



LAOS

day 16

France occupied Laos during and after World War II. During the first Indochina war between France and the Communist movement in Vietnam, an insurgency began to grow committed to the communist struggle against colonialism. Laos was not granted sovereignty until the French were defeated by the Vietnamese. In 1972, the Communist People's Party joined a new coalition government, and then in 1975, the king was dethroned, and the Communist Lao People's Democratic Republic was established. The new communist government took broad security measures and arrested or imprisoned many members of the previous government and military in "re-education camps." Laos continues to have a communist government limiting freedoms.

Between 1975 and 1983, 3,500 Laotians settled in Chicago as refugees, primarily in Uptown and Albany Park. Others settled in the suburbs of Elgin, Aurora, Rockford, and Joliet. Laotian immigrants have faced a difficult process of adjustment to life in Chicago. Many Laotians came from rural backgrounds, spoke little English, and had few transferable occupational skills. While a few Laotian businesses, particularly Lao grocery stores have been established, many Laotians have sought factory jobs that do not require English speaking skills. **Pray for Christian English teachers. Pray that many could find jobs among Christians. Pray for creative ways that the Gospel could be used to interface with this community that gathers primarily around holy days.**

In 2002, Brooklyn Covenant Church in Brooklyn Center, MN, did a Lao church plant in Chicago. The church is called Evangelical Covenant Church and is located at 5101 N Francisco Ave, Chicago, IL 60625.



FAQS

SIZE
Larger than Utah

POPULATION
6,521,998

CAPITAL
Vientiane

LANGUAGE
Lao

RELIGION
Buddhism

UPG'S
122

POP. IN CHICAGO
3,500

LOCATION
Albany Park, Aurora, Elgin, Joliet, Rockford, Uptown

VISIT
Cafe Lao
1007 W Argyle St
Chicago, IL
773-275-5092

JOHN 3:16

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

