



Youth for Christ

February 2009

Asia Pacific

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"His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms..." (Ephesians 3:10)

Dear Friend,

Greetings from Penang, Malaysia! We have just finished spending some excellent time together with Sasha and Olga Kim, our leaders of YFC Central Asia, and are in transit to Bangkok and then Chiang Mai, Thailand. Sasha and Olga live in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, which is quite expensive for us to get to and quite cold at the moment. So, we chose Penang because Sasha/Olga didn't need a visa in Malaysia, we were both away from our kids and office distractions, and it is less than a 1½ -hour flight from Bangkok for us.



Sasha directly works for Scott as he leads our pioneering efforts in Central Asia. This team has expanded to approximately 50 staff and volunteers across 4 countries. In Bishkek this year, we will be expanding our Kids@Risk work as we focus even more on street kids, orphans, handicapped, and the deaf. Member Care is the official term that describes

our time with Sasha and Olga and is something that we want to focus more on with our national leaders going forward. We flew them to Malaysia 3 days early so they could have some rest and holiday on their own. This was the first 3 days of complete rest (with no work) that they had ever had. You can read more about Central Asia at: <http://www.yfcasiapacific.org/silkroad>

As we shared last month, in 2009, our roles will expand and take on an added dimension this year as we bring together a team around us to focus on engaging, equipping, and empowering the indigenous YFC national leaders across Asia and the Pacific. We share a bit more about this on the reverse side.

Within YFC, the new year is off to a fast start as Scott has already met with our Myanmar national leader in Bangkok in January and is preparing to visit Myanmar later this month to conduct training with our 100+ Burmese youth mobilization volunteers from across Myanmar. In March, Scott will be in the USA (Denver & Indianapolis) for meetings. We are still raising funds to travel as a family to the USA this summer.

March Madness has hit our household in Chiang Mai in January. Both Tim and Paul completed their first basketball seasons on the Chiang Mai International School teams. And, both won Conference titles against the 5 other International Schools in Chiang Mai. The finals were very close, hard fought games that came down to the wire against their archrival, Grace Int'l School. So, they had a great experience of seeing their hard work pay off and hopefully committing them to work and practice even more for next year. Scott has been an Assistant Coach for the Varsity team and their tournament is this coming weekend.



Thank you again for your continued support and interest in YFC and our family!

Scott + Cathren

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When gifts exceed the specific need of a project funds will be used for similar ministry purposes. (Ezra 7:17-18)

Youth for Christ



February 2009 YFC Asia Pacific Area Team Update

Three new people that started working for Scott this past month. They are: Neil O'Boyle, Roberta Macallister, and Scott Rosene. We are expecting two more new people over the next few months to join our team also. David Bonanno, currently our National Director of YFC Australia, will join our Area team in April from Perth, Australia. David has stepped down to allow a younger leader to take over in Australia. Also, Sumi Flannagan is raising support in the USA to come to Chiang Mai and serve for 6 months. Both David and Sumi each have more than 15 years experience with YFC.

The most exciting thing about all these "new" people is that they are not new to YFC. Each has more experience with YFC than us and bring an exciting mix of talents and experience to serve our indigenous national leaders in Asia and the Pacific. These new staff join us and Randy Beaverson who has been working for Scott for the past year from Indianapolis, Indiana serving as our USA Liaison Director—connecting US people and foundations to the Asia Pacific national programs—and pioneering YFC in Pakistan.

Let us introduce the three new team members that started working for us in January:

Neil O'Boyle (top left in the photo) has worked with Youth for Christ since 1991, starting out as an intern in the north of England and then moved to London with Joy (his wife) to start and pioneer Greenwich YFC, growing a team of 8 full time staff.



From there he relocated to Cyprus in 1998 as the Training Director for YFC International's Middle East and North Africa Area, allowing him to travel extensively around the Middle East.

In 2002, he then moved to Abu Dhabi to pioneer YFC within the Arabian Gulf. As of January 2009, Neil handed over his role as National Director and left behind a strong team.

Neil, Joy and their four children (Jacob, Lucy, Molly & Maisey) have moved to Chiang Mai, to take on a new position as Inter-Nation Project Manager.

Over the last 17 years Neil has also served part time as the Youth Pastor for 3 different churches, written 2 youth ministry books (published by Paternoster) and spoken as a youth communicator on a regular basis at many different events. Neil originally trained as a Physical Education Instructor at Selby College, before studying Theology at Spurgeon's Bible College. Joy at that time studied Nursing and went on to specialize in HIV and family care. The family looks forward to settling in Chiang Mai and being part of the Asia Pacific area.

Already, Neil has taken over some of the pioneering work that Scott wanted to spend more time with but couldn't. He is in Japan now working to help establish YFC there. He will also focus on the Philippines, Vietnam, and other countries.

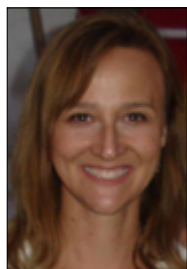
Scott Rosene has joined the YFC Asia Pacific team as Information Technology Services Manager. This is a new role intended to focus primarily on helping our YFC staff and volunteers across Asia and the Pacific connect with one another, with YFC International, and with best practices and technology resources that might assist them with their needs.



Scott began his work with Youth for Christ 10 years ago, working 5 years with Topeka Youth for Christ (Kansas, USA) as the Junior High Ministries Coordinator. He then moved to Wanganui Youth for Christ in New Zealand, where he has worked the last 5 years with young people in the Rock Solid program, coordinating local ministry events and outreaches, serving as a youth pastor at his local church and helping to run a neighborhood youth centre.

He looks forward to connecting with more people in the YFC family and is hoping to get input from the field as to what tools & features would be most helpful for "YFC World:" an online community where any of our staff and volunteers can hang out, chat, share resources, etc. Scott will be working from New Zealand until April, when he moves to the USA to raise additional support and seek the Lord's direction about working from Chiang Mai, Thailand or Indianapolis, Indiana.

Roberta Macallister serves as our Liaison Director for Central Asia and she, her husband Jason, and son Samuel live in Denver, Colorado, USA. She has been serving with Youth for Christ for over 11 years in many capacities, both for USA and for International using her administrative and language skills. Her roles have included working for USA's Multi-Ethnic and Urban Affairs, DC/LA2000 Projects Manager, Assistant to YFCI COO, and Alumni Fellowship Relations Liaison.



She holds a Bachelor of Science in Christian Leadership and Organizational Management from Colorado Christian University. Her life as a missionary kid in Italy and 8 years of service as a linguist/sergeant in the U.S. Army have given her a passion for young people worldwide. She is very excited use her Russian language and other skills to serve our area so that even more can hear about and experience the love of the God who changed her life.