

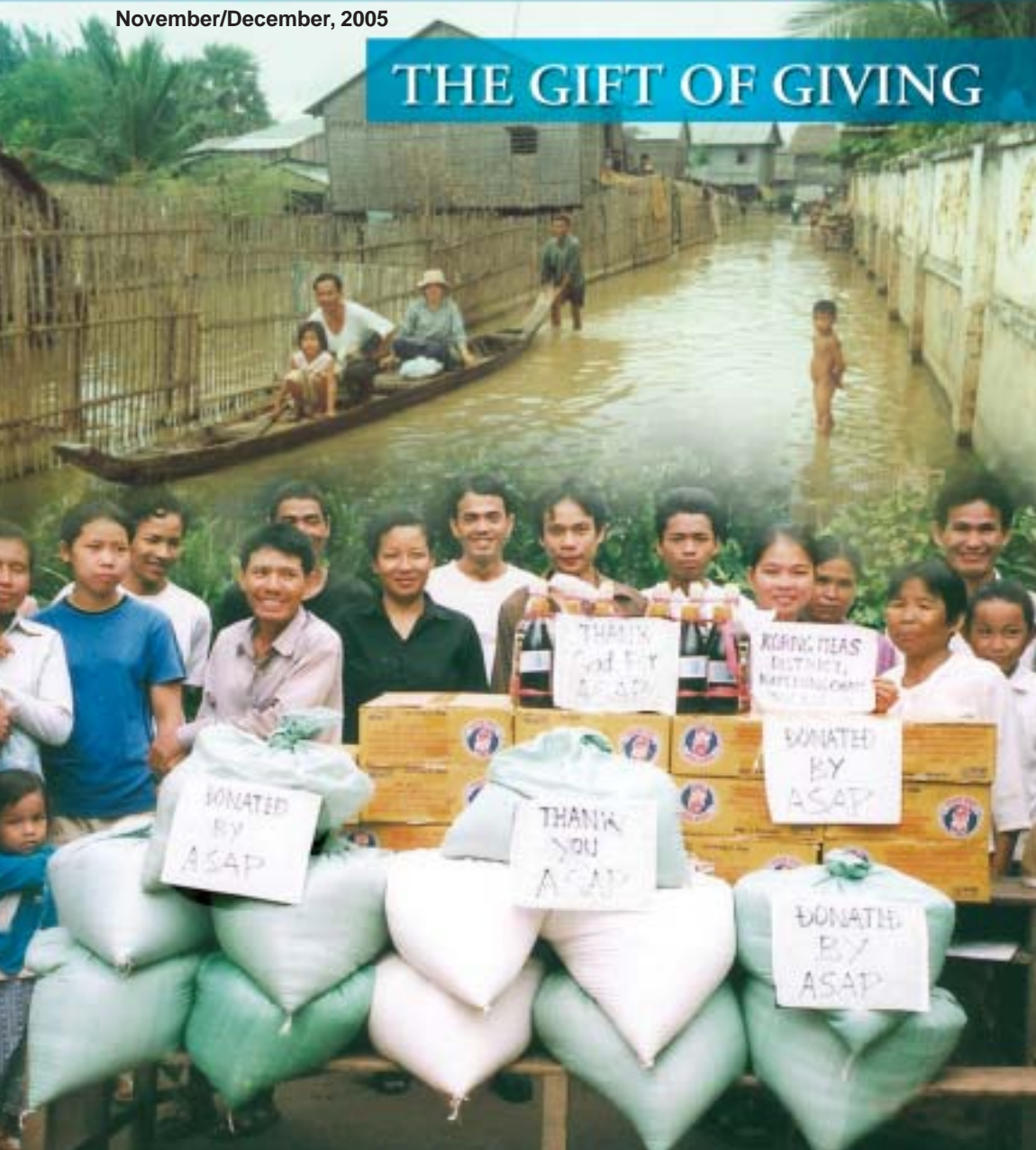


ASAP

ADVENTIST SOUTHEAST ASIA PROJECTS

November/December, 2005

THE GIFT OF GIVING





Cover: (Top) About 70 percent of all Cambodia's rice paddies were damaged by flooding or drought this year. (Bottom) Cambodian church members smile in relief as they receive the gift of rice and emergency food from ASAP donors. Check out the details on page 13.

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Adventist Southeast Asia Project's purpose is to support the preaching of the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ through church planting and evangelism endeavors for Southeast Asian people throughout the world. As a privately funded, nonprofit organization we work as a supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. As an unaffiliated, independent ministry, we are dependent upon God to move people to support this work.

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We would love to hear from you. (Tax-deductible contributions may be sent with the enclosed envelope.)




EDITOR'S UPDATE

by Judy Aitken

*Then the angel said to them,
“Do not be afraid, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy
which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the
city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:10 NKJV).*

Don't you just love holiday songs? Nothing compares to carols that rejoice and give thanks for the wonderful gift of Jesus Christ that God gave to the world. During this festive time of year we are truly fortunate to have a reason to sing and celebrate. We often think of the holidays as a time of giving. It is also a time when we, as Christians, can give thanks for the greatest gift that was ever given to this world—Jesus Christ, the only begotten son of God. Think about it! **This gift is tops in terms of the best gift of all time!** It was given from a heart of love for mankind. God gave up His Son to live in this world as “the way, the truth and the life”—now that is some gift!

One of the most exciting aspects of the gift of Jesus is found in His name: “And you shall call His name Jesus for He will save His people from their sins” (Matt 1:21). He came to not only give the promise of everlasting life in heaven, but to give His Spirit that transforms the life of the believer, bringing them hope, joy, love and peace.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for giving to others the most precious gift of all—Jesus. As you wrap gifts this holiday season, I hope our gratitude comes to mind—because we truly thank you for giving Jesus to those who don't know Him. While **your donations may not come with a bow on top, what each penny represents is brighter and bigger than any package imaginable.** The results of your donations for all of South-east Asia for Bibles, Bible lessons, radios, wells, church planters, transportation, literacy teachers, churches, pastors, lay Bible workers, and rice are more amazing than anything that has ever been wrapped or unwrapped in the history of giving. 

THE GIFT OF GIVING

In this special holiday issue, check out the many gifts ASAP donors and prayer supporters gave this year. You will be inspired as you read how national workers bring the ultimate gift to searching souls, the gift of salvation through Jesus! We thank you for your gifts and encourage you to enjoy the gift of giving this season. “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

Literacy


This Cambodian girl smiles because a new world opened up to her after she learned how to read at one of the ASAP sponsored SDA literacy schools. She now has hope for her future, a successful life on earth and eternity with Jesus. Your gifts for literacy schools give destitute children and women life-changing spiritual and educational opportunities. 

Photo by Frank Spangler

Be Blessed!
Sponsor one
literacy teacher
for \$30/month.



Hearing and Reading the Good News

Did you know?

You can share a gift of a
radio for **\$10**


or

a Bible for **\$5**

this Christmas season

or any time of the year.

Millions of Vietnamese listen to *Peace & Happiness* SDA radio broadcasts in their homes and house churches in humble villages and affluent cities throughout Vietnam. **Short wave radios and DVDs** prove to be the most effective means of bringing the hope of salvation to the people of Vietnam because public evangelism currently is unauthorized

by the communist government. Pastor Isah Young, speaker and producer of the radio ministry, reports that sixteen entire villages are tuning in, finding God's love through the airwaves every day. The workers and rice farmers often gather in the home of the chief or a privileged person who has a radio to hear the Adventist radio messages early in the morning. Pastor Isah Young is being used by God to preach the Adventist truth in an unprecedented way. **Bibles and Bible lessons** are read, shared and taught to others—Bibles are used as English language textbooks and are treasured in Vietnam, where to own one is illegal. Experience the gift of giving as you join other ASAP donors in supplying radios and Bibles to the people in Vietnam. 




THE GIFT OF GIVING

Transportation

This incredible sacrifice enabled them to provide 28 bicycles and 12 mopeds for God's workers in Vietnam.

W

When a couple from central California heard of the desperate transportation needs of ASAP Vietnamese pastors and lay workers, they felt impressed to respond. They sold their brand new Subaru Outback and down-

sized to a used 1998 Chevy Cavalier with 62,000 miles on it. This incredible sacrifice enabled them to provide 28 bicycles and 12 mopeds for God's workers in Vietnam. They say they have never regretted the decision they made because they know that their sacrifice helps to hasten the coming of Jesus. Each time they get into their used Chevy, they can imagine forty pastors and lay Bible workers hopping on their bicycles and mopeds, with Bibles, DVDs and evangelistic materials in their backpacks, traveling to and from towns to share the great news of salvation with the people in Vietnam. They ask that you pray for their investment they dedicated to the Lord. ASAP would like to specifically thank them for their gift of sacrifice. 

YOU can help hasten Jesus' coming by giving

\$80
for 1 bicycle

\$450
for 1 moped



Thank you, ASAP donors, for providing wheels for national lay Bible workers and pastors. Your gifts for bicycles and mopeds are an immeasurable blessing for the advancement of God's work in these countries. Gifts of transportation make it possible for lay Bible workers and pastors to expand their territory for Christ. 

Above: (left to right) Thai Manat, Yem Veleak and Moul Kren in the Cambodian province of Kratie commute to neighboring villages where they find interests and conduct Bible studies with new believers. With transportation, these lay Bible workers can achieve their goal of planting churches and spreading God's Word.

Right: Srey Sear, Cambodian lay Bible worker, smiles in gratitude for the gift of a moped, lovingly funded by ASAP donors. He can now travel throughout the province of Kampot and take the gospel to many remote villages. He also uses the moped on Sabbath to transport elderly and handicapped people to church.



THE GIFT OF GIVING

Church Planting

Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life" (John 5:24).

by Lim Pheng, Secretary and Ministerial Director of Cambodia Adventist Mission

Right: Pastors Lim Pheng (left) and Thor Bophal (right) baptize two of the 800 new believers on January 1, 2005 in the Tounle Bati River in Cambodia. This great harvest of souls for Christ's Kingdom resulted from the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the evangelistic meetings held by Justin and Christina McNeilus and the work of the Cambodian Adventist Church planters, pastors and lay Bible workers.



Left: Pastors Lim Pheng (center) and Pen Chenda (center left) pray for new believers after their baptism. ASAP's support of forty church planters and fifty lay Bible workers enables them to give the gift of salvation to many sincere people seeking to know God.

Church planting! We eat, sleep, breathe and live those two words at the Cambodia Adventist Mission. After the executive committee voted to make church planting the main focus, the work in Cambodia has experienced phenomenal growth. Ten years ago we had only a handful of believers regularly worshipping in Cambodia, but now 5,000 Cambodians faithfully worship as members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We praise the Lord for what He is doing through all the church planters and pastors. Read on as I share the amazing results of our church planting thrust.

We have established a Seventh-day Adventist presence in all of Cambodia's twenty-four provinces. Currently, twelve pastors minister tirelessly for the Lord in Cambodia. Some of our pastors are responsible for as many as sixteen churches.

ing the membership for evangelistic outreach. Some of our church planters are placed in unentered areas while others are assigned to key strategic towns.

Denzil McNeilus and his family gave an amazing Christmas gift to Cambodia last year. They conducted a large evangelistic campaign in Phnom Penh and the surrounding areas, baptizing 800. Church planters worked before and after the evangelistic meetings nurturing the mass of new believers. **Since January of this year 2,100 accepted Jesus in baptism.** Our goal is to have each church planter plant ten churches. Mr. McNeilus and his family plan to go back with a team to conduct and finance a second evangelistic campaign this December. Our church planters are prepared to help reap the harvest. As you read this, our pastors are conducting a ten-day training session for the church planters.


Change Lives for
Eternity
Build a Church for
\$550

Others care for two whole provinces where large numbers of unreached people live. Just as Jesus' twelve disciples, empowered by the Holy Spirit, began a **massive Christian movement**, God empowers these twelve Cambodian pastors and the ASAP-supported lay pastors to do a mighty work for Him. Remember, though, only one percent of the 11 million populating Cambodia claim to be Christians. Millions of God's children still need to hear the good news of their inheritance.

Due to this tremendous potential for growth, a taskforce of church planters was mobilized. There are seventy trained church planters, forty of them sponsored by ASAP. The church planters are busy providing pastoral care, giving Bible studies, planting new churches and train-

A Church Planted!



The church planters work on the front lines, moving the work forward. ASAP donors are behind the scenes, working as a team, enabling them to do the amazing work of growing churches. We invite you to join and support a church or a church planter today. Your gifts are the water that aids the planting and growing. "Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor" (1 Cor 3:8). 

THE GIFT OF GIVING

Church Planters

by Tep Poa Kolyaney, church planter

Read Tep Poa Kolyaney's personal testimony below, and see how God rescued her from the stormy seas of life.

John 6:15-21 talks about when the disciples were fearful of drowning when crossing the Sea of Galilee on their way to Capernaum. A great wind started to blow and the sea became dangerous. Their little boat tossed this way and that. My life was like that little boat, tossed about the stormy sea of life. As a baby, I lost my father when he was murdered by the Pol Pot regime. When I

“My only goal was to die, so I could translate into a better life than what I lived in.”


was twelve, my mother died of a disease because we had no money to buy her medicine. I made the hard decision to quit school in seventh grade, give up my dream of becoming a human rights lawyer, and start selling things on the street to help feed my three younger brothers and myself. I was very unhappy, hating the way I lived, so I turned to the only place I knew, the Buddhist temple. I worked in the temple and meditated on the teachings of Buddha and eventually became ordained as a Buddhist nun. My only goal was to die, so I could translate into a better life than what I lived in. After living two years as a Buddhist nun, I walked away since I did not find the peace I was searching for.

My friend, Keo Savet, found me at my worst. I got into a terrible situation and felt the only way out was to kill myself. Although I could not successfully end my life, I died inside. When Keo Savet introduced me to Jesus Christ, I did not see Him as my Savior, able to do anything for me. Just like the disciples did not recognize Jesus when He walked across the water on top of those dark angry waves, I was afraid of Him.

Pastor Ing Nang happened to move in next to where I lived. We became friends and one day he gave me a book called *The Healing of God*. After reading that book, I told Pastor Ing Nang I wanted to learn more. Through Bible studies, he showed me how to invite God into my boat. When I let Him in, it made all the difference in my life. Little by little

He rescued me and calmed the stormy seas of my life. He led me to study at the SALT Center. I met my husband, Jacob, there. Now we have one precious child and serve the Lord as church planters. Every day I pray that God will take control of my boat and guide my family and me safely through life's journey.

Editor's Note:

Tep Poa Kolyaney works as a church planter in the Chak Angreleu South district of Cambodia's capitol city, Phnom Penh. Her husband, Pich Poa Jacob assists her as she ministers to three churches. These churches are growing rapidly under this dedicated team. Besides preaching, witnessing door-to-door in friendship ministry, nurturing church members and interests, and holding DVD evangelistic meetings, they go to churches and homes in other districts to hold Bible studies. Please pray for Tep Poa Kolyaney as she leads out in this important ministry. Also pray for her husband, Pich Poa Jacob, and his health problems (specifically his heart condition). Pray for their important ministry and their family. 



Partner Up With Tep Poa Kolyaney
One day you will meet this lovely family and everyone they have led to Jesus because of your prayers and financial support.

For \$100 a month, you can be part of their ministry and share in their joy every time a lost soul allows Jesus to take control of their life.



THE GIFT OF GIVING

Pastors in Vietnam

by Judy Aitken & Pastor Minh Pham


Through ASAP donor support, the people of Vietnam receive **the gift of 250 Adventist pastors.** Pastors like Minh Pham, who fully dedicate their lives to winning souls for Christ, in turn share the ultimate gift, the gift of salvation with literally thousands. In reading Pastor Minh Pham's interview in our newsletter earlier this year, he told me how the Holy Spirit, through *Peace and Happiness* Radio Broadcast, impressed him of the truth regarding the Sabbath. In faith, not knowing any other Seventh-day Adventist, he quit his job as a pastor for a Protestant church and waited for God's leading. Shortly afterwards, Pastor Isah Young sent a pastor to visit him. After Bible studies, being baptized and trained, he started his own Sabbath-keeping house church. Through God's power, his wife and twenty-four other family members, along with friends, gradually converted to Adventism. Today, God continues to use Pastor Minh Pham as an effective evangelist and leader of several large districts, overseeing 15,000 house church members and their leaders.

He shares, "**I often travel up to 400 km a day** on my moped, following up radio interests and nurturing new believers in my districts. I spend the week prior to my trips in earnest prayer. God never fails to lead me to the people He wants me to minister to, preparing their hearts before I meet them. God clearly shows

me what passages from His Word to share with them. I share DVD and VCD sermons with many interested people and the house church leaders. I cannot keep up with the demand for Bibles and evangelistic materials.

We experienced severe upheaval in my districts this year. A large number of Protestant ethnic people involved in anti-government activities caused the government to crack down on all Christian groups. Because this disruptive group escaped to Cambodia, the government targeted our Adventist house churches, thinking we held similar beliefs. Government officials harassed, fined and persecuted us, raiding our house church meetings. Many of our members were arrested this year. Praise the Lord, despite Satan's attacks 98 percent of our members remained faithful Seventh-day Adventists.

I would like to thank the Lord for the gift of salvation He gave me and the gift of the Bible that led me to His truth about the Sabbath. **I will stay in the SDA church for the rest of my life** because I believe this is the true church.

I say thank you to Pastor Isah Young for producing *Peace & Happiness* Radio Broadcast and to those caring people in the USA who support God's work in Vietnam. I am calling on all of you who have now heard my story to please pray for me, the church members, and the house church leaders in my districts and to continue your support of our ministry." 


Emergency Support

by Akram Khan, Treasurer of Cambodia Adventist Mission

Your donations in response to disasters, such as the flooding and droughts Cambodia experienced this year, truly saved many lives. Because of heavy rainfall in July the water level in the Mekong River rose in Cambodia and neighboring countries. The floods and drought affected almost all parts of the country. As of right now the crop damage in Cambodia has reached a critical level according to the Agriculture Research and Development Institute. About 70 percent of all rice paddies were damaged either by flood or drought this year.

According to the provincial director, the district of Kampong Thom experienced damage to 126 hectares (312 acres) of rice from drought and pests. About 50 hectares (124 acres) have been

damaged in the province of Stung Treng and 300 hectares (741 acres) in the Mong Russei district of Battambang according to the Ministry of Agriculture. In Kampong Spue and Takeo provinces the local authorities are worried that most of the rice fields are destroyed due to the heavy rains. The district pastors have reported that floods have affected the areas of Stung Treng, Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng as well. Just in these areas, there are more than 700 Adventist families who are suffering.

We wish to convey our heartfelt thanks to the recently received donations from ASAP supporters, given in response to this disaster. Many more dollars are needed to help relieve the suffering that the members are still facing. We estimate at least \$10,000 is needed to help these flood victims. God bless you as you open your hearts to those in need of food during this season of giving. 

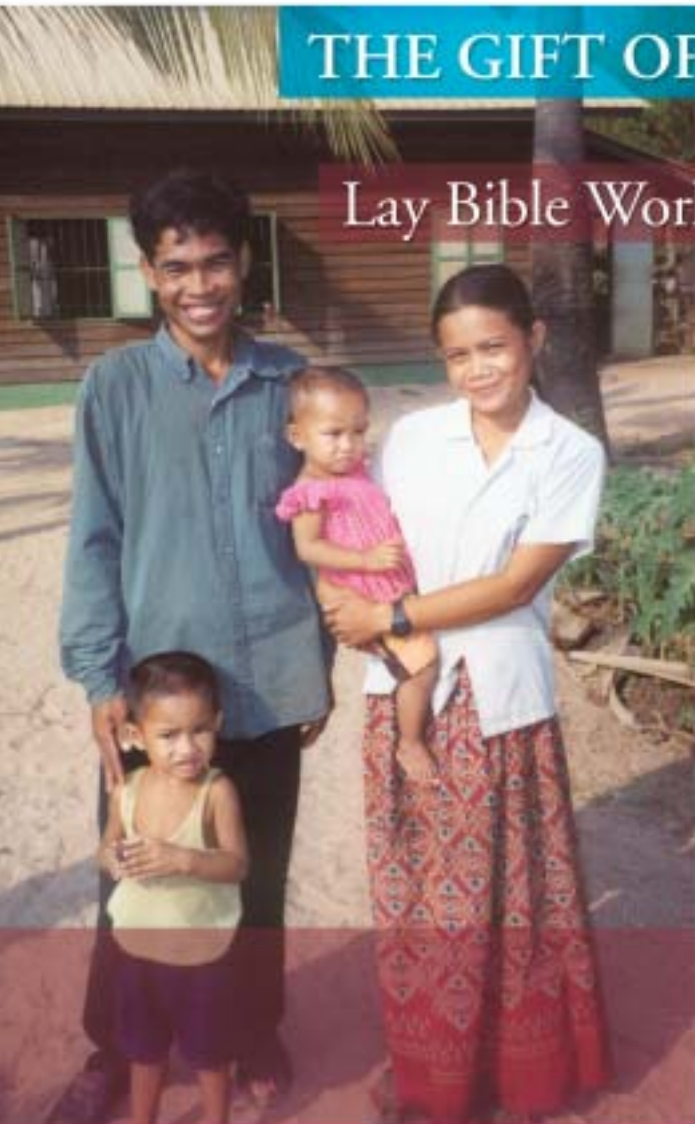
You Can
Feed a Family
for a Week!
\$20
for one 500 kg
sack of rice



Do not let the oppressed retreat in disgrace; may the poor and needy praise your name (Psalm 74:21).

THE GIFT OF GIVING

Lay Bible Workers



God uses lay Bible workers like Prum Hoeun, regardless of their histories or backgrounds, to bring glory to Him through healing and spreading the Good News.

**Give a Gift that Lasts!
Support a Lay Bible Worker**

\$20/month in Cambodia

\$30/month in Laos

\$50/month in Vietnam

Left: Cambodian Lay Bible worker, Prum Hoeun and family, wish you good health during the holidays. Facing page: Prum Hoeun (right) sits next to Ngar (center). Using prayer and natural healing methods, God helped him heal her from typhoid fever.



“During the last three months God healed 26 people after they received natural treatments from my wife and me.”

by Prom Hoeun

I am Prom Hoeun, God’s servant in Sangkhlang Village, Kampong Thom Province. My wife, Voeun Sotheavy, my mother-in-law, Tep Sarom, and I work together in a health mission to bring God’s healing ways to sick people we meet.


In early 1999 Voeun and I volunteered to work for ADRA in helping village people to know how to take care of their health. One year later we got married and had a Christian wedding. We went to Siem Reap to study more about God. After studying we returned to our home village of Sangklaeng and felt impressed to start a ministry for God. I felt so grateful to God for all He did to turn my life around; I wanted to give back to Him. I went from a smoker, drinker and bad man to a happy person with a purpose. He has given me knowledge to teach His words and also to help sick people recover from their illnesses. I can see how God prepared me through ADRA, Dr. Mary Ann McNeilus, and others to serve Him in this way.

During the last three months God healed twenty-six people after they received natural treatments from my wife and me. I know that their faith in God as their Savior is beginning to grow because they see His power in healing them. We pray that they all will want to follow Christ with their whole hearts. Ngar, (pictured)

is one of the ladies who was healed from typhoid fever and then received Jesus as her Savior. I claim Malachai 4:2 which says, “But to you who fear my name, the Son of righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings.” God brings healing according to His will.

We have a small but growing church. Six students completed Bible studies and are ready for baptism. Among the six, three of them were sick with demon possession for more than two years. After praying earnestly God delivered them. God brings healing according to His will.

I thank God and thank you for praying for me and giving us the gift of our beautiful church. Now I am working as a lay Bible worker and leader of this church, as well as running our health mission. I see that there are many more villages that have not heard the message of salvation. I would like to go share the gospel with these villages and teach them God’s healing way, but I have no transportation or money to travel. Because of God’s love I am still working hard to share His words to all kinds of people, many who are under Satan’s control.

I would like to ask you to pray for the patients that they will not only be healed but also that they will accept God. Pray also for me as I minister to the health and spiritual needs of the people. 

THE GIFT OF GIVING

Clean Water

Did you know you can bring fresh water to a Southeast Asian village for only

\$150?

Access to clean water dramatically improves the quality of life by reducing the risk of disease.



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