

2010.01.11 0:46 sent from Richard and Wendy Rees
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*Mrs. Roberta Rees,
Welcome to M-PEC on
2010. 10. 09*

Happy New Years

OK, I guess I am running a little late to be saying that, just like I am a little late getting an update out to all of you. Sorry about that.



Did you start your year out right? What does that mean? I spent New Years Day with some KaRen people who were trying to start their year out right. We went to a cave that was converted into a temple. The people did a lot of different activities. They rang a bell, drank water that had dripped from the cave (only men are allowed to dip the water from the rock container), chanted with the priests, lit incense sticks and worshipped the images, drew lots for a lucky number, tossed a coin over their shoulder into a large footprint with markings that showed their fortune based on where the coin landed... On the way home they stopped at the

local temple and presented to the temple half a dozen electric fans for the temple. The head monk chanted over them. Earning all this merit was a good way to start out the year out right.

Culture and language study continues and explores deeper levels of both language and culture. In December I had an evaluation and am now moving from studying the tangible things of culture (what can be seen) to the intangible (thoughts and emotions) of the community. In language, I am working on studying and producing on the paragraph level. A lot of my language study is done through interviews and discourse analysis. Please keep me in your prayers that I would learn the language and culture well.

We had a good Christmas time here in the village. Wendy's Aunt Betty and her co-worker, Karen came for a few days. The children were excited and there was a lot of good food and fellowship. Different ones of us took turns getting sick, but we are all in good health now. Wendy's Mom went back with Karen and Betty to the town where they live and had a good visit for about a week. Last week we went down to Bangkok for dental work for the children and to pick up Gwen and bring her home. Now we are getting back into the routine of homeschooling and language study. Pray for Wendy as she starts up homeschooling this week.



Well, I trust that you started your year out right. By that I mean that you are living in a relationship with our Creator and God, you are seated in the heavenlies in Christ and blessed with all spiritual blessings. Please pray for us this year as we continue to study the language and culture of the KaRen people that we might be able to teach them about their Creator and God and the salvation and freedom through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your partnership,
Richard and Wendy Rees
Megan, Caleb, Rachel and Karis

Rees Family

William & Roberta—Richard (42), Dian, RuthAnn, RoseAnn, JoAnn, LeAnn, Anthony, Annette (12), Andrew (The last 3: adopted children) — Wendy—Megan (2002.09.15), Caleb, Rachael and Karis <(age) in 2010>

2010.09.19

Dear Friends,

The last time I wrote, which was too long ago, I was asking prayer for rain as we were having a drought. The rains have come, the rice and corn has all been planted and people have been busy weeding their fields, the bamboo shoots are coming up in the woods and people are cutting them and selling them for cash. Thank you to those who prayed, we are getting plenty of rain.



2003.01.11