

Going Deeper – August 2021

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the August 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

Pray For:

- The IMA-WA ministry team as they come together in Perth to plan and participate in discussions with GMP's Executive Officer, John Gilmore (from Melbourne).
- Pastor Greg and Margaret Little, as Greg preaches at several WA churches over the coming months.

Praise God:

- That new people are coming regularly to the Port Hedland Church and a good relationship is developing with the local Torres Strait Islander community. The 150th anniversary of the 'Coming of the Light' Christian festival on 1st July was celebrated at the church, with 100 people attending.
- That Peter Jetta at Bunbury Aboriginal Christian Fellowship recently dedicated his life to the Lord. Peter is applying for the Minister Accreditation Course to become a leader in the church.

Fiji

Fiji Community Churches of Christ, David Reddy

Pray For:

- God to continue moving and touching lives through online platforms.
- God's hand to be upon us, and to shield us from the effects the second COVID wave is having.

Praise God:

- That our churches have been able to reach many people who are in need during this time. It's been a trying time for people who have lost their jobs, and we have been able to be a blessing to these families through providing food packages.
- That online services have been going well so far. Since the restrictions began pastors can't minister to people in person, but technology has helped get God's word and encouragement across to our people.

Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd.

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Papua New Guinea

Melanesian Evangelical Churches of Christ (MECOC), Yabru Jerry

Pray For:

- The MECOC Annual General Meeting to go ahead safely in the first week of August. Pray for God's wisdom in decision making and voting to confirm leadership positions and future plans.
- The staff at Gandep School as they are to confirm a new Principal during the AGM. Pray for the current principal, Steven Yamok, as he returns home to the East Sepik for a year to take up a training role.

Thailand

Church of Christ Thailand (CCT), Tewin Somchit

Pray For:

- The CCT Assembly meetings to go ahead in October. As COVID-19 remains a serious threat, there are concerns that further lockdowns and restrictions will mean a meeting may not be possible. Pray for wisdom for the CCT leaders as they seek a safe and practical way forward.
- The planned project on children's life skills in Chiang Mai. Due to COVID-19, schools were closed, and the project has been unable to proceed. Pray that the Social Development and Services Unit will be able to safely proceed with the project in December.

Praise God:

- That the CCT have assisted their workers to receive first doses of COVID-19 vaccines. Praise God for this opportunity, and pray that this will soon be extended to all people who have registered to be vaccinated.
- That the Klong Toey Mission Centre is once again running and serving the community. Despite the difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic, and proximity to hot-spot areas in Bangkok, the Mission Centre is able to help people who really need it.

Vietnam

Churches of Christ Vietnam (COC), Ps T

Pray For:

- The people of Vietnam. The number of infections in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) is increasing daily. The delta variant is spreading quickly. The Ministry of Health is organising vaccinations so that people can be inoculated.

Praise God:

- That despite tragedies, God has used COVID-19 to connect pastors of all denominations and non-denominations together. Through Zoom we pray together for Vietnam and the world to quickly overcome this pandemic.

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- That the pastor and his wife from the Revival Ekklesia Mission Church, the first COVID-19 hot spot in HCMC recovered and are able to go home – although, the pastor has stayed in hospital to care for his son who is still ill.

Zimbabwe

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

Pray For:

- Zimbabwe as COVID-19 cases are increasing each day. Continue to pray for the protection of the children, staff, Board of Directors and donors. The children are not able to attend school at the moment. However, they are studying on their own in the KCV library.
- The dairy and beef, horticulture, rabbits, broilers and beekeeping projects. Pray that they will keep flourishing and providing much needed resources for KCV.

Associated Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe, BJ Mpofu

Pray For:

- Church leaders who are working under difficult conditions, due to the virus affecting many parts of our world.
- New pastors who started work this year, as the pandemic has disrupted their routine and they are finding it difficult to get to know the people in their circuits.

Praise God:

- For giving visionary leaders to our churches. Though Zimbabwe is back under lockdown, Mbilashaba Church in Zvishavane and Sharavanda in the Msipani Circuit are both extending their chapels. Both of these churches have been encouraged to see many people offer their lives to Jesus.
- For the bumper crop harvest people received this year. Praise God for the provision of food and resources to use and sell.

Showers of Blessings Trust, Boniface Mpofu

Pray For:

- The people of Zimbabwe, as the virus is affecting more people than before.
- Stability in the country as neighbouring South Africa has suffered unrest. This might lead to shortages of essential goods and medicine, as Zimbabwe gets most of their goods from South Africa.

Praise God:

- That food security and water security have improved thanks to a good season. Praise Him especially for healthy livestock in the rural areas.
- For the vaccinations which, though limited, are assisting in combating COVID-19.