

## Going Deeper – September 2020

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the September 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:

- For our Yamatji sister, Dawn Gilchrist, who has received the 'all clear' from her MRI and CT scans. Dawn is a valued friend of IMA. Also, we thank God for Ps Sonny Graham, who is recovering well from his two surgeries. He is doing better and is at home in Esperance with his wife, Frances.
- For James and Les Schultz (Norseman Church of Christ) and their community's efforts to bring about positive social change, through a community action plan to reduce alcohol consumption in Norseman. A wonderful story about this initiative was recently featured on Shaun Micallef's documentary, "On The Sauce" ([ABC iView. Ep. 3](#))

##### Pray For:

- The Dareton Youth and Community Centre, which continues to distribute much needed IMA Essentials Kits to families facing hardship in the community.
- Tony and Francine Riches, leaders of the Melbourne Indigenous Church Fellowship, are continuing their teaching ministry via video in the midst of Melbourne's tough Stage 4 lockdown. They would value your prayers, as many in their church community are experiencing extended isolation and have numerous health challenges.

### Bangladesh

#### Bandarban Hills Churches of Christ (BHCOC), Vana Bawm

A message from Vana:

*"We have been praying for all our brothers and sisters in Australia and all the GMP partners around the world. The churches kept fasting. We believe our prayer support will be a great weapon in this time of crisis."*

##### Praise God:

- For recent youth baptisms.
- For the support of GMP and its supporters for the churches in the Bandarban Hills.

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## Fiji

### Fiji Community Churches of Christ, David Reddy, Muneshwar Goundar and Raj Deo

#### Praise For:

- The Lomowai Church being functional in terms of a church body. Most people are doing their responsibilities well, and new families are being added in the church.

#### Pray For:

- Resources to complete the Lomowai Church building and maintenance work to the church van.
- Wisdom in dealing with some members of the church with family reunions.
- A young woman came to David Reddy (Lautoka) with a prayer request and gave her life to God. She is a doctor. Her hands are always itchy and irritated – some kind of skin disease is the problem. Even though she is a doctor, she requires God's healing.

## India

### Hosanna Ministries, Danny Gaikwad

#### Praise God:

- For His gracious and protective hand over all our staff and children at Hosanna Ministries, and providing for all our needs during the pandemic.
- That all the children of Emmanuel Education Centre, Mumbai, are thankful to all the supporters who helped their families with food packets during the lockdown.

#### Pray For:

- India, which has become the third worst pandemic affected country in the world after the US and Brazil. Kindly pray for the protection of young girls at risk of child marriage as a result of poverty due to lockdown.

## Indonesia

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

#### Praise God:

- That the new semester begins at CCTSI with six new students! Praise God for baptisms.

#### Pray For:

- Discipleship to be done wherever the church is.
- People suffering economically, and for those losing hope finding it harder to stand firm in faith.
- Children to do their schoolwork online and extra costs for internet data. Let God give us strength to pass this storm.

## South Sudan

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

#### Praise God:

- That God provided food for people in lockdown. The CMI COVID-19 Response Team is sharing alerts with the community. The children are well and doing their homework, with help from their teachers.
- That Paulino is busy and doing well.

#### Pray For:

- The project workers as they continue to follow up with youth and caretakers, supporting the households needs regarding treatment and feeding.
- Evangelists across our local Churches of Christ in Aweil. That God will provide opportunities for them while on their bicycles, and for easy transportation from one household to another.

## Thailand

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

#### Praise God:

- For the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kwai River Christian Hospital on the Thai-Myanmar border and the organisation of the Land Resource Management seminar in July.
- For the prayer support for the chicken-raising group has remained strong, and their determination and faith has enabled them to carry on with various activities.

#### Pray For:

- People's livelihood after the floods.
- The CCT General Committee meeting on 11-12 September.