

MoesGoes to Cambodia

COMPANIONS ON THE JOURNEY

NOVEMBER
2015

Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

- Proverbs 27:17

What does it mean to be a servant?

That's the question I'm seeking to answer this year as I spend a year in intentional service with the ELCA's YAGM (Young Adults in Global Mission) program. This year, I'm living and working in

Kruos Village in rural Cambodia, teaching English at a local school, and helping out at the village church.

I have been in Cambodia for two months now. My senses are on overload: the sweetest fruits, boisterous children's laughter, glorious sunsets. I'm learning quickly that I have as much to learn as I have to offer (perhaps more!). Most of my days consist of observation: comparing the teaching styles of my coworkers, trying to eat my rice with the same grace as my host sister, listening to Khmer hymns during daily devotions, and watching rice

fields and farmers fly by as I take the church van to the market on weekends. I'm trying new foods (ants! pig's blood! fertilized duck egg!) and trying to communicate in a new language. I'm learning to appreciate hospitality (like when the church cook arrives early each morning with breakfast for me - rice porridge!) and Cambodian jokes (my coworkers have discovered my fear of large insects and are definitely using that to their advantage!). Slowly but surely, I'm falling into routine, and falling into my community.

PRAYER REQUESTS

*For the 74 YAGMs around the world as they settle into their host communities, encounter new languages and experiences, and begin to serve in their unique roles.

*For Kruos Village Church as it continues to expand its ministry into neighboring villages; and for its hardworking staff, that they may reap the fruits of their labor.

*For continued grace, patience, and peace as I enter into this year of intentional service.



The proverb above reminds us that those we keep company with will shape us in important and intentional ways. As I share this year with the members of Kruos Village, I am reminded that this journey is a partnership. I also hope to continue a partnership with you - that through my newsletters I can offer more opportunities for conversation and reflection.

THANK YOU

DAILY LIFE AT KRUOS CHURCH

Kruos Church is a place of vibrant ministry. Weekdays are full of classes - English classes, math classes, music classes, and computer classes. Pastor Mose and the church staff teach both at the church and in "outreach sites" at homes in neighboring villages. Other staff members spend the morning working with village farmers to promote sustainable agriculture techniques for economic growth.

My favorite part of the day is lunch, when the church's Daily Bread program invites the community's children and shut-ins to the church for a free meal. This means more people than ever, both children and adults, are coming to the church every single day, and subsequently being exposed to its ministry and messages.

Weekends are a full of bible studies and worship services. Kruos offers



three well-attended church services on Sundays (one each for children, youth, and adults). This is an incredible feat for a church that is only five years old! There's also plenty of community time on weekends for the young adults: swimming outings, pick-up soccer matches, and spontaneous dancing.

Kruos church is actively engaging in the message that Jesus preached: reaching out to those in need, providing true "love thy neighbor" services and opening this community to Christ.

I'd like to express my gratitude to those that have sponsored a day of my year in Cambodia, especially those who have sponsored days in August, September, or October :

Dave & Debbie	Jackie Moes
Astar, in memory of Jordan	Jill Moes
	John Moes
	Kurt Price
Don & Maureen Budach	Tom & Lisa Radke
	Terry Trautman & Dave Hanson
Ted & Brenda Collins	
Kirk & Camille Johnson	Katie & Thomas Walt
Lowell & Bev Johnson	Jim & Margaret Wright
Ray & Carol Knoll	Dave & Val Youngren
Mark & Lisa Leutem	

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR A DAY?

It's easy! For a recommended donation of \$25 per day, you can become a part of my year in Cambodia! Simply visit <https://community.elca.org/yagm/give> and choose my name from the drop down menu. Please then email me at jessica.moes@gmail.com with your preferred date of sponsorship. All donors receive a personal email about how their dollars are at work in Kruos Village on their day.



JESSICA MOES

follow along at:
www.moesgoes.com

**KHMER WORD
OF THE MONTH:**

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To Look, To Watch, To Observe:
"Meul"