



EASTER 2025

# : *Sharing Hope*

THE GLOBAL MISSION PARTNERS QUARTERLY

**GLOBAL  
MISSION  
PARTNERS**

GOOD NEWS INSIDE 

# From *the Team...*

Welcome to the first edition of the Global Mission Partners Quarterly!

We're excited to share this publication with you and pray it will be an encouragement to you as we partner in God's work.

You might notice that Global Mission Partners has a new look and feel! Our new brand identity has been crafted with care and enthusiasm – to reflect our rich history and to step into a dynamic vision for the future.

All of these new decisions have been made to further our vision to see every Christian active in God's mission, offering hope, love and restoration throughout the world.

You'll see our new logo is made of three parts, which represent the key parts to this mission; The Lord we follow, our partners and the people they serve, and you – our supporters who make this work possible.

You can also explore our new website and find news and stories shared on our social media channels.

Through the new branding, website and publications, we hope to connect more people with the life-changing work of our partners and continue to be good stewards of the generous gifts that you contribute.

We're so grateful for your support and hope that you enjoy this new publication!



John Lamerton,  
Chief Executive Officer



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# Good News

YOUR IMPACT

## Thando Re-connects with Her Family in Zimbabwe

Thando's journey began with great loss when her mother passed away during childbirth. Fortunately, Thando was given a loving home at Khayelihle Children's Village when she was just seven months old.

Receiving the love and care she needed, Thando grew up in a nurturing environment surrounded by a housemother and friends she called siblings.

While Khayelihle Children's Village in Zimbabwe provides care for vulnerable children, it also operates on a reconnection model. It actively seeks to connect children with their relatives and support reunions when safe and appropriate.

For Thando, this journey took time and dedication.

It wasn't until September 2024—over a decade after Thando joined the village—that a social worker successfully found her maternal aunt.

This breakthrough allowed Thando to visit her aunt multiple times, creating opportunities for Thando to connect with her grandmother and other family members.

Khayelihle Children's Village has supported Thando in completing her schooling and pursuing further education, including a vocational training course in hospitality.

Khayelihle Children's Village will continue to support Thando as she makes decisions



- Thando grew up in a nurturing environment at Khayelihle Children's Village

about her future and embraces her independence as a young adult. She is also hopeful about the reconnection with her family and the new opportunities it will bring.

Your generous support of Khayelihle Children's Village has profoundly impacted 65 children, who have been lovingly reunited with their families. This re-connection brings joy, hope, and a sense of belonging back into their lives. Your support truly makes a difference.



## Empower Leaders Like Ariyani to Share Hope

Ariyani dreaded the idea of travelling to a rural village by motorbike. She aspires to be in a ministry position in her church, performing on the stage, not traversing Indonesia's "adventurous" roads.

Ariyani studies at the Christian Church Theological School of Indonesia (CCTSI).

Students at CCTSI come from various locations in Indonesia. Many are from tiny islands, each rich in culture and language. Every student studying at CCTSI is brought together by the common purpose of preparing to share the love of Jesus and bring hope to their communities. Learning from one another challenges students and helps them experience God's transformation.

Leadership is something that comes naturally to Ariyani. She has a cheerful heart and easily communicates with others. CCTSI is helping her to reach her full potential.

Hery Susanto, Director of CCTSI, says, "The educational journey at the college isn't just about acquiring knowledge; it's about personal growth." Students learn humility, discipline, and the importance of serving others.

Hery says, "It is not just about theological knowledge but sharpening her [Ariyani's] heart to see the difference and deepening her empathy and sense of love at the same time."

While studying at CCTSI, Ariyani's heart changed. She pursued her theological studies because she hoped to be on stage, performing in her church, to be "seen". She likes to perform on the stage, singing and dancing, and is good at it, but she has learned to use those skills for the good of others.

"Doing ministry is about serving others and humbling ourselves to respect and love others without taking benefit for ourselves," she said.

As Ariyani has immersed herself in her studies at CCTSI over the past four years, she has developed a new passion for helping children and families.

Hery says, "She knows that she came from a broken family and [experienced] a broken heart with her friends, yet she wants to rise up and help children to have a brighter future through a good education."

Ariyani can now face the rough and adventurous roads of rural Indonesia. At first, she had to find the courage to serve in the rural villages. Now, she says, "I have love. So, I look forward to going to the villages to share that love."

Ariyani isn't the only student at CCTSI to experience God's transformation in their life.

Another student was born into a Christian home but did not realise the importance of baptism as part of his journey of faith. During his time at CCTSI, he dedicated his life to God again. He was baptised with nine other students in his class!

One more student shared his journey of learning humility. "I don't like to be told what to do. To be controlled by laws and rules." The student shared, "Since being here, I have learned to sweep the floors and serve. It was very difficult for me [to learn]."

The Christian Church Theological School of Indonesia is creating leaders who share the love of Christ and prioritise their communities over their ambitions. They run children's ministry and education, open small businesses or start other initiatives that meet the needs of their communities.

"The hope [that we bring to others] is not just an empty promise. It should be actualised in word and deed," Hery explains.



- Ariyana and other students from
- Christian Church Theological School
- of Indonesia

This Easter you can empower Christian leaders like Ariyani. Donate to the Global Mission Partners Easter Appeal. By investing in local leaders, you become part of a shared mission to transform lives and spread God's love where it's needed most.

*Empower* Christian leaders

**Give now to the Easter Appeal**  
[www.gmp.org.au/easter](http://www.gmp.org.au/easter)





## *Tackling Climate Challenges Together*

As the environment changes, the impact is felt differently across the world.

When our Safe Water September team visited Zimbabwe in May last year, Showers of Blessing Project Director Boniface Mpfou pointed out fields of failed maize as we drove along unsealed rural tracks. Almost every farm we passed had at least one field of dried, dead stalks. The drought, Boniface told us, continues to get worse. With less rain comes dry rivers and lakes. Even the reliable groundwater accessed by bores is affected.

Our partners are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change than most of us in Australia. A bad harvest can tip an impoverished Zimbabwean farming family into desperate circumstances. Cyclones and storms hit Vanuatu with alarming frequency. Heavy storms in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh, can damage communities and contaminate drinking water.

We can't talk about sharing and being God's Good News without considering the created cosmos.

When God created the world, God created us and made us responsible for the care of the Earth. The Message says, "God blessed [humans]: 'Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge! Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth.'" (Gen 1:28). Other translations use words like "steward" or even "dominion", but the idea is the same: we have a mandate to protect and nurture the world God has made, and our actions will have an impact, for good or ill.

Just as we can harm one another through our carelessness and brokenness, we can harm our planet. Just as Jesus gives us an example to follow to grow beyond our brokenness, the planet's salvation is bound up in Jesus' Good News. Paul writes in Romans, "For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God." (Rom 8:20-21, NIV)

The human cost of climate change, especially in the most vulnerable ...

- *We can't talk about sharing and*
- *being God's Good News without*  
*considering the created cosmos.*

communities around the world, becomes more apparent every year.

I'm inspired by the work of our partners, who are working in the face of changing climates to make their communities more resilient to extreme weather conditions.

And I know that young people in our churches care deeply about this topic, with Mission Australia showing in 2023 that climate change was the most common concern among young people surveyed.<sup>1</sup> I'm proud to have these passionate young disciples supporting our partners through Safe Water September each year and every day through simple actions close to home.

We've just launched a new Safe Water September Bible study for World Water Day, March 22, exploring how water and climate meet.

You can download the resource at [www.gmp.org.au/ClimateStudy](http://www.gmp.org.au/ClimateStudy) to open the Bible with kids, teens, and adults. We pray that this resource blesses your discussion and inspires action on climate change—locally, nationally, and globally.

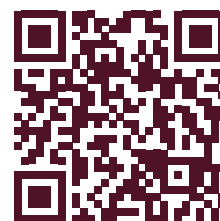


Mitch Salmon  
National NextGen Lead

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.missionaustralia.com.au/publications/youth-survey>

*“I'm inspired by the work of our partners, who are working in the face of changing climates to make their communities more resilient to extreme weather and climate.”*

*Download the study:*



[www.gmp.org.au/ClimateStudy](http://www.gmp.org.au/ClimateStudy)



## *A Sewing Machine for Rubina*

Rubina listened intently as her friend described a place where she could learn to sew. It sounded like a dream come true, and Rubina was eager to learn more.

Rubina lives in Ambarnath, India, in a small shed near the mosque with her husband and six-year-old son. She never completed school, only reaching level eight, and her husband is the sole provider for the family. He drives someone else's rickshaw for a very low wage.

Rubina would love to have a job!

After hearing her friend talk about Hosanna Ministries' Vocational Training classes, where she could learn to sew and start a business, Rubina decided to enrol.

"At the beginning, she faced a lot of problems coming to class as she had to leave her son with neighbours, or sometimes she used to bring her son to class," said Danny Gaikwad from Hosanna Ministries.

With these challenges, Rubina completed the basic and advanced tailoring courses.

"After completing her course, she wanted to find work, but her husband did not allow her to," Danny explained. If Rubina had a sewing machine, she wouldn't have to go out to find

work; she could work from home. But she didn't own a sewing machine.

"Through the efforts of Global Mission Partners, we were able to give her a new sewing machine in July [2024]," Danny reported.

Rubina was very happy to share this blessing with her friends and neighbours, so she started promoting her small business through word of mouth. They gave her clothes to mend and alter, and her income increased as she gained more customers.

"She hopes that if she gets support from her husband, Rubina will start her own tailoring shop. She is also looking to relocate to a different area where she thinks she will get good business," Danny shared.

"Rubina is very grateful to Hosanna Ministries for giving her a valuable gift of skills and a sewing machine, which has allowed her to become an independent and strong woman."

Thanks to your support of Global Mission Partners, Hosanna Ministries can provide skills training to many women like Rubina. It is reported that out of 50 students, approximately 64% are empowered to establish their businesses and provide an income for their families.



# On the Ground

PARTNER UPDATES

## One Church Partnership Changing Lives in the Philippines

Pastor Choi and Pastor Alma are the senior pastors of the Asian Christian Community Centre in the Philippines. They have partnered with One Church in Blackburn, Victoria, through Global Mission Partners for many years.

The church partnership started by establishing a feeding program. Pastor Choi believed that malnutrition and illness prevented children in the village from completing their education, keeping them and their families in a cycle of poverty.

One Church began providing practical help to the church in the Philippines by funding the program in two slum areas where the families faced severe challenges. The families received immediate relief. Their sickness eased, and their children were well enough to attend school.

Over the years, the partnership between the two churches strengthened. The feeding programs are now running across twelve different locations!

One Church has also supported capacity building and helped Pastor Choi's church to train its local leaders. They also provided medicines for medical missions and developed the school boat project, which assists young people with transport to and from school.

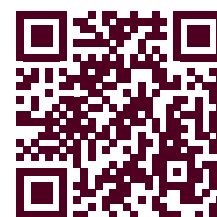


One of the biggest joys of this partnership is seeing the next generation succeed. Many children have stayed in school and continued into college and university. One of the original children from that first feeding program is now a qualified teacher. He is leading the outreach that he once attended as a child!

Pastor Choi smiles every time he speaks of the partnership. "Your encouragement has given us the strength to continue in our calling."

To start a church-to-church partnership, please contact Carly Cassidy, National Church Relationships Manager. Email [carly@gmp.org.au](mailto:carly@gmp.org.au)

Watch a message from Pastor Choi



# Let's Pray

⋮ PRAYER PARTNERS

## Australia

*Indigenous Ministries Australia, Bunbury, Port Hedland and Dareton*

- IMA is hosting six immersion trips this year. Pray for the leaders and participants, planning, and safety while travelling to rural areas. Pray for our time together on Country as we engage in cultural, reflective, healing, and educational learning.
- Peter Jetta is the newest pastor at the Bunbury Aboriginal Church Fellowship, which is strategic for the growth of the Churches of Christ in Western Australia. Pray that he will encourage his congregation and community and support the development of the younger generations and emerging leaders.
- Pray for the Dareton Youth and Community Centre as they are in the process of Incorporation.
- Port Hedland has started a social media profile and has launched its new website: [www.hedlandaboriginalchurch.com.au](http://www.hedlandaboriginalchurch.com.au). Pray that it will assist with their planned outreach into the community and serve as a space to send a message of hope and healing.

## Fiji

*Lautoka Church of Christ*

- The Lautoka church has started a breakfast club called the Manna Ministry. Every Tuesday, volunteers from the Lautoka church share bread, tinned food, tea, prayer, and support with

the homeless in their community. Pray for continued provision, the building of relationships, and moments to share the gospel in word and deed.

## Indonesia

*Christian Church Theological School of Indonesia (CCTSI) and Asia Pacific International (API)*

- This year, CCTSI has already sent eight students to serve in ministry positions across eight locations in Indonesia. Pray for them as they live in sometimes challenging places, integrate into new villages, build relationships, sustain themselves in ministry and share God's love with others.
- API church planters are constructing or planning to build dwellings within communities for worship services and prayer houses. Pray for some of the requests, including the provision of finance, government permissions, land acquisition, development of programs and even musical instruments.

## Thailand

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

- Pray for the Executive Committee of the Church of Christ in Thailand as they discuss budgets and plans for 2025.
- We thank God that the dedication, love and commitment from all involved make our ministry and work meaningful and sustainable and help create vital changes in the broader society.

## ⋮ PLEASE PRAY

Thank you for your prayers for our partners around the world. Your prayers can genuinely make a difference. Because of prayer, the next generation is encouraged to step into leadership roles, and others are inspired to take new initiatives to reach the most vulnerable individuals in their communities. We are witnessing growth within churches, and there is a renewed energy to share the good news of Jesus with those who have not heard of Him.

### South Sudan

*Christian Mercy International*

- One of our longer-term goals is to establish private schools in Juba and Aweil town. This plan will help our ministry achieve sustainability, as we could generate income with two private schools. Pray for these plans, for the timing, the resources, the purchasing of land, the people and the networking required.
- Pray for the students preparing to serve in ministry and the families of students who travel to Uganda to live and study for the semester. One day, we dream of establishing a Bible college here in Juba so our people can stay close to home.

### Vanuatu

*Churches of Christ Conference in Vanuatu*

- We opened a second hall that can accommodate 100 people. Please pray as we open this space to others for meetings and conferences.
- Please pray for a successful 59th Bi-Annual General Meeting on Maewo Island during the first week of the May school holidays.
- Please continue to pray for the people in Port Villa as they process the trauma of the earthquake and navigate the recovery phase.

### Zimbabwe

*Associated Churches of Christ Zimbabwe*

- After two years of vicious drought, we are having an excellent year with heavy rainfall in all parts of our country. Praise God!

- Crops are doing well. Pray for a good harvest.
- Four of our churches had their roofs blown off, and we have repaired some. Two have extensive damage. Please pray for continued repairs.

*Showers of Blessing Trust*

- Pray that our dams fill up and all water sources are replenished with the rainfall.
- Pray for peace and stability in the country. Pray for the leadership that God grants them exceptional wisdom, humility, and selflessness as they serve the nation.

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

GMP.ORG.AU

@GMPAUSTRALIA

“I have love. So, I look forward to going to the villages to share that love”

– ARIYANI



∴ EASTER APPEAL

## *Empower Leaders to Share Hope*

Your gift this Easter can provide an emerging Christian leader with theological training and support. This investment will help them reach their full potential in leadership and be God’s love in their community.

One key focus area for our International Church Partnerships program is developing Christian leaders like Ariyani (page 4). We partner with churches across Africa, Asia, and the Pacific to invest in theological training, formation, and ministry experience. This ministry development empowers emerging leaders to share God’s love in their local context.

This Easter, you could help transform lives through God’s love. When you donate to the Easter Appeal, you could empower 400 leaders to transform lives through God’s love.

Together, we can inspire emerging leaders to create hope, bring change, and share the love of Christ with those around them. Join us in making a lasting impact!

*Give now to support Christian leadership*



**Give now online at  
[www.gmp.org.au/easter](http://www.gmp.org.au/easter)**

**Freecall 1800 467 222**



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Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd.  
ABN 30 455 408 814  
[www.gmp.org.au](http://www.gmp.org.au) ∴ [info@gmp.org.au](mailto:info@gmp.org.au) ∴ 1800 467 222  
PO Box 341 Torrensville Plaza, SA 5031