



The Richard Guay Family Missionaries to Thailand

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Dear Friends,

As we mentioned in our November letter, Richard's doctor increased his thyroid medication to see if that would help him. It did help him need less sleep, but it did not help his almost constant headaches, memory loss, hand shaking, numbness, and lots of other symptoms that just seemed odd. We went to a neurologist in December, and he had a MRI and an EEG. He was diagnosed with epilepsy. All of these symptoms have been due to complex partial seizures. Now that we understand about these seizures, we think he probably has had them most of his life, but they are just getting much worse. The doctor gave him medicine, and the next day we started our 3½ hour trip home. As most of you know by now, he got much worse. In fact, he had seizures one right after another almost the whole way home. He was not only having the headaches, confusion, visual problems, hand shaking, and slow speech that we had almost gotten used to, but he was having convulsive type seizures. I just kept driving and praying that they would stop, but before I reached home, I already regretted the decision. I should have turned around and gone back to the hospital. We returned to the hospital the next day, and he was admitted. He spent 2 days in ICU and 3 in a normal room. For 2 days he had had over 20 seizures a day, but by the time he was discharged, he was only having a couple a day. We came home again, and they began to get worse again. Another trip was made, and the doctor changed his medicine. Now he is having between 1 and 2 seizures a day. Last weekend the seizures were longer with more intense convulsions. We went back to the doctor this week, and he increased 2 medications and decreased one. Please pray for the Lord to heal him or to let the seizures be controlled with medication. He has been having much trouble walking since he was in the hospital (probably due to one medication), but that has improved a lot this week. He is using a walker to help him when needed.

My health has improved some, but the doctor says that my thyroid is still hyper. Overall the children are all healthy except that Elijah is recovering from bronchitis.

We thank God for the strength that he has given us to carry on. We had to cancel services on the Sunday Richard was in the hospital and on Christmas Day, but we haven't had to cancel any more services. Richard is still unable to preach, but Matthew, our son, filled in a couple of weeks, and the last 2 Sundays we had 2 different young Thai preachers take turns preaching for us. They are going to continue alternating coming on Sundays. Also, we are thankful that our church members here have all been so concerned about Richard, patient about the situation, and eager to help. Richard had a seizure at the end of service 3 weeks ago, and one of the men got down on his knees and prayed for him. He had another seizure the next week at church, and everyone was quick to help us with him. Then he had the worse seizure yet just after church ended last week. We were so blessed to have a really strong visitor from America help us get him home! The members seem to be beginning to realise they need to invite others and witness to them.

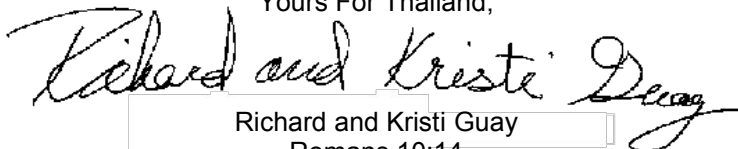
With the help of our older children and the Thai preachers from Bangkok, and of course with God's help, we believe we should be able to handle things till Richard is back on his feet. It just reminds us that this is God's church, and we just will have to lean on Him even more. The Lord said, "...my strength is made perfect in weakness." II Corinthians 12:9.

We are so very thankful for each of you that pray for us. Also, a special thanks to all of you who have given us special offerings to help with the medical and travel expenses. Also, thanks to each of you who sent Christmas cards and Christmas offerings to us.

Sending Church

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Yours For Thailand,


Richard and Kristi Guay
Romans 10:14