

2025 Village Christmas Meals Project

Each year at Christmastime, Christians in Myanmar come together in their villages for a time of celebration, singing, preaching, and sharing meals. Traditionally, Christmas is the one time of year when even the poorest of the poor have a chance to eat beef or pork!

In the past, for several months leading up to Christmas Eve, families would donate small amounts of rice or money into a common fund. Then, just before Christmas, the elders would use that money to buy a pig or a cow. Everyone contributed rice and vegetables, and the churches hosted a joyful, multi-day feast!



Members of Khamphat Christian Church preparing for Christmas (2019)

The festivities began on Christmas Eve with a celebratory meal and worship service, followed by all-night singing, games, preaching, and traditional dancing. On Christmas Day, they gathered again for another round of joyful fellowship and feasting. Christmas has also been a special time for Christians to reach out and share their joy with Buddhist neighbors—inviting them to join the feast without fear of reprisals or persecution.

Did you notice that I said this is how things used to be? Sadly, since the COVID lockdowns—and especially after the civil war began—things in Myanmar no longer work the way they once did.

Now, after years of conflict, many villages have been almost completely abandoned. Military activity has driven families into the forests and jungles, where they live under tarps or in makeshift shelters. Hunger and hardship have become daily realities for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

As Christmas approaches, there is still no peace in sight. Each passing day leaves the people feeling more hopeless and forgotten. They continue to worship God as best they can in their temporary "churches," but it's not easy. From the comfort of our homes, it's hard to truly imagine the hardship and discouragement they face.

What Can We Do?

You might be thinking, "This is tragic—but what can I do about it?"

The Village Christmas Meals Project is one tangible, beautiful way to shine light into the lives of our suffering brothers and sisters in Christ.

Myanmar Hope Christian Mission has provided Christmas meal funds to poor villages every year since 2007. These funds are used to buy meat—usually a pig or a cow—for villages and community groups. The people then share what they have, bringing rice and vegetables, and for a few precious days, everyone can eat their fill.



Villagers sharing a Christmas Feast using VCM funds

Imagine spending Christmas Eve with your family under a leaky tarp in the woods, or under a bridge, or in a parking lot. Through no fault of your own, you're homeless, penniless, and hungry. There are no food banks, no government programs, no safety nets. Your children are crying for food, and you would give anything just to give them a good meal for Christmas.

This is the reality for thousands of families across Myanmar right now.

Now imagine your joy if, just before Christmas, a truck arrived at your camp filled with food and gifts. Your children would be jumping up and down, laughing and cheering in excitement!

That's exactly how the people of Myanmar feel when they realize that Christians in America and around the world cared enough to give—so they and their children can celebrate Christmas with full hearts and full bellies. Their gratitude and joy are overwhelming. Even in the midst of hardship, they can once again gather with family and friends to celebrate the birth of Christ with hope and thanksgiving.

How You Can Help

You can make a huge difference this Christmas!

Your gift of $300.00 provides enough food to feed **an entire village**—but **any amount, large or small**, will help bring joy and nourishment to families in need.

Please prayerfully consider making a donation today to share the love of Christ with our brothers and sisters in Myanmar this Christmas!

👉 Give Now at myanmarhope.org/donate

👉 Learn more at myanmarhope.org/village-christmas-meals

Together, we can help them celebrate the birth of our Savior with full hearts and full plates!

If you have questions and would like to speak to someone about this wonderful project, please give us a call or send us an email (info below) and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you and may God richly bless you!



Charles R. Cherry, Director
Myanmar Hope Christian Mission, Inc.
1104 206th St E, Spanaway, WA 98387
(217) 415-9187
info@myanmarhope.org
https://facebook.com/myanmarhope/
https://myanmarhope.org/

P.S. Please note that donations need to be received by December 5th in order to distribute the funds in time for Christmas. Thank you!