

## Who are the Chin?

They are people who are not much different from our own ancestors. They are strange to us because we can't communicate with them well if at all. Have you considered how strange we are to them? The Chin are a peace loving people who have found freedom in a new country.

Thousands of Chin have escaped the persecution and death that was their fate in Burma or as it is now known as the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The Asian country shares borders with Thailand, Bangladesh, India, and China. The Burmese Military Junta has been asked to respect just the basic human rights but to no avail. The Chin are generally from the West side of Burma, actually from the State of Chin and have an agricultural background.

We want to welcome the Chin and others from the Burmese area to Indianapolis and especially to Hill Valley. Most of the Chin population is Christian with a minority still worshipping Buddha. My church home is Friedens UCC and it has just celebrated 100 years in existence. The original name was Deutches Evangelische Friedens Kirche and the original sermons were in German. Is there a difference between us and the Chin?