



HARVEST 2026

# ∴ *Love that Keeps Giving*

THE GLOBAL MISSION PARTNERS QUARTERLY

**GLOBAL  
MISSION  
PARTNERS**

GOOD NEWS INSIDE 

## From the Team...

At Global Mission Partners, our commitment to supporting local national leaders has not only been with us from our inception and is not just a strategy—it is a theological conviction and a testament to truly effective mission in our day. This model is the core to our value proposition of knowing our partners and them knowing us.

The significance of this approach lies in the belief that God’s mission is most authentically expressed and sustainably advanced when stewarded by those embedded within the local culture. This echoes the apostolic pattern, where Paul instructed Titus to “appoint elders in every town” (Titus 1:5), emphasising the importance of commissioning local leaders. When we invest in local leaders, we are ensuring that ministry is culturally appropriate, immediately relevant, and deeply rooted, preventing the potential for dependencies - a lesson learnt from traditional, externally-driven mission models.

A national leader understands the local context, language, customs, and challenges in a way no outsider ever can. Empowering them accelerates true ownership of the mission. It shifts the dynamic from one of foreign intervention to genuine partnership, where resources—whether financial, relational, or intellectual—act as a catalyst rather than a crutch. This perspective, often highlighted in modern mission philosophy, emphasises mutuality and dignifies the gifts already present within the global Church.

By upholding this model in our new Harvest Partners offering, GMP ensures every dollar and every prayer achieves maximum transformative impact. We are not just planting programs; we are cultivating the growth of the Church by equipping God’s chosen leaders to love and lead their people toward Jesus, creating a sustainable legacy for generations to come.

I hope you will become a Harvest Partner with me.

- In Faith,
- John Lamerton
- Chief Executive Officer



### CONTENTS

From the Team ... 2

Good News - Your Impact ... 3

From Prison Cell to Living Hope – Pastor Thaug Myint’s Story... 4 – 5

Harvest Partners Philippines: From Hardship to Calling... 6 – 7

When Years of Prayer Are Answered ... 8

On the Ground -Partner Updates... 9

Let’s Pray... 10–11

Campaign... 12

## Good News

YOUR IMPACT

### Walking alongside First Nations Communities: Cadets Immersion Week

Nick Wight, the Indigenous Ministries Australia Manager, participated in the Salvation Army’s First Nations Immersion Week for 2026 cadets, held at Eva Burrows College in Ringwood, Victoria.

The week created space for learning, reflection and relationship-building, helping cadets grow in awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and perspectives.

The initiative builds on foundations established through the Salvation Army’s Indigenous Ministries in Australia, which continue to strengthen understanding and foster meaningful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

Led by the Indigenous Ministries team, the immersion week guided cadets through shared stories, cultural insights and practical learning experiences. It offered an opportunity not only to learn, but to listen and engage more deeply.

### Sowing Seeds of Faith Across the Philippines

Over the recent Christmas break, students from the International Christian College of Manila stepped beyond the classroom and into active ministry across their home provinces. As part of their practical training, they led children’s outreach programs, supported local churches and shared the gospel in communities that often have limited access to consistent ministry.

Through these outreaches, people came to know Jesus, some began attending church, and baptisms were reported. For many communities, this was more than a seasonal visit. It was a meaningful point of connection that opened the door for ongoing faith and discipleship.



### Preparing Harvest Workers for South Sudan’s Future

Three students from South Sudan, Arkanjelo Atuer Wie, Ngor Deng Kuach and Kuach Bol Jok have recently begun studying at Livingstone International University in Mbale, Uganda, pursuing Bachelor degrees in Christian Ministry and Community Development. Another student is preparing to join later this year, with plans to study Human Resources Development to support future ministry needs.

As they complete their studies, these students will return to their churches to preach, disciple and provide pastoral leadership. They will help strengthen local congregations and support church planting in underserved areas. Their training also equips them to guide community initiatives and respond to local needs. In contexts with limited trained leaders, their role will be both practical and spiritual.



## From Prison to Kingdom Harvest: Pastor Thaung Myint's Story

In the lead up to Easter, we are reminded that the story of the cross and resurrection is not distant history. It continues to unfold in lives transformed by grace. For Nai Thaung Myint, one of our partners in Thailand, that transformation began in a place few would expect.

Pastor Thaung did not grow up in the Christian faith and, in his younger years, made decisions that resulted in a nineteen-year imprisonment in another country.

Prison was marked by suffering, isolation and deep regret. Yet it was there, in confinement, that God began to work in his heart. "I had heard the Gospel before, but I couldn't understand or accept it; in fact, I even opposed it," he said.

Over time, through correspondence Bible courses, regular visits from prison missionaries and long hours spent reading Scripture and praying, something began to shift.

His journey to faith unfolded over time. As he studied the Bible, listened to visiting missionaries and spent long hours in prayer, his heart slowly began to change. He later described it as a "revelation of the heart" that made him aware of his deep need for God and led him to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

While still incarcerated, he was baptised by a fellow believer inside the facility. Following his decision to follow Christ, he became involved in weekly worship gatherings within the prison.

He was mentored by visiting missionaries and sustained by the prayers of believers around the world. Reflecting on those nineteen years, he said, "Throughout my nineteen-year incarceration, I was sustained by the intercession of hundreds of brothers and sisters from across the globe."

*"It was through the  
transformative power  
of prayer that I was  
empowered to conduct  
a prison ministry from  
within my cell."*

Repeated transfers between prisons and buildings, often without explanation, became unexpected opportunities. Each new location meant leaving behind familiarity and starting again.

Though the repeated transfers were difficult, they became unexpected opportunities to share the love of God with prisoners. "I was able to shine the light of Christ in the darkness," he explained, as he gathered fellow inmates for prayer and Sunday worship in each new prison building.

After his release, he pursued theological training at a Bible school in a refugee camp on the Thai-Myanmar border. Conditions were difficult. There were language barriers, limited resources and the challenge of studying alongside much younger classmates.

Despite the challenges, he remained committed to his studies and those four years profoundly shaped his character and calling. "Four years of Bible school taught me to see everything positively, to accept, to be patient, to understand, to love, to hope, to trust, to be humble, to be persistent, and to be dedicated," he reflected. These qualities became the foundations of his ministry.

Today, he serves as a missionary leading the Samut Songkhram Evangelism Center in Thailand. When he and his wife first arrived, they knew no one. They started by visiting migrant workers in plantations, workshops and factories, building relationships patiently and faithfully.



Over time, doors opened. The gospel was shared with thousands, hundreds responded in faith, and dozens were baptised. Weekly worship services were established, and children from migrant families began receiving educational support.

Since 2018, Global Mission Partners has walked alongside Samut Songkhram Evangelism Center. From the very beginning, Global Mission Partners provided essential and practical support, helping to establish the mission base and sustain the ongoing work. Even when other forms of family support ceased, Global Mission Partners and local partners ensured the evangelistic centre could remain open. "A lifeline in the growth of our evangelistic ministry," he said.

Looking back over his journey, he compared his life before Christ to a life lived in darkness. "A life in the light is a life that I live by knowing and accepting the Lord Jesus Christ and putting Him first in my life," he said.



## Harvest Partners Philippines: From Hardship to Calling

\* Names have been changed for privacy purposes

At the International Christian College of Manila (ICCM), students arrive with many different stories. Some come directly from church communities, eager to prepare for ministry. Others arrive carrying heavy personal struggles while searching for a new direction in life.

One student nearing graduation, Maria, represents both realities.

Only a few years ago, her life took a difficult turn when her marriage ended after her husband's unfaithfulness. Suddenly she found herself raising two children alone while trying to rebuild her life. The emotional weight of the separation, combined with the responsibility of caring for her family, pushed her to the point where she nearly gave up hope for the future.

Yet in the middle of that hardship, she made a decision that would shape the next chapter of her life. Rather than withdrawing, she chose to continue her studies at ICCM.

Continuing her education was not easy. Like many students at ICCM, she comes from limited financial means. To make it possible, she joined the college's work scholarship program, contributing through service while pursuing her studies. At the same time, relatives stepped in to support her and her children during the most difficult seasons.

Balancing study, work and parenting required constant perseverance. As a solo parent, she carries the daily responsibilities of caring for two children while also managing the demands of academic life and ministry preparation.

Despite those challenges, she has become known among her peers and teachers for her positive attitude and deep trust in God. Her story is not simply about overcoming hardship. It is about transformation through faith and community support.

While studying, she also serves actively in ministry.

Each weekend she travels to Lealtad Church of Christ, where she serves as the Children's Ministry Director and one of the teachers working with the church's young people. In this role she helps organise children's programs, teaches Bible lessons and supports the spiritual development of the next generation within the congregation.

Ministry is not an additional activity on top of her studies. It is part of a calling that has grown stronger through her experience.

ICCM's training program combines theological study with practical ministry engagement, ensuring that students are not only learning in the classroom but also serving within their local churches. For students like her, this integration has helped shape both their spiritual formation and their sense of purpose.

As she approaches graduation, she is preparing for the next step.

Her goal is to become a licensed school teacher while continuing to serve in children's ministry. Teaching will allow her to provide for her family while also investing in the lives of young people, both academically and spiritually.

This vision reflects the broader mission of ICCM. The college seeks to equip students not only for pastoral ministry but also for service in communities where education, leadership and faith often intersect. Many graduates go on to serve as teachers, church workers or community leaders.

The journey has been deeply personal. The challenges she faced once threatened to derail her future. Yet through perseverance, support from family and the encouragement of the church community, she has continued moving forward.

Her story illustrates how theological education can become a pathway for restoration as well as preparation. Instead of allowing hardship to define her future, she is now preparing to serve others through both education and ministry.

Soon she will graduate from ICCM.

What once felt like the end has become a new beginning shaped by faith, resilience and a commitment to serve the next generation.



## When Years of Prayer Are Answered

*\* Names have been changed for privacy purposes*

For years, Ruth prayed for her husband in Zimbabwe's Somabhula Circuit. He was a retired colonel, well-regarded in the community, but faith had never been part of his life. Ruth had come to know Christ and remained devoted to her faith. He had not taken that step, and there was no sign he ever would.

Still, she continued to pray.

Hoping that one day his heart might soften, she invited the local evangelist to their home so that he could speak with her husband about the gospel.

During the visit, the evangelist shared a message from John 1:12 about receiving Christ and becoming children of God. Her husband listened politely.

There was no visible change that day, but she did not lose hope.

Sometime later, her husband made a decision that surprised those around him. On a Sunday in October last year, he agreed to accompany her to church. For a man who had spent decades keeping his distance from faith, it was a small but significant step. It was the first time he had attended a service there.

During the message that morning, the local evangelist preached from the same passage in John's Gospel. This time the words reached him differently. As he listened, something shifted in his heart.

That day, the retired colonel publicly surrendered his life to Jesus Christ. For a man who had lived most of his life without faith, the moment marked a profound turning point. Just a week later, he stood before the congregation once again to be baptised, declaring his new faith publicly before the same community that had known him for years as anything but a churchgoer.

"I wasted 69 years without Jesus Christ. I won't waste another day," he said.

For Ruth, the moment was deeply personal. Years of quiet, faithful prayer had led to this. For the church in Somabhula, it was a reminder that no life is beyond the reach of God, and that the prayers of one faithful person can carry further than they know.

## On the Ground

PARTNER UPDATE

### Food Relief Brings Hope to Returning Families

Bandarban Hill Church of Christ distributed relief food packages to 150 families who had been displaced and were returning from India. This support helped meet immediate needs as families resettled in their communities. The relief was made possible through Global Mission Partners and was distributed in the lead-up to Christmas, bringing timely assistance during a difficult period.



### Helping Children Learn and Grow in India

In the second half of last year, around 50 attended the Emmanuel Education Centre each month. They received support in English, Maths, Science, Hindi and Marathi to help them keep up with their schoolwork. Teachers guided students in understanding lessons, improving writing skills and solving maths problems, while younger children learned basic alphabets and numbers. The program also included creative activities and games to support their overall development and build confidence.

### New Beginnings Through Hospitality Training

Global Mission Partners partners with Dhiyaan as a locally led Indigenous ministry, supporting programs like True Fella for at-risk young people. Dhiyaan is preparing to launch a coffee cart in Dalby as part of this initiative, with Indigenous Ministries Australia partnering through GMP's Pathways program. It will give young people the opportunity to gain hospitality certificates and hands-on skills in cooking and barista work.

Kate, a Goreng Goreng young person who has been part of the Dhiyaan community for many years, will be among the first to take part. After facing personal hardship that impacted her education, she is now stepping into new opportunities through mentoring and upcoming Immersion trips, building on her previous involvement.

She will begin a Certificate III in Hospitality while learning to help run the coffee cart, Big Sky Coffee, alongside the True Fella leaders. With support from local partners, the initiative is coming together, with plans to welcome another young Indigenous participant.



# Let's Pray

PRAYER PARTNERS

## Australia

*Indigenous Ministries Australia*

- Pray for Norseman Church as leaders discern and plan the future direction of the church.
- Pray for Bunbury Church, especially for Uncle Greg Little, asking for continued healing and strength as he recovers from a heart attack.

## Bangladesh

*Bandarban Hill Churches of Christ*

- Pray for pastors and evangelists as they continue ministry in challenging conditions.
- Pray for the construction of the BHCOC office building and the reconstruction of the Era Mru Church.

## India

*Hosanna Ministries*

- Pray for local leaders that they would be strengthened and encouraged in their ministry.
- Pray for strong relationships, open doors for impact and the resources needed to continue the work.

## Indonesia

*Asia Pacific International*

- Pray for church planters and their families serving in challenging contexts.

- Pray for funding, progress, and resources needed for places of worship, gatherings, and outreach.

*Christian Church Theological School of Indonesia*

- Pray for sufficient funding to complete the second stage of the dormitory project.
- Pray for God's provision and for strong, fruitful partnerships.

## Papua New Guinea

*The Melanesian Evangelical Churches of Christ*

- Pray for smooth coordination of the team's work.
- Pray for safe access to remote areas and favourable weather conditions.

## Philippines

*International Christian College of Manila*

- Pray for a strong finish to the academic year and growth in enrolment.
- Pray for wisdom for leadership as they plan future campus and financial needs.

## South Sudan

*Christian Mercy International*

- Pray for peace as instability continues to affect communities.
- Pray for the construction of a temporary building for Juba West Church of Christ.

- Pray for the establishment of Juba International Bible College to train future leaders.

*Laid Foundation of South Sudan*

- Pray that those affected by war and displacement experience peace, safety, and healing.

## Thailand

*Churches of Christ Thailand and Social Development and Services Unit*

- Pray for wisdom and unity as churches integrate evangelism with community care.

*Samut Songkhram Evangelism Center*

- Pray for leaders and volunteers to be encouraged and effective in outreach.

## Vanuatu

*Churches of Christ Conference in Vanuatu*

- Pray for the Leaders' Retreat to strengthen churches and ministries.
- Pray for a smooth leadership transition at Londua Technical College.
- Pray for staff and chaplains at Bombua School serving students.
- Pray for wisdom in supporting mental health needs and for the right leaders to be appointed.

## Vietnam

*The Churches of Christ in Vietnam*

- Pray for the 70 new believers, that their faith will grow through teaching and care.
- Pray for continued growth of the church in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and beyond.

PLEASE PRAY

Find *prayer points* updated regularly on our website or *social media*

GMP.ORG.AU

@GMPAUSTRALIA

- Pray for communities in the Central Highlands facing water shortages.
- Pray for more workers and leaders to disciple new believers.

## Zimbabwe

Associated Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe

- Pray for protection and safe travel during the rainy season.
- Pray for provision for churches meeting in temporary spaces, and for unity and growth among leaders and congregations.
- Pray for children and families supported through church initiatives, that they would be strengthened in daily life and education.

*Khayelihle Children's Village*

- Pray for children in care to experience healing, safety, and restoration.
- Pray for staff, caregivers, and foster families to have wisdom, strength and unity.
- Pray for sustainability of the village, including agricultural projects and water resources.

⋮ CAMPAIGN

# Seeds of Hope in South Sudan



In parts of South Sudan, childhood is often marked by loss. Years of conflict and instability have left many children without parents, or in households already stretched beyond capacity. In these homes, difficult choices are made. Some children go to school. Others do not.

***“An orphan has the right to go to school,” said Pastor Paulino Malou, founder of Christian Mercy International.***

But for many families, that right feels out of reach. Without support, children miss school simply because they lack basics like uniforms, fees, books or shoes. These small things become barriers, keeping them from education and a different future.

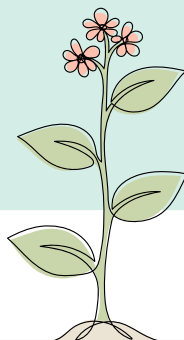
Christian Mercy International was formed in response. Working through ten primary schools across the Aweil region, the organisation supports orphans, children with disabilities and those from vulnerable households. In partnership with local communities and government, they help provide access to education, support teachers and create safe places to learn.

For many children, this changes everything. Education brings stability, dignity and hope. Some schools also offer small farming programs, equipping students with practical skills for life beyond the classroom.

Behind this work is a personal story. Pastor Paulino lost his own father to conflict and was supported through school by the church. Today, he is committed to giving that same opportunity to others.

***“I should give back this knowledge to my fellow orphans,” he said.***

The need continues to grow. Yet through local partners, children are being supported and communities are rebuilding. This End of Financial Year, your support can help a child go to school and step into a different future.



**GLOBAL  
MISSION  
PARTNERS**

Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd.  
ABN 30 455 408 814  
www.gmp.org.au ⋮ info@gmp.org.au ⋮ 1800 467 222  
PO Box 341 Torrensville Plaza, SA 5031