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The newsletter of Vaughan, Cathy & Nathan Pirie

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The Pirieodical



Nathan beach fishing for the 1st time

The boys with student type haircuts



Many of you are busy with all the end of year celebrations and preparations for Christmas. In the midst of it all may you find a quiet space to reflect on His coming. Thank you for your partnership with us throughout this year.



What have we been up to???

- A team of 9 from Oregon USA came and assisted us for 2 weeks. They sewed, culled library books, re-organised our garden, gave landscaping advice, refurbished all our desks, encouraged, listened and stirred (often whilst wearing plaid shirts!!!). It was great having such a humble and God-fearing team as these guys.
- We had two separate holidays as a family. The first was locally as Nathan & Vaughan had studies to do. The second was in Bangkok. This allowed us to visit the zoo and aquarium, and the boys to have fun at the Funarium (an large indoor playground). These holidays gave us further bonding time with Sam.
- We had the second of three home visits as part of adopting Sam. The last one is due in mid February.
- Nathan turned 7 to his delight and that of our guests.
- Cathy, Nathan and Sam went to Bangkok for the OMF Thailand Home School week. This was Sam's first one. Both he and Nathan thoroughly enjoyed themselves.
- Cathy's parents visited for the 3rd time since 2014. Sam enjoyed meeting Nanna and Grandpa. Nathan had fun spending time with them also.
- We finally made an important decision we had been praying about for a long time (see next page).



Oregon team



With Cathy's parents

ANSWERED PRAYER!

- * We had wonderful times with Cathy's parents and the team from Oregon, USA. It is wonderful how God has sent us so many Godly people to assist and encourage us this year.
- * Vaughan passed his Gospel of Mark unit with flying colours. He now only has to complete a research project in 1st Semester 2018, to finally finish his Masters of Ministry.
- * God has sent two Godly women to assist with home school to come in 2018. More info to come in our next newsletter.
- * Good times away as a family.
- * The staff are working well together.
- * Everything is on track for Sam's adoption to be completed by August/September 2018.

A HUGE Decision has been made...

Many of you know that we have been praying about how long our “season” at The Pines will be. A couple of weeks ago we made that decision...

Due to the need for our boys to have regular friends, issues relating to their education needs, and other reasons, we have decided that we will finish at The Pines in mid September 2018. This decision has been approved by OMF leadership in Thailand and Australia. We hope that all issues relating to Sam’s adoption will be finalised by that point so that we can return to Australia for a Home Assignment.

We will have a couple of months in Qld and WA visiting churches, home groups and you all. What happens beyond that is a complete unknown. We are open to the idea of continuing ministry with OMF International, preferably in Australia. However, we are also willing to consider other opportunities as they may arise.

Please be in prayer for us as we begin this transition stage and as we seek God’s guidance concerning what happens next. Please feel free to contact us if you want to know more information or have ideas on how to assist us in different ways.



With our staff at the end of year function.

Upcoming Events...

25/12/17	Christmas Day (Sam’s first one with us and our 10th in Thailand since 2007)
09/01/18— 12/01/18	Time away as a family
14/01/18	Wedding Anniversary (12 years!!!)
24/01/18— 28/01/18	Conference booked for entire site
29/01/18— 03/02/18	Cathy & Nathan away in Chiang Mai
03/02/18	The Homeschool helper arrives!!!
15/02 & 16/02/18	Birthdays!!!(A special birthday for Cathy in 2018!)

Ways to Pray

- January & February are extremely busy months at The Pines. We have 40-50 guests during these times. Please pray a good working relationship with us and our staff. Pray for us as we arrange transport of many of those traveling internationally.
- Please pray for wisdom and grace as we deal with guests who come from varying backgrounds and ministry situations. Many come stressed and so we need special wisdom as we relate to them in a Christ-like manner.
- In late January Cathy & Nathan will be going an Home Schooling Conference in Chiang Mai. Nathan will be undergoing some educational testing. Please pray that these tests will give us the tools that will assist Nathan to learn to his full potential.
- Between now and June we would like to complete three major maintenance projects at The Pines... retiling the pool, putting in a new drive way, and rewiring the managers house. Please pray that we will find suitable tradespeople to do these tasks.
- That the process of adopting Sam will continue to run smoothly. We cannot apply for an Australian visa until the Thai side of things is complete.
- Pray for wisdom and insight as we begin to prepare our sons for our move away from The Pines in late 2018
- Please continue to pray for Sam’s adjustment to our family. At times he still misses his orphanage.

May the joy of His birth fill you anew with peace and hope this Christmas and throughout the coming New Year.



Vaughan, Cathy & Nathan and Sam

