Mission Thailand 2012

When Angela Flippo and Susan Watson made a mission trip to Thailand in the spring of 2011, they found their lives changed in a profound way. Now, the two Williams Baptist College administrators are planning a return trip, and they are encouraging others to go with them.

Flippo and Watson are leading a trip in March, known as Mission Thailand 2012, which will be a joint endeavor between WBC and Walnut Ridge First Baptist Church.

Watson noted, "The stated mission of First Baptist Church is to ‘worship God, love people, and serve both.’ Williams Baptist College recognizes that higher learning has at its core a higher purpose. Both groups are supportive of each other and recognize that ongoing engagement and service are an integral part of connecting with the local community and the world."
"From our very first encounter with the gracious, generous Thai people to our last glimpse of the terraced, Thailand terrain, we desired to return and bring a group so others could benefit from seeing, feeling, tasting, touching and hearing the voice of cultural exchange while serving others," said Watson, who is dean of students at Williams.

The mission trip is scheduled for March 15-25, 2012. The group will work with Richard and Connie Cummins, who are missionaries in Thailand and former employees at WBC. Mrs. Cummins also operates an orphanage in the couple's home. Another thread connecting WBC and the Thailand mission is a WBC student. The Cummins' son, Timothy, is a sophomore at Williams.

"Susan and I had heard stories for years about the wonderful work of the Cummins', but it didn't sink in or become real to us until we finally visited them for the first time. I knew before I left Thailand that I had to go back and take others to see how God is using and working through the Cummins," noted Flippo, who is WBC's vice president for enrollment management.

Flippo added, "The orphanage that Connie has in her home is amazing in itself, and the way she has formed genuine relationships with the Thai people is indescribable. I was astonished by all the work that she could accomplish in one given day."

Right now the group of 31 WBC students and faculty and First Baptist church members are busy preparing for the trip. Among the duties the group will undertake are teaching English to child care workers and others in Thailand, working with children and doing needed maintenance at the orphanage. They will be in Chiang Mai, Thailand, a city with a population of around one million people. The team will also have a chance to tour the area and experience its culture.

**Campus Ministry Mission Opportunities**

During March, Campus Ministries and WBC students will be using their Spring Break to work locally by taking a group to Memphis, Tennessee, and help with Street Reach.
Street Reach is a ministry of Brinkley Heights Baptist Church, an inner city church which has a burden to reclaim their community for Christ. Eighteen years ago, this church began offering short term cross cultural mission experiences to Christian mission groups. These mission groups go to the Brinkley Heights area and work primarily with children and teens.

Our students will be going in March and will participate with other college students in Bible and Reading clubs, visiting nursing homes and helping with minor home repair and lawn service in the area. Street Reach will provide housing, meals and ministry materials. Every evening there will be a praise and worship time.

During the month of May, Campus Ministries will be flying to Trujillo, Peru for a mission trip sanctioned by the International Mission Board and affiliated with Tom Cox World Ministries (TCWM). TCWM’s main thrust is evangelism through preaching, teaching, music, backyard Bible clubs, drama, medical clinics, sports and Prayerwalking. Tom and Kay Cox are mission evangelists and have been in ministry since 1956. They have been working in Peru since 1996 and have re-opened the seminary in this country.

Eric W. Ramsey serves as president of Tom Cox World Ministries, leading ongoing evangelism and church planting work for the group. Eric’s son, Andrew, is a freshman at Williams Baptist College and will be going with the Campus Ministries group May 21-30.

The group will be staying in dormitories at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Trujillo. WBC Campus Ministry personnel will be working with seminary staff to help develop a Campus Ministries group on the seminary campus. The rest of the team will have the opportunity to work in medical clinics and children’s Bible clubs in areas where the missionaries are planting churches. The WBC team members will play games, teach songs, tell Bible stories and lead simple craft projects relating to the Bible Story. They will give their testimonies, sing and work with children. WBC will also be hosting a soccer camp for area children. Chris Williams, WBC sophomore soccer player, will be leading this event.
Important Dates

January 10 (Tuesday) ................................................................. Classes Begin
January 17 (Tuesday) ....................... Last Day for Registration and Adding Classes
February 27-March 02 (Monday-Friday)....................................................... Mid Term