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LIVING FIELD

2026
Jan**Suosdai!**
(Hello)

Praise be to the name of the Lord. We were sent out by the Japan Baptist Convention in 2015 and served as missionaries in Cambodia for eight years until March 2023. In April 2023, we were invited by the Cambodian Baptist Union (CBU), and we were led to continue our missionary work in Cambodia.

In January 2024, the supporting group "Living Field" was established. Also, in August 2025, we have joined the Korean missionary organization "WUPM." Guided by the Lord's Word and direction, we continue our work in the mission field.

What is new?

Happy New Year. Thanks to your prayers and support, we have been able to celebrate our 11th New Year in Cambodia, and we are deeply grateful. In this new year, we pray that the risen Lord will walk with each of you daily in your places.

In December, military clashes erupted again near the Thai-Cambodian border. Throughout Phnom Penh, tents have been set up in various locations to collect relief supplies for displaced people. In late December, Cambodian soldiers held captive were released, and efforts toward a ceasefire have resumed. Please pray earnestly for a complete ceasefire to be achieved as soon as possible, and for the jobs and livelihoods of those displaced to be protected.



Ms. Mapui interacting with children at Sunday school (top right)



At the final Sunday worship service of 2025 the Christmas service, the children who presented the Nativity play

New encounter

Following previous years, Horaios Baptist Church hosted a children's event in October. Over 150 children participated in this event, where we were given the chance to meet a missionary who had been in Cambodia for six months. She, Mapui, had been praying and desiring to help with Sunday school at our Church. She has been participating in Sunday school and worship services since November. As Mapui still cannot speak much Khmer, she is learning Khmer from church members after worship services. We thank God for sending Mapui. Please remember her language study and ministry in your prayers.

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43:19

Walking alongside difficulty

In the early hours of a Saturday in late November, a major fire broke out in the village where the children who gather at our church live. Nine houses were completely destroyed, leaving 14 families homeless. Among them were families of children from our church.

The following day, we visited the site to see the situation. There, families who had lost everything—their homes and possessions—in an instant, evacuating with only the clothes on their backs, stood gathered together, standing still. The sight of them, overwhelmed by the suddenness of it all, lost in deep sorrow and shock, was heartbreakingly.



Food were delivered to the families affected by the disaster, and Pastor Nivath offered prayers.



Near the origin of the fire in the settlement.
Only the pillars remained of the house

In response to this severe situation, the CBU Office Church decided to first provide food assistance, the “necessities for today.” Since CBU regularly distributes food in rural areas, we were able to quickly prepare the necessary food supplies and deliver them to the affected families. Pastor Nivath of CBU offered prayers for each individual. Currently, a fund for rebuilding homes is being established under the leadership of the village chief. Our church will continue standing alongside the families. For those wishing to contribute, we would be grateful if you could deposit funds into the Rakuten Bank account listed at the end, specifying “House Rebuilding Fund” in the transfer description.

Bearing Fruit in the province

On Sunday, December 21st, we visited Rev. Muphon's home in Prey Veng Province, about a two-hour drive from Phnom Penh, for the first time in three months. This October, with support from a church in Japan, a roof was completed on the grounds of her home, providing a place to hold worship services as a “house church.” That small step is now beginning to bear fruit.



A boy reading from the Bible.
Under Rev. Muphon's guidance,
he's become able to read smoothly.

Watching the children listen intently to the Bible stories during the Christmas picture-story show, we felt the Gospel truly reaching their hearts, and our gratitude to the Lord overflowed. Through your prayers and support, this house church is beginning to be used as a place of living worship. We hope to continue visiting provinces regularly, bringing the Gospel and the blessings received from the Lord.



(Left) The roof is now complete, allowing worship services to be held.



(Right) Children holding their finished crafts.

Every Sunday, local residents and children gather for worship. On this day, we celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ together with the children. The children who attend weekly now naturally sing hymns and read the Bible without hesitation. We could clearly feel that the support was taking specific form and bringing about change.



Children listening intently to the Christmas picture-story show

CBU Office Church

Christmas Worship Service

On Sunday, December 28th, the last Sunday of 2025, a Christmas worship service was held at the CBU Office Church. As in previous years, we presented a Nativity play together with the children and youth. The children playing the roles of angels, Mary and Joseph, shepherds and sheep, and the Wise Men had memorized their lines more clearly than ever before and performed their parts with great vitality. Among them, the boy who played the Wise Man for four years in a row performed with great confidence, watched over by his mother who had come as a guest.



Christmas service scene. Around 80 people attended. Many reunions took place.



The boy (right) who played the wise man again this year.

Additionally, there was an unexpected incident where one of the core members of the music team was unable to attend due to illness on the day. However, the Lord provided a replacement member, and despite having only a short time to practice before the performance, everyone came together in harmony and joy to perform the handbell music. We give thanks for the Lord's help.

On this day, several families who had been absent from worship for some time attended the service. Among them, a young man who had been away from church since the COVID crisis returned to worship, making it a Christmas service overflowing with the joy of reunion. We praise the name of the Lord.

Introducing New Products: “Thread of Hope”

We sincerely thank you for always praying for the work of the ministry for supporting Cambodian Women “Thread of Hope.” Until now, we have primarily created products focused on macramé plant hangers. During this time, we have received many opinions and advice from many people regarding new macramé products, nurturing ideas.

Since returning to Cambodia from Japan in August, we have worked on developing new products through trial and error with Khema, Sreymom, and our new member Sokeng. With the Lord's help, we have been able to create three new types of products. Below, we introduce these new works.



(Left) Macramé Crossbody Bag
(Center) Macramé Net Bag
(Right) Macramé Coaster



Khema (left), Sreymom (center), and Sokeng (right) working on developing new pieces,

(1) Macramé Crossbody Bag

A small pouch featuring Cambodian flowers as an accent. Perfect for quick outings, it holds your phone and wallet. The floral pattern softly glows when caught in light.

(2) Macramé Net Bag

A shoulder bag woven with geometric patterns. Includes an inner pouch for safely storing small items and A4 notebooks. Ideal for work or school.

(3) Macramé Coaster

This is the first coaster woven by our new member, Sokeng. Soft colors were added to both ends. It carries the wish that “the user feels a moment of comfort and happiness.”

We pray these new pieces reach as many people as possible, expanding the circle of support and prayers for these women.

Kross and Ace's School Life

Kross and Ace attend Hope International School in Phnom Penh. As a high school sophomore, Kross's curriculum includes volunteer service activities. Examples include coaching sports clubs for younger students or playing instruments during school worship services. Kross has been volunteering at the CBU Office Church, teaching English to children. He prepares slides for each session and incorporates word quizzes, creatively leading the English classes. The children seem to enjoy learning with this older brother-like teacher who is close to their age every time.



English Class Activities

They're having fun using slides.

Ace, a third-year middle school student, began soccer club activities in November. Hope School focuses on three sports—soccer, basketball, and volleyball—throughout the year. Now in the highest grade within the Middle School division, Ace diligently practices soccer, his strongest sport, every week. A practice match was held ahead of an upcoming tournament among international schools within Phnom Penh. Hope School secured a victory right from the first match, and as the final-year students, the team's unity seems to be growing stronger. We sincerely thank God that both Kross and Ace's school life is being blessed in both academics and sports.



A scene from a soccer practice match
Ace (No. 16) attempts a shoot

To continue His mission work —Regarding financial needs—

We sincerely thank you for always remembering and praying for our mission work in Cambodia. Our ministry is sustained by each of your prayers and support, enabling the Gospel to be steadily shared in this place.

Currently, as we continue our missionary work, securing financial resources has become an urgent challenge. To keep sharing God's love here and to walk alongside as many people as possible, we need your financial support. We pray in faith that the necessary provisions will be given so we can continue our walk in Cambodia without stopping. We would be grateful if you would remember this need in your prayers.



**We are always grateful for your
prayers and support.**
Please pray for the ongoing mission work.

<Prayer requests>

1. For the children and youth of the CBU office church to grow further by the grace of the Lord.
2. For the community near Killingfield and the church area will be transformed by the gospel.
3. May the new products from the "Thread of Hope" reach many people.
4. May all the financial needs be met, with new churches be raised up to join the mission in Cambodia.

Kazuyuki and Kaoru Shimada (WUPM missionaries) Kross (17 years old) and Ace (13 years old)

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(Donations should be transferred to)

Rakuten Bank, Noel Branch (Branch No. 246)
Account No. 1081064 Kazuyuki Shimada

