

Dear friends and families,

We trust that you and yours are well. We have been busy in the last couple of months. As you recalled, we started a renovation project at Company of Grace in March. We are pleased to let you know that we are on the final stage of completing this renovation. The construction of the café and the new toilets are done. We are putting the playground together with new artificial turf and new playground equipment. The café is now fully operational. It is a great addition to our facilities. We have been able to create a new job as a café manager and were able to fill it with a single mum with disabilities. She now has a stable income with us. The café also serves our students as it provides snacks, drinks and a place for our students to hangout. As they buy snacks and drinks from us it helps generate an income which then is used to pay the café manager. We have also seen our students' parents come sit and chat with each other at the café. We are slowly getting to know them and have had some good conversations. We trust this will deepen our relationship with the parents.



We also have added a new and fully airconditioned room with comfortable sofas and tables. This has become a common place for visitors, guests and our staff to meet, hangout, run trainings and seminars. We have seen it has a great potential for further developments, sharing and building relationships. As part of the renovation, we have also managed to upgrade our existing toilets and added 3 more brand new toilets and showers. It has lifted the hygiene standard as we strive to provide a safe and welcoming environment for all who come to Company of Grace. Adding the shower was a great decision as it allows our volunteers to freshen up after spending a day working outside in the heat. Now that we have the cafe opened and most of the spaces completed, we can provide better services to the students and parents who come to the facility. It has allowed us to fully maximize usage of the space that was previously un-usable. It is giving everyone a breath of fresh air, feeling more welcoming and safer environment for children to play. The kids love the cafe/play area, and it is also easily visible to monitor what is going on. It is already drawing a lot of positive responses from the local community, and they are spreading the word about

our renovation and inviting others to come visit/play - we hope this will bring more people for us to share the love of Christ.



It has been a long 3 months of hard work, sweat and disruptions at the centre. We had to put a lot of activities on hold because of the construction. It was not safe for the children to run around on the premises. As we demolished the old structure, we found out there were hidden issues with the foundation/structure/plumbing which resulted in unaccounted expenses. However, it is all worth it as we open the playground for the wider community to come and use in the afternoons between 3:30 to 8:30 pm. We have seen mums with kids come and enjoy the facility, the soccer field and the fish aquarium that have been added. It is our way of sharing the blessings to those around us. Now that most of interruptions are over, all hands are on deck with the work that we have at Company of Grace.

Our English classes have been going for over a month now. We are however in need of an extra English teacher with all the demands that we have. Our Kidz club also started again at the beginning of August. Ngoc is in the process of getting her mum's group restarted again and she would love to have a couple of mums who are local believers. We are in the final stage of gathering all the required documents and certificates for the daycare license application. We have a few candidates for the teaching positions as well as a certified cook in the kitchen for the kids.

We have started thinking about our annual Christmas program for this year as it is fast approaching us. We usually would go to visit a couple of remote communities and hand out care packages. We also would like to put on a whole Christmas carnival with games and activities as well as telling people the real Christmas story. It is always fun and meaningful for the givers as well as the receivers. This year, we have made a connection with a Hmong community about 6 hours north of HCMC. This by far has been the poorest place we have seen. There are about 2000 people in this community, 400 of whom are children. They live in the middle of nowhere, it is so remote that there is no running water or power. The nearest school for the children to go to is about an hour ride away. The road conditions are relatively poor, especially when it rains. Most young people would get

married when they reach the age of 14 or 15. These people are coffee growers, their main source of income. Our care packages this year will look a tad different as they will cater specifically to their unique needs. If you would like to be involved in our Christmas program, please let us know.



Following the partnership that has recently been formed between Company of Grace and Baptist Mission Australia, if you would like to receive a tax-deductible receipt for your donation to COG, it will now need to be redirected to BMA, otherwise other giving routes are as usual. We certainly have been highly grateful for our unwavering support in love, prayer and finance. With all the needs above, we would really appreciate your continuous support in prayers so that the Lord will provide us with the people who will be the perfect fit for our work.

Matters for your considerations:

1. For a good and safe school year of learning, and teaching for all the students and teachers at Company of Grace.
2. For Hien Stone and the staff as they navigate through ups and downs of running a school.
3. For the right people to fill out the vacancies that we have so that we can open the daycare centre.
4. For God to be gloried and proclaimed through all activities and programs that we run at COG.