

Going Deeper – September 2017

Dear Friends,

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

Fiji

Fiji Community Churches of Christ, Bruce Edwards

Praise God:

- August was an encouraging month with some Australian visitors! GMP staff members, Sam Curkpatrick and Bryan Smyth, gained a good overview of the churches and context within Fiji. Paul and Amanda Cameron, from Churches of Christ VIC/TAS, joined us for our annual Pastor's Retreat last week.

Pray For:

- God's guidance and direction as our pastors continue to reflect on the implications of the learning at the retreat for their local contexts, and for our churches as a whole in Fiji.
- Continued deepening and strengthening of the unity and partnership between the pastors as we journey towards a significant leadership transition at the end of 2018. Pray for the identification and equipping of other leaders who can play a role alongside the pastors before, during and after that transition.

Indonesia

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

Praise God:

- For the many partners supporting us in prayer and friendship. This year two of our staff will complete their postgraduate degree.

Pray For:

- The ongoing program running this semester with 11 new students. Five students are still working in the field.
- The Kairos course, September 18-22. The Kairos team from Indonesia, CCTSI, and Wyoming Church of Christ from Australia will facilitate this course.

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Papua New Guinea

Melanesian Evangelical Churches of Christ and Pioneer Bible Translators (PBT), La'o Curriculum Project, Martha Wade

Praise God:

- Soni Bakura (a committed leader from the Kire language group) has come to the Sogeram area for six months to help church leaders renew their faith and begin serving God again.

Pray For:

- Leaders from the Apal language group will gather during the last week of August to do a final "listen-through" of the newly recorded translation of Genesis. This is the final step before publication, but there are still years of work recording and doing the last checks of all the translated scriptures in the Apal language.
- The recent graduates of Gandep are helping for a limited time with the Uavu church (Apal language group) and Iturangu church (Nend language group with some Apal speaking wives). Pray that these churches will become strong.

South Sudan

Christian Mercy International, Paulino Malou

Praise God:

- That God is changing South Sudan leaders' hearts to accept each other and restore unity for the people of South Sudan.

Pray For:

- Peace in South Sudan; for the national dialogues so that unity and peaceful coexistence is restored.
- The children and CMI Leadership; that God will protect them, and encourage them to work hard for the welfare of the people.

Thailand

The Eleventh District of the Church of Christ, Prasit Tongtuswattana

Praise God:

- For the various seminars and camps held during August.

Pray For:

- The Plang Church who are looking for land and planning to build a new Plang church.
- Wongutha (WA) Mission trip in November - December. Pray for their preparations.

Vanuatu

The Mobile Bible College (MBC), Judith Vusi

Praise God:

- The MBC continues to 'paddle its canoe' through the rough seas!

Pray For:

- The two students applying for a 2018 scholarship at Pacific Theological College in Suva, Fiji, and Christian Leaders Theological College in PNG.
- The funding required to begin the Diploma Program.

Vietnam

Bright Solutions, Fiona Briers

Praise God:

- The trainer has run the Micro-Small Entrepreneurs Support Program IECD training course competently, relating to the various levels of understanding.

Pray For:

- New staff. We've had a blockage in introducing new women to Bright Solutions. Pray for God to open the way, and for wise decisions.
- Pray for the next phase of training and evaluation reviews with all staff; for wise decisions and project planning.

Zimbabwe

Associated Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe, BJ Mpfu

Praise God:

- Our evangelists continue to participate in their work, although they face cash problems due to the economic crisis the country is facing.

Pray For:

- Shacky Moyo and the team of leaders in Zvishavane who are preparing to open a new preaching point in Mberengwa West.
- The churches at Tsikisayi who have had a few differences in the circuit. A big thank you to the District Committee that is sorting the problems.