

# High Tower Ministries

September 2005

Joom-ree-up-soo-a (Hello!) from Cambodia,

Oh it does seem like such a long time since we have seen so many of you. We are very grateful for all of you who stay in contact with us via email. However, we still miss you very much. This past week we ate lunch with Chuck and Cyndi McCaul of New Life Fellowship/Foundation here in Cambodia. Chuck started off our lunch meeting with "Well, it's been almost a year and you're still here!" Yes, it will be a year October 24th since we left America. In so many ways, it is hard to believe that a year has passed. When we look at all the work ahead of us and the projects we are in the midst of, it seems like time has flown. On the other hand, when you look back on all that we've done, we are floored at the year's accomplishments. We want to take this newsletter as an opportunity to keep you abreast of what is happening on this side of the globe.



**Orphanage Ministry**--We continue to minister at the three orphanages the Lord has directed us to. We are so thankful for the additional support that we receive in order to provide for this ministry.

**UNACAS Orphanage**-- We have been blessed to distribute school supplies at Unacus Orphanage this past quarter. We always enjoy our time out at Unacus giving out hugs and love as much as we can.

**KAOA Orphanage**--We continue to supplement their diets with a soy milk a day for KAOA children and other food has been provided as needed. Clean drinking water and formula for infants are also provided for KAOA. . We were happy to distribute board books and other age appropriate toys for stimulation to the infants/preschoolers at KAOA with a shipment that arrived from America. This last quarter the most time consuming project at KAOA has been securing the school building from the birds. The children attended their classes by sitting in bird dung on their desk benches and with the birds fluttering overhead. The school has now been secured with additional masonry added to prevent the birds from being able to enter the school room. This isn't a problem that most schools in America would ever have to address, but it has been taken care of here now at KAOA. Last but certainly not least, a washing machine and a sewing machine was provided to the orphanage to aid them in the care of the little one's clothing needs.

**AOA Orphanage**--We have saved our largest project to share last. Through a long ordeal of many ups and downs, we are so thrilled to announce that the well has hit water!!! We had to go down very deep to the lowest aquifer to a depth of 157 meters in order to reach clean water, but it is clean and because of its depth it is cool and refreshing! What a sharp contrast to the stale, warm water that was being brought in by the truckload from the river. The water has been tested professionally and the pump secured by a safe well house. This new well in turn led to a power problem because the generator was so old and dilapidated. With funds combined from other sources, a very large and powerful generator has been purchased and is running smoothly. In addition to all of this...we had all water tanks and the filtration system for the pond water completely cleaned as well. Water is no longer an issue at AOA. Praise the Lord! This last quarter a ton of rice has been purchased and a Soy Milk drink has been provided for each child each and every day to supplement their protein intake and to provide calcium.



A visiting short term mission team were happy to lend us their arms as we have painted much of the compound to clean things up as they were sorely needing.

Last month also took Rhonda to tour two additional orphanages in and near Phnom Penh. The continued adoption suspension has made a very sad situation in Cambodia. Please remember the children of Kien Klang Orphanage and the CRC Orphanage as you are so faithful to prayer for the others.

**New Life Foundation/Fellowship**--Mark continues to work on his various projects to research and develop ways to improve the lives of our Christian brothers and sisters at New Life. Much of this work also has the potential to bless the orphanage ministry as well. Mark has been working on low cost animal feed initiatives and has plenty of stock to try all his experiments out on. He has a chicken coop, rabbits, and a nice quail population that are thriving.

Presently he is in the midst of building several quail runs that are going to be placed at the young men's dorms of New Life to supplement their food supply. If they are cared for successfully, the dorms will be able to sell excess eggs and quail to generate a small amount of income to also add to their food budgets. [See Current Projects - Quail Project at our website for further information.](#)



High Tower Ministry was blessed to be able to provide a provincial church pastor Chanthoeun with a power sprayer with which his church plans to open a car wash. They have many unemployed in the church and are in sore need of some source of income generation. When Pastor Chanthoeun mentioned at a prayer service that one idea his church body had was a car wash, and we sat here with a blessing of a power sprayer it was an obvious provision for that church. Please pray for Pastor Chanthoeun's church as they wait for their vision to be turned into reality in God's timing. [Read more of Chanthoeun's plans](#) See [Current Projects - Samrong Young Village](#)

The small group located in our courtyard on Sunday afternoons is thriving. We have begun aiding members of the small group in going to Sunday School classes each Sunday morning. Chuck was pleased to hear of how many are going when we told him. It means two trips across town each Sunday morning, but the members have been very faithful and regular to attend.

**Family News**--As it always happens with time marching on, the children are growing. This past summer while Steven was here for a visit, Kati celebrated her 16th birthday. Wow! Who ever dreamed that Kathleen would enjoy Sweet Sixteen in Phnom Penh, Cambodia?

Kati continues to work each week in the office of New Life in the accounting department and is doing well.

[View slideshow from Kati's birthday party.](#)



Danielle has turned 15 and then this last week Isaac turned fourteen. English Conversation Club has discontinued, but Danielle still continues to provide private English instruction for one young woman. Isaac is still very tender over the distance in some friendships, but all in all, the children are adjusting in an outstanding manner.

[View slideshow from Dani's birthday party.](#)



This summer we enjoyed a visit with Steven. He only had 40 days free this summer between college and ROTC duties but we got as much time with him as we could. We enjoyed our first trip out of the city in our time here with a trip to Kompong Som and the beach. This time of refreshing was so needed and we regret that we hadn't done it sooner. Our week was soon over and we are so pleased that Steven was here to enjoy it with us. Steven fully participated with all our ministry work here and his life will never be the same. He has gone back to college and has asked permission to return next summer with plans to teach and to join us in ministry for his full summer break.

[View slideshow of Steven's visit.](#)



Much to teenagers great delight (NOT!) school is going well. Seth Matthew is also going full steam in kindergarten and is well on his road to reading. His latest accomplishment that he is anxious to share with friends back home is that Isaac has removed his training wheels and he is now able to ride without them. Chantal and Christopher are [enjoying life](#) just fine. They look forward to each Thursday for a chance to enjoy homeschool co-op where the playground has some actual grass. Christopher does have a medical issue that we will soon be addressing with surgery and we ask that you join us in prayer for a safe procedure and a swift recovery. We have continued our language study but seem to have reached a usage plateau and so have changed our approach to it. We can always use prayer on this matter as it continues. We have reconciled ourselves that this is a commitment of several years and will just keep plodding away at it. Our prayers are often turned towards home as we remember family and loved ones we are separated from. We did as best we could to get news on Hurricanes Katrina and Rita as we prayed for all our loved ones from First Baptist Church in Port Arthur. We have hope of them

rebuilding their lives and making a full recovery.

As always, Mark posts as many [pictures on the website](#) as he can with our internet limits. So we encourage you to go visit often and to see what the Lord is doing.

As we wrap up our first year in Cambodia here are our current prayer requests. Please pray:

- for the health and safety of the orphans at UNACAS, AOA, and KAOA orphanages.
- for the New Life Church planters as they begin new works in 2006.
- for the hand of God and His favor and wisdom to continue to be with our family
- for the [current projects](#) listed on our web site.

PLEASE PRAY FOR CAMBODIA'S LOST

With all our love

Mark and Rhonda Benz, Kati, Dani, Isaac, Seth, Christopher, Chantal



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