



Lauren Becker  
missionary to Thailand



Happy Thanksgiving  
and Merry Christmas!

November 4, 2009

# 'Tis the Season



I heard that Christmas displays are already up in American stores, and the holiday season is upon (and overtaking) us. I've seen "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" signs up in Thailand since I arrived, but they are the remainders of last year's celebrations that haven't come down. But while America is preoccupied with Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, Thailand celebrates another holiday—Loy Kratong.



Loy Kratong is a festival to honor the spirit of the river and ask its forgiveness for polluting it throughout the year. The festival is held every November, and involves releasing small floating lanterns down the river. People also release large lanterns into the air—sometimes thousands at once!—and set off fireworks. Check out my blog for more pictures!



lanterns in the sky



lantern for the river

## Students!

We love our students! English classes are going very well, and we have several new students for the October/November course. Some students come to the church's cell group on Wednesday night, and most stay for our Friday night parties. Please pray that God will open their hearts, they will ask questions, and we will have opportunities to share with them about Jesus!



### Praise and Prayer

**PRAISE GOD FOR** - both new and returning students at the TLC English Center; Scott and Julie Jackson who have come from Chicago to teach classes—and are doing a great job!!!

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** - opportunities to share about the hope of Jesus during this holiday season; me as I take the **Thai language proficiency exam** in Bangkok on Nov 29 (that's the 28th in America...) *please please pray!*; our team to have wisdom and creativity as we create English curriculum.

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