

## Going Deeper – July 2021

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the July 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 and Nick Wight

##### Pray For:

- The nearly 300 Aboriginal people in the Esperance District; many do not attend church. Pray that a young Aboriginal leader/pastor can step up in this area of ministry, and that IMA can support them.
- Ngamma Ministry in Perth and the upcoming preparations for the NAIDOC Gospel Dinner (4th July) and Art Exhibition at Lifestreams Church (June 27-July 4).
- The upcoming Ni Cultural Awareness Training Workshops with church leaders and Christian organisations.

##### Praise God:

- For growth in the Bunbury Aboriginal Christian Fellowship Church. There have been a couple of re-dedications, and two upcoming weddings.
- For warm and positive meetings in Adelaide, Port Augusta, Port Lincoln and Tjilgamooda (Ceduna) in May.

### Fiji

#### Sigatoka Church of Christ, Muneshwar Goundar

##### Pray For:

- Resources for the church during the pandemic. Fiji is facing their biggest COVID-19 challenges.
- The distribution of food hampers supplied by GMP to needy families.

##### Praise God:

- For the vaccines that have arrived in Fiji with the help of neighbouring countries.
- For the availability of face masks for our church. Praise God that others were able to be assisted with masks with the help of our partner churches.

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## India

### Hosanna Ministries, Danny Gaikwad

#### Pray For:

- India as it is hit hard with COVID-19. Pray that staff would get vaccinated soon. There is a mismanagement of vaccines in India.
- The families of missionaries and pastors that have lost loved ones due to COVID-19.

#### Praise God:

- That Daniel and Glory Gaikwad have completely recovered from COVID-19.
- For protecting our children, teachers and staff.

## Indonesia

### Churches of Christ Indonesia, Daniel Tri Handarkha

#### Pray For:

- Indonesia as it faces the COVID-19 pandemic which is not showing any sign of slowing.
- Unity and clarity to hear from God for Churches of Christ Indonesia in the next 20 years.
- Us as we plan for the General Assembly (Jumpa Nasional 2023) to elect a new Chair of the church. My job as Chair will finish in May 2023.

#### Praise God:

- That one of our self-sustaining projects in Sumatra has generated seven tons of organic manure. The income generated from this project enables the mission team to travel and build bridges to reach out to the community. One person has received Christ since.
- That the mini-poultry project grew. The turkey laid 18 eggs and four survived. We're grateful for this project which enables the church to open employment to its community.

### Christian Church Theological School of Indonesia (CCTSI), Hery Susanto

#### Pray For:

- Missionaries reaching the unreached people groups – six students have been sent out to minister among the Boteng tribe in Central Sulawesi, the Naulu tribes in Maluku, and the tribes on Sabu Island in East Timor.
- The COVID-19 situation. Things are going up and down, which makes everything so uncertain and challenging to plan.

#### Praise God:

- For the student graduation ceremony held on June 21. Thirteen young people attended from Sumatra, Nias, Sulawesi, Kalimantan, Java and East Timor.
- For Petrus Baela, CCTSI Director, who graduated with a Doctorate of Theology from Solo.

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## Philippines

### International Christian College of Manila (ICCM), Ricardo Garcia

#### Pray For:

- The companionship of our partners in ministry for a greater and deeper relationship with each other and with Christ.
- The extension of ICCM's lease for at least five years. As the lease nears completion (Feb 2022) and the owner intends to sell the property, we are praying that, by the grace of God, the owner grants another extension.
- The perfect timing for ICCM to buy the property or move to another place.

#### Praise God:

- For the many kind-hearted people (including GMP) whose financial and prayer support encourages ICCM to continue its mission.
- That ICCM could successfully finish the 2020-21 academic year, despite many challenges and struggles brought by the pandemic. This was seen by the virtual graduation of the two batches of students (2019-20 and 2020-21) conducted on May 15, 2021.
- For John Gilmore as the virtual guest speaker for this remarkable event of the College.

## South Sudan

### Christian Mercy International (CMI), Paulino Malou

#### Praise God:

- That Emmanuel School staff, teachers, children and community leaders have shown serious ownership of the school. The teachers have taken the initiative of teaching very well, even though the teachers' payment is delayed due to government policy.
- That the National Assembly is formed by the President of South Sudan. We hope it will bring all the political parties together for unified government and sustainable peace in our country.

#### Pray For:

- Paulino Malou and Deng James to continue training in Kenya, as they are studying Diplomas in Project Planning and Management.
- The rollout of COVID-19 vaccines nationally, so that deaths and cases are reduced.
- CMI and SSAM (South Sudan African Mission) leadership to regain internet connection.

## Thailand

### Church of Christ Thailand (CCT), Tewin Somchit

#### Pray For:

- Refugees fleeing Myanmar because of increased conflict in recent weeks. Pray that they will be able to receive their basic needs. SDSU (Social Development and Services Unit) and the Development Unit of the Karen Baptist (Phak 19) of the CCT have coordinated a campaign for donations of food, milk, essential supplies and tents.

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- A peaceful resolution of the conflict between Myanmar and Thailand. The fighting in Myanmar and on the Thai/Myanmar border is becoming more violent. Life for villagers in these areas is difficult. Please pray for their safety.

**Praise God:**

- That in the last month the local churches in Chiang Mai have been able to gather together virtually to worship God and join forces in prayer via online systems and livestream meetings on Facebook.

**Vanuatu**

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

**Pray For:**

- Church leaders from Pentecost, Santo and Malo. Pray that they can rebuild their church buildings.
- The ability for CCCV to construct a commercial building at Sugarcane to generate income.

**Praise God:**

- Praise God that the government, churches and individuals in Australia continuously support the people of Vanuatu in difficult situations.
- For GMP for their support of churches, schools and communities. Our prayer is that God will bless you all abundantly.

**Londua Technical College, Ambae, Principal Philip Neyava**

**Pray For:**

- Success of the application for government grants. The school fees collected are not enough. Government grants are needed to keep the school going.
- Rain in West Ambae. If there is no rain, the school will have to pay to transport water from other villages for students and staff to drink.

**Praise God:**

- That Londua Technical School commenced only a week later than anticipated this year. This was amazing considering the huge amount of work getting the school re-established on Ambae.
- That Principal Philip Neyava and his family have settled into the local community on Ambae.

**Vietnam**

**Churches of Christ Vietnam (COC), Ps T**

**Pray For:**

- The home churches in Ho Chi Minh City. As restrictions end, pray that they will be able to safely gather in person again.
- The reduction of COVID-19 cases in Vietnam. There are places still under quarantine. Please pray for the health of patients in isolation, and for the church to continue supporting them.

### **Praise God:**

- That the pastors of the Revival Mission Church have reported their communities are out of danger, and some people will be home soon. We thank God because He always listens to our prayers.

### **Bright Solutions Vietnam, Fiona Briers**

#### **Pray For:**

- Fiona's re-entry to Australia to go smoothly. Please pray that future plans can be carried out safely given the recent lockdowns in Sydney and other parts of Australia.
- The business dissolution, now in the hands of the second consultant. Please pray for collaboration between the two parties to be handled with grace and accuracy.

#### **Praise God:**

- For the smooth processing and timely departure of Fiona, including a negative Covid test to leave Vietnam. Praise Him for the care and concern shown during her quarantine.
- For a God-appointed renegotiated resolution of the business dissolution.

## **Zimbabwe**

### **Khayelihle Children's Village (KCV), Mrs Vimbai Vuma**

#### **Pray For:**

- Continuity and success of the income generating projects which include the dairy, horticulture and rabbit projects. Please pray for the start of a bee keeping project, which preparations have been made for.
- The improvement of the economy of Zimbabwe.

#### **Praise God:**

- For the gift of life and the good health of the children at KCV. Since winter has started, no child visited the clinic because of flu or a cough or any other disease associated with the cold weather. God has continued to protect KCV from being infected with COVID-19. At least five of our staff members have received the first doses of COVID-19 vaccinations.
- That our donors continue to support us despite the challenges of the pandemic which has affected the whole world. Please pray for their protection and pray for God's blessings upon them and their families.

### **Showers of Blessings Trust, Boniface Mpofu**

#### **Pray For:**

- The population as COVID-19 is on the increase again and more lockdown regulations have been imposed. Please pray that the impact will not be too great.
- The school children as they face another difficult year. Schools might be forced to close if the COVID-19 situation does not improve.

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### **Praise God:**

- That despite difficulties Showers of Blessings have provided six more communities with boreholes. This will go a long way in providing the much-needed water for constant hand washing. Please pray for them as they intend to reach out to more needy communities.

### **Associated Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe, BJ Mpofu**

#### **Pray For:**

- The pandemic to come to an end as soon as possible. A month after the church was allowed to operate normally, we woke to hear the news of another lockdown. Please pray for our pastors who find it frustrating having to work under these circumstances.
- Peace in Zimbabwe. The political climate is intense after the government made changes to our constitution, giving power to the President to appoint judges.

#### **Praise God:**

- For the life of Noel Sibanda, one of our retired pastors, who passed away on 13 June. Noel was a highly respected church minister who trained many lay preachers during his early working life. We praise God for his exemplary life of Christian service.