

CHANGING PATHS

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left - A food offering, complete with dessert and a glass of water, placed outside of a small business for the sake of unseen gods. center - A street scene in Bangkok where the English outreach center is located. right - Matt poses with Robin, another LCMS missionary, and some English language students from a local pharmacy.

When did you first go to church? Did your parents take you? If so, when was *their* first time? Perhaps many of us come from a long tradition (or at least a few generations) of church-going believers. What if you and 85% of your church body were first generation Christians? For some Lutheran churches in Thailand, this hypothetical question is a reality and consequently one of the challenges (and joys in some ways) of being a Christian in this southeast Asian country.

Beginning work officially in 1986, the LCMS mission in Thailand now works closely with the Thailand Concordia Lutheran Church. One particularly active ministry site is the Into Light English Center, tucked away in a back alley close to one of the main thoroughfares of the city. Growing out of another successful teaching center in 2003, this center provides a relaxed and engaging atmosphere to individuals of a range of ages to learn and practice English. As we see in many other places in Asia, the desire to learn English can be very strong. And, also as we see in other places, providing quality English teaching often leads to opportunities to share the Christian faith with those who do not yet believe.

Working to support the missionaries serving at the Center, Matt has already been afforded opportunities to interact with many Thai people, starting the long process of trying to better understand what it means to be Thai and how to best facilitate the ongoing ministry in that special place.

We ask for your prayers for all of the missionaries involved in the Into Light English Center and that the students may see and hear about God's salvation plan through Jesus.



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To support the LCMS through the work of the Wasmund family, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; P.O. Box 66861; St. Louis, MO 63166-6861 -OR-
Mission Central; 40718 Highway E 16; Mapleton, IA 51034.

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or LCMS. Include 'Wasmund - Korea' in the memo line.
Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website at www.lcms.org/wasmund.