HOEFLE-MAGAL



Joel Hoefle & Patricia Magal

THAILAND

LANGUAGES

Thai English

MINISTRY PRIORITIES

Peace and Justice, Training and Capacity Building

BIRTHDAYS

Joel 11/24 Trish 6/4





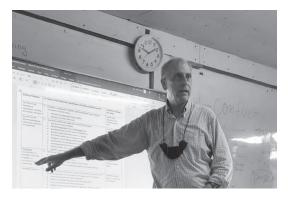


ABOUT

JOEL and TRISH are development workers serving in Thailand and Myanmar. They serve as associate global servants through Hope International, focusing primarily on supporting local peacebuilding efforts. Joel uses data and technology to help ethnic minorities advocate for ethnonational rights. Trish

applies a ministry of presence approach to encourage and support those they work alongside and who, oftentimes, are unable to live near their families.





Joel teaches a workshop on peacebuilding at a school for internally displaced people (IDPs).



MINISTRY STORY

Sometimes the most beautiful way we can show God's love is listening.

With the boom of instant gratification online and users being bombarded with mostly negative news, it seems easier to disconnect. How can I do anything to help when I am just me? Those in disadvantaged countries seeking recognition for the injustices in their communities often feel as if they are yelling into a void, or as if people just don't care.

It is easy to feel hopeless, but by being present and hearing each other's stories, we can feel a little less alone.

A year ago, a member of our community of mostly ethnic nationals from Myanmar came to me scared, looking for comfort and advice. Her brother and his wife were expecting twins but lost one baby in the womb. With a scarcity of medical resources due to the current civil war, there was little the doctors could do to help protect the life of the other baby or the life of the mother until delivery.

Travel dangers and restrictions make it difficult for our community to return home, even when their families face tragedy. All we can do is listen from afar and find comfort in recognizing each other's pain. My friend and I just held each other, unknowing that God would deliver their family a miracle—a beautiful, healthy baby boy. Through a ministry of presence, we remind ourselves we are not helpless. Listening is powerful because it helps us see we are not alone.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for peace in Myanmar.

Pray for safety, food and shelter for the growing numbers of internally displaced people (IDPs).

Pray for restoration and healing of the people of Myanmar.

SCRIPTURE

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy & peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Romans 15:13 (NIV)

