



The Khmer Chronicle

The Cambodian Ministry Newsletter
for Immanuel Lutheran Church, Snor Village
Siem Reap Province, Cambodia
Spring /Summer2023
(hot humid rainy season here in Snor)
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Immanuel Lutheran Church
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What is time? Time can have many measurement values. Google simply says that time is **the measured or measurable period during which an action, process, or condition exists or continues**. Time is an important word in any culture, as it defines so much of our lives. It is personal for each of us.

Yet, God is timeless in the sense of being outside time altogether. He exists, but but not at any point. I like that.

In the lessons over the last weeks in church, we've traveled through the time of Jesus. We have traveled through His ministry, through Passion week, Easter, Epiphany, into Ascension, and now Pentecost.

In each phase we have learned so much about how God the Father and God the Son have shaped our time, and how the Holy Spirit in this day can also define and do the same. The kids have been listening closely.

We have frequently talked about our witness bracelets, wearing them and sharing them about Jesus. When we saw the older girls raise their hand to show that they continue to wear them two Sundays ago, our hearts were melted.

We have talked about balloons. Balloons in themselves are of no value, and yet when they have air in them, they can play an important roll in activities in our lives, tossing them in the air, using them as decorations, or even in a game or

party time of fun and glee.

But, if we take and think of ourselves as a ballon and are flat like a balloon, nothing exists from that point. What value do we have here on this earth?

And yet, if air is pumped into us, we become a whole new being. Like Holy Spirit air! This air gives us the privilege, the choice, and the energy to share Jesus to the world. Are you a balloon? Let's toss those inflated balloons for our Jesus. Pentecost time!

There is time for everything under heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:11



And from this point, let us continue with an update on the farm and this ministry over these past weeks. Being almost to the end of May, we here are in the hot humid, steamy most days, season time. Folks go about their days as best possible. They are already eagerly preparing for the rainy season, as that's the time of planting,

of nurturing the ground to give them a healthy crop of rice for another year, to provide feed for their animals, food for themselves, and maybe earn an income.

It takes time to build a farm from the ground up (no pun intended). But that is about how it is going these days. A common phrase off times that one may hear is 'one by one.' It just means here that it is one brick, then another, one bag of cement used, then another. Almost all of this land preparation project is done by hand, by so many hands. And it takes 'time' to get things to completion.

I dream of the day when I can look out and see the morning glory growing(edible), the little eggplants, the cucumbers, the duckweed, fruit trees, the pigs, the chickens, maybe fish, or ducks all out there doing their own thing. It is all going to take time. In 5-8 years to see the hard work and the fruits of all of that labor. The garden will be green, full, and happy. The animals will be content. It will all take time.



This poem was crosstitched by my mother. Each child and grandchild received one in her lifetime. The date on them 1989. She knew the importance of 'time.'

Travel along in photos... far better than words in this case. First, the land purchase and building.



Parcel of land from brick wall to here.



Walls are up.



Finished wall



Pig Sty/Chicken house



Enclosed property garden in back, animals in front.



Creating a walkway between church back and farmland.

Final land purchase was on February 23, 2023.

Land construction was started a month later after materials were secured and delivered.

This week is construction of the pig and chicken houses, doors, and a walkway from the back of the church onto the property without having to use any other outside access.

There have been delays and weather adjustments along this journey, which was expected.

Sanitation Update

As of this newsletter, there has been one completed sanitation project that included a double walled dual holding tanks plus a room housing a fresh water holding tank

and toilet. Nearby, outside, is a working well as a water source.



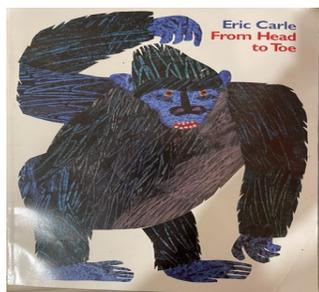
Visiting this family at the completion of the pray with them.

English in Action

Pastor Ravy and I continue to teach these eager learners of English. This photo shows an active engaging response to Eric Carle's book 'From Head to Toe.' I consider it a privilege to be a part of this ministry with Ravy. He also does Lutheran Hour ministry radio broadcasting in the province, with what I understand is a growing audience.



These younger learners are polishing their singing skills, currently learning "The Wheels on the Bus," "The Itsy Bitsy Spider" and "Humpty Dumpty."



There is also a second group of older students who are faithful in coming after dark and the first class.

There are about 35 kiddos this term total.

And photos of Sundays. Each week our numbers are growing in church. Such a blessing. We have expanded our post service activities to incorporate things that they all can do. Memory game, puzzles, Uno, word games, and chalk drawing. Many of these activities are also used in English class.





Knee Thoughts

Praise and prayers for the farm development.

Prayers for Pastor's touring business to prosper as the tourists arrive.

Praise and prayers for sharing His love to the nations in our midst.

Prayers for the journey ahead with many spinning plates of service.

Thank you so much !

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