



**Scott & Angie  
PAGEL**

**旅行**

**PLANTING CHURCHES IN NORTHERN TAIWAN**

**2009 — October**

## PRAYING FOR PETER

Most of you who read this newsletter will already know that our friend and co-worker, Peter Bennett, was hit by a car when crossing the street on the morning of September 22. Many of you are praying for this brother. I'm happy to report that he is alive and improving every day. There are many good reasons to hope for something very close to a full recovery. But in those first hours and days, we weren't so sure...

We are keeping a blog to track Peter's situation and coordinate prayer. The following are cut/paste from the blog at:

<http://prayingforpeter.blogspot.com>

*From Update #1:*

- ◆ The injury is at the back of the head.
- ◆ Peter's skull is fractured just to the right of center.
- ◆ Peter's injury is serious.
- ◆ He is in the Intensive Care Unit.
- ◆ The next few days are very critical.
- ◆ The biggest danger seems to be hemorrhaging (bleeding) of the brain.



*From Update #7:*

At tonight's visiting time, Peter was moving a bit, but not responding to visitors. At one point, the nurse asked the visitors to tell Peter to try to do various things. He was told to open his eyes, but he could not do this. He was told to grasp another person's hand with his right hand and he did. He did not do it a second time when asked. The nurse put her hand in Peter's right hand and he was told to squeeze and he squeezed hard and the nurse said "good!" She

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## CONTACT US

**PO BOX 6-32  
YUNG HO 23499  
TAIWAN**

**phone: 886-2-2211-9736  
spagel@teamexpansion.org  
apagel@teamexpansion.org  
<http://pagels.teamexpansion.org>**

## OUR TEAM SENDING CHURCH

**Calvary Christian  
10100 Cedar Island Road  
Bellevue, NE 68123-5048  
402-293-1700**

## FORWARDING AGENT

**Nancy Crouse  
701 Diamond Lane  
Papillion, NE 68133-2484  
402-614-5277**

## TEAM EXPANSION

**4112 Old Routh Road  
Louisville, KY 40299-5002  
1-800-447-0800  
[info@teamexpansion.org](mailto:info@teamexpansion.org)**

**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](mailto:pagelsintaiwan-subscribe@yahoo.com)

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then moved to the left hand and he squeezed her hand with his left hand too. This is great to know that he can respond bilaterally and independently with each hand.

*From Update #13:*

At about 1:30PM on Monday, September 28, Peter was moved from the ICU to a regular ward in the same hospital. He's looking good and doing well so far. If you just walked into his room and saw him for the first time after the accident, you might think he is not doing so well. But to those of us who have been here since the first hour... the progress is clear and hope reigns.

*From Update #22 (the most recent update):*

... there is much to be happy about and to celebrate. Peter knows he is still in for a bit of a fight to regain all of his pre-accident abilities, but he has shown great determination to do what it takes to recover as quickly and as fully as possible.

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Peter will have ongoing issues with balance, hearing, and mobility for some time, but he is improving! Thanks for your prayer and support of Peter and of our family as we minister in various ways.

## RECENT LOSSES

With Peter's improvement, his prognosis looks very good. His brain trauma was quite severe and many people don't make it. Although we celebrate Peter's rapid recovery, his accident came in a 31 day period where I lost 2 close friends from high school. Jean Campanella and Anita Parker. I'm 38 now and know the odds are that I'll lose classmates, but these 2 were tough losses for me as I was close to both.

I know that we all deal with loss. My recent encounters are not unique to the human experience, but I'm just being honest... with the extreme emotional burden of typhoon Morakot, the loss of these 2 close friends, and nearly losing Peter (along with all the added stress of sharing the decision making on his behalf regarding his care)... I'm wiped out... the physical and emotional tanks are running on fumes! Angie feels the same.

Just days before Peter's accident, we were hosting our field coordinator and his wife (Dana and Chris) at our soccer camp. Chris was playing badminton with one of the kids, fell down, and ended up with a broken wrist. Of course, this is worse for Chris than for Angie and I... but these stresses seem to be piling up lately. We did, however, have a great visit with Chris and Dana even though some of our visits were at the hospital!

## A Note from Team Expansion's President

I'm told that in the Louvre Museum in Paris, there is a painting of a soldier in the midst of a decision. While in the heat of battle, a mortar shell lands near him, taking out the power line to a field hospital unit. Now the soldier knew that doctors couldn't save his battle buddies while operating in the dark. Without hesitation, he reached down with one hand and grabbed both ends of the severed power line, thus becoming a human conduit, at least for the moment, for the life-giving light in that hospital. In many ways, your favorite Team Expansion missionary is a lot like that soldier. Our workers have seen a need. They've picked up their lives and moved to a far away land. The power of the gospel can now surge through their hearts, offering hope and help for souls who didn't even realize how dark their lives had become. When you stop to pray, give, and communicate encouragement to them, you speed much-needed resources along those supply lines, thus giving wings to the gospel. Perhaps you will never have a chance to travel to the far away land where they serve, but I can tell you through personal experience, they labor relentlessly to serve Christ, His church, our organization, and you, our partners. Thank you for your support for Team Expansion. And thank you for giving power to the gospel of Jesus Christ. .

Doug Lucas—Louisville, Kentucky



A total of 1,255 protected Chinese yellow margined box turtles have been seized at Kaohsiung International Airport. The snake-eating turtles, known by the scientific name *Cuora flavomarginata*, were uncovered last weekend when customs officers inspected an export shipment that was listed as green-headed turtles, or *Ocadia sinensis*, on the customs declaration form. It was the first time the Kaohsiung customs office seized such a large number of protected animal species headed abroad, the official said. The turtles were placed in 50 well-packed cases, each containing three plastic containers with dividers. Opening them proved difficult and time consuming, but customs officers discovered the protected turtles in the containers below the top level in each carton. The would-be exporter violated the Wildlife Protection Act and smuggling regulations and will be prosecuted, officials said.

(From: Taipei Times—September 2, 2009)