

ONE VOICE FOR ASIA



eNewsletter for Stephen & Karen Negus

August 2004

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Prayer Points:

- Monthly financial support
- Continued good health
- Adjusting and getting settled in Hong Kong
- Air tickets for mission conference in S. Africa
- Spiritual warfare in our 900 year old village ([see article](#))
- Unreached people in Asia
- Language learning

Our Schedule - 2004:

- **January to April**
School of Frontier Missions: Orientation and learning Chinese culture
- **May to September**
Setting up home in Hong Kong and working on YWAM base
- **July to November**
Overseeing kitchen for YWAM Programs: Discipleship Training School (DTS) and Far East Evangelism Teams (FEET). Stephen teaches in DTS for a week on the Holy Spirit (in September).
- **October**
Missions Conference in South Africa
- **November to December**
Thanksgiving in U.S.

In this issue...

Thank You

Greetings from Hong Kong! We arrived safely in Hong Kong on December 6th last year. Wow! Has it been 8 months already. Thank you so much for being a blessing to us in 2003.

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Living in a 900 Year Old Village

Our new home is located just 4 miles (6 1/2 km's) from the border of China. In 1997 Hong Kong became a Special Administrative Region of China when the British handed it back after a 99 year lease.

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What We Are Doing At the Moment

Since we completed the School of Frontier Missions in April, we have been working as support staff on the Youth With A Mission (YWAM) base here in Hong Kong...

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Photos

Some photos of our Chinese friends and new home...

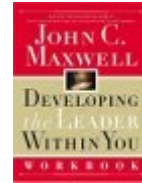
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Thank You

Greetings from Hong Kong!

We arrived safely in Hong Kong on December 6th last year. Wow! Has it been 8 months already.

Thank you so much for being a blessing to us in 2003. Without your prayers and financial support we would not have been able to accomplish what we did. Here are some of the things you helped us to do last year:

- Launch One Voice for Asia as a non-profit organization.
- Itinerate and raise support in the United States and South Africa.
- Pack and move our home to Hong Kong (SAR), China.
- Begin to establish ourselves in Hong Kong and prepare for the future.

Without your help none of this would have been possible. Thank you for your faithful support of the vision which God has placed in us. We appreciate it very much.

A special thank you to all of you who helped us financially with the unexpected expenses we encountered upon arrival in Hong Kong.

Your prayers make a difference. Here are some of the answers to prayer we have seen:

- We found a great flat which meets our needs. More about it in our next newsletter (see our website for [pictures](#)).
- Stephen's Diabetes is under control. He



Karen Clowning during Christmas Outreach

has come off two of his medicines. Recent lab work shows his sugar levels are the best they have been since being diagnosed with Diabetes (HbA1C was 5.7 for those who are interested) last December...

- We were finally connected to the internet after 5 months. Now we can stay in touch with all of you.

Thank you for your prayers and support! Please continue to pray, especially for our finances. It has been challenging and exciting each month as we watch our bank balance go to almost zero and then see how the Lord provides for our needs. He really is faithful!

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Living in a 900 Year Old Village

Our new home is located just 4 miles (6 1/2 km's) from the border of China. In 1997 Hong Kong became a Special Administrative Region of China when the British handed it back after a 99 year lease.

If you've ever been to Hong Kong it may be hard to imagine this city of over 7 million having a "non-urban" area, but it does. Much of the New Territories consists of rural villages.

One of these villages is the village of Kam Tin ([map](#)) where we live. The area was first settled by Tang Fu in 1103 ("Tang" is his last name). At that time he built two settlements, Shui Tau Tsuen (where our house is) and Shui Mei Tsuen, and later also moved his ancestral tombs to the area.

In the village there are many ancient buildings, some dating back to the 1400's. They were built as temples and study or ancestral halls. There are also a number of shrines (altars) still being used today.

Most villagers are actively involved in ancestor worship. They believe that they are responsible for the well-being of the souls of their ancestors. Homes have ancestral altars in the main room at which food and drink offerings are made. Incense is also burned and fireworks are used to scare away evil spirits.

They also have other beliefs which are a mixture of Chinese traditional religion, Buddhism and Daoism (Taoism). Many homes have idols to the Earth god or other gods.



An altar to the earth god...

All of these different beliefs and worship activities create a spiritual atmosphere in which the warfare is sometimes very intense. We begin everyday in worship to Jesus, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

Worship in the village follows a lunar calendar which means that some days are more intense than others. Certain times of the year such as Chinese (Lunar) New Year see a lot of worship activity. Worship also increases on some days in the month, such as new or full moon.

Please pray with us against the strongholds of religion, traditions of men, criticism, materialism, idolatry, violence, anger, suicide and disunity in relationships, which are all strongholds in the village. Pray that we would not be slack in keeping our guard up against the enemy and that none of these strongholds would affect us in our relationship with each other and those that we work with.

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What We Are Doing At the Moment

Since we completed the School of Frontier Missions in April, we have been working as support staff on the Youth With A Mission (YWAM) base here in Hong Kong. According to our agreement with YWAM, we will complete our first year by serving on the base in areas where they need help.

Since July 10th we have been managing the kitchen. Karen is in charge of planning the menus and finding recipes, while Stephen is in charge of ordering the food and making sure the pantry remains well stocked. Together we oversee the people assigned to cook.

As we took on this task our desire was to do it with excellence as unto the Lord. It has been a challenging time, especially since the kitchen was moved to a new location just a few days before the food program began. But, we have grown a lot in our ability to work as a team. God has a plan and a purpose for everything in our lives. The good news is that the food has been great.

We thank God for His wisdom in how He works in our lives. We give Him the glory for helping us in getting the kitchen up and running. One of the long term staff remarked to us that the kitchen has never run this well in all the time that they have been on the base. All glory to Jesus.

We will continue to oversee the kitchen until the October when we leave for the missions conference in South Africa. Please pray for us that we would be able to serve with excellence.

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Photos

Some photos of our Chinese friends and new home...(click on photo to see a larger version)



Our landlord, Derek, and his mother (we call her "Mama")...



Our top floor neighbors, Peter and Natalie...



Our new home. We're in the ground floor apartment...

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