

We make dreams come true

Newsletter from ELCT Diakonia Department
April 2019



*“It doesn’t matter who you are or where you come from.
Every child deserves a good beginning. This will give
them the hope and confidence needed in their life”*



Lutheran Christian Foundation of Thailand

Dear friends and supporters

We are very thankful for your support. Your support makes it possible for us to help Thai people in need.

Songkran- Thai New Year, has just finished, and people are back to work after spending days together with families and friends- and at the same time, it is time to celebrate Easter.

We wish you all a Happy Easter. May the blessings of the Lord guide you, protect you and surround you in all the days of your life.

Kind regards on behalf of LDD department

Nipaporn Kunaruk and Anne Storstein Haug



Saturday club is LDD's newest project, starting in 2019. Five churches in remote villages in Chiang Rai and Nan province have started up with Saturday clubs, to give children in their village a safe and good place to stay during Saturdays while their parents are off to work. Children will get lunch every time and opportunity to participate in different activities. We believe that more than 100 children will regularly participate in these clubs during 2019.

Our goal is for Saturday clubs to be spread to all congregations in ELCT. That our churches will be filled up with children on Saturdays.

Saturday club, focus areas:

- Local music, language and culture (The children belong to Lahu and Luah hill tribe)
- How to take care of preserve your village distinctiveness and environment.
- Children's right and their rights in Thai society.
- The importance of education.
- Social life and well-being, how to take care of yourselves, and how to be a good member in the society.
- Healthy lunch every Saturday.

Home of Praise and Home of Praise Immanuel – two nurseries placed in Klong Toey community in Bangkok.

The nurseries provide safe and loving care for underprivileged children age 6 months- 4 years. The aim is to provide a holistic education- helping each child to develop socially and emotionally as well as academically. In addition, the nurseries help to prepare the child for beginning pre-school.



Home of Praise is co-operating with two International schools in Bangkok. We are very thankful for their willingness to support and help us to develop our nurseries. In the news from Home of Praise this time we will tell about the co-operation between Home of Praise and Bangkok Patana International school during the last months.

This text is taken from Bangkok Patana international school’s website. *“We were delighted to welcome Home of Praise to Foundation Stage (FS), a visit which was hugely beneficial for all the children and staff. Home of Praise has been joining us at Bangkok Patana since last academic year, allowing the children to learn alongside one another and for staff from both settings to work together. Home of Praise is a Nursery in the heart of Klong Toey with high aspirations to provide a safe, nurturing and motivating environment, which we are thrilled to support”.*

This month a team of Bangkok Patana staff visited Hop and helped us to create a learning environment that enables high-quality learning and promotes independence.

As a part of this co-operation teachers from Patana have had regularly trainings for teachers in Hop. LDD are very thankful for this co-operation and support to develop our nurseries, to be able to support our children in Home of Praise with a holistic development in a warm and caring nursery.

LaOn Siam

- a dormitory which provide scholarship and accommodation for high school students.

A letter from Da, one of the students who live in LaOn Siam.



My name is Da and this is my second year in LaOn Siam. I just finished primary school this year. Before I came to this dormitory, I stayed with my mother, but when I finished 4th grade, my mum could not afford to send me to school anymore and she consulted the family what we should do. Luckily my big sister knew about LaOn Siam, and we contacted the dormitory to ask if I could come and live there. LaOn Siam wanted to help us and accepted me to come and stay in the dormitory so I could study further. I was very happy to see that a older students from my old school also lived at LaOn Siam. In LaOn Siam there are many older students that take good care of me. We are very close, like a warm and safe family. I want to say thank you to all of you who support LaOn Siam, to my friends in LaOn Siam and to the Lord who gave me this opportunity to come and live in LaOn Siam. Thank you from Da

Home of Grace

- a shelter for pregnant women in a difficult life situation.

The story of Mim

Mim is a 24 years old woman who comes from the countryside. She is the only child in the family, her father is a military officer and her mother is a nurse. Mim went to study at a famous university in Bangkok. In this university, she met a senior boy, who was supposed to



Illustration picture

help her with her study. They fall in love, but broke up in less than a year. Right after they broke up Mim realized she was pregnant. Mim contacted the father-to-be, but he would not take responsible for the baby, and she decided to take care of the baby alone. She continued to study until she was 8 months pregnant, then she took a break in her studies and also finally told her mum. Her mum got very angry, because she

needed her daughter to get a good education. Anyway, her mum found a place for Mim to stay during her last month of the pregnancy, this place was Home of Grace. With support and care from the staff in Home of Grace, Mim found a solution for herself and her baby. She decided to leave her baby in foster care and then continue her education, after she graduate and get a job she will take care of her child by herself. Her dream is that her mum will forgive her and take care of the baby until she finished her study. We all hope her dreams will come true.

Hope for families – a project who support underprivileged families. Our focus is to help and support children and youth to go to school. LDD want to give them opportunities to get an education and to improve their quality of life. We also work with marginalized, low-income senior citizens and HIV-positive persons



This is a letter from one of our scholarship students:

Hello! My name is Vao. I have received scholarship support from the Hope for family since I was in 6 Grade. When I got the news that I was accepted as a scholarship student I was very happy because then the expenses in our family became less. Today I study last year at bachelor level. My university provide an internship after I finished my study. During my studies, I have had two training periods. The first time I was in Seven eleven. Here I learned about store management principles, about product management and how to take care of costumers.

The second time I was in a bakery. Here I learned everything from being an employee to be the manager of the shop.

When I 'm finish with my study I have been promised a job as a shop manager in this bakery. I'm very grateful for the scholarship I received from HFF, which made it possible for me to study and got a good education. Thank you. Best regards Vao

Immanuel hostel

- provide scholarship for secondary students and scholarship and accommodation for high school students.



“Hello, my name is Liu and I’m 15 years old. I’m studying in secondary school grade 3. I come from a poor family and since my dad died a while ago, my family has not had any regular income, except from the money my older brothers who work in Bangkok send to us. My mother has 5 children, I am the only girl. I have three older brothers and one younger. I have a dream to study on a higher level and want to study business, but am afraid that my family cannot support my education. My aim is to get a good education that will give me an opportunity to get a good job, this will make it possible for me to take good care of my mum. This month I got very good news. I was accepted to receive scholarship from Immanuel which mean I can study further. I’m very grateful. Thank you from Liu”

We are thankful for all kind of donation

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