Newsletter from Cambodia

17

LIVING FIELD

2026 OCT



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 everyone for your warm prayers and support.The rainy season in Cambodia continues until mid-November. We had more rain than usual this year, with squalls almost every day in October. It often rained continuously from the morning, making it a tough season for outdoor workers like market vendors and tuk-tuk drivers. Due to more mosquitoes, cases of illnesses such as dengue fever also increased. Fortunately, we have stayed in good health, truly feeling God’s protection and the support of your prayers.Below are our updates mainly from September and October.



Children leaders at the October children's event



Mothers watching over the birthday celebration

A new thing is happening here -CBU Office Church-

At CBU Office Church, we hold a birthday celebration on the fourth Sunday of every month. On the last Sunday of August, when we walked into the church, we saw a scene we had never seen before. We noticed many adults sitting and waiting alongside the children. They were the children's parents and grandparents. During the celebration, we were deeply impressed by mothers happily taking photos of their children being celebrated. While our usual Sunday service has around 20 to 30 people, we had more than 50 people attending on this day. Except for special days like Christmas, we have rarely seen such a large gathering before.

"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 theme of the message at this service was "The Name of the Lord." The name "Jesus" means "God saves." God sent Jesus into this world to save us from sin. This is the very heart of the gospel we want to share. On this day, God led a record number of parents from the poor community near the church to us. The gospel was delivered to the hearts of everyone who gathered.

After the service, Pastor Nivath handed out rice to the community members. It may be a small blessing, but it is a real sharing of God's grace. Our church values this kind of sharing.



Sunday service
More than 50 people attended on this day.



Rice was shared with mothers and women from the community by President Nivath (right).

In this community, a big fire occurred last November, and nine houses were destroyed. Although a few houses have already been rebuilt, many families are still in the process of rebuilding. Both the children and their families live with many daily hardships. That is why we hope those who visited our church for the first time on this day will stay connected with this place. Above all, we cannot help but pray that they will know the sure hope in Jesus Christ and walk toward a new future filled with that hope.

The Bible says, "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up" (Isaiah 43:19). A new thing has already begun in this land.

Worship together
-Visit to Preyveng Province-

In September and October, we visited the home of Pastor Mutpong in Prey Veng Province, which is about a two-hour drive from Phnom Penh. It has already been a year since our first visit in September last year. Although we have been visiting regularly with our mission team, starting this September, we were guided to visit on the first Sunday of every month to worship together. During our September visit, more children gathered than usual. The children praised God with great energy and recited verses from Psalms one by one.



House church at Pastor Mutpong's home
She is leading the worship service.



Children picking memory verse cards from the box

This time, we gave memory verse cards to the children. The Bible verses were the ones we learned at CBU Office Church Sunday School, such as Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth," and 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances." With Pastor Mutpong's idea, we set up a fun system where the children draw a card from a box like a lottery, and those who memorize their verse by the following week receive a reward. The children happily showed their cards to each other and worked hard on memorizing them.

During our October visit, we were blessed with adult participants in addition to the children. Most of the children had memorized their Bible verses using the memory verse cards given to them last month. On this day, we shared the parable of the sower from Mark 4 with the children using visual aids. Pastor Mutpong helped explain the parts that we could not fully express in Khmer. She spoke with great conviction, and both adults and children listened intently to his message. Every time we talk with Pastor Mutpong, we are truly encouraged by her pure faith in God and her dedication to the ministry entrusted to her.



Children enjoying instant noodles after the service



Pastor Mutpong (left) with two local women who always assist her.

A small encounter that began with a single visit has gradually connected us, nurtured our relationships, and now we are worshipping together like this. It was not through our own planning that we reached this point, but we truly feel that God has used each encounter, opened the doors, and guided us every step of the way. What God does always beyond our imagination. That is why we are filled with expectation for what He is about to do in this place. Please continue to pray that our mission in this land will be guided according to His will.

Offering from the Heart -Children's Event-

On Saturday, October 3, the 4th annual children's evangelism event was held in the outskirts of Phnom Penh. It was hosted by Horaios Baptist Church, where missionaries from Mizoram, India serve and provide support. Over 100 children from more than seven churches across Phnom Penh and rural areas gathered together. The theme scripture was 1 Thessalonians 5:16–17, "Rejoice always, pray continually."



Children's evangelism event
More than 100 children were led to join us again this year.



Special praise song, "Khnyom Sabay" (I Am Happy)
Seven Children leaders

The children leaders of our CBU Office Church presented a special praise song, "Khnyom Sabay" (I Am Happy), with handbells and dance. As they do during our weekly Sunday services, the leaders praised the Lord with all their hearts, full of energy and joy.

During the event, there were also a few unexpected opportunities. We were suddenly asked to help with emceeing, musical accompaniment (cajón), and leading games. Khema served as the emcee, while two young adults from our church handled the music and games. Just as they faithfully serve in me our church every week, they joyfully offered their talents for these roles.

Jesus says, "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much" (Luke 16:10). Our youth leaders and church members always serve and praise God with faithfulness. Seeing their hearts, God surely provided them with this wonderful, expanded opportunity to serve. Through it, they surely experienced the true joy of serving.

In Christ, we can always rejoice and always pray. We can offer our praises and service with joy. We received so many graces and blessings from the Lord through this event. We are deeply grateful to everyone at Horaios Baptist Church for hosting, and above all, to God who guided everything step by step.



Members of CBU church served as emcee and musician



(Right) Khema and Sreymom hard at work
(Left) New product: macramé hanging pot

"Threads of Hope" -A New Step Ahead-

Here is an update on "Threads of Hope," our ministry supporting women through macramé crafting. We have been praying continuously for a long time that God would send us a new woman to join us—specifically, someone who wants to work but is unable to due to her circumstances. Finally, that prayer has been answered. This new woman, Sreyoun, lives in a village a little far from our church and comes to Sunday worship riding on the back of her son's motorcycle. It all started in a poor community near the church.

Sreyoun heard about our Church from a friend living in that community, She had come to believe in Jesus several years ago while living in a rural area. After moving to Phnom Penh,she looked for a church, but could not find one near her house. Then, through the local community, she began attending our worship services.

When Khema introduced the "Threads of Hope" ministry to her, Sreyoun was initially hesitant, asking, "I'd love to try, but I wonder if I can really do it..." Khema encouraged her gently, saying, "Don't worry, it will be okay." Her reassuring words gave Sreyoun the confidence to step forward. Sreyoun currently does not have a job, and her children support her daily living expenses.



Sreyoun working on basic knots for her first macramé
Khema showing her how



Together, we read aloud the purpose and theme verse of "Threads of Hope"

Last Sunday, Khema began teaching her the basic knots. Sreyoun listened attentively while working with her hands, mastering the basic skills step by step. Later, during our time of fellowship, she shared, "I thank God for leading me to this church and to 'Threads of Hope.'"

Under the Lord's guidance, various changes are taking place in the ministry. Rather than gathering only once a week on Wednesdays, we have been led to meet after Sunday worship as well, so Khema can teach skills to the new women. God has also guided the development of new products.Please pray for Sreyoun,as well as for the women whom the Lord will lead to us in the days ahead.

School Life of Kross and Ace

Kross and Ace are studying at HOPE International School in Phnom Penh. This August, Kross advanced to 12th grade, and Ace to 9th grade. Entering his final year of high school, Kross is now in the final stage of his two-year international curriculum. In addition to daily lesson prep and review, he stays extremely busy with his graduation essay and other assignments. Recently, through his marketing activities for "Threads of Hope"—which he does as part of his volunteer assignment—he experienced the joy of seeing our products sold for the first time at a store he had reached out to independently.



Kross displaying "Threads of Hope" products on the lower shelf at a newly partnered store.





At the naturally rich Kirirom National Park camp

Meanwhile, Ace has begun a new two-year curriculum. With an increased number of elective courses, his days have become much busier with study than last year. In October, the annual school camp took place. Ace's grade visited Kirirom National Park, located about a two-hour drive from Phnom Penh, for a four-day, three-night trip. It is a plateau resort area rich in nature, much like Karuizawa in Japan. In this refreshing environment, he enjoyed activities like trekking together with close classmates.

We are truly thankful to the Lord for how He has sustained Kross and Ace in their studies up to now. We would appreciate your continued prayers for their school life, especially for Kross as he prepares for his upcoming university applications.

Thy Will Be Done — Trusting in the Lord Who Provides —

Through your prayers, the Lord has faithfully supported our mission work and daily lives, filling every need. We sincerely thank you for your prayers and praise the Lord who provides all things. As our network of prayer and support has gradually expanded, our minitry and living needs by the end of this year are expected to be fully met.

Please continue to pray that the Lord will raise up new supporters and churches for our mission work and daily living starting next January. It would also be a great help if you could invite us to preach online via YouTube or to present mission updates. Please feel free to reach out to us by email or Facebook.



We sincerely thank you for your prayers and support. Please continue to pray that new supporters will be raised up.

<Prayer Request>

1. That we may always serve God's mission faithfully with prayer and thanksgiving.
2. That the children and youth of CBU Office Church may grow further in the Lord's grace.
3. For the Lord's blessing and guidance upon the worship and ministry at Pastor Mutpong's home.
4. For the ministry "Threads of Hope"—that the Lord will guide each new woman who joins us.
5. That we may always look to and trust in the Lord, who provides for all our needs.

Kazuyuki & Kaoru Shimada (WUPM Missionaries), Kross (17), Ace (14)

(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