



From October 2-9, 2009 we will welcome the Rev. Leith Fujii to the Presbytery of Western New York.



[The Rev. Leith Fujii](#) I am serving as a partner to the Church of Christ in Thailand. I teach English and Evangelism at the Bangkok School of Theology and work with local congregations through the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. Recently I asked some students at the BST, “Who is a missionary?” I had prepared a number of photos for them to look over and choose from. Some were from the distant past, others from the PC(USA) website. They were both traditional and non-traditional missionary types. I even threw in a red herring: Teddy Roosevelt dressed in African safari garb. A few students even voted for him!

So, who is a missionary? I find that I must ask myself this question. In church circles it can be endearing to be called a missionary. But honestly, I often find myself chafing at the title. It has nothing to do with the work I’ve been called to do. In a similar way, I don’t like being called a “full-time minister.” These labels can distort an important truth: we are all called to be great co-missionaries! I, and the rest of our mission co-workers, aren’t uniquely called to obey Christ’s Great Commission. I may have been called to serve in this unique way but every Christian is rightly a great co-missionary and full-time minister.

No, I’m not so unique or special. I’ve simply been richly blessed to live and serve among some of the “warmest” (in terms of climate, chilies, and friendliness) people on earth. Khopkhun Phrajaow! (Thanks be to God!)

To read more about Leith and his family go to

www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/profiles/fujii.htm.

Both telling of the story and hearing the story is a ministry, so it is important to have your involvement.

Want to get involved?

- Plan an event. An event does not need to involve the whole church (could be a pizza party at someone's home, a breakfast with local pastors, a coffee klatch with some church members committed to world mission) We want to keep Leith busy telling his story and seeing the variety of churches in Western New York

What we need (what is involved):

- we need a local host to set up meetings
- provide food and housing
- provide local transportation, getting the missionary from your church to the next speaking location by driving Leith to the next location

For more information and to talk about hosting Leith, please call or e-mail Rev. Dr. Mary Lee Talbot, 716-961-8447 or MaryLeeT@pbywny.org.