

MCA CONNECTION

When There Seemed to Be No Way

by Nixon and Rhonda Jarquin



Nixon and Rhonda joined the RMM Bangkok team as a couple in 2015 after working there separately for a number of years. During this time they have connected with and helped disciple many individuals from Thailand and neighboring countries who have moved to the city for better economic or education opportunities. From their interactions with a Southeast Asian believer, Lit, comes the following story.

At the beginning of 2016, Lit began sharing about his mother’s sickness. Lit had spent most of his money taking her to doctors to get help, but she wasn’t getting better. One of his friends told Lit that there was still one option – he could pray to God. Lit decided to take his mother to some believers in a neighboring village and ask them to pray for her. The believers happily prayed for her and God healed her! After seeing this miracle, Lit and his whole family, except one sister, believed in God.

To thank God for his healing power, Lit wanted to hold a ceremony in his mother’s home. However, in Southeast Asia it is illegal to hold Christian activities without permission from the village leaders. So Lit asked for permission to hold the activity, but his request was denied. Disappointed but undeterred, Lit tried to persuade the village leaders by telling them his mother’s story. He explained how she had suffered for a long time and no doctors could help her. But when the believers prayed for her, God healed her! After hearing what God did for Lit’s mother, the village leaders said there was no way they could refuse him permission to hold the celebration.

Continued on page 4...

CONTENTS

Upcoming Events.....	1
Pastor’s Picks	1
RMM Mission Moment.....	1
Jeremy’s Jots.....	2
Area51	3
2017 Church Positions	3

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

CMC Pastor’s Conference - 13th
 Red Cross at MCA - 21st
 Area51 Fundraiser - 26th

MARCH

Ladies Day Out at MCA - 18th
 Area51 Fundraiser - 26th

APRIL

Easter Service - 16th
 Red Cross at MCA - 18th
 Craft Show at MCA - 22nd
 Area51 Fundraiser - 23rd

PASTOR’S PICK....

Looking for something to read?
 Check out Pastor Jeremy’s top pick.

Beautiful Outlaw
 by John Eldredge



Jeremy's Jots: Creativity and the Work of the Holy Spirit

by Jeremy Miller

We stood in the cold, shivering. Our cheeks were rosy pink as I worked to protect the kids from the wind gusts that whipped through the pavilion. In front of us sat several 300 lb square chunks of ice. We waited, and though our noses were beginning to drip, we didn't leave because we believed we were going to witness something awesome! At just the right moment, when my youngest daughter's patience was nearing cardiac arrest, a DJ grabbed a mic and announced to cheers that the time had come for the ice-carving contest to begin. Two burly men strolled forward and prepared their blocks of ice. After a raucous count down from the crowd, they began their work. After 20 minutes of

chainsaws, electric saws and a blowtorch, the contest was over and before us stood the clear winner, a beautiful butterfly. It was mesmerizing!

I was in 2nd grade when I learned that water could be found in three forms: water, ice, and steam. This is basic elementary school learning and after one internalizes this lesson, you think about water in standard ways. There is liquid for drinking and bathing, ice to preserve and cool stuff, and steam to cook and power things. That's basically it. What I didn't know until recently, is that people could take uninteresting blocks of ice and create astoundingly beautiful objects. It required creativity and risk, but in the



end, ice became more than just a preservative or something to cool your drinks.

It's easy to forget how the Holy Spirit creatively takes both ordinary and difficult situations and gives us a new way of looking at them.

Continued on page 4...

2017 Church Positions

Elder Board:

John Detweiler
Dave Mullet
Jim Neuenschwander
Steve Schlabach
Jeremy Miller
Keith Tennefoss

Trustee Board:

Jr. Miller
Loris Miller
Paul Troyer

Mission Board:

Jim (Janice) Miller
Phil Roberts
Kevin Hofstetter

Gifts Committee:

Jim & Kathy Mullet
Les & Iori Miller
Joe & Sherri Mullet

Director of Education:

In Process

Director of Evangelism & Local Outreach:

Larry Yoder

Director of Children's Ministry:

Keith Tennefoss

Director of Music:

Open

Church Council:

Mark George - Chairman
Rocky Neuenschwander - Vice Chairman
Iva Byler - Secretary

Everence Advocate:

Freeman Mullet

Treasurer:

Keith Tennefoss

Usher Leadership:

Mike Kline - Head Usher
Joe Mullet - Assistant Usher

Librarian:

Karen Coblentz

Cemetery Committee:

Vernon Miller
Jim Neuenschwander

Head Audio Technician:

Keith Tennefoss

Head Visual Technician:

Keith Tennefoss

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What's HAPPENING....



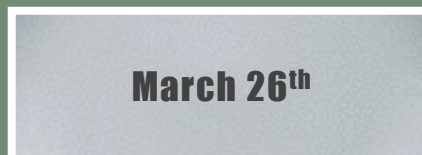
**Dare2Share in Chicago, IL
March 3-4, 2017**



**RMM in Columbus, OH
July 12-16, 2017**



2017 Fundraising Meals at MCA



You are invited to stay after church on these dates, enjoy lunch and support our youth group with a donation. Funds received will support the activities and mission trips of the Area 51 Youth Group.

Pray Without Ceasing by Cory Detweiler

In 1 Thessalonians 5:17 Paul says to “pray without ceasing” I’ve always wondered to myself, HOW?!

This quote by Charles Spurgeon, a popular 19th century preacher, helped me see it in a more manageable light. He said, “I always feel it well just to put a few words of prayer between everything I do.”

That sounds like something I can do!

Think about all of the empty space you have in your day.

Most of us, if we are honest, have several minutes each day that are empty. Think specifically about your drive to work/school. If you are like me the radio is probably yammering away. You kill the empty time with news, music, or some other noise. How about the time that you spend waiting on people, I know my tendency is to pull out my phone and kill the “empty time” by scrolling through social media, texts, or news. I’ve even been known to fill my tooth brushing time with some form of media, although I’ve mostly eliminated that.

What if we committed to being quiet in those empty spaces of time? And like Spurgeon, fill those quiet moments with short prayers.

Here is a small, but manageable challenge. What if for a week, we used our drive time to be quiet before God? What if while waiting for our next appointment we spent time praying about the things that are causing stress in our lives? So often we acknowledge the importance of prayer, but never make time to pray. We have time, little pockets of it all throughout the day; we just need to take it back from noise and distraction. Pray without ceasing. That means, pray while you drive, pray while walk, pray instead of checking social media, pray while you wait, just a few words.

When There Seemed to Be No Way...continued

Lit held the event and many people attended, even two of the village leaders. A few months later, Lit moved back to Bangkok to work. Soon after his move, his non believing sister became sick. After her family prayed for her, she was also healed and then she too believed! The family has all been baptized and continues to grow in their faith, even though they are the only believers in their village.

In Bangkok, Lit has joined fellow Lao seekers and believers that we are working with. It has been so exciting for us to see him grow and take leadership. God has given him a big heart for seeing needs and helping others. He is always willing to do anything asked of him. We believe that God has a plan for Lit and his family. We have seen how God is using Lit in powerful ways among the Southeast Asian community in Bangkok.

****Nixon and Rhonda are RMM Missionaries supported by MCA.**

Creativity and the Work of the Holy Spirit...continued

Suddenly, your annoying coworker becomes someone you begin praying for and caring about. Spirit inspired creativity allows our enemies to become human and loved rather than demonized and hated.

In a dog-eat-dog world, the Spirit's creativity inspired a business friend of mine to invite several of his smaller competitors to use his distribution channels, allowing all of them to sell their products at better prices. Realizing he has been given so much, he genuinely tries to find ways to help his competitors succeed. Holy Spirit creativity allows us to see what others cannot see, and it changes the way we experience the world. He takes plain old blocks of ice and creates beauty. When we find ourselves in situations that feel boring or even ugly, perhaps its time to ask God for some Holy Spirit inspired creativity.

2017 Church Positions continued... Women's Service Committee

Leadership:

Lori Hostetler - Chairman
Lois Mast - Vice Chairman

Members At Large:

Sarah Miller

Secretary:

Kelly Troyer

Hospitality Committee:

Alicia Hewitt
Ruth Ann Schlabach

Nursery Committee:

Tara Berkey
Brienne Froese

Food Committee:

Martha Schlabach
Stacey Long
Ruby Swartzentruber
Ruby Miller

Visitation Committee:

Shyann Galvan

Decorating Committee:

Renee Lemon
Heidi George
Mary Troyer
Lori Wenger

Titus 2 Ministry:

Marrissa Hofstetter
Cindy Mullet (Paul)
Ileen Troyer
Mary Miller (Wayne)

BOOST

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www.cmcrosedale.org/cmc/events/boost/

guest speaker:

Patrick McBane

