



WELCOME TO
Epping Church
WKLY NEWSLETTERS

24/1/2019

If you have anything to share with the church, please don't hesitate to contact us on the below emails.
Mande :mande.lees@gmail.com ; **Stephanie**: stephcyee@yahoo.com ; **Alvin**: ajing@eppingsda.org.au

EVENTS

Jan 21-27 2019	Summer Camp- Teen Camp
Feb 15-16 2019	IGNITE @ Sydney Showground

PRAYER REQUEST

- Please pray for Luisa and family
- Please pray for Penny as she recovers from her accident.
- Please pray for all our Epping Church Bible Study Groups
- Please pray for all the members of our local and global church
- Please pray for those still travelling over the christmas and new year break



THIS SABBATH @ EPPING

Elder: Vanessa

Speaker: Pr Nigel Ackland

Offering: SPD Strategy

24/1/2019

Last Sabbath

Photos from last sabbath Jan 19 Church Service with Alan McCutcheon as our speaker. Thank you to our Epping Band for the heartfelt song service





LIGHT *of* HOPE

To all our valued supporters,

2018 has been an eventful year for Light of Hope, bringing unexpected challenges to funding our work in Cambodia. Through these months of uncertainty, God has brought peace and provided for the needs of all the families and children who are beneficiaries of our projects. You, as supporters, have had to navigate through a new name, a new donation process and new-look reporting. Despite the initial uncertainty and new changes the work of Light of Hope Cambodia is blossoming and many more lives of children and families have been given hope and a pathway out of poverty in the past year.

We have been blessed to have World Relief Australia provide us with the conduit by which to provide funding from you, as donors, direct to the development projects in Cambodia. This service continues to provide supporters with tax-deductible receipting for your donations.

Light of Hope continues to be managed and staffed by a strong Christian Cambodian team. This team manages the governance and day-to-day operations, and is focussed on improving the lives of families and children in their communities.

Over the last few months you may have had contact with one of our dedicated Australian volunteers. Light of Hope staff in Australia volunteer their time and expertise to co-ordinate your sponsorships, mail-outs, and the work of Light of Hope Cambodia. These volunteers might make contact with you in regards to your payments or sponsorship, and will be available to answer your questions. Please feel free to call or email to talk about any aspect of our work at Light of Hope.

We thank each of you who have re-engaged your sponsorships or donations to Light of Hope in wake of the changes this year. Without your dedication to give to the work of Light of Hope, we would not be able to touch lives of children and families as we do. If you, your family, your church or your community group would like to spend some time volunteering at Light of Hope, we would love to hear from you. These experiences bless us as volunteers as much as the children and families that we come to serve. Don't think that there is nothing you can do, you would be surprised what we can achieve with a passionate team ready to serve.

Blessings to you from all at Light of Hope this Christmas. May we all seize this Christmas season and make it our primary purpose to share love and touch souls for eternity. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus to each family and child in Cambodia supported by the work of Light of Hope. Thank you for being a special part of this ministry.

Yours sincerely,



Sherree Hughes

Light Of Hope Project Manager

"Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever." Psalm 136:26

Contact us for more information:

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Another eventful year draws to a close. How exciting to share the highlights of the year at Light of Hope Cambodia!

There are currently 65 children living at Light of Hope in five houses. In each house a married couple serve as "Mum" and "Dad" to each of these children, and each home operates as an individual home. This year has seen a new routine established of different homes being responsible for an activity each Sunday. This brings everyone together in a fun social experience. The children in each home are tasked with planning and conducting the activity for the whole centre, and we have seen activities like talent shows, treasure hunts and team games. These fun times together are important in creating memories for these children who call Light of Hope home.



Our children's services team continues to work with the families in the local communities, identifying families and children at risk and assessing how they might be empowered to ensure the safety and nurture of their children within their families.



The gardens at Light of Hope continue to produce a wide range of vegetables to supplement the diet of the children. This year we have seen a significant expansion in our fruit production with the planting of more mango, custard apple and avocado trees and dragon fruit vines. Fruit is something that is difficult to include in the children's daily diet due to the cost. The production of this fruit will enhance the nutritional intake of the children and also provide a small income with any surplus stock that is harvested.

Education continues to be the pathway out of poverty for so many of these children from the outlying villages. This year has seen the addition of a second Kindergarten classroom and a dedicated Kindy playground has been created. It is exciting to see this commitment to early learning education thriving in our school. The end of the school year in August gave us reason to rejoice, as 100% of our students sitting the government exam in Year 9 and Year 12 passed. For our graduating Year 12 students, this opens up the world of university study for each of them. Ten students graduating from the Light of Hope School this year received scholarships to study in their chosen field in Phnom Penh.



20
children currently
in tertiary education

QUICK FACTS FROM 2018 LOH CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

9 children
chose to be
baptised



19,200
kilograms of rice used
for feeding



5
family groups, each in a house
with a "Mum" and "Dad" and a dozen "siblings"

6,348
kilograms of vegetables
grown in the gardens

115
fruit trees planted
in the gardens





The Light of Hope students in Phnom Penh have settled well into a new academic year of tertiary studies. They are a cohesive group and it has been great to see the older students mentor the new ones to settle in and show them the ropes. The transition from Light of Hope campus to Phnom Penh can be challenging for some students and this support from 'brothers and sisters' is valuable. This last year we have had three of our students graduate university – one in electrical engineering, one in teaching and one in tourism.

Nuthpich's centre continues to support 16 children who are all growing so fast. Many of the students here are in their final years of schooling and some have commenced their vocational training. The children at Nuthpich's centre continue to be involved with Pr Nuthpich in serving the children living beside the rubbish dump.

Volunteer groups continue to provide valuable support, mentoring and training across the program. Visiting teams have a substantial impact across the program, each bringing a different skill set and focus. This year has seen hours of professional learning for our staff in teaching, children's services and our primary carers. Volunteers have worked long and hard in the Cambodia heat in creating a new kindy playground, building a new verandah along our canteen and library, replaced water tanks and guttering on the houses and commenced a revamp of our church building. In 2019 why not get together with a group and come and serve at Light of Hope, we know that you will not only leave an impact where you have served but you will be richly blessed in the process.

We praise God and thank Him for His care and guidance in the past year and we look forward to an exciting year in 2019 where, with your help, we can touch the lives of more children and families who need the light of hope.

QUICK FACTS FROM 2018 LIGHT OF HOPE SCHOOL



568

students receiving a quality education at LOH school

35

hours of contact teaching each week

697

children aware of their rights and protected from violence and exploitation

100%

of year 12 students at LOH school successfully passed their government exams



29

teachers trained in child-friendly techniques

while only **66%**

of year 12 students across the whole of Cambodia successfully passed their government exams



103

volunteer hours worked each week for LOH by Australian supporters, both in Australia and in Cambodia

2 Corinthians 4:6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts

Contact us for more information:

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2019 CALENDERS

24/1/2019

Light and Motion Photography's 2019 Calendar is now available.

Check out the photos in the facebook line below.

<https://www.facebook.com/lightandmotionphoto/posts/2444268005586846?>

The Calendar is presented in a glossy high quality A3 format with images from the past 12 months including photos from our photography classes in Australia, and our photography expeditions to New Zealand, Switzerland, Iceland, France and Italy.

All proceeds from the sale of this calendar will be directed to the ADRA Epping Project.

You can read more about ADRA Projects on this link:

<https://www.adra.org.au/our-impact/?to=projects-heading>

The cost of the calendar is only \$30

Please pay via the Epping egiving link (On the bottom of the web page Click **"Show More Offerings"** and choose **"Epping Mission Project - ADRA"**)

<https://egiving.org.au/Epping%20SDA%20Church/>

Email the receipt to Alvin - ajing@lightandmotionphotography.com for proof of purchase and to arrange delivery. If you need this shipped, please add \$6.00 to your payment for express mail via Australia Post.

Thank you to all who supported our 2018 Calendar and Photography Classes in 2018, with all proceeds from these initiatives going towards our ADRA Project in Vanuatu. This helped build a large water tank and provide clean drinking water to remote villages in Vanuatu.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
25	26	27 Lights and Motion Photography Classes Vanuatu	28			
29	30					
31						



NOTICE BOARD

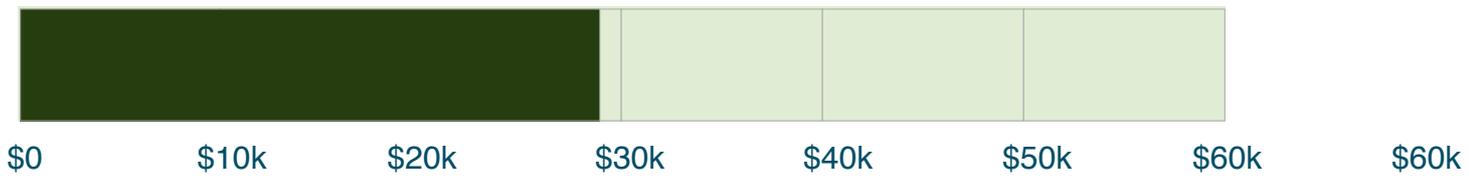
24/1/2019

Epping Church: Roof Repair Fundraising

The Epping Church roof is leaking and in need of repair. It will cost \$60,000 to fix it. The Board has approved a "Repair the Roof Fund Raiser" with monthly Special Offerings on the first Sabbath of every month. Roof Repair Fund trip is now on the e giving website. Feel free to donate here,

<https://egiving.org.au/Epping%20SDA%20Church>

\$29,245.59



Finished product! - still going with Special Offerings





INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE OF THE WEEK

A Simple Thank You

I woke up this morning and knew that today,
the sun would not be shining and the clouds would be gray.
As I stepped outside, rain fell upon my head.
My car wouldn't start so I walked to college instead.

I forgot all of my assignments, I failed all of my tests.
I dropped my head in disgust and asked the Lord for one request:
"Lord, why is it that things won't go my way?"
He gently replied, "Dear child it is because you didn't thank me yesterday.

I woke you up and enabled you to see the sun again.
I gave you shelter, protected your family, and even let you make a new friend.

I blessed you far greater than I ever had before.
But you were too busy to thank me once more.
You didn't feel sick because I maintained your health.
You had money in your pocket because I maintained your wealth.
You had shoes on your feet and clothes to wear, too.
You had plenty of food to eat, and what did you do?

You ignored me and went about your tasks.
But when you wanted something you never hesitated to ask.
I was there when you needed me, and that wasn't too long ago.
But when things started going your way, it was me you did not know.

As if that weren't enough,
I provided your favourite luxuries.
This was something I didn't have to do,
they weren't even necessities.

And when it was time to get on your knees and show your gratitude,
you decided that after such a fulfilling day, you weren't in the mood.

So I decided to give you just a little test.
To show you how it would feel to stop being blessed."

I began to realize what the Lord was saying.
And when I got home, I fell to my knees and started praying.
He said, "My child, you have learned and you know I do forgive.
But remember to remember this day as long as you shall live.

I love filling your life with joy, and your pain I'll alleviate it.
But just a simple thank you would show how much you appreciate it."

- Author Unknown