

December 31, 2018

Sous-a-dai!

Here's a snapshot of 2018:

JANUARY:

-Mandi had a seizure beginning of the month. Doctors are not too concerned after many tests and cleared us to go back.

FEBRUARY:

-Filled in rice paddy where our future café will be located

-We took our foster kids to Phnom Penh for their annual dental check up. It was a fun weekend in the big city.

-Our friends from Doxart in Sydney, Australia (Crystal and Mel) completed an interior makeover at Sisters II Café and painted wonderful murals on our community center walls.

-We are grateful to be able to work with Operation Christmas Child another year. Attended meetings and training with area pastors and then distributed shoeboxes to children in our community.

-Baked more than 1000 mudbricks in preparation for the bungalow build in March.

MARCH:

-Began hosting the Greatest Journey Bible study (from OCC) at our community center.

-Crossroads (<http://www.the3c.church/>) came and built our 2nd Sugar Palm bnb Earth house

-Lots of construction at the off-grid bnb property (build roof, begin dividing fence, drilled water well, landscaped, etc.)

APRIL:

-Lots of construction at the volunteer block (dug grey water hole, began interior fit-out, landscaped, etc.)

-Khmer New Year- visited Gerup at her new home in Kampong Cham. It was wonderful to see her new, beautiful space.

MAY:

-A local family in our village achieved all things required to build a M.U.D. home!

-Roots provided Ruen & his family (this year's M.U.D. recipients) a Khmer-style bathroom

-Long time friends- Thoeun, Sopheak, & family surprised us in Kep

-Visited Phnom Penh and hung out with past students from Sovanapoom. We brought one of the students, Samson, back to Kep for the weekend to spend time with him & show him our village.

-Stephen's parents, Fred & Jann Cook, are in Cambodia!! We visited ministries in Kampot, painted the interior walls in our future pastor's house, and enjoyed every minute with them.

JUNE:

-Pedal to the metal. Trying to reach construction deadlines on both Sugar Palm bnb land and our volunteer block

JULY:

-Good-bye. We are off to Texas for a couple of months

-Cambodia held "elections"

AUGUST:

-Rainy/monsoon season is here (Roots is happy)

SEPTEMBER:

-Steve returns to host Global Challenge Expedition (South African) team

-Worked with local church leaders, lead classes at Roots' community center, and labored at Roots

-Steve was in a motorbike accident on the highway between Kep & Kampot. He tore muscles in his shoulder, but we are so thankful the Lord kept him safe.

OCTOBER:

-Final preparations completed for this year's M.U.D. recipients.

-Heavy monsoon rains continue

-Steve flew back to Texas

NOVEMBER:

-Steve flew back to Cambodia

-Met & worked with local believers in Kampot

DECEMBER:

-A team of 10th graders from Shire Christian School (SCS) built a (M.U.D.) home with a family in our village

-Steve continued to meet with Kampot churches and also moved heavy stones to the off-grid bnb's.

This year has been a special one as we see the Lord reveal His heart more clearly for our region. He has filled us up with joy and wisdom more than ever. We are thankful for Big Picture glimpses and reminders of what our roles are in that.

Thank you for your sacrificial giving. We are blown away by the Lord's provision and goodness.

May His Kingdom come and will be done on earth as it is in heaven,

Stephen and Mandi Cook

www.rootsprojectcambodia.org