



**LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
OF AUSTRALIA

**INTERNATIONAL
MISSION**
global partners · local church

FACT SHEET

Thailand



YOUR PARTNERS IN MISSION

The LCA first joined the ministry in Thailand as a member of Lutheran Mission Thailand (LMT) – a consortium of mission agencies and partner Lutheran Churches working in partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Thailand (ELCT). In the North of Thailand, in the mountainous regions of Nan Province, the LCA and individual congregations and members have supported a wide range of projects and programs including the support for the salary of Simon Mackenzie, (LCA missionary living in Thailand from 2004-2013), purchase of Bibles and other Christian literature, land for churches (salas) and ministry locations, seed/tree projects, motorbikes, medical supplies, Christmas programs, and the theological training of the evangelists. Through the power of the good news of Jesus Christ changing people's lives from death to life, there are over 1,200 baptised Lutheran Christians amongst the Lua people. Other LCA funds are directed to the Lutheran Seminary in Thailand (LST) and for the training of pastors and evangelists at the Lutheran Seminary in Thailand. Over many years Lutheran Women of Australia (LWA) have offered various support for ministries of the ELCT at Home of Praise and Home of Grace in Bangkok.

PROJECTS YOU CAN SUPPORT

- Scholarships
- Lutheran Seminary Library Books
- Ministry Program for Lua People
- Guest LCA Lecturer
- Home of Grace
- Home of Praise

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

- Music, art, sport, English teaching, Special Ed and computer skills at Home of Praise
- Handcraft, English teaching, Café skills at Home of Grace
- Conversational English teaching (no qualifications needed), at one of the schools in Nan province

MISSION PARTNERSHIPS

You already support mission work in Thailand through your prayers and weekly offerings. But if you would like to work more closely with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Thailand, you could talk to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Wellington, New Zealand, about the blessings of their partnership with the Lua people living in the Nan Province.



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ERIN KERBER

your Thailand Program Officer

I'm here to help you and encourage you to join God's mission in Thailand.

The Thai population is largely homogeneous, with most being ethnic Thai who profess the character of a devout Buddhist society. They are gentle, humble and non-confrontational people who enjoy relaxed and pleasant interactions with one another. I'm meeting people who are joining with the active and growing Evangelical Lutheran Church in Thailand, as they hear about God's unending love for them, sending of his Son to die and rise so that they have life for eternity. I'd love to visit your congregation, school or group to discuss ways you can partner with our Lutheran friends in Thailand.

MISSION EXPERIENCES FOR YOU!

PRAY

Sign up to our e-newsletter to receive updates and prayer points. Simply go to **www.lca.org.au/enews**, add your email address and select LCA International Mission. Done!

CONNECT

Talk to me about a Thailand partnership. You can pray for your partners in mission, raise funds for projects, and receive updates about the exciting work God is doing among the people you support. (You'll gain more than you give, you know!)

GIVE

Visit our Donate page and select the Thailand projects God is nudging you to support. **www.lca.org.au/international-mission/donate**
If websites are out of your comfort zone, just call me; I'll help you to donate any way you want.



GO

Want the face-to-face experience? Sure! You can join a mission team or create one from your congregation, school or small group, even your family. Or you can volunteer to teach English or computing for short stints, or do the handyman thing. Do you think God might be calling you to serve in Thailand? Call me (Erin) to talk about it.



ABOUT THAILAND

Thailand is the only nation in Southeast Asia to escape colonial rule. Siam changed its name in 1939 to Thailand, meaning "land of the free." However, Thailand has not escaped more than a dozen military coups since 1932, when a revolution transformed the government from an absolute to a constitutional monarchy. Resentment against leaders of the 1991 coup sparked demonstrations by a pro-democracy movement. Reforms did take place, and a new constitution went into effect in 1997. The 2001 elections confirmed Thailand's democracy credentials as the people voted in the new Thai Rak Thai Party. A bloodless coup d'état was launched in 2006 and by December 2007, a civilian government led by the People's Power Party was restored.

	Thailand	Australia
Population	68,200,824	24,189,000
Religions	Buddhist 94.6%, Muslim 4.3%, Christian 1%, other <.1%	Christian 55.4%, None 22.3%, Unspecified 9.3%
UN World Ranking	93	2
Below poverty line*	10.5%	N/A
Literacy	96.7%	96%
Infant mortality	9.4 per 1000 births	4.3 per 1000 births
Life expectancy	74.7	82.2
Clean Water	97.8%	100%
Proper sanitation	93%	100%

* Definitions of poverty vary but often considered to be US\$2 or less a day.

MORE INFORMATION

You can view videos and read stories about God's mission in Thailand, on your LCA International Mission website **www.lca.org.au/international-mission** or call or email me (Erin) erin.kerber@lca.org.au | lcaim@lca.org.au | 08 8267 7300