

Going Deeper – December 2021

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the December 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

Praise God:

- That there is a great atmosphere in the Port Hedland Church with God adding to the church weekly, including new believers.
- That the Moorditj Keila 'Creative Koolingahs' kids' program is creating a safe place of connection and support for children after school in Perth.

Pray For:

- Tony and Francine Riches who are concluding their ministry in Melbourne in early 2022 and returning to WA. Pray for the right person to move into the ministry they leave behind.
- Young Aboriginal leaders who can step up into ministry opportunities in 2022 through the IMA Pathways Program.
- A casual social worker for the Dareton Youth and Community Centre.

Fiji

Fiji Community Churches of Christ, Lautoka, David Reddy

Praise God:

- That the member mentioned in last month's prayers is back home from the hospital and is feeling a lot better now.

Pray For:

- A member who has been experiencing excruciating hip pain for a few months. Several visits to the doctors have been unfruitful for her so far. Please pray that God will bring complete restoration and healing upon her.
- The church as they will decide on the plans and vision for the coming year, as well as training of new people to take up responsibilities in the church.
- God's provision and guidance to be upon the new couple to be married in Lautoka this month as they start a new chapter of their lives.

India

Hosanna Ministries, Danny Gaikwad

Praise God:

- That Danny and Smita have recovered from COVID-19, after testing positive in April this year.
- For His protection around all the children and staff at Hosanna, and for the provision of vaccines for staff.

Pray For:

- One of the teachers who has been sick with pneumonia for the last month.
- The community where Hosanna works. Pray that they would experience the love of Christ through their words and actions.

Philippines

International Christian College of Manila (ICCM), Ricardo Garcia

Pray For:

- The acquisition of a permanent, ICCM-owned facility for the college.
- An extension of the current lease on the school building, which is due to expire on 9 February 2022, until the end of the school year in May 2023. A previous request for a 10-year contract was denied.

Papua New Guinea

Gandep Bible College, Caleb Dankro

Praise God:

- For the nine students graduating from Gandep this year. Staff were encouraged by the positive reports following their one-month practical team ministries in the Lower Ramu and Sogeram areas.
- For the opportunity to participate in the Interdenominational Youth Ministry Week at Tumba, organised by Moses Bakura and the CLTC (Christian Leaders' Training College) ministry team.

Pray For:

- Steven Yamok who is concluding as Principal at Gandep Bible College (to move closer to home and assist at Yamen Bible School next year) and for Caleb Dankro (current Dean of Studies) as he takes on the role of Principal at Gandep.
- Pastor Yabru Jerry as he shares as guest speaker at the graduation ceremony on the theme 'Guard the Truth' (1 Timothy 6:20).

Thailand

Churches of Christ Thailand (CCT), Tewin Somchit

Praise God:

- That the SDSU (Social Development & Service Unit) team have been able to continue ministering to and helping people affected by COVID-19. SDSU has been able to provide food and essential resources for some households required to isolate at home.

Pray For:

- Vulnerable people living in Chiang Mai such as people with disability and chronic conditions. Many are also living in poverty, including migrant workers or other ethnic minority groups. They may not have the same rights as Thai citizens to health care.
- Hope Home, a social welfare home supported by the SDSU. The children in their care have disability that significantly impact their lives, and are vulnerable to COVID-19. Pray for the staff, that they will be encouraged and recognise God's care for them and the children.
- The churches within the CCT as they make plans to celebrate the advent season. Due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 and its effects on worship services, it is hard to plan what will take place and what outreach can occur.

Vanuatu

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

Pray For:

- God to send the right person for the position of Community Development Coordinator.

Praise God:

- For government grants that churches under the Vanuatu Christian Council can apply for, to undertake spiritual and evangelism work.

Vietnam

Churches of Christ in Vietnam, Ps T

Praise God:

- That leaders can meet monthly for prayer in the north and highlands regions. COVID-19 is not common there anymore, so restrictions have eased.

Pray For:

- A pastor who contracted COVID-19 after caring for her sick sister and family. Thankfully, because they were vaccinated, it hasn't been too severe, and she is slowly recovering.
- People who live in the Quang Nam and Dan Nang areas which are facing storms, floods and heavy rains.

Zimbabwe

Khayelihle Children's Village, Vimbai Vuma

Praise God:

- That in October two children joined the KCV family. They have adjusted well and all 48 children are doing well.
- That schools are able to re-open, adhering to COVID-19 restrictions.

Pray For:

- The three students writing their Advanced level examinations (Year 12) and the five writing their Ordinary level examinations (Year 11).
- Christmas to be a happy and memorable time for the children.

Associated Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe, BJ Mpofu

Praise God:

- That all the churches in Zimbabwe are able to operate with no restrictions. Most churches are reporting good weekly attendances.

Pray For:

- A good rainy season. Rainfall is usually due around this time of the year.
- Peace in Zimbabwe. There has been a degree of political intolerance which may cause instability in the country.