



Scott & Angie
PAGEL

旅行

PLANTING CHURCHES IN NORTHERN TAIWAN

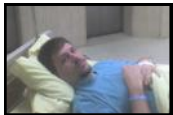
2008 — February

Where To Begin?

That's what I keep thinking as I try to get started on this month's report! As we look back at January, we wonder how we did everything and we wonder how to fit it in the report! I guess we can save thousands of words by putting in a few pictures... if you are reading the mailed version of this, you might enjoy the pictures more if you downloaded the color version from our website: <http://pagels.teamexpansion.org>

Back in Mid-December—A surgeon told Scott that his back pain from a 10 year old injury would be relieved by surgery. We chose January 7th.

January 5th—Angie's mom arrived on very short notice after hearing of Scott's upcoming surgery. She wanted to help out during the time in the hospital and recovery.



January 7th—Scott had back surgery at 8:45AM lasting for 3 hours. He was prone for 48 hours and in the hospital until January 10th.

January 16—We celebrated Mollie's 3rd birthday 13 days early since Patsy was here to join in the fun!



January 20—The Ankeng church took its 2nd annual trip to Lotung. We held a worship service at Plum Blossom Lake and then went to the Home of God's Love in Lotung to play with the kids and serve them and the staff by providing a meal and taking



care of evening devotions. Three of our young men shared and Bi-ling led some songs. We are not sure how one young man's dancing devotion went over with some of the staff and I'm afraid to ask.. I *think* they'll have us back. ☺

January 26-30—Our family took a quick trip to visit friends in Taidong, the Gants and the Wideners. We stayed at the Gant's house—right on the beach—and the waves, sand, and snorkeling were beyond great! We are amazed by God's creation and his goodness.



All month long—We experienced God's provision and care. Scott's surgery went well. Patsy's visit was a huge blessing during those days in the hospital and afterwards. Our church family carried the load on the Lotung trip and while our family was hanging out at the beach. Each month as we reflect on the days that have passed, we are reminded of how blessed we are to be serving the Lord in Taiwan, and it is all because of your help. Thanks!

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A Few Random Items (That didn't fit on the front page!)

Scott's Back Surgery—If you would like to read about the reason for the surgery and some stories about the recovery, there are a few posts on the blog that will interest you. <http://pagels.teamexpansion.org/sqjtaipei/>

Team Leader Summit—I (Scott) returned to the USA for a few days in November to attend Team Expansion's Biennial Team Leader Summit. Although we don't have any teammates, I am still considered a team leader and enjoyed talking with some of the team leaders from other fields. I was grateful for the chance to take a few days after the summit to see my family in Bellevue including a nephew we had not seen in person yet. Speaking of having no teammates... this isn't our choice... we would very much like to have teammates so if you feel like God is calling you to missions, to Asia, and/or to have a good time, please be in touch with us!



2007 Financial Report—We are in the process of updating our website to include the monthly financial reports, please check the website in a few days for the 2007 year end report and any others you wish to see.

Basketball—Bethanie and Zachary are participating in a youth Basketball program on Saturday mornings. It meets at Bethany School and they are getting excellent instruction on fundamentals even though I'm one of the assistant coaches. This kind of program is not very common here so we are thankful to be able to give our kids the opportunity to participate in this kind of activity.

Patsy's Visit—We really can't say it enough... it was SO NICE to have her here during most of January.

Our New "Daughter"—No... Angie isn't pregnant. Since I'm slow getting this report out, I can tell you that we have had a 14 year old Taiwanese girl living with us since February 1st. We'll tell you more about her later, but ask for your prayers on her behalf... she goes by "Lemon" since her Chinese name sounds like that English word.

A Matter of Prayer—Angie's good friend Amy was recently divorced. Amy's son, Alex, is Zach's good friend and it is very hard on Alex. Amy moved to Kaohsiung to live with her parents. She also has a 1 year old son, Kevin, that the dad has custody of (as is the default situation here) but as you know, a 1 year old still needs his mom, too.

A Note from Team Expansion's President

My family and I recently drove to the top of a very tall & remote mountain (13,796 feet above sea level). I was amazed by the views it afforded, especially at night, when it grew very dark. (Since we were hours from the nearest city, it was a case of **extreme** darkness.) Stars were everywhere. I wrote in my journal, "I don't deserve to see this majesty; the stars appear to be **screaming** glory to their creator!" No matter which direction I looked, I could see deep space objects with the naked eye. And when I looked at any given point in the sky with my binocular, I would see **dozens** of galaxies, clusters, and nebulae in seemingly every field of view. What impressed me most was how **clear** these objects were. You see, when it comes to astronomy, the darker the sky, the more amazing the view. I've noticed a similar phenomenon with missionaries. In times of great financial need, the smallest check can appear as a very bright spot in an otherwise very dark month. So please don't ever forget -- your gift of prayer and finances can be **the** difference-maker in inspiring your favorite Team Expansion worker to keep shining brightly in areas of the world where Christ's name is least known. Thank you for your support & sacrifice. Thank you for making Team Expansion's work possible through your partnership!

Doug Lucas—Louisville, Kentucky



Taipei—The Taipei City Government Department of Environmental Protection is offering free "firecracker sound" CDs to residents to make the Lunar New Year safer and more environmentally friendly. Department officials said the CDs were being offered to encourage people not to use firecrackers during the festive season to cut down on air and noise pollution and have a safe holiday. To provide an alternative, the department made audio recordings of firecracker sounds available on its Web site prior to last year's Lunar New Year holidays. Copies of the CD can be picked up for free at the department's main office in Xinyi District, the officials said, adding that the audio file is also available on the department's Web site.

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