during such a difficult time? Actually, many of them start thinking about their lives. They begin a relationship with God, or restore a connection to Him that has been lost. They try to use this time in prison for good.

What do we do in these prisons? We usually go every week to visit foreign inmates. We talk, sing, lead Bible studies and pray.

Recently, the time we have spent with a particular group of Filipinas has been especially encouraging. Watching them find their way back to God is amazing! Their smiles radiate. They have become open and willing to share personal matters. It has been a most blessed experience, and I too have learned so much. Though we live in totally different situations, we have been blessed *together*. I'm very thankful to the Lord for this experience.

Thank you for praying for us here in Taiwan! 🙏

Leonie Rapp, a short-term missionary from Germany, is helping Imo and Erika Scharrer in Hsinchu, Taiwan. She graduated from high school in June 2011 and offered a year of her time to serve God as a volunteer. She presently ministers to students, prison inmates and Thai migrant workers.



Leonie Rapp

Japan

Even before we had begun the English Class for Babies, I wondered if it was a ridiculous idea to try and teach these little children English when they can't even speak Japanese yet! In the process of teaching the class, the Lord has reminded me that when He sends us on a mission, He wants to reach people of all ages. As we minister to the babies, God is touching the hearts of their young mothers through His Word.

One young mother has brought her little daughter, Fuka, to our baby English class ever since she was just a few months old. Fuka's father has even been to our church. Little Fuka does not know many English words yet, but when I hold up a picture card of an apple, she quickly calls with a loud voice, "Apple!" I give her the card and she is so happy.

In our Synod of churches we usually send each other our weekly bulletins. Last week the bulletin from our Higashi-Naruo Church was lying on the table, and Fuka's mother saw it. She said to me, "This church was my grandmother's church. She is even buried at the cemetery there. When I was a little child, a Sister took me into her arms. I even have a photo of her with me." That was many years ago. God pursued her and reminded her of the love she had received in that church. When she herself became a mother, the Lord lovingly led her to bring little Fuka to our church where her whole family can hear about Him.

This morning in a local park, a jogger found a young man who had committed suicide by hanging himself on a tree. How sad and how tragic! What had led the young man to take his own life? Why had life become hopeless for him? Maybe he never experienced what Fuka's mother had, someone who would take him in her arms and tell him about our loving God who can rescue us from our hopeless condition and give our lives meaning and purpose. Through your prayer we can be the loving arms for children in need of the Savior. Thank you! 🙏

Sister Gisela Paluch, serving in Japan since 1981, is active in planting a church in Sanda, just north of Kobe. One of the great needs in Sanda is for a larger facility for worship and meetings.



Sister Gisela Paluch

