

# Going Deeper – November 2023

Dear Friends,

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

## Thailand

### Church of Christ Thailand (CCT) and Social Development and Services Unit (SDSU), Tewin Somchit

#### Praise God:

- For the current government. Praise God for a peaceful resolution in the political life of the country after the elections.

#### Pray For:

- Currently, more than 30,000 Thai people are registered as working in Israel and are reporting difficulties. It is known that Thai workers died in the conflict on October 11 and Thai people were taken hostage. Pray for continued government evacuation. Pray for all affected in this conflict and for a peaceful resolution.
- Baan Sabaay is a shelter and resource centre located in Chiang Mai province with a long history connecting it to the CCT and specifically to the HIV/AIDS ministry. The shelter offers a safe place for respite, recovery and return to community life and is essential for those finding themselves without a home or community for support. Renovations will begin during November for the ministry. Pray as it restructures and seeks to be a support to people in times of life crisis.

## Vanuatu

### Conference of the Churches of Christ in Vanuatu (CCCV)

#### Pray For:

- Please pray for our partner communities affected by Cyclone Lola. We are in contact with our partners, and will continue to update you on the situation.

## Zimbabwe

### Associated Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe (ACCZ), BJ Mpfu

#### Praise God:

- For a good gathering of the men's fellowship held at Somabula.
- Makokoba Church's successful outreach brought a record number of service attendees in October.

#### Pray For:

- People are being beaten because they are suspects who voted for the opposition in the recent elections.

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## Showers of Blessing (OSBT), Boniface Mpofu

### Praise God:

- The communities of Gwemvurachena and South Devon are among the many who are celebrating piped water which has drastically eliminated walking distances for this precious liquid!
- Our elections are over and were relatively peaceful, though the result is contested

### Pray For:

- Zimbabwe has been experiencing unusual extreme heat and the forecast says the season will have below-normal rainfall. Please pray for the poorest in our communities who walk long distances for health care and water in these conditions.

## Please also join us in prayer for our brothers and sisters suffering in the conflict in Israel and Palestine.

### A Prayer for Israel and Palestine

Loving God, we come to you in this time of tragedy, after the sudden loss of loved ones due to the conflict in Israel and Palestine. For those who have been injured and captured, and for those whose homes have been destroyed. Father, we ask for your loving arms to embrace our brothers and sisters who are in so much pain.

Loving God, we pray for a miraculous de-escalation of this dangerous conflict. Terrible things are being done, many hundreds have died, hospitals are overflowing, and many are suddenly grieving. Violence is provoking violence, but we pray for reason to prevail over rage and revenge.

Loving God, as the people grapple with the severe loss, the injury and destruction that is all around them. God, we remember that you are higher than any other, we ask you to hold them in their time of anguish and uncertainty. May your presence and your compassion bring them peace.

Loving God, we lift the people of Israel and Palestine to you. We pray for all those impacted, and we pray for active and effective peacemaking. Lord, we also pray for the first responders, the medical professionals, the rescue workers, and for all those who volunteered to offer a helping hand. We pray that you grant them strength and courage in the hours and days to come.

Loving God, we pray for all Christians in the Holy Land, that they would be your hands and feet in this time. Give them strength to love both Jews and Muslims in their time of despair. May they be your peacemakers and a witness to your faithfulness and never-ending love for all people.

Loving God, upon you we rely, and to you we turn. You do not waver, and you do not abandon. Be with the people of Israel and Palestine in these days, and the weeks ahead as they face the tragedy of loss.

We bring you all these prayers and ask them in the precious name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.