



## MINUTE FOR MISSION

July 15, 2007

### The Emergent Church in Laos



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Several hours from the capital city, a group of about fifty Christians gather weekly in the countryside to worship Jesus as Lord and Savior. In 2005 a husband and wife who had recently been trained as lay leaders were sent to pastor this newly emerging group of believers. Although the communist government of Laos has opposed Christian efforts, during the couple's first year of ministry the church more than tripled in size to about 180 members.



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Both the husband and wife had received visions from the Lord and were obedient to the guidance they were given by God through these visions. The vision the wife received was to gather women at the church to embroider bags and other cloth items for resale. Through a grant that had been received, she purchased the necessary start-up items and trained some women to sew. Several times a week two, three, or more women would gather in their house to embroider. As they sewed the wife would tell them about Jesus and how to follow him.

During that same year her husband began to receive visions from God at night. In the vision, God instructed him to go to a specific home in one of the villages because the people there needed help. The pastor obeyed God's leading through the vision and went to those villages. When the pastor arrived he would inform the people who gathered how God had led him to their village. Those who gathered would be the people God had guided him to in the vision. Then he would pray for them and they would be healed or delivered. Because of God's love and power, these new believers began to join the weekly services at the pastor's house. Eight nearby villages now testify to the power of the risen Christ in gatherings.

Please pray for the believers in Laos that they stand firm in their faith in the midst of persecution and difficulty.

*Do you have a mission story to tell? Would you like to read inspiring stories of Presbyterians in mission? Visit the Witness Season Web site: [www.pcusa.org/witness](http://www.pcusa.org/witness). New minutes for mission are posted on the 1st and 15th of each month.*

*For more information on the Witness Season mission education emphasis contact Billie Healy, Associate for Mission Education Resources (888) 728-7228, ext. 5689, or [Bhealy@ctr.pcusa.org](mailto:Bhealy@ctr.pcusa.org).*

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