



# **Outreach Ministry**

**Information and ways  
in which you can help and support**



**Christ Church Bangkok, a spiritual oasis of living water  
flowing into the community and out to the nations**

[www.christchurchbangkok.org](http://www.christchurchbangkok.org)

## **Christ Church**

Christ Church Bangkok is involved in outreach to the expatriate and the local community in Thailand. Many church members are connected to NGOs or mission agencies in Thailand, working full-time, volunteering part-time with other levels of commitments somewhere in between. Christ Church' own direct outreach is through the Border Karen Ministry. In this leaflet we also give you information on Prison visiting and other organisations we support and have relationships with and commend to you. If you want to be part of this Body of Christ reaching out, come along to church, be part of us and get to know some of these people

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**Matthew 25: Jesus said, 'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit'**

## Serving at Christ Church

As part of our Church there are many opportunities for you to serve with your gifts & talents such as: small group leaders, pastoral visitors, worship leaders, musicians, sunday school teachers, youth leaders, disciplers and mentors, those who can pray for others, and many more. To get involved in our church life speak with one of the staff members or other leaders. This booklet is intended to give information on our outreach ministries and partnerships and gives contact details for you to follow up if you are able.



Christ Church is not able to screen and place volunteers for the different mission organisations, so if you are interested in a placement, please contact the organisations directly. Alternatively, get in touch with one of the following agencies who offer a number of short and long term mission placement opportunities within Bangkok/Thailand:

CMS Australia <http://www.cms.org.au>  
Crosslinks UK <http://www.crosslinks.org>  
CMS UK <http://www.cms-uk.org>  
Interserve <http://www.interserve.org>

## **Christ Church' Border Karen Ministry**

Straddling about five kilometers along the road leading from the town of Mae Sot, Mae La is one of the largest camps for Border Karen and home to around 50,000 people, including many children. Mae La contains three Anglican churches, each of which has its own pre-school which Christ Church supports: Emmanuel, St.John's and Trinity. These look after around 250 children between them. Christ Church supports these schools by helping to pay staff salaries and by providing teaching materials and sleeping mats. There is also an orphanage in Mae La camp with about 50 children for whom we are able to provide food and other daily necessities.

Christ Church also helps to support the Anglican clergy in the camps and surrounding area.

### **Noh Boh Academy**

Noh Bo Academy is a Karen High School with boarding facilities - uniquely situated outside any of the Karen refugee camps and able to take many displaced Burmese Karen young people as well as local Thai Karen. Noh Bo Academy offers a high school education for over 200 students and is divided into 8 classes. While some of the students are able to contribute to their school fees, Christ Church is responsible for the bulk of the day-to-day running costs and special expenses of the school. These include providing food, stationery, mosquito nets, blankets, staff costs, equipment and buildings maintenance

**Volunteer:** Volunteers are welcome to come and teach English & computer skills., but need to be processed by a sending missionary agency. See the list on page 2.

**Pray:** Receive prayer letter or join the Christ Church Prayer group

**Contact:** karenministry@christchurchbangkok.org

## Lydia House

Lydia House was started in 1992 as an interdenominational Christian ministry for some of the thousands of job seekers who continually flood into Bangkok. Lydia House offers free shelter and an evening meal to jobseekers besides sharing God's truth daily. In their Skill Development Programme, suitable jobseekers are sent for ten weeks of training at a government centre where they acquire skills that enable them to find jobs. Lydia House pays for their food, transportation and training expenses. Converts are taught Christian disciplines through their follow-up programme. Worship services are conducted on Sunday evenings.

Check out Bangkok Post article:

[www.bangkokpost.com/outlookwecare/231297\\_Outlook01.html](http://www.bangkokpost.com/outlookwecare/231297_Outlook01.html)



**Volunteer:** Employment for workers is always sought. Can your company help train these jobseekers? Buy some extra rice or cleaning materials for Lydia House when you do your own grocery shopping

**Pray:** That jobseekers will find stable jobs, develop disciplined lifestyles, become Christians and deepen their walk with Christ

**Contact:** Junkiat Satanpornvanit 086-0528932, 1234/2-4 Taksin Rd, Soi 36, Thonburi, Bangkok 10600 email: [sjunkiat@hotmail.com](mailto:sjunkiat@hotmail.com)

## Rahab Ministries

Over 4000 women work each night in the sex tourism area of Patpong. Situated 300 metres from Christ Church, Rahab Ministries has been working for over 21 years in this Red Light District. The majority of women come to Bangkok looking for work to provide for their families back in their villages, and for most a lack of education limits their work opportunities. Rahab Ministries takes these girls from the life of prostitution and employs them in jewellery making and re-trains them in nail art while also teaching them English. Some chose to return to school to complete their education.

Retraining them in a safe Christian environment where they learn about Jesus, allows a change to happen inside out.

When they are confident to try to support themselves, Rahab supports them in an occupation that suits them.



**Volunteer:** secretarial work, art & design to help with Jewellery making, posters, tracts, publications, proposals writing.

Nurses to give general advice. Could you be a contact for Rahab Bazaar Jewellery business in your home church

**Pray:** Get their monthly Prayer letter or newsletter.

**Contact:** Alex and Sarah van Meygaarden 02 236 9280 or email rahabministriesthailand@gmail.com

## Ruth Center

Throughout Thai history, the elderly have been regarded as a pillar of the community. But times change, and now, the elderly are often treated as a burden to society, thrown away, forgotten. Ruth Center won't forget them. Begun in 2008, Ruth Center's heart goal is to work with slum communities in Bangkok's Prawet District to improve the quality of life for the elderly and seek long term solutions to their care. In Prawet District alone, there are 14,000 elderly, many destitute, lonely, without family or anyone to help them. They help provide these elderly people with necessities, assist them in getting life pensions and help repair houses and bridges. Consistently, spending time being a friend to them. Showing them the love that God has given for them and sharing with them where this love comes from.



**Volunteer:** By helping with elderly care. Handymen and skills in any form of construction very welcome. Many practical skills needed. Sponsor an elderly person. Creative and artistic-minded people who love designing craft products.

**Pray:** Receive their regular prayer letters

**Contact:** Khun Noi via [ruthcenter.plf@gmail.com](mailto:ruthcenter.plf@gmail.com)

To read more about this caring ministry that supports so many elderly check out the website [www.ywamthai.org/ruthcenter/](http://www.ywamthai.org/ruthcenter/)

## **Siam Care**

Siam Care is a Christian non-profit organisation dedicated to the support of reaching the marginalised of Thai society by offering support through its holistic homecare approach:

- \* Essential items and goods such as: clothing, nutritious food, and household necessities
- \* Emotional support in the form of friendship, counselling, advocacy, and education
- \* Job training and skills
- \* Peer support through camps and focus group meetings
- \* Community and family intervention
- \* Start-up loans and financial assistance
- \* Medication, nutritional supplements, and ARV management
- \* HIV/AIDS education through focus groups, community activities, and school partnerships
- \* Through prayer, Bible study, and encouragement, Siam-Care offers peace and hope

**Volunteer:** office administration, teach English, translation assistance. Groups are welcome to participate in children's camps. Purchase goods made by those who rely on the income to support their families. Perhaps you can sponsor a child or a family  
[www.siamcare.org/en/get-involved/sponsor-a-child-or-family.html](http://www.siamcare.org/en/get-involved/sponsor-a-child-or-family.html)

**Pray:** Continued support & strength to do this incredible work. Receive the Prayer letter direct [www.siamcare.org/](http://www.siamcare.org/) on a regular basis

If you want to watch some of the impact Siam Care makes see:  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=asONHjU10eQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=asONHjU10eQ)  
[www.cbn.com/cbnnews/world/2009/October/Ministry-Helps-Thailands-HIVAIDS-Victims/](http://www.cbn.com/cbnnews/world/2009/October/Ministry-Helps-Thailands-HIVAIDS-Victims/)

Contact: Adrienne Blomberg: 02 530 5902  
Email: [siamcare@siamcare.org](mailto:siamcare@siamcare.org)



## Immigration Detention Centre (IDC)

During an average year, approximately 70,000 men, women and children are detained for various periods of time in IDC. Most are migrant workers, victims of human trafficking, asylum-seekers or refugees, but also all foreign prisoners who have finished their sentences and are awaiting repatriation must pass through IDC. They have no other crimes or charges against them except immigration offences, or awaiting repatriation after completing their prison sentences, and can return home when they have proper travel documents and one-way tickets to their country. There are over 200 children in IDC under the age of 14, some of whom have never seen the outside world! Christ Church supports IDC financially and pastorally



**Volunteer:**Prison Visiting (further details on how at back of this booklet) Check out following website for good information re visiting [www.phaseloop.com/foreignprisoners/prisoners-thailand-suanplu.html](http://www.phaseloop.com/foreignprisoners/prisoners-thailand-suanplu.html) You can make the life inside a bit more pleasant by sending toys, art materials, books, magazines and sanitary products like soap, toothpaste, medicine, sanitary towels, etc take direct to IDC \*packed securely and addressed f.a.o. Father Paul, Royal Thai Immigration Bureau, Suan Phlu Road (next to Post Office)

**Contact: Bernard Wirth**, Immigration Detention Center Coordinating Committee, PO Box 1193, Suan Phlu Post Office, Bangkok 10121, Thailand Tel. 084-634-2095

\*If you do not pack & address donations correctly, they will not reach the prisoner

## Thai Prison Ministry (Thais)



A ministry proclaiming the gospel of new life in Jesus Christ to Thai nationals who are in prison, helping those who have responded through faith in God to grow and be witnesses for Christ in prison and looking after the spiritual growth and transition back into society after they are released. Our mission is to lead prisoners to begin a new life of knowing God by trusting Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their past life. We help prisoners to find new life by developing the quality of inmates' lives in the area of moral education and vocational training. It extends to training prisoners who are nearing release so that they will not go back to doing wrong, but will be able to live stable lives in society.

In the year 2003, the Christian Prison Ministry Foundation opened a halfway house called the House of Blessing as a temporary residence for newly-released prisoners. It offered life training and prepares released prisoners in their adjustment back to society, while helping them find honest work.

**Volunteer:** Christians get involved with visiting, vocational training, offer on the job training and/or employment.

**Pray:** Receive their regular prayer letter

**Contact:** Rev Soonthorn Soonthorntarawong, PO Box 1136, Nana, Sukhumvit 4, Bangkok 10112 Tel 026161988  
or email [prisonth@gmail.com](mailto:prisonth@gmail.com)  
For more in depth information see [www.anglican thai.org/prison](http://www.anglican thai.org/prison)

## Thai Prison Visiting (Foreigners)

There are more than 1,000 foreign prisoners in Bangkok. Some have not had a personal visitor in years. Often they have lost contact with their families & friends back home. They are so lonely. Prisoners can be in desperate need of hope, guidance and faith. You can visit them and share the power of your Christian faith, hope and love.

This section will explain how you can visit foreign prisoners in Bangkok. The very concept may seem daunting. But with this step-by-step guide you can surprise yourself and bring a ray of hope to someone in this dark place.

### **What you need:**

- Your passport, and a photocopy of your passport identity page  
You can make a copy before you go or use the services at the prison. (at a small cost)
- One small briefcase or bag for your belongings and this will be kept safe for you in a locker at the prison
- The only items allowed into the visiting area are a pen, sheet of paper, and Bible. The Bible is optional but you really need that pen and paper because you will want to take notes.
- A small padlock and key set; an 8 cm (three inch) hasp works best. Most prison have lockers with their own keys, but some don't. Be prepared. Padlocks can be purchased from market stalls or department stores
- A list of prisoner's names and nationalities. You will find this information on [www.phaseoop.com/foreignprisoners](http://www.phaseoop.com/foreignprisoners) or from the UK & Australian Embassy and also other consulates and embassies.

It is best to take more than one name, as some prisoners can have only one visitor a week, and they might have been visited by their lawyer or an embassy official earlier that week.

- Dress smartly—no shorts, bare shoulders or short skirts
- Plan ahead. Rules vary from prison to prison. Registration forms at some prisons are in Thai and English; at others there are separate forms in English and you must request them. If you can go with some-

one who has been before for your first visit that will make your experience easier.

**Bangkwan men's prison:** To get to Bangkwan take the river boat up river to Nonthaburi. Get off, go up the road and turn left. Walk along the road to the office on the left side. Register. Then cross over the road to the prison.

**Klong Prem men's prison and Klong Prem women's prison at Lad Yao:** To go to Klong Prem (Lad Yao) prisons: Take the BTS Skytrain to Mo Chit station. Go down the stairs nearest Chattuchak park. Then take a taxi to "Lad Yao, Klong Prem." When the taxi enters the prison's main gate it will reach a traffic circle.

**Men's Prison:** If you are going to the men's prison go  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way around the circle and get out. (Buses No. 134 and No. 69 also go to Lad Yao, but on your first trip you may not know how to proceed from there once you get off the bus) The administration area is just to the right of the main building that says KLONG PREM CENTRAL PRISON.

**Women's Prison:** If you are going to the women's prison have the taxi turn left at the traffic circle. Then have it go straight to a "T" junction and turn right at that. When you get out of the taxi you will observe that there are entrances to two prisons, Klong Prem Women's Central Institution, and a facility for Thai drug users. You want the former, which has the large gate to your left

**The example described below is for visiting Klong Prem women's prison** You can adapt that for visits to other prisons.

Walk through the gate and keep going until you reach the circular driveway. At the right hand side you will see the reception area, where many persons are waiting to visit inmates. If you walk into that area you will see a woman at a photocopy machine. That is where you get your passport title page copied (2 Baht). After you get the copy, proceed turn right and proceed to the middle window. That is where they hand out forms in which you enter your name, passport number, home and Bangkok address and the name and nationality of the person you intend to visit. Give the receptionist the form, your

passport, and the photocopy. Then take a seat and wait. Put mobile phone, purses, etc, into your bag. Periodically the receptionist will call several names. Listen carefully, when your name is called go with the other visitors to the area where the lockers are and put your bag in the locker. Then enter the visitation area. How will you recognize the person you are visiting? No worries: she has seen your passport photo and will recognize you. Now comes the hard part: What do you say to a stranger? Tell her how you got her name. Ask how she is getting along. From there the conversation will proceed. There may be pauses, but they will be few. They are always glad to have a visitor. Sometimes a prisoner will ask for financial help. Be careful, as some will have various supporters and even an income in prison. But they may request a favourite food. They may ask for some toiletries. Don't make promises you are uncomfortable making. If you want to help there are windows near the reception area where you can deposit some money for toiletries or buy some food for the prisoner. Be careful, do not give large sums of money. If in doubt email for advice to [missions@christchurchbangkok.org](mailto:missions@christchurchbangkok.org)

If requested, Christ Church can supply Christian literature or books, these will need to go through the prisoner's Embassy. Sometimes a prisoner may ask you to contact their family, hence the need for pen & paper.

Your first visit to a prisoner can be stressful and emotional. You are in an unfamiliar place, you have to follow their rules and you are doing something you never did before. You will find yourself standing apart from the prisoner and will have to shout, as does everyone else. Thai prisons are harsh: there is little food, few comforts, and many strict rules. The life is hard and monotonous. A visitor gives hope. If you need more information, please speak to someone at Christ Church office, during office hours or on a Sunday and they will find a person for you to talk to or email [missions@christchurchbangkok.org](mailto:missions@christchurchbangkok.org)  
[www.usp.com.au/fpss/prisoners-thailand.html](http://www.usp.com.au/fpss/prisoners-thailand.html)

## **YWAM—Project L.I.F.E.**

Through the sale of Christian CD's and DVD's at Christ Church' 10.00am Sunday morning service we support YWAM's Project L.I.F.E. This raises funding for its many Outreach programmes.

Have a look at the many things Project L.I.F.E. supports on their website: [www.ywamthai.org/projectlife](http://www.ywamthai.org/projectlife)

## **YWAM—ThaiSong**

Another way you can support YWAM is by bringing your discarded plastic carrier bags to Christ Church on a Sunday morning f.a.o. Mary Goode. These will be made into crocheted handbags and are sold in the United States check it out on [www.thaisongfairtrade.org](http://www.thaisongfairtrade.org)

ThaiSong is a fair trade business dedicated to empowering Thai women to overcome poverty, improve their community and better their environment by providing dignified employment.

ThaiSong seeks to bring economic freedom and hope for women living in poverty in the slums of Bangkok. Making bags and earrings from recycled materials are small projects already making a difference in several families.



For those who have not made the transition to cloth bags, this will help ease your conscience giving you a helpful place to use all those plastic bags...every size, every colour, all are used..

## UNOH—Helping Hands

UNOH, Urban Neighbours of Hope, serves the urban poor through incarnational ministry & mission. Here in Bangkok, the UNOH team live and serve in Bangkok's largest slum community in Klong Toey.

Among the various projects they are involved in, they have helped start-up and support locally owned micro-enterprises to help generate much needed income. Some of these initiatives are:

**Klong Toey handi-crafts** see [www.handicrafts.org.au/klongtoey/](http://www.handicrafts.org.au/klongtoey/) <<http://www.handicrafts.org.au/klongtoey/>> Klong Toey Handicrafts is an expression of this enterprising work. Products are made by the men and women of the slum under fair trade principles and the profits go toward helping improve their quality of life, as well as providing dignity and teaching new skills. They also run "jewellery parties" where women can come to your home and teach the art of jewellery making!



**Helping Hands projects** All initiatives featured are designed to assist in the support of men, women, children and families from within the Klong Toey Slum Community in Bangkok, Thailand. All programs are carefully monitored for quality, effectiveness and efficiency to enable each initiative to expand, employ and teach micro enterprise business success.

**Helping Hands Cooking school & catering** Poo is a talented teacher and cook who runs a half day Thai cooking school in the slum, giving patrons a genuine Thai experience. Keen learners are picked up from Emporium Suites (Sukhumvit 24) and taken to nearby Klong Toey Market to experience sights and smells, and buy fresh ingredients. From there, would-be Thai chefs are taken to the slum community to learn how to cook, and taste various Thai dishes.

Poo also caters for private functions and provides home delivery. More useful information can be found on the website see:

[www.handicrafts.org.au/helpinghands](http://www.handicrafts.org.au/helpinghands) and follow the link to the Thai cooking school.

**Helping hands food delivery service** Have fresh food delivered to your door! This is as simple as making your order online! This initiative helps employ a number of men and women in the slum community. Go to [www.hhdelivery.com](http://www.hhdelivery.com) purchase FairTrade products, send visitors to the Cooking School, become a voluntary sales-rep/advocate (email Liz at [contact@allyearround.com.au](mailto:contact@allyearround.com.au))

### **UNOH—Second Chance Bangkok (SCB)**

This second hand/charity store has been set up to enable those living in the slum community access some of YOUR pre-loved goods at really affordable prices. The shop is a place to train and employ locals, and a gathering place for many in the community.

Second Chance welcomes donations of any size or shape. Goods are then sold at the shop, or in some circumstances given to needy families within the community. SCB also offer a free pickup service for the convenience of those donating their unwanted stuff.

Check out [www.scbkk.org](http://www.scbkk.org) for more info!

SCB also has a recycling arm, collecting used cartridges which can then be sold and recycled - reducing landfill waste.

**Volunteer:** Donate your unwanted stuff, YOU can help by giving these missionaries a break from slum living by offering your home, while you are away, specially around Christmas & other holiday periods

**Pray:** Receive their regular Prayer letters & pray for them

**Contact: Chris & Jodie MacCartney**

[chris@unoh.org](mailto:chris@unoh.org) or [jodie@unoh.org](mailto:jodie@unoh.org)

Visit their website [www.unoh.org/](http://www.unoh.org/)



## **BSF—Bible Study Fellowship**

Bible Study Fellowship International is an international, interdenominational, not-for-profit, lay Christian organization whose focus is teaching the Bible.

It's core purpose is to provide global in-depth Bible classes which produce passionate commitment to Christ and His Church.

Class members study the Bible using:

- \* Questions for personal study
- \* Discussion group participation
- \* Lecture
- \* Printed lesson notes

Three of the aims of BSF focus on supporting the local church.

- \* To equip members to serve in churches
- \* To train Christian leadership
- \* To support churches in the community



In Bangkok, BSF offers the following classes:

- \* Day class for women and their preschool children
- \* Evening class for women and their school age children
- \* Evening men and their school age children

For more information, including day, time and location of current classes, contact:

Claudia 084 349 6633 [cawalthall@aol.com](mailto:cawalthall@aol.com)

Gary 084 349 6655 [gwaltall@gmail.com](mailto:gwaltall@gmail.com)

Visit the website: [www.bsfindernational.org](http://www.bsfindernational.org)

## BCIL—Bangkok Christian International Library

A Christian Library has opened very close to Lumpini MRT. It is currently equipped with over 400 books, Wifi access and meeting rooms available free of charge.

This is an independent privately funded library and the membership is free.

### Regular Opening Hours

Mon - Fri : 10:30 - 4:00

Saturdays : 10:30 - 3:00



**Volunteer:** You may have some spare time to help out at the library. Some tasks are: covering books, simple data entry using Excel, check in and check out books, welcome guests and take member registrations, reading and screening books to be included in the library

**Book Donations:** BCIL gratefully welcomes your donation of both used and new Christian books (including children's books), bibles, Christian magazines, bible study materials, and multimedia materials (ie. Christian movies and documentaries, podcasts, worship music)

**Pray:** Please pray that many people would be able to access this place of resource.

**Contact BCIL** 1168/34(Unit 16C)16th floor, Lumpini Tower, Rama 4, Tung Mahamek 10120 Thailand Tel: 02 679 9093  
[www.bangkokchristianlibrary.org](http://www.bangkokchristianlibrary.org)

