

QUARTERLY EDITION 4: 2026

Living Hope

THE GLOBAL MISSION PARTNERS QUARTERLY

GLOBAL MISSION PARTNERS

GOOD NEWS INSIDE →

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From *the Team...*

What an incredible few months it has been for Global Mission Partners! Across Australia and around the world, we are seeing *Living Hope* come to life in remarkable ways. From clean water reaching communities for the first time to young people discovering new opportunities, these stories remind us of what is possible when faith, generosity and partnership come together.

In this edition, we have so much to celebrate! Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our supporters, Safe Water September raised more than **$190,000** to help bring life-changing water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) initiatives to communities in need. In Vanuatu, there is even more reason to rejoice as clean water flows for the very first time at Sarabulu Primary School, opening the door to better health, learning and wellbeing. And closer to home, the Big Sky Coffee Cart in Queensland is creating exciting opportunities for Indigenous young people to gain practical skills, grow in confidence and take meaningful steps towards a brighter future.

These are more than milestones. They are stories of lives being transformed, communities moving forward and hope becoming a reality. Behind every achievement are dedicated local partners, generous supporters and resilient communities working together to create lasting change.

As you read this edition, we invite you to share in the excitement, celebrate these wonderful achievements and give thanks for all that God is doing through our partners and communities.

And to everyone who has been part of this journey, thank you! Your prayers, generosity and continued partnership are helping bring *Living Hope* to life across Australia and around the world. There is so much to be thankful for, and so much to look forward to!

In Faith,
Leah Odongo,
Director of Partnerships



Good News

YOUR IMPACT

Safe Water September has wrapped up for another year, raising more than **$190,000,** the second-highest fundraising total in the campaign's history!

With 448 challenge takers participating this year, funds raised will support vital relief and development work, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs in Zimbabwe and Vanuatu. These initiatives help communities access safe, reliable water, improving health, education and livelihoods.

A special thank you to our generous matched giving supporters, Living Faith Church, Orchard Church of Christ, Ringwood Church of Christ, and a generous supporter from Key to Life Church, Sorell, whose contributions helped maximise the impact of donations.

Thank you to everyone who donated, fundraised, shared the campaign and helped make Safe Water September another successful year!





ICP: Zimbabwe (Associated Churches of Christ): Sunday school attendance at Daisyfield church grew significantly (with nearly 40 children attending holiday Bible lessons), and recent door-to-door evangelism brought new families into the church community.

COCOA: The Global Mission Partners Partnerships team attended the Australian NGO Showcase at Parliament House in Canberra on 12 October held as part of the ACFID National Conference 2026.

The showcase brings ACFID member organisations to Parliament House to highlight the work of Australia's international development and humanitarian sector. Global Mission Partners will have the opportunity to share how partnerships with churches and communities are contributing to locally led development and lasting change.

The event opens three days of the ACFID National Conference, which this year centres on the theme Mobilising the Collective: Reshaping Systems for a Just Future. The conference will bring together organisations, leaders, practitioners and partners from across Australia's international development sector to strengthen relationships, share learning and consider the future of development and humanitarian action.



A Ministry of Hope and Belonging

Hery Susanto's ministry has taken him into places where people can easily feel overlooked or forgotten.

As Director of the Christian Church Theological School of Indonesia (CCTSI), Hery helps equip emerging Christian leaders for ministry. His own experience has also taken him beyond the classroom and into prisons, rehabilitation centres and communities where people are facing isolation and hardship.

During a year-long ministry practicum in Bali, Hery encountered prisoners, young people without strong family support and people experiencing serious mental illness. Their circumstances were different, but Hery recognised something familiar in many of the people he met.

"They are people who need to be listened to," he explained. "And that was me in the past."

Those encounters helped shape Hery's desire to "be a home for the lost".

In Bangli and Karangasem prisons, he has provided counselling and shared the Gospel with prisoners. His ministry has also included people in a rehabilitation centre, children in Denpasar and others he regularly visits in the community.

"I love to see them knowing Jesus more and more," Hery said.

The same emphasis on practical ministry can be seen at CCTSI, where students receive theological education alongside opportunities to serve local churches and communities. During the latest reporting period, eight students were trained and prepared to serve as church leaders, with two already appointed as shepherds in church-planting ministries.

Hery also reported ministry among around 60 people in Bangli and Karangasem prisons. Across the different areas of ministry, around 15 people have come to know Jesus.

"I love to see them knowing Jesus more and more," Hery said.

This work can carry a personal cost. Hery explained that people who choose to follow Jesus may face opposition from their families and communities, including rejection and isolation. Sharing the Gospel in these circumstances requires both courage and wisdom as he seeks to recognise where people may be open to hearing about Jesus.

"The boldness to share the Gospel" remains one of the challenges of ministry, he explained.

Australian churches have been part of helping Hery continue that work.

"I am thankful for each support that the Australian church has given me," he said. " It really helps me to survive and encourages me to keep up doing good works for the Kingdom."

The partnership has also given Hery something less tangible, but equally important.

"I praise the Lord that through this partnership, I am not alone in this ministry," he said.



After three months that have taken him from training future church leaders to walking alongside people in prisons and rehabilitation centres, Hery described what God has been teaching him in just two words:

"Obedience and contentment."

They are words that sit naturally alongside the ministry Hery describes: continuing to go where there is need, listening to people who are often overlooked and faithfully pointing them towards Jesus.



Water flows at Sarabulu Primary School

For the first time in its history, Sarabulu Primary School in South Ambae, Vanuatu, has access to a new water supply, marking a significant milestone in a water project supported by funds raised through Global Mission Partners.

The development brings much-needed relief to a community where access to reliable water remains a challenge, particularly during the dry season. It also represents an important step in ongoing efforts to strengthen water infrastructure for communities living on an island shaped by volcanic activity.

Peter Bryant, Project Manager with the Conference of Churches of Christ in Vanuatu, recently travelled across Ambae during a three-week journey that included ministry training, visits to local churches and communities, and work on water projects across the island.

In South Ambae, Peter joined a team working to establish a water system that would carry water from the slopes of the island's volcano towards the community of Sarabulu. The project was supported by funds raised through Global Mission Partners in Australia, alongside the Churches of Christ office in Vanuatu.

Walking uphill with the team, Peter visited several points where water storage facilities were being established, including a gravity-break tank designed to manage water pressure as it travelled downhill.

Further into the bush, the team reached the source of the system: two small natural water soaks beside a creek. Though modest in size, these natural springs have the potential to provide an important source of water for communities in South Ambae.

The following day brought a significant milestone as the water pipes reached Sarabulu Primary School and the local Market House.

Peter joined others in opening the tap at the school, marking the first time the school had received water through the new system.

Until then, Sarabulu Primary School had relied on rainwater collected in a 6,000-litre tank. With the new system in place, the school is no longer solely dependent on rainfall to meet its water needs.

The achievement comes after a challenging period for communities across Ambae. Earlier in the year, volcanic activity had particularly affected parts of South-East Ambae. By the time of Peter's visit, the landscape had turned green again and crops were flourishing. However, the beginning of the dry season was already placing renewed pressure on water supplies.

While the progress at Sarabulu is encouraging, the need for reliable water infrastructure remains pressing in other communities.

During his visit, Peter also travelled to Saramosoana, a small community that continues to rely entirely on rainwater collected in a 6,000-litre tank. When the tank runs dry, residents must walk several minutes to collect water from small, stagnant pools in the rocky creek bed.



Saramosoana remains beyond the reach of the newly established water system. Additional funding is needed to extend the pipeline several more kilometres and bring a more reliable supply to the community.

Across South and West Ambae, efforts continue to develop water systems that can better support communities facing the ongoing challenges of their environment.

At Sarabulu Primary School, those efforts are already making a tangible difference. Water is now flowing from the slopes of the volcano to the school, reducing its reliance on rainwater and demonstrating how improved water infrastructure can strengthen communities across Ambae.



Big hearts and Great Coffee

By Naomi Giles

Soon after being reunited with her family, 23-year-old mum Mia feared she would have to leave them again to find work.

Based on Barunggam country at Dalby in southwest Queensland, Mia, a Gamilaroi young person, was starting anew after rehabilitation. Reunited with her 18-month-old son, she was determined to find regular work.

"I really, really wanted a job," says Mia. "I was in there every week bugging my case manager, but nothing seemed to be available that would fit with caring for my son."

Things changed when she heard about a new social enterprise launched by dhiiyaan Bethel Farm. Through its True Fella initiative, dhiiyaan Aboriginal Corporation supports Indigenous young people with training and employment opportunities.

After a successful interview, Mia was offered a place to start the following week.

"I went back home and walked in smiling so much, Nan and Mum knew straight away that I had a job," she says laughing.

"This past year has been a big journey. I was in rehab for 6 months away from my son which was really hard, but since then I've been able to celebrate my birthday, Mother's Day, my son's birthday and coming home clean and sober," she says smiling.

Likewise, Kate, a Goreng Goreng and South Sea Islander young person, needed a fresh start. After a difficult year in Brisbane, she relocated to Dalby with her family, who have been part of dhiiyaan since its beginnings.

With the dhiiyaan community contributing, a long-held dream of having a roadside coffee cart was born.

"We all played a part – we had to fit out a trailer that was donated to us with all the right equipment, come up with a menu and work out how the business would run," Kate says.

The Big Sky Coffee cart, located alongside the Moonie Highway on the outskirts of Dalby, is becoming a meeting place for locals and visitors. Serving drinks and home-made treats five days a week, it provides Mia and Kate with hands-on hospitality experience.

For Mia, the supportive environment has helped her overcome previous challenges with training.

"I really wanted to do well, but I was so anxious that I was going to let myself and others down, I just couldn't complete the courses," she says.

Now, her motivation is creating a future for herself and her son while reconnecting with her culture.

"I'm still getting to know more about my own aboriginality," she says. "I grew up not knowing much, but I'm starting to find out more now. I really want my son to know who his people are."

The coffee cart is already attracting opportunities at local markets, sporting and community events.

"The extra events give the girls a chance to work in the wider community which will build their skills and confidence," says dhiiyaan's Bethel Farm manager Vicki.

"Through True Fella we want to provide really practical ways for young people to begin changing their story. The Big Sky coffee cart is one way for that to happen, with real life experience, the opportunity for training and earning money," she says.

Kate hopes the coffee cart will eventually grow into a café where visitors can enjoy food grown and made at Bethel Farm.

"There are so many possibilities, I dream of a little shop at the farm and a café where people stay for a while and take a look around," she says.

Vicki is also exploring how the initiative can grow sustainably.

"Getting the cart launched was a major expense," she shares. "But you have to make the path by walking, and so we took the risk to sow deeply into something that has the potential to be life changing for young people."

"We're keen to find ongoing partners and sponsorships for the True Fella program so we can continue to grow what we've begun and benefit even more young people," she says.

"There are so many young people in this area who need a chance to make a new beginning, and we'd love to be able to help more of them."

On *the Ground*

PARTNER UPDATE

IP: A group of young people from South Australia recently took part in a Global Mission Partners immersion experience with the dhiiyaan Aboriginal Christian community at Bethel Farm near Dalby, Queensland.

The experience provided opportunities to spend time in the Country, learn from Indigenous Christian leaders and deepen participants' understanding of Aboriginal culture, faith and community. Through cultural learning, practical activities and deep listening, the group was encouraged to reflect on relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians and the journey towards reconciliation.

ICP: Global Mission Partners' local partner, the Conference of Churches of Christ Vanuatu, is responding to ongoing volcanic activity on Ambae.

Heavy ashfall from the Manaro Voui volcano has contaminated water supplies and affected food gardens, leaving communities facing food and water shortages.

With support from Global Mission Partners, the Conference has mobilised emergency food and water supplies from Santo to assist affected communities. The response reflects the strength of local partnerships and disaster preparedness in Vanuatu.

COCOA: Following volcanic eruptions on Ambae Island over the past two months, communities in Vanuatu have faced challenges as ashfall and acid rain affected food and water supplies. Working alongside communities on Santo, local partners have mobilised emergency food and water supplies for affected families on Ambae, with additional logistical support from Global Mission Partners.

Let's Pray

PRAYER PARTNERS

Australia

Indigenous Partnerships

- Pray that the Emerging Indigenous Leaders Gathering will strengthen relationships, encourage participants and equip community leaders.

Bangladesh

Bandarban Hill Churches of Christ

- Pray for pastors and evangelists serving communities across Bandarban Hill.
- Pray for provision to construct the BHCOC office and Era Mru Church.
- Pray for stability, restoration and spiritual growth for families affected by conflict, displacement and disasters.

India

Hosanna Ministries

- Pray for education opportunities for children and young people.
- Pray for provision and support for families facing hardship.

Indonesia

Asia Pacific International

- Pray for progress and funding for the new Smart Point learning centre.
- Pray that the API Regional Leaders gathering will strengthen and encourage the mission.
- Pray for the visiting African mission team serving alongside church planters.
- Pray for API's 10 departments, ministry among unreached people groups and places of worship for church pioneers.

Christian Church Theological School of Indonesia

- Pray for open hearts to receive the Gospel and come to faith in Jesus.
- Pray for courage and wisdom for students and leaders ministering in prisons and communities.
- Pray for eight newly trained leaders, including two serving as shepherds in church-planting posts.

Philippines

International Christian College of Manila

- Pray for guidance and provision as ICCM explores purchasing land for a permanent campus.
- Pray for wisdom in planning a new accredited master's program.
- Pray for financial provision for college operations and students preparing for ministry.

South Sudan

Christian Mercy International

- Pray for peace, forgiveness, reconciliation and unity through the Gospel.
- Pray for four graduates and 50 newly trained evangelists serving communities.
- Pray for the Juba church construction and provision of Bibles, transport and pastoral resources.

Laid Foundation of South Sudan

- Pray for peace and reconciliation among tribal communities affected by conflict and displacement.
- Pray for stability in Jonglei State and protection for affected communities.

Thailand

Churches of Christ Thailand and Social Development and Services Unit

- Pray for Karen hill tribe families developing sustainable livelihoods through farming and livestock.
- Pray for provision, successful harvests and improved food security and income.

Samut Songkhram Evangelism Center

- Pray for Myanmar migrant workers to receive the Gospel.
- Pray for new believers and children to grow in faith, and for wisdom in discipleship, counselling and leadership.
- Pray for protection, volunteers, partners and financial provision for the ministry.

Vanuatu

Churches of Christ Conference in Vanuatu

- Give thanks for October's training programs and pray participants will apply their learning.
- Pray for effective collaboration and progress among the Technical Working Groups.

PLEASE PRAY

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

GMP.ORG.AU

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Vietnam

The Churches of Christ in Vietnam

- Pray for wisdom, courage and protection amid pressure from local authorities.
- Pray for 80 new believers and others coming to faith to grow through discipleship and local churches.
- Pray for pastoral resources in Hanoi, Hoi An and Quang Ninh, and leaders expanding ministry into Laos.

Zimbabwe

Associated Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe

- Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance in evangelism and community outreach.
- Pray for wisdom, strength and perseverance among leaders in door-to-door evangelism.
- Pray for facilities and resources to support growing churches.

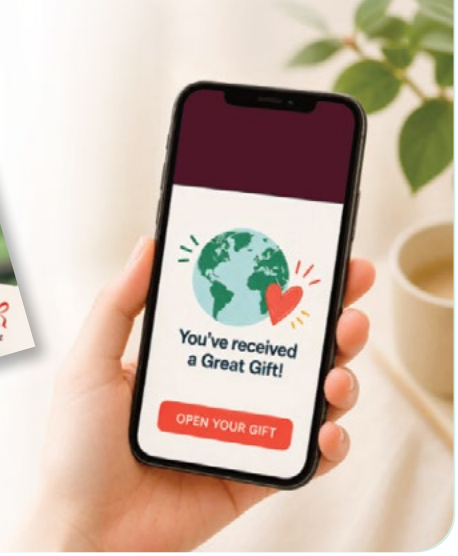
Khayelihle Children's Village

- Pray for healing, safety and restoration for children in care.
- Pray for wisdom, strength and unity among staff, caregivers and foster families.
- Pray for sustainability through agricultural projects and water resources.

CAMPAIGN

Discover the New 2026–27 Great Gifts Catalogue!





New gifts, new stories and more ways to make a difference. This year's catalogue has been completely refreshed, bringing you an updated selection of meaningful gifts that support communities around the world.

What you need to know this year:

- **New E-cards:** You can now order digital cards for any occasion, year-round! They are perfect for last-minute thoughtful gifting.
- **Christmas Mailing Deadline:** Prefer a traditional posted card? Make sure to get your orders in by **December 2, 2026** so they arrive in time for Christmas.
- **100% Tax-Deductible:** Every single gift is tax-deductible and supports the work of our relief and development projects through Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA).



Make room for something meaningful this Christmas. Each gift represents an opportunity to support practical, locally led initiatives that help communities improve wellbeing and build for the future. You're doing more than giving a present, you're creating lasting change.

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