

John 15... "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener... Remain in me, and I will remain in you... No branch can bear fruit



The Welch's Grapevine



For The Glory of GOD!

Dearest Family & Friends,

Volume 3, Number 7, October 2008

Greetings from Phnom Penh, Cambodia! We pray the few moments you spend reading our monthly newsletter spurs you on toward love and good deeds for the glory of God!

Here are some highlights you'll find below:

- Thanks!
- Mission Sunday & concert
- old-fashioned mail
- experiences
- new apartment
- meeting together
- visitors
- teaching & preaching
- language training
- prayer requests



To all of you who help us in any way – THANK YOU! Moreover, we are so thankful for your one-time or monthly support of our work here. Your generous spirits are such an encouragement. We continue to pray for stewardship wisdom. There are so many opportunities here. More than anything, we all need to send more workers into the harvest. Please pray without ceasing!

During October, the Keller and Sunset churches each held a Mission Sunday contribution to support their mission efforts for the next calendar year. We rejoice with all of you in the news that both congregations substantially exceeded their goals. Additionally, friends in Lubbock held an "Oldies" benefit concert to help support our work, enabling them to make a generous contribution. It fills us with joy to know so many seek to save the lost! Thank You, Father!



It finally happened! We received our first postal mail in late September. The award goes to Ben Walker & Natalie Cogburn who sent us a wedding invite. Congrats y'all – sorry we missed the ceremony. Shortly thereafter, we received a package of mail from Keller. Thanks for the cards! If you would like to send us a note of encouragement, we post our contact details on our emails.

We are excited to report the final student at the Cambodia Bible Institute (CBI) is now a brother. We all rejoice that Sok Lee was baptized into Christ. We praise God for the power of His Word to change hearts...even the whole world.



We also praise God for the amazing weather here. We're told the rainy season is winding down yet it still rains nearly every day – at least for a little while. Cooler nighttime temperatures are a welcome change. The rains have yet to catch us unprepared. We are driving now, having bought a '97 RAV4, so we use it when it's pouring, otherwise we use the bicycles.



We are really blessed to have so much sweet fellowship weekly – so much outpouring of love and encouragement. When reflecting on meeting with the brethren here we noted we meet: three times on Sunday followed by fellowship meal each Sunday evening; each weekday morning for chapel; Tuesday morning accountability meeting; Wednesday evening Bible study; Thursday evening small group; Bi-weekly Friday evening singing in Khmae. We're delighted a few of these gatherings happen in our home.

and it will be given you... This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit... As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.

by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me... I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will

bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing... If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish,

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Our new apartment or flat is such a blessing. We have filled it mostly with sturdy yet inexpensive rattan-style furnishings. Simple, but functional! Being settled into our own place really helps us persevere. We added plenty of seating to use for our gift of hospitality. So when are you coming for a visit?



Recent visiting instructors to CBI include Lanny Partain who taught the students Romans, Sacrificial System and 7 Habits of Christians. Also, Mark Hooper came for several days to teach World Religions. Since two students are about to graduate, the next classes are Revelation by Loren Hollingsworth and Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther by Dennis. This should give them all they need to graduate. Please pray for the beginning students during Revelation. ;-)



The students at CBI just finished classes on Church Growth and Wisdom Literature. Since Rich Dolan had to teach both, Dennis helped a little by teaching four days of Ecclesiastes. This represented his beginning efforts toward the primary mission for which we came – to teach future church leaders. Special note: We are really impressed by the number of Khmae men able to preach, teach, and otherwise lead worship assemblies here in the city. Certainly more are needed for the whole country, but these men are a healthy start. That said, in the last month, we have been blessed with several opportunities to teach and preach. We look forward to the day when we can teach in Khmae language.

Our language training continues to progress. It is every bit as difficult as we expected and maybe more so. Our vocabulary grows weekly and this helps us begin to converse with the brethren and in the markets. It is all good fun so we have to keep reminding ourselves to have grace with our inadequacies. Your prayers are certainly welcome!

យើងរៀនលេវី
Khmae Script

Prayer has increasingly become a part of our lives. More and more we realize how dependant on God we really are. We humbly ask you to join us in the following prayers:

- Thanks for supporters
- New CBI students
- Stand firm on our goals
- Workers for the harvest
- Traveling co-laborers
- Holidays without you
- Continued good health
- Patience and faith!



We continue to remember you in our prayers – not neglecting to ask God to bless each one of you through our service to Him. Encourage one another. Demand maturity from yourselves and excel in offering grace to all. We thank you for reading about our lives here in service to our Lord. Serve Him without fear wherever you are!

Walking as one, toward the light,

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