



Scott & Angie
PAGEL

旅行

PLANTING CHURCHES IN NORTHERN TAIWAN

2009 — May

A PLACE TO CONNECT

For several months now, the Ankeng church has expressed interest in renting a place to use as a center for ministry in our area. We have discussed many options and we have shared many of the ideas with you through email, newsletters, and even face-to-face during our recent Home Service.

The church finally settled on a place at the end of April. It is not likely to be the coffee house that everyone was so excited about before our home service, but we hope that having an "address" and a public place to hold various special interest classes, Bible studies, prayer meetings, etc. will make us more visible in the community so that we can have a bigger impact. We have been so blessed by the unconditional love of our Lord and our greatest desire is to learn from him and share his love with others in our community and to the ends of the earth.

We'll keep you posted on the various events we host here, but we believe it will be suitable for English conversation classes, children's programs, a prayer room, barbeques at holidays, and many other activities.

This particular location is a bit of a blow to our dreams for a coffee house which would allow for all of these activities with the added benefit of providing jobs for a few people and providing funding to be even more helpful to our community. However, we want to make these big decisions together and renting this particular place is much "safer" than opening up a coffee house. I'm a little disappointed and feel like we are settling for too little, but I'm only one voice here and will readily admit that it seems that this is a good first step towards making a larger impact in the future. My dreams and visions are usually far bigger than what is immediately possible anyway so I'm glad to work with people who will take us to the goal step by step!

The place we rented is at the end of a dead-end alley just off of the main street through Ankeng. It is easy to tell people how to get there and we have a bus stop just a 2 minute walk away.

Over the next few weeks, we'll get some activities planned out for the new place and hope to give it a name as well. Look for more info in the June newsletter. Thanks for making this new outreach center possible!



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Pictures of our Family, Friends, Ministry and Taiwan:
<http://picasaweb.google.com/sqjtaipei>

To receive (fairly) regular email prayer updates:
Send a blank email to: pagelsintaiwan-subscribe@yahoo.com

To download past newsletters and financial reports:
Visit our website at: <http://pagels.teamexpansion.org>

HEALTH UPDATE: PRAISE

I think it has been reported in our email updates that Angie has experienced some tingling in parts of her body and there was some concern this might indicate MS. After many tests, the neurologist told her that she thinks she can rule out MS. Dr. Huang now says she thinks that all the tingling on and off in so many places over the past 8 months can be explained by a narrowing in some of the vertebrae in Angie's neck and lower back. She will work on some exercises to increase flexibility and take some medications this month and see how it goes.

CALLING NIGHT

In previous years, one of our favorite ministries was a regular night of the week set aside for calling on people. It has been hard to do this since we lost the services of a nanny for our team. We think Bethanie and Zachary are old enough to allow us this special ministry again. Sometimes it is challenging to adjust to the changing needs of the local church, our team of missionaries and our family. We look forward to the new opportunities in this phase of life and ministry.

ALWAYS LEARNING

The Team Expansion missionaries in the Taipei area had the privilege of meeting up with a pastor from Louisville, KY last week. He was raised in a Christian family here in Taiwan, went to seminary in the US, married, and settled there. He is a very bright, personable, humble servant of the Lord and has a burden to help with the training of Chinese speaking Christians all over the world, including a country with over 1.3 billion people not far from Taiwan. :-) He'd like to join with Team Expansion to start making regular trips to Taiwan. He worshiped with us here in Ankeng last week and shared his testimony along with his vision and was very well received by the brothers and sisters here. We look forward to when he is able to come back and do some of this Biblical training with our friends here.

AUNT ANGIE'S ENGLISH

We kicked off a new term on May 6 with the help of our kids and one of the sisters from the Ankeng church! We had about 20 the first night and we are learning about the fruit of the Spirit.

A Note from Team Expansion's President

Dear friend of a Team Expansion worker,

Thank you for your support of the work of a Team Expansion missionary! Without your faithful partnership, we cannot imagine how we could continue on. But *with* your help, God is doing amazing things! Here's just one example: In one of Team Expansion's fields, a Muslim land, Muslims outnumber believers 25,000 to 1. Changing from Islam to any other religion is frowned upon and even punished by local cultural norms... yet in spite of that, there have been 20 baptisms in the last year alone. What's more, some 30,000 people have stopped by our team's website there and our team created 12,000 evangelistic DVDs for distribution to new friends. They finished the translation of four additional books of the New Testament into the local dialect.

None of this could happen without your help. So *thank* you for your support, your friendship, and the steps you take on behalf of the Master. May He bless your lives richly with zeal and fire to forge on..

Doug Lucas—Louisville, Kentucky



Taiwanese can now choose to worship their ancestors online using digital flowers, offerings and incense that can be dragged and dropped on a virtual altar of one's choice, or buy paper money that is designed with larger denominations so that less paper is burned, or incense sticks that are much shorter than traditional ones so air pollution is reduced, officials said. However, taking into consideration that some people may feel skipping these traditional rituals would be disrespectful to their ancestors and gods, the EPA has developed an array of alternative praying methods. "For example, the Taoyuan County environmental bureau Web site offers a 'virtual worship' service for Web users across the country. Worshipers can personalize a digital altar, complete with the name of the deceased, offerings, a Christian cross or Buddhist sutras and background music," the EPA said.

(Taipei Times, April 1, 2009 - NOT an April Fools joke but they did have a great one in that edition)