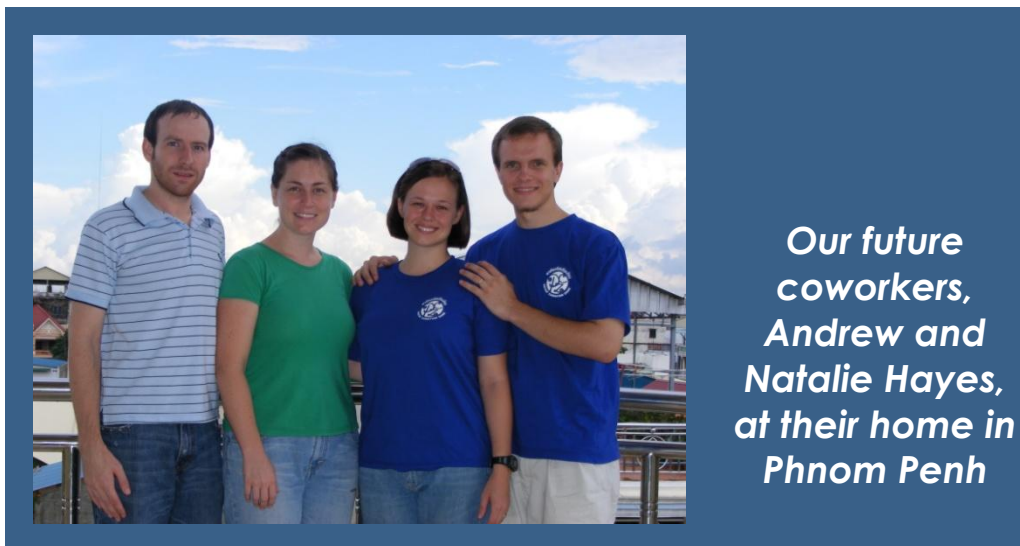




Allison Newsletter

August 2008



Our future coworkers, Andrew and Natalie Hayes, at their home in Phnom Penh

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Team Formation for Cambodia

Nathan and Cheryl Wheeler arrived in Cambodia over three years ago. After learning the language and beginning a ministry, they were joined by Andrew and Natalie Hayes in 2007. The Wheelers are currently on a maternity furlough and plan to return to Cambodia early next year. We, along with one other family, Tom and Vanessa Adams, are planning on meeting together late this year to begin the process of building a team. We are very excited about joining this team and beginning a new work in Cambodia. We feel so blessed to have more experienced coworkers as well as good friends willing to join together to reach the lost in Cambodia. We are thrilled that God has

blessed us with a group of people who will both encourage us and hold us accountable as we minister in Asia. We especially enjoyed our last trip to Cambodia which we spent learning about the Hayeses and going to the area we all hope to move. Lord willing, we will soon be meeting again with the Wheelers and the Adamses. We look forward to learning more about how we can work together as we finish the journey we have been on toward Cambodia.

“Partnering to rebuild the broken foundation of Cambodia on the solid foundation of Christ!”

The Extended Trip!

The week following our return to the States, we leave for a six-week trip across the South to share our dreams and excitement for work in Cambodia. Thailand has not only trained us for ministry there, but our experiences have made us even more certain of God's leading to work among the Khmer people. We know the work will be hard and long, but we also know that God can use us to reach His people in Asia. Please pray for us as we travel as far west as Albuquerque, as far east as Charleston, as far north as North Carolina, and as far south as Florida. Please pray for our children. Traveling is always difficult with young ones, and our kids have already had their fair



share of trips! Finally, please pray that God will use this trip to help us find a congregation that will join us to reach the Cambodian people. We cannot wait to see many of you and to see how God will provide us with the means to move to Cambodia.

Stateside Phone #: (256) 651-0386



Woman fishing in southern Cambodia where we visited with the Hayeses



At the airport in Bangkok (above); Prayers for our departure from Thailand



Head Over Heels

Honor is a very important concept in Cambodian society. If you spend any time at all in a southeast Asian environment, you will quickly find that they will go to extreme measures to maintain honor – whether their own or someone else's.

One very important aspect of honor is the head. Since the head is the most honorable part of the body, it is not to be touched. In a similar vein, since the feet are the most dis-honorable part of the body, not only are they not to be touched, but they shouldn't even be pointed in someone else's direction. So, Cambodian people are clearly "head over heels" when it comes to honor.

We have found that the longer we are in this part of the world, the more we are becoming like them. We find ourselves being embarrass-

ed by the *farang* (foreigner) who uses his/her feet to point or to pick things up. It's amazing how just being around people makes you become like them. Not only are we becoming like them, but we are coming to *like* them very much.

Being in Thailand has convinced us more than ever that Cambodia is the place that God wants us to be. We feel that God has prepared special works in advance for us to do there and He is just waiting for us to go there and do them (Eph. 2:10). So, as you can see, we are clearly "head over heels," both for the Asian culture and in that we love Cambodia and want to work hard to bring the hope of Christ to these beautiful people.



Looking Ahead to Cambodia

We had a wonderful experience in Thailand. It was hard, it was fun, it was challenging, but most of all, it grew us and refocused our attention to Cambodia. In the same way that God refined Jacob, Isaiah, Jonah, and even Jesus, He has been refining us to make us ready to serve Him in Cambodia. In one sense, we will never be ready to work in Cambodia, but in another sense we feel as ready as we will ever be to transplant the things He has taught us in Thailand to Cambodia. God is good.

Many of you have been asking how you can help us move to Cambodia. We would like to share three ways (other than prayer, of course!) you can facilitate our move to Asia.

- 1) Consider **supporting us monthly** as an individual donor;
- 2) **Talk with your home church's** elders and/or missions committee about meeting with us to discuss the need of the lost in Cambodia;
- 3) **Talk with your relatives** and encourage them to talk with the elders and/or missions committee to discuss our desire for oversight while ministering in Cambodia.

You, your home congregation, or your family's church family can contact us via email (chrisandcaseyallison@gmail.com). We thank each of you for your continued support and partnership in our journey toward reaching Cambodia's millions with Christ's message of hope.



Photo by: Amy Greek

Our Dreams for Cambodia

We would like to share with you some of what we mean when we talk about our dreams for ministry in Cambodia. These are our general goals for our *initial* commitment of ten years.

- ✓ To teach God's Word to members of our community and their family and friends in other communities
- ✓ To encourage the regular gathering together of those community members who accept Christ's saving message and put Him on in baptism
- ✓ To foster deeper study of God's Word and to actively promote the spiritual growth of the church body both on a congregational and individual level
- ✓ To strongly advocate individual and congregational evangelism with the community and family units
- ✓ To see the local church establish a Cambodian eldership in each church family and to see Khmer Christians exclusively serving in all church roles
- ✓ Finally, to decide on a new location to serve God

Prayer

Requests

- For God to open the hearts of those we are planning to visit and discuss Cambodia plans with in September
- For the new team formation process we are beginning with the Wheelers, Hayeses, and Adamses
- For the Casey's family on the loss of her grandmother

*His Gifts
for
His Glory!*



From Maggie

I have now traveled on a train. It was so much fun. I woke up at 4:30 AM just so I could see the sunrise in Bangkok. I had a lot of fun with Aunt Natalie who read me many great stories while we were in Cambodia. I learned how to say "hello" in Cambodian, too. I know "hello" in lots of languages.

I am going to miss eating rice and noodles all the time. They didn't even have my favorite pork and sticky rice in Cambodia! I did eat crab and stingray there though. Yum!

I can't wait to see my family when we fly "back 'Merica!"

From Melanie

I am growing all the time! I can laugh and talk. I suck my first two fingers just like my big sister, and I have a "night-night (a blanket to sleep with)" just like Maggie, too! Mommy says I am really easy. I just like to sit and watch everyone else. Maggie helps me brush my hair, and she even gives me food and drink when Daddy and Mommy aren't looking.

I sure don't like to be hot, so I am happy to make my first visit to America. I want to meet all my aunts, uncles, and cousins!

Kids' Korner



**Several new sites have been made by Tentmaker!
Click below to see them!**



Go to tentmaker.allisonmission.com to receive a quote for your new website!

100% of our profits go to support our work in Cambodia!