

LETTERS

Jesus, the One I Rely On



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The LORD is good
to those who wait for him,
to the soul who seeks him.

It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.

Lamentations 3:25-26 (ESV)



Fire spreading from the garbage incinerator near the center / The sky of Palangkaraya, where smoke has made it impossible to see ahead / The forest beside the road burning on our way back from a ministry site

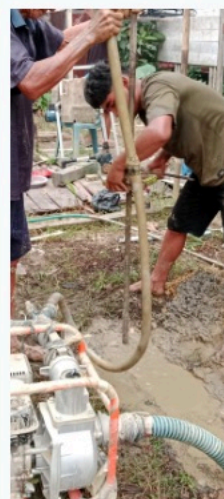
"Kebakaran" is an Indonesian word meaning "fire" or "conflagration." Here it refers to the forest and land fires that are, for the most part, deliberately set to clear land for farms and palm oil plantations through slash-and-burn methods. When the dry season (July to October) arrives, large corporate plantations and local farmers alike set fire to the forests on purpose to save costs. When these fires spread out of control, they produce enormous amounts of toxic smoke (haze).

A sky full of ash, dusty ground, and even riverbeds laid bare. Palangkaraya is suffering more than ever before. Kalimantan, once green and beautiful, is so thick with smoke that nothing can be seen ahead. Because of the polluted air, many people have come down with respiratory illnesses, and students cannot go to school. It breaks our hearts to see people who can only wait for rain because there is no clear solution.

Faced with the limits of frail humanity, all we can do is seek the Lord's compassion for this land and worship Him together with these people in the place where He has called us. We look to the Lord, the only reason we can wait for hope in the midst of despair and sing of strength in the midst of weakness. Today again, we pray earnestly that the rain of God's grace will soon fall on this land, and we ask you to pray for this land with us.

OUTREACH MINISTRY

TEWANG KARANGAN (GSJA BETHELEHAM)



A believer who came out of Hindu Kaharingan sharing a testimony during worship after becoming a Christian / Digging the well / A newly baptized family



Worship held at Pak Elis's home / Worship at the new place of worship / With the believers after delivering sembako (basic necessities)

It is truly overwhelming and moving to witness God carrying out His work of salvation through those He has chosen. After the Christmas service in December 2025, an elderly couple who had followed Hindu Kaharingan heard the sermon coming from the speakers and came to us on their own, saying they wanted to believe in Jesus. After this had happened, over the following nine months, eight more people were baptized, and the space became too small for us to keep worshiping at Pak Elis's home. So we rented an empty house in the village and moved our place of worship to a somewhat larger space. The third week of this September marked two years since we began worshiping at Pak Elis's home, and we all gathered for a joyful, grateful anniversary service.

Recently, we helped them to dig a well for the believers who have been suffering from the drought. They have said they will share this water not only among themselves but also with their unbelieving neighbors, and through it they will share the love of Jesus. We earnestly pray that through this small act of love, the love of Jesus will flow abundantly.

MARAWAN (GSJA KEMAH BARU)

We give thanks that the youth worship service, which began earlier this year, has continued without interruption to this day. Here, where people travel by small river boats called klotok, the rivers have dried up and getting supplies has become much harder than before. The haze from the kebakaran has made living conditions in the village even worse. Even so, we earnestly pray that God's grace will fill these precious young people who keep gathering to worship in such circumstances.

Also, since the youth service began, younger siblings have been following their older brothers and sisters, so we started a Sunday school service for them as well. Because the ongoing

fires have made the air so bad, it is on pause for now, but we pray that things will improve soon and that the day will come quickly when we can worship with the children here again.

One more praise report: at the end of this year or early next year, we will be able to receive some financial support in church construction from the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs. The church has flooded every time the river has risen. We look forward to its becoming a safe and clean place of worship where even more children and youth can gather.



With Paham after worship / After Sunday school and youth worship

COMPASSION

In a land with so many who are economically and socially marginalized, we often find ourselves thinking that our relief work cannot be a fundamental solution to the problems in their lives. Even so, we know that we ourselves have lived, and will

continue to live, through someone who let Christ's love flow to us, and so we cannot turn away from the situation of those who need help right now. Having gone through this fire and smoke crisis (kebakaran), we have once again resolved that, although our help is small and limited, we must never stop caring for and serving the people around us.

Thankfully, some people heard about this situation and sent gifts like the widow's two mites. Thanks to that precious love, we were able to buy and distribute the daily necessities and face masks that these neighbors needed most urgently. We sincerely hope that the love of Jesus, who never forgot the marginalized in difficult circumstances, will flow to even more people in this land.



We shared the masks sent by a church member from Singapore.



Distributing daily necessities to the believers of Tewang Karangan / A sandbar exposed in the river in front of the church

PREACHING

God grants us the opportunity to preach steadily at Adonai Shamma Church, our partner church in Palangkaraya, and at its branch church, Shalom Church. God also continues to open doors for us to proclaim His Word at churches all across GSJA Central Kalimantan. Please pray that wherever we go, we will be faithful servants who fully speak forth the heart God wants to convey.



GSJA Shalom Church Sunday service / Shekina Church in Kandui / GSJA Allah Bapa Church



GSJA Sungai Kehidupan Church, Banjarbaru

Last May, we had a chance to minister at a church in the city of Banjar Baru in South Kalimantan. The church has a sanctuary building and holds worship every week, but it has

not received official approval from the provincial government as a religious facility, so publicly it uses the name "house of prayer" instead of "church."

Indonesia nominally guarantees freedom of religion, but we were told that in cities where Islam is strong, like Banjarmasin, permits for churches are almost never granted in practice.

When the senior pastor, pastor Elisa first arrived, neighbors threw stones at the church building, and he endured many persecutions and hardships, including imprisonment. Yet because of the faithful members who did not waver and kept their faith, the church has been preserved to this day and has not fallen. Please pray that this precious church will soon receive official permission as a religious facility and stand as a

bold spiritual lighthouse in this land.

TK (kindergarten)

We are witnessing the long-prayed-for vision of Pastor Merry of Adonai Shammah Church for educational ministry being fulfilled in God's perfect way, beginning with the miraculous purchase of the land last year. From buying the land to obtaining the education-site permit, nothing was accomplished by our own strength. God has faithfully sent helping hands not only here but also from Korea. Hearing of this precious ministry, the Rotary Club in Korea decided to fund the construction of the kindergarten. Last August they visited the site in person and confirmed the construction, and beyond simply supporting the building, they proposed pursuing ongoing educational work together with us. In the second week of this September, we finally received the building permit, and we plan



At the construction site with officers of the Korean Rotary Club, last August

to begin full-scale construction this coming October, with a goal of completion in March 2027.

Pak John, who is in charge of construction, has already hired workers from Jakarta and purchased materials in advance, and he is communicating with us quickly and accurately. It is not easy to find such a good builder in Kalimantan, and it seems that God planned ahead and was waiting, sending us good partners. We give thanks, trusting that God will also provide everything else at the most fitting time, just as He has prepared it: the remaining funds needed to run the kindergarten after construction, the recruitment and salaries of teachers, and the management of the facilities. We earnestly hope and pray that through this kindergarten, the day will soon come when the neighbors in the many new housing developments nearby experience the love of Jesus Christ.

DISCIPLESHIP & TRAINING

PASTORAL SEMINAR IN SUMATRA



Last June, we visited several regions of Sumatra to conduct pastors' seminars and revival meetings. Starting from Medan, we traveled ten hours to the Sibolga area and served five churches there. After another five hours' travel, we served two churches in Parapat. We then went one more hour by boat and two hours by car to reach Samosir, where we served one church. Finally, we traveled four hours by car to the Berastagi area and led meetings at three churches. The long-distance travel and the schedule of more than ten days left us physically tired, but our spirits and hearts were filled with joy and gratitude at what God was doing.

At GSJA Sion Gonting Mahe Church, we met a young Muslim man. He had come to believe that the religion he had followed all his life held no truth, and he was deeply troubled. He had

resolved that if he ever had the chance, he would go to a church and look for that truth. He wanted to, but it is not easy for a Muslim to enter a church. One day, as he passed by the church, he saw a poster about revival service on its outer wall and thought, "This is my chance. I will bring my sick mother to the church." He gathered his courage and attended the meeting. Thankfully, through that meeting, the young man was saved and his mother, who could not walk, was healed. Through this young man's testimony, we could feel once again how urgent and how earnest God's heart is for lost souls.

Throughout the Sumatra ministry, the Holy Spirit worked powerfully at every evening meeting and taught the local ministers, who were hungry to learn, many things. Despite the long distances, the pastors took time off from their livelihoods to attend the seminar. Though the time was short, together we studied God's Word on the theme "The Kingdom of God and the Church of Christ," learning how to build His kingdom together with our congregations in the churches God has entrusted to us, and we were able to reaffirm the calling of a pastor. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity, beyond

Central Kalimantan and in other parts of Indonesia as well, to help rebuild and raise up pastors who have been broken in their ministry and lives, by establishing together the calling God has given them through such seminars.



With the pastors who attended the seminar

LEV ENGLISH



The first English course, which began last year, ended in grace, and since May this year we have been running an "intensive advanced class" with

a small group of students. Among them, Natan, Dendra, Key, Ester, and Tiara have attended every week without fail. In August and September especially, the kebakaran became so

severe that even school classes moved online, but these children's burning passion for learning could not be stopped. We earnestly hope that God will add heavenly wisdom to these precious children, who always do their best even with classes that could easily become tedious and a large amount of homework.

This class is more than a time of academic study to build English skills. It is a time of spiritual training for living as "disciples of Jesus" in this land. That is why before each class we always open our hearts with praise and prayer and memorize God's Word. We look forward to the day, not far off, when these students, quietly trained in a harsh environment, will live as faithful children of light who brighten this land.

Dendra in particular is now majoring in Christian education at a Christian university in Palangkaraya, and besides studying English through LEV ENGLISH, we are about to offer him an individual Bible study as well. Since he hopes to become a pastor, he needs experience and training in the ministry field as well as academic study, so we travel to ministry sites together

whenever we have the chance. Please pray that Dendra will grow into a servant who pleases God.



At Shekina Church in Kandui / On the way to Marawan Church / Den giving a testimony

MINISTRY FOR YOUNG ADULTS



With students of the Psychology Department,
Palangkaraya State University

Last August, we were thankful to be invited by the student council of the Psychology Department at Palangkaraya State University to lead a university students' joint

worship service. Meeting young people like the morning dew and sharing the gospel of the Lord more deeply is always moving and precious. Even though it is not a Christian

university, the eyes of the state university students who gathered, longing for worship, were so precious and beautiful.

Then in September, we were privileged with an opportunity to preach at a joint worship service at the Palangkaraya State Christian Institute (IAKN).



After worship at IAKN (Institut Agama Kristen Negeri, the State Christian Institute)

Worshiping God with one voice alongside so many university students, we tasted deep, burning joy. We earnestly hope that through these young people, who remember their Creator in the days of their youth and kneel before Him, the work of the Lord bringing the many young people of Palangkaraya who do not yet know Jesus back to Himself will grow ever richer.

LEV ADONAI MISSION CENTER

Business as Mission



Preparing a restaurant at a place owned by a local acquaintance.

The center has finished its electrical work and is now going through the last steps of the building permit. However, approval is delayed because we have not yet received a

"waiver letter" from the contractor who did the earlier work. We need to resolve this so that we can open a proper restaurant afterward.

Since we cannot simply wait while the opening of the restaurant in the center keeps being postponed, our team decided to rent a small outside space, sell food there first, and build the foundation of the business. We hope that the salaries of our Lev Adonai local staff can be raised on our own from its income, so we earnestly pray that God will open the way for the business. For Business as mission, Kai is in charge of it. Please pray for him.

Meanwhile, the seriousness of the kebakaran is no longer just smoke blowing in from far away. It has become a direct threat

to our center. The center is surrounded by dense trees, and there are also several garbage incinerators nearby, so we spend every day in tension.

Recently, fires broke out at multiple places around us and the flames continued for several days. On some days we had to run out and put out fires in the deep hours of the early morning. Thankfully, by the Lord's protection we were able to save the center building, but the staff and ministers breathed in a great deal of toxic smoke while spraying water to fight the fires. Please pray earnestly that the rain of God's grace will soon fall, that the flames and smoke in this land will die down.



Embers left underground flaring up again in the wind / A fire that broke out only about 100 meters from the center
/ Catching our breath after putting out an early-morning fire near the center with sand, since there was no water

THE KANG'S

Ethan began living independently in a shared house last June. Seeing him find a house and sign the contract on his own, it truly feels as if he has become an adult who has left his parents' care. On days without classes, he rides an electric bicycle 30 to 40 minutes to work at a nursing home, and not long ago he nearly had a dangerous accident because of a driver's fault. Thankfully he jumped off the bike quickly and was not badly hurt, but the shock broke the bike, and on the way home he almost had another accident. He has to ride on roads with car traffic, so as parents we always worry about his safety, but we believe that through this, Ethan is having precious days of experiencing God who guards and protects him.



Two months ago, while working at the nursing home, he sprained his right wrist trying to catch an Australian grandfather of nearly 140 kg who was falling out of bed. He is receiving physical therapy now, but recovery is slow, perhaps because of inflammation, and we are worried. Still, we are thankful that in this difficult situation he coordinated well with his company on his own, moved to office work, and claimed his medical expenses. Seeing him learn to live as a responsible member of society, we experience once again God keeping and raising our child. We thank God for His grace in training and leading Ethan well over the past year, and we thank once more everyone who prayed for him and cared for him.



Jaden's first year of dormitory life was not easy, but by the grace of our faithful God, he was able to finish it well. Even amid the unfamiliar and demanding life, he thankfully completed 10th grade (the first year of high school in Korea)



with an academic excellence award and a performance award at the closing ceremony.

However, in 10th grade, when preparation for university admission begins in earnest, Jaden instead ran into deep worries about his future path. While other friends were rushing ahead to prepare for admissions, he stopped and spent a long time thinking, saying he did not know what he was good at. It was not easy for us as parents to watch that time of pause, but all we could do was trust the perfect plan of God who created Jaden, and wait.

After a year spent without confidence, at a spiritual retreat he attended before summer vacation ended, he clung to God with a longing heart, and the Holy Spirit warmly touched Jaden's heart. From that spiritual recovery on, as we discovered Jaden's temperament and character together and sought God's guidance, an acquaintance recommended the profession of 'occupational therapist,' and we learned about it. It seemed a truly good fit for Jaden, who has a big heart for helping others and knows how to observe people carefully and see their

needs. So as a family we prayed together and decided to prepare to enter a related department. Since our goal is for him to study together with his brother, he will need to raise his grades further and the door of finances must open, but we believe that if this is what God planned, He will surely lead us faithfully, and we intend to do our best.

Jaden has always been physically weak and had no confidence in sports, but this semester he took up volleyball, which he happened to become interested in, somewhat late, and was even selected for the school team, learning the joy of exercise for the first time. Since childhood he has been a child who thinks deeply about everything and walks slowly, so both university preparation and sports have started a little later than for others. But we believe Jaden will move forward like a snail, in the right direction and at his own unique pace. We trust God, Jaden's Creator, and look forward to the future the Lord Himself will shape for him. Once again, we sincerely thank everyone who always prays for and cheers on Jaden.

MISSION VEHICLE



Lastly, we would like to share the amazing grace of God's provision through a mission vehicle. When we first came to Palangkaraya in year 2024,

God gave us a vehicle essential for ministry through several members of NHC. We bought a used car in good condition and have used it gratefully, but as we traveled deep into the jungle for ministry, the rough roads made a four-wheel-drive vehicle an urgent need. Then the NHC missions director heard about our ministry situation and shared the vehicle prayer request with the church, and thankfully a door opened for special support for “MISSION VEHICLE.” Before long, the offerings needed to buy the vehicle were miraculously filled in full. So in last May, we were able to buy a used four-wheel-drive car in good condition in Jakarta, and David shipped it safely by ferry, a journey of one night and two days, from Surabaya (a port city on Java) to Banjarmasin (a port city in Kalimantan). Thanks to this, we can now focus wholly on ministry without worrying about rough

road conditions. The vehicle is now our sturdy set of feet, traveling all over Kalimantan. We lift up praise for the amazing grace of God, who provides in the most perfect way at the most perfect time. We also sincerely thank NHC and all our partners elsewhere who always weep and laugh with us and work alongside us.

PRAY FOR US

1. That God would send rain so the kebakaran ends and everything returns to normal soon,

2. That God would grant recovery to local people who have developed respiratory health problems from the smoke,

3. That the speakers and microphones needed for Tewang Karangan Church would be provided,

4. That teachers would be raised up for the Sunday school



ministry at Marawan Church,

5.That the business ministry would go smoothly,

6.That the kindergarten construction and preparation of its educational content would go well,

7.That the students being discipled, beginning with the English classes, would find the vision God has given them,

8.That education sponsors would be provided so Ethan and Jaden can continue their studies,

9.That our family, though scattered, would be healthy and strong in spirit, soul, and body in each of our places, and would be united as one,

10.That God's grace would overflow daily upon the families and workplaces of all our partners in ministry.

