

IN HIS STEPS INTERNATIONAL

2025

MINISTRY UPDATE

And when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, **“This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me”**. In the same way also he took the cup, after supper saying, **“This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me”**. 1 Corinthians 11 24-25



Gospel Community Church Saang

2025 was a solemn year in Cambodia due to on-going conflicts with Thailand. The minds and the hearts of the Cambodian people are resilient, but the conflicts bring back memories and trauma from the Khmer Rouge era. Our church is an important symbol of safety and refuge for our local community. It has been an important gathering ground for youth and adults to come and rest their minds and their hearts. The presence of God on our campus is tangible!

Our Church services have been increasing with youth and children this past year. We have focused on ministering to the needs of children and youth discipleship as well as adult discipleship and care. Pastor Pheaktra has been putting time into a new believer's handbook that helps new Christians understand the basics of the life in Christ.

Pastor Pheaktra and his family.



GCCS is also leading the way in our community by making our center a safe place for children to spend time playing and studying in one of our many classes during the day. Heng, Pheaktra's wife, is now teaching children's bible lessons during the day, as well a training in worship and song. Heng also is one of our 9 English teachers on campus, she also teaches English classes during the day and evening. The campus is filled with life from morning to evening each day.

Pastors fellowship and training are also an integral part of building the national church in our area. We have continued to encourage and train local Pastors each month with seminars and semi-annual training sessions. Eric and Ginny along with Pastor Pheaktra hosted several meetings in December focusing on unity of the Church and fellowship of the believers.





Pastors Seminars



Youth Group Ministry is also doing well. We have upgraded our Sunday school efforts this past year by being more focused on building better relationships with the children and their needs as well as including fun and games.

Sunday school



Christmas Program

GCCS Annual Christmas program this year saw around 300 children attend, some of the children brought their parents and grandparents. This is a milestone for the Church to see older people attend Christian events. We also were blessed with the attendance of a handful of local public-school teachers.

Christmas 2025



Water Baptism

GCCS also had a water baptism this year. Eric and Ginny hosted a baptism in which thirty-three new believers were baptized in the province of Kep. We had a bus full of people make the several hour journey. GCCS staff and Pastors did the worship and baptizing. We are so thankful.



Loaves and Fish

This is a feeding and care program that is now 20+ years old and was created to care for poor and needy families. Our idea was to help people until they could become stable on their own, building self-worth and strength. We have moved many through this program with success. We have still one couple in this program with are in their eighties and unable to sustain themselves. They are a beautiful couple.



We would like to share updates on a few of the children that were raised in the Fathers House ministry that we had on campus.

Joshua was our first young man that we had live with us when he was just 8 years old. He graduated High School several years ago and joined Sak Saum. He is now engaged to become married in 2027.

Srey Toot is one of the young women that came to live in the Father's House. We supported her through high school and university. She is now a missionary in the northern part of Cambodia.

Srey Eun is the sister of Srey Toot. She also graduated from high school and is now married and living in North Carolina.

Timothy is another young man who was raised in Fathers House. He graduated from high school. Timothy lives on campus and is employed by Sak Saum. Timothy is heading up the shipping and quality check.

We are thankful for all the blessings that we see in these awesome individuals.

New Year

Every New Year's Eve the church does something for the members. While it was a solemn evening due to the on-going conflicts with Thailand, we still opened our church for the evening. This year it was a camp out at the campus with a fire pit, grilled corn, chicken and rice and lots of coffee and tea. Everyone was responsible to bring a tent and sleeping gear. The night started with a time of worship and an encouraging word, then the party began. This was a special time for everyone, building relationships and friendship.



Ministry on Campus

English Classes

GCCS has been teaching English for over 20 years. We are still teaching English classes on campus 5 days a week, with 9 classes each evening, our classes range from phonics to current events with discussion in English. This ministry has blessed so many individuals throughout the years. Many students have used their English skills to grow into successful careers with excellent skills in communication, writing and teaching.





Computer classes

Computer skills are not taught in school in Cambodia and it is a necessary skill in today's world. GCCS has been teaching computer skills for 10 years. We focus on beginner skills and knowledge of computer hardware and software and move up to learning programs like Word and Excel. For advanced learners we move to photoshop and graphic design.



Students learning the basics of computer.

Guitar lessons

Learning a musical instrument is a huge undertaking. GCCS is also continuing to teach the basic guitar on the campus. We have seen many youth and young people have an interest in learning the guitar. Sokra is the teacher and has been teaching basic chords and key instruction for many years. He loves to see young people learn to comprehend music and the power in a song.



Students learn chords for guitar.

Sports Ministry

Sports can be one of the doors that open someone up to the Gospel. GCCS has been using sports to teach biblical principals in Cambodia. Our coaches and staff are trained in the rules and skills of soccer. We use leadership and teamwork skills alongside physical skills. Many children in Cambodia have no concept of what it is like to play together as a team. Coaching and building a group of young men or women to be a team can be a great teaching time in their lives, including life skills, relationships and friendships for life. They learn about respecting and honoring the trainers and coaches as well as teammates. The teams are committed to each other whatever the outcome of the games. We train often on the field, as well as in our hearts. The outcome we want is a good witness for our faith in Christ.

The campus is used every day for some kind of sporting event. It may be after work for older guys to play a friendly game of soccer or volley ball, to practice for the church teams of youth and children learning the game.



Youth soccer practice.

Sak Saum

Sak Saum is celebrating our 20th anniversary in 2026. It is a ministry that helps at-risk and vulnerable people to find new potential in life. Sak Saum makes and designs handbags, wallets, backpacks, women's clothes, and many other items. Sak Saum uses repurposed and reclaimed materials in a functional and beautiful way. Sak Saum has always focused on quality, which means that mistakes are repaired instead of being overlooked. This is not only a job where individuals learn a skill. It allows them to work on themselves with patience, perseverance and pride of achievement. Ginny Hanson and Jessica Hanson are the main designers and work together to see that all the products that they design are compatible with your lifestyle and everyday events.

Ginny and Jess spend nights on the computer with Cambodian staff going over new designs and fashion choices as well as the new items in the queue for production. While our hearts are in Cambodia and physically cannot be there, we do all of the shopping and preparing together virtually. We are thankful every day for video calls and phones.

Sales of Sak Saum products help to finance this part of the ministry. Sales are done online at saksaum.com or a visit to one of the many farmers markets that we attend weekly, or the larger festivals that we attend. Ginny, Eric, Jess and Dane along with a handful of treasured volunteers host hundreds of events each year to continue providing this important ministry.

Sak Saum has in-house sewing staff as well as at home sewing partners. Being at home allows individuals to care for children or aging parents as well as taking care of their household. The onsite sewing can keep working when there are power outages in the village because we have a generator that can power the machines in times like these.

Sak Saum purchases our fabrics mostly in Phnom Penh secondary markets that deal in factory leftovers and small yardage purchases. Below are pictures of Ginny and Socheata among others.

Ginny and Jess work tirelessly to run Sak Saum remotely, but there is nothing like being home. We were so thankful for the donations that made it

possible for Ginny and Jess to both go to Cambodia this year. Ginny teaches in the classroom in Cambodia on spiritual matters, as well as life issues and encourages and releases the staff to their full potential in the workplace and at home. Jess focused on team building, leadership classes and new designs as well as securing hundreds of yards of second-hand fabrics. While she was there, we were also able to renew Dane's passport for another 10 years, this was important as it cannot be renewed outside of Cambodia.



Eric, Ginny, Jessica and Dane



Your generous donations made it possible for Eric and Ginny, Jess and Dane to make trips to Cambodia this year and reconnect with our team that is on the ground. While we are so thankful for video calls and chats, there is nothing like being back home to encourage our staff, volunteers and children. While Eric and Ginny were in Cambodia, they hosted several seminars with the local pastors, youth and Sak Saum about cyber security, online scams and online exploitation. Online scams are beginning to be recognized in the news and locally in Cambodia and teaching about being vigilant is necessary. The news coverage helped to solidify the importance and the reality of scams and their danger. The Cambodian government is also focusing daily against online scams.

Eric and Ginny specialize in discipleship and healing. The on-going conflicts with Thailand have created a lot of trauma in the younger generation and re-opened wounds of trauma in the older generation. Most Cambodian households are multi-generational. The old trauma of hiding, food scarcity and war is very present in the individuals who experienced it first-hand. While this conflict is different, it still triggers that pain and fear. Ginny was able to minister to many individuals

about generational trauma and how it can flow between generations. She taught on replacing lies with truth and how words can have power. Freedom was claimed by many families!

Prayer needs

We do have maintenance items that need addressing on the campus. Over the years the weather has taken its toll on the buildings and playground, painting is needed on the outside of the buildings along with some roof repairs, new swings and repairs to the wooded structure, doors and windows, waters pumps need to have repairs, as well as grounds care.

Ideas to generate funds to help with these repairs.

Cambodia's relations with Thailand

Cambodian government to have wisdom

Christian church in Cambodia

Health for the new year for Cambodian staff and leadership

Youth in Cambodia to pick up the torch for the Gospel in the country

Thank you for all the prayers and finances that you have sent our way this past year. We are very grateful for each and every church, individual and families that have been with us in this journey for years. Your commitment to Cambodia and her people to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior is coming into sight. You have been alongside us to see this vision come to light. Thank you again for your support and prayers.

Blessings

Eric and Ginny Hanson