



**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?

Thank you all for your ongoing prayers and support. While Cambodia enjoyed cool, pleasant weather throughout December and January, it has become rapidly hotter since mid-February. Now that we've entered March, with the blazing sun and afternoon downpours, it already feels like the rainy season.

Tensions near the border between Thailand and Cambodia continue to run high. A "boycott movement" against purchasing Thai products is also ongoing. Every week at church, we join together in prayer that the conflict will be resolved as soon as possible. In addition, we are deeply saddened as we follow the daily news of the military conflict that broke out in Iran at the end of February. We pray that, through the Lord's intervention, the wars taking place around the world will cease and that peace will come.



**CBU Office Church, Sunday School
Children joining in prayer**



A long line of children formed for the most popular raffle.

Children's Market "Tee Phsa"

On a Sunday in February, we held the "Tee Phsa" Children's Market for the first time in a while. This is a festive, fun event we host once every few months. This time, we set up bingo, a ball-toss game, a shooting gallery, bowling, and two types of raffles. The children use stamps they've collected for attending Sunday school and memorizing Bible verses to play the games. It was truly heartwarming to see them happily lining up with the stamps they had diligently collected week after week. The raffle was especially popular.

**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

The prizes included stationery and toys donated by churches in Japan and Phnom Penh. These gifts brought great joy and encouragement to the children. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed.

Every week, the children work hard to memorize Bible verses and hymns. Through their efforts, we are reminded once again that these small, daily efforts are never in vain. We have renewed a commitment to faithfully continue walking with the Lord, even if visible results do not appear immediately. We give thanks to the Lord for everything.



The children who joined the children's market all received prizes and looked very happy.

Update on the Community

Here is an update on the large-scale fire that occurred in the community near the church. In January, only the pillars remained on the site where the houses had been completely destroyed, and the burned sections of the houses were covered with plastic sheeting. Then in February, a new house had been built on the site. The residents told us that with support from a Turkey-based NGO, the reconstruction of homes has begun, and all nine homes that were lost will likely be rebuilt in sequence.

To date, several people have made offerings for the reconstruction. We would like to express our gratitude here. We will continue to observe the situation on the site and pray about how best to use these offerings for the benefit of the community.



A simple hut built on the site of a fire, and a metal-roofed house built by an NGO

A Gift for Ogura School

In January, We once again visited Ogura Elementary School, a public school located about a 10-minute walk from the church. The school's name, "Ogura," comes from a Japanese man who once supported the construction of the school building. While there are many schools in Cambodia built with support from Japanese individuals and NGOs, it is rare for a Japanese name to be preserved in a school's name.

Currently, about 2,000 children from first through sixth grade attend the school, including many who also come to our church. Classes are divided into morning and afternoon sessions, with the morning session for upper-grade students and the afternoon session for lower-grade students.



**Students running up to us
There were also children attending the church.**



**The entrance to Ogura Elementary School.
It's just a short walk from Killing Field.**

The principal told us that there are currently 23 teachers, which is an increase from last year. As we walked over to tour the new building, children came running up to us one after another. Some attend church, while others used to attend; they were all full of energy and greeted us with big smiles.

In the future, we'll be able to engage in cultural exchange with the children at this school through music and Japanese language lessons, together with the mission team from Japan. Of course, this is nothing less than building a foundation for sharing the Gospel. This time, amidst the children's smiles, we felt the Lord's guidance more strongly than ever.

In early March, we delivered donations from Japan to the school. Rev. Tomoko Miyake of Aoba Christ Church (Aoba Ward, Yokohama City) volunteers at the nearby "Satsukigaoka Elementary School", and as part of her volunteer work, she asked the students and their parents to donate items. She sent two large cardboard boxes packed full of stationery, clothing, and household goods from Japan, which we were able to deliver to the school this time. The principal was very pleased. We pray that we can continue this ministry of delivering donations from Japan in response to local needs, such as by having the mission team transport them.



(Left) Handing over the gift to the principal
(Right) Satsukigaoka Elementary School



At "Thread of Hope." Rev. Ito (right)
Khema (center), Sreymom (left)

During the stay, he joined the work of "Thread of Hope," an ministry supporting Cambodian women, and visited the community near the Killing Fields. He also delivered messages at Sunday school and the Sunday worship service at the Office Church. Furthermore, he was able to visit Pastor Mutpong's church in Prey Veng Province.

Each mission field faces its own unique difficulties, challenges, and needs. Likewise, every missionary has different challenges and needs. This time, we were given a precious opportunity to share these openly with Rev. Ito as he observed the field firsthand. As we prayed together, we received great encouragement and comfort. We are deeply grateful that the Lord sent Rev. Ito to us.

Visit by Rev. Ito of WUPM Japan

In late February, Rev. Hitoshi Ito, Director of WUPM (World Unreached People Missions) Japan, visited Cambodia. In the summer of 2023, through the Lord's miraculous guidance, we were blessed with the opportunity to meet Rev. Ito. Since then, he has consistently supported our mission work in Cambodia, including introducing us to churches he knows so we can share our mission reports in Japan. Following our official membership in WUPM last August, he visited Phnom Penh this time to observe our mission field and provide supports.



Prey Veng Province (a two-hour drive east of Phnom Penh) At Pastor Mutpong's church



(Left) Samples of a cell phone strap in development
(Right) We now have two display cabinets

"Thread of Hope" Update

Here is an update on "Threads of Hope." We are selling the finished macramé products at "Jars of Clay," a Christian-run café in Phnom Penh. In February, thanks to the kindness of the café manager, we were able to add one more display cabinet, allowing us to sell more products across two cabinets. We are grateful for the Lord's guidance.

Currently, we are focusing our efforts on cell phone straps. Both in Japan and Cambodia, we are seeing more women than ever before using smartphone straps of various lengths. We are in the process of developing simple straps that showcase the beauty of macramé, through a process of trial and error. We would appreciate your prayers.

Kurosu and Eisu's School Life

Kurosu and Eisu attend Hope International School, a mission-based international school located in Phnom Penh. In February, they participated in a major sports championship. It was a tournament-style competition involving around ten international schools in Phnom Penh. In Cambodia, opportunities for junior and senior high school students to participate in large-scale sports competitions are quite limited, not only in public schools but also in international schools. This tournament is the largest one in which Hope School can participate. In the high school division, where Kurosu competes, the event was basketball. The Hope School team advanced smoothly through the rounds and reached the semifinals.



**High School Division, Semifinals.
Kurosu takes a jump shot.**

The semifinal was a close match, and although they ended up in third place, everyone celebrated the result, which was a testament to the team's unity. Meanwhile, in the middle school division, football matches were held, and the team Eisu belongs to also advanced to the final four. But just like Kurosu's high school team, they finished in third place. After the awards ceremony, everyone celebrated the team's strong performance by lifting captain Eisu into the air.

We can imagine both of them felt a sense of frustration at missing out on the championship. However, seeing they congratulating each other with their teammates after the match, we truly feel that God is helping them grow through sports.



Eisu, who received the bronze medal for third place, is lifted into the air by his teammates

Supported by Prayer

For Temporary Return to Japan

Thanks to your prayers and support, and above all, the Lord's blessings, our daily lives and missionary work have been sustained up to this point. We are deeply grateful for your precious support.

We plan to return to Japan temporarily from June through July this year. During our visit, we hope to have the opportunity to meet with more churches and individuals to share the blessings of our mission work in Cambodia. We would appreciate your continued prayers that the Lord will provide for all our needs during this temporary return.

Trusting in the risen Lord who goes before us, we desire to continue serving faithfully in our mission work here.



**We are always grateful for your prayers.
Please pray for us as we prepare for our temporary return to Japan.**

<Prayer requests>

1. For our plans for a temporary return to Japan in June and July be guided by the Lord.
2. For the mission work in the field be blessed and continue to bear fruit in the Lord.
3. For the children and youth of the CBU office church to grow further by the grace of the Lord.
4. May a foundation be laid for sharing the Gospel in the Ogura Elementary School.
5. May the new products from the "Thread of Hope" reach many people.

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

(contact)E-mail : dekakurosu3927@gmail.com

Website : <https://living-field.org/>

(Donations should be transferred to)

Rakuten Bank, Noel Branch (Branch No. 246)

Account No. 1081064 Kazuyuki Shimada

