

Going Deeper – November 2021

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the November edition of Going Deeper. Thank you for your prayers and support for our partners. It is greatly appreciated.

Australia

Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA), Colin Battersby, Nick Wight

Pray For:

- A young Indigenous leader to step up into ministry in Esperance through the 2022 IMA Pathways Program.
- The Indigenous families and communities impacted by the most recent lockdowns in the eastern states.

Praise God:

- Auntie Margaret Little's bypass surgery went well. Please keep her (and her family and friends) in your prayers as she recovers.
- For the young man who gave his heart to the Lord following a Youth for Christ outreach from Hedland fellowship.
- That there have been six people baptised, with others returning to the Hedland church and several re-dedications.

Bangladesh

Bandarban Hills Churches of Christ (BHCOC), Vana Bawm

Pray For:

- The church buildings being constructed at Tamlo and Basatlang during COVID-19 will be completed soon.
- The people in the Hill communities who are struggling with sickness and loss of livelihood. Please also pray for the pastors and evangelists who minister to them.

Praise God:

- For the people who have recently come to faith in Christ and were baptised at Tamlo village.
- That 156 families have received food packages (including 39 non-Christian families).

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Fiji

Fiji Community Churches of Christ, Lomowai, Muneshwar

Pray For:

- More doors to open, so more people come to know God's love.

Praise God:

- That worship gatherings started last week. Everyone has been excited to see each other again.
- That borders are opening up and people are now slowly moving back into normalcy.

Fiji Community Churches of Christ, Lautoka, David Reddy

Pray For:

- God's joy and peace upon all the church members as in-person services resume, while we comply with regulations.
- A member who was admitted to hospital; she has been diagnosed with colon cancer. Please pray for her recovery and for her family.

Praise God:

- That since the restrictions have been lifted, church services can resume.
- That there will be more opportunities for jobs for the unemployed in the community.

India

Ashwood Memorial Hospital, Philemon Pawar

Pray For:

- Dr. Philemon, as he will complete 40 years of service in Ashwood Hospital in January 2022. Pray for the hospital's governing body, and for Dr. Rohit Thavare as he takes up the leadership of the hospital.
- The Committee for Daund Church of Christ as they plan and prepare for the Centenary Celebrations of the church at the beginning of next year.

Praise God:

- That after four months, in-person church services could resume.
- That the numbers of COVID-19 patients are stabilising.

Hosanna Ministries, Danny Gaikwad

Praise God:

- That all the children, youth and staff are in good health and all the centres are running smoothly.

- That Danny and Glory were able to get their first dose of AstraZeneca vaccine, and were able to register the other staff members online for the vaccine.

Papua New Guinea

Pioneer Bible Translators (PBT) La'o Curriculum Project, Martha Wade

Pray For:

- The two-week leadership training course on Exodus. It was again postponed. The new dates are Nov 22-Dec 3. Pray that it will take place and not be postponed.
- The Apal Scriptures translation project. Typesetting is now underway. Please pray for the national translator, Jeffrey, as he makes corrections for Genesis, Exodus and the New Testament.
- Please also pray for Martha and the team of volunteers, who will be re-recording corrected verses so that the Apal Scriptures can be finished.

South Sudan

Christian Mercy International (CMI), Paulino Malou

Pray For:

- God's guidance on the Government of South Sudan to elect and appoint the right Member of Parliament delegates into State Assembly Houses across the country. Pray that the delegates will look to the Constitution and be good leaders.
- The Churches of Christ to preach the gospel in Aweil Community and beyond. Pray for the CMI activities here in Aweil Town as we extend services to the local people.

Praise God:

- That Aweil Bible College has opened for the second semester and lectures are happening.
- For Paulino Malou's health, after recovering from malaria.

Thailand

Church of Christ Thailand (CCT), Tewin Somchit

Pray For:

- The severity of the ongoing spread of COVID-19 in Chiang Mai Province, which has been increasing since June. Fresh food has been hard to access and, when it is available, it is very expensive. Pray for all the people, especially those struggling financially or having difficulty eating well and staying healthy.
- Safety and protection as Thailand opens up its borders from November 1. The Thai Government has announced that vaccinated tourists will be able to enter Thailand again. Pray for this to benefit the whole country and not cause more spread of COVID-19.

Praise God:

- That despite the difficult situation of COVID-19 and the restrictions on meeting and travel, the Social Development Services Unit (SDSU) have been able to adapt so they can continue to offer seminars and programs.
- That all SDSU staff are now fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Vanuatu

Conference of Churches of Christ in Vanuatu (CCCV), Owen Bani

Pray For:

- CCCV as they re-advertise for a Community Development Coordinator. Pray that they will find the best candidate.
- Theologically qualified pastors to stand up as spiritual leaders in the next 5 to 10 years.
- The Vanuatu Christian Council (VCC) as it changes to the Vanuatu Christian Commission. This change will affect the status of the church, because it will now be legalised by an Act of Parliament and affiliation fees will increase.

Praise God:

- That Vanuatu is still COVID-19 free. Pray that God will grant wisdom to our political leaders to take precautions on the continuing fight and prevention of COVID-19.

Zimbabwe

Khayelihle Children's Village, Vimbai Vuma

Pray For:

- The children to have an opportunity to study, so that they will be able to excel in their examinations.
- Continued protection from COVID-19.

Praise God:

- For the good health of the children. Since schools have reopened, no children have had to miss school due to sickness.
- For the continued water supply. In past years during this time, water tables have been very low and access has been restricted. Praise God that this year has been different.

Associated Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe, BJ Mpofu

Pray For:

- Churches to be restored to good health following COVID-19 lock downs.

Praise God:

- For Evangelist Mafeda who has established eight churches in Somabula and done an excellent job in that area.
- For Pastor Wencilous Nyoni, a recent graduate of Zimbabwe Christian College and currently an understudy of Pastor Madzore of the Palawani Circuit. He will assume his position as Circuit Pastor of Lumber Mine on November 1.

Showers of Blessing, Boniface Mpofu

Pray For:

- The successful drilling of bore holes, to provide safe water for communities.
- Strong rains to provide adequate growth of crops during the approaching rainy season.

Praise God:

- For yet another great Safe Water September! Lockdown has eased, and travel can resume to assist new communities with safe water.
- That most rural communities have an adequate food supply as the country was blessed with good rains last season and the harvest was good.