

FRETZnet January

2018 Newsletter

Greetings

He is the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. He is our Rock and our Redeemer, everything we need as we begin this New Year.

Good Morning, Vietnam!

We took advantage of a semester break to spend 12 days in Vietnam. George has wanted to revisit, and now 50 years after his first tour as an Army helicopter pilot, together we came back.



The second 'tour' was a little more relaxed, except for crossing the streets in Saigon. Traveling by bus was much slower and hotter than by helicopter, but we got a much better

close-up view of the countryside, the cities, and the people. And George had opportunity to revisit the sites where he had been stationed during the war.



Our stay at Maison en Bambou (in the Mekong Delta near where I was stationed) was a welcome refuge from the bustle of Saigon. We had the most delightful tour guides— sister and brother Jenny and Nick, and were honored to be the first foreigners to be invited into their home. We are in touch with them almost daily.



Our last two days, spent in Hanoi, were equally enjoyable, especially the Old Quarter. We visited Ho Chi Minh's home and gardens—a very attractive country estate

near the city center. Another highlight was our visit to the Play! Café, a pre-school/learning center operated by our church body.



Before checking out and saying good-bye, we returned to the Countryside Restaurant, our favorite, for one last meal.

Student Update



With the start of the new term my list of students increased from four to eight— half of them parents in a group session.

My featured student this month is Chard, a sharp, fluent, middle-aged businessman, who comes every Wed to test my teaching skills. So far, so good. We have wide-ranging conversations.

Ministries in the Neighborhood

On Saturday Margot joined Dang, a Lutheran deaconess, on a visit to the day-care center/pre-school operated by CWEFT in a tenement area of Bangkok. Margot was most impressed with the teaching and the care shown to these children and their families. The love of Jesus is ‘up close and personal’.



God at Work

Remember Dee Dee, who invited us to her son’s house in the neighborhood and introduced us to her grandsons and her housekeeper? She has since invited us into her home for coffee and chats. She has ‘enrolled’ her housekeeper’s 14-year-old son as a student! He is at a beginner level. The challenge will be to place him where he can be successful.

In Closing

A new verse to our common table prayer recently came to mind, “Come Lord Jesus,

be our Guest, and lead us on our heavenly
quest.”

Following wherever He leads,
George & Margot