



PULSE MAGAZINE

March 2023

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FROM THE EDITOR

Mikaela Groom

Welcome to our first edition of Pulse Magazine for 2023.

This year we are focusing on the experiences and testimonies of missionaries - those who have dedicated their lives to serve God in a nation outside their own.

In this edition we have updates from CRC personnel serving in Australia, the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea (PNG), the Philippines, Cambodia and Haiti.

I trust you will be strongly encouraged from the stories and testimonies included within this edition. What a great sacrifice all of these wonderful workers have made to follow the call of God upon their lives; taking the step of faith to serve those outside their own culture.

As we go through 2023 we will feature more updates and experiences from other missionaries out on the field. Keep an eye out for our June, September and December editions.

Let us be encouraged by this verse in 1 Peter 4:10, which reads: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

I am currently writing this in PNG where I have recently relocated for 12 months. I am here to assist Bethel Tabernacle of Praise in their children's ministry, among other tasks.



FROM THE AUSTRALIAN MISSIONS DIRECTOR

Pr Mike Cronin

GO BEYOND

Our International Vision is to have a Presence In Every Nation by 2045 - our centenary.

For this to happen we need people who will 'Go Beyond' their comfort zone and reach into other nations making disciples of Christ.

This issue of Pulse shares the stories of a number of people who have 'Gone Beyond' the comfort of their

home country to reach into other nations. They are our heroes/ heroines who are doing what Jesus said in 'Going Beyond'.

Where do you need to 'Go Beyond'? It may not be into a distant country, but your prayer and giving can go beyond where you physically may be. Physically you can 'Go Beyond' to reach out to others and make disciples of Jesus wherever you are.

Noah's descendants were told by God to "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth" (Genesis 9:1). While they continued to do this they prospered, but when they settled on the plain of Shinar (Genesis 9:1) they got into trouble and confusion.

Like our missionaries, we are a people who will follow the vision and 'Go Beyond'.



UPDATE FROM TENNANT CREEK

Pr Jeremiah Madimadi

In January and February of this year we have seen God's hand upon Tennant Creek Christian Family Church (TCCFC) here in Tennant Creek, Northern Territory, Australia. In addition to the new Aboriginal attendees, we have also seen three young Fijians, a young South Sudanese man and a family from Kenya.

Pr Mike and Kelly Groom visited us at the end of February and it was a real blessing to our church here. They arrived in Tennant Creek on Friday 24th February.

On the Friday evening they spent some moments encouraging and praying for

a few Aboriginal children that came for the youth program. The children were very blessed to have Pr Mike and Kelly minister to them.

On the Saturday morning, Kelly hosted a breakfast for the ladies. Pr Mike prepared a nice BBQ for the ladies while I drove around to pick them up. They had a wonderful time of fellowship with Kelly.

Pr Mike preached in both of our services on the Sunday. The number of people in both the morning and evening services increased above our normal figure. In our evening service, many people stepped out for prayer, and four people gave their hearts to the Lord during the prayer ministry after Pr Mike preached the word.

Even though it was a very short visit, Pr Mike and Kelly made a very big impact in the church and in our lives. We have

been very encouraged by their visit to keep doing good in this tough environment.

At the beginning of this month, Delia, Nellie Winnie and I spent one week in Adelaide for a short break. Our time in Adelaide was so refreshing.

During our stay, I was given an opportunity to preach in the Sunday morning service at Adelaide Christian Centre (ACC).

We were also invited by three different connect (fellowship) groups within the church to share about what the Lord is doing in Tennant Creek.

We also met with the key leaders and workers of ACC and New Life Christian Centre, including Papa Barry Silverback, in a leaders meeting. We were given an opportunity to give an update in what is taking place in Tennant Creek.

It was a great honour to have been invited by Rebekah Groom and Tom Lee to their engagement celebration at ACC. It was so great to be part of their celebration.

After meeting with fellow leaders, pastors and friends, we came back to Tennant Creek feeling refreshed and confident to continue serving the Lord in this beautiful part of Australia.

We are back in Tennant Creek now. Nellie Winnie is back to school, and we are back to church business. We thank God that we were able to enrol our daughter at the local preschool for free; even her school uniform was given for free.

The great things God is doing here are a result of all our friends praying for us out there. We want to thank every one of you for faithfully praying for us and the work here in Tennant Creek.



EVANGELISM IN SOLOMON ISLANDS

Merrilyn Michael

Last year I was involved in almost all of the ministries at Gateway Church in Honiara, Solomon Islands. These included children's ministry, youth ministry and women's ministry. I also preached in Sunday services and participated in other church activities.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, I was not able to become involved in every ministry because we either had no Sunday services or strict limitations for some time.

2022 was a challenging year, in the aftermath of COVID-19, especially when

people feared death and started to lose their trust in God. However, this environment was a great opportunity for me to share Bible stories to children at the aviation area of Henderson. I was also able to encourage families who lacked faith in God's Word to stand firm and not allow fear into their lives.

I felt in God to pray for more open doors and opportunities so that I could reach families, young people and children with the gospel of Jesus Christ during these challenging times. The Lord opened doors for me to team up with our church ladies and do evangelism around the Henderson community. Praise God!

Myself and a few ladies started coming together with some of the church ladies and others around the area. We held prayer meetings every Thursday from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Sometimes we

finished praying at 2:00pm or 3:00pm at one lady's house. This was outside our church prayer meetings.

These are the six places where evangelism came alive and effective:

- Aviation domestic terminal market
- Island market beside the international airport
- Alamae Beach among Temotu people
- Henderson market outreach
- GPR beach side among Anglican people
- Homes here at Henderson were open on Sunday evenings for house church fellowship

We held outreach evangelism at the end of the month only from June to December 2022. A lot of children, young people and families gave their lives to Jesus. Many people opened up to the Word of God for the first time in their lives; most of them were children and young people. I was able to preach in two different places in Henderson together with our ladies at church.

My encouragement to those who desire to become missionaries in the future is:

- Always pray for your desire to do missions work and hold onto your missions vision, never giving up.
- Involve yourself in any missions program at church.
- Always attend missions conferences in any place.
- Ask lots of questions to returning missionaries on furlough and find out how they became missionaries.
- Surround yourself with missions minded people.
- Read a lot of missionary books.

- Give to missions during missions giving.
- Pray for missionaries in your own time outside church programs.
- Share your heart desire of becoming a missionary to people who have the same heart for missions work so that they can stand with you in prayer.
- Trust in God always and do not give up on you heart's desire for missions.

My encouragement to those who are already missionaries:

- Have faith in God and stay focused on what He called you to do.
- Be faithful and committed to the One who called you into His harvest field.
- Be a good ambassador for Christ on the mission field.
- Have a good heart and stay positive on the mission field.
- Be ready to sacrifice your life at all costs.
- Be a servant - submit to and obey the leaders you serve under.
- Influence the younger generations for missions work.
- Be a person of prayer and study God's Word daily.

When COVID-19 started disappearing our church activities went back to normal. I was finally able to begin involving myself in church ministries after some months away from the regular activities.

In one of the church activities i was able to take the children to one of our children's rally at Kingdom Harvest Church. We enjoyed it very much.

SERVING IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Noel Tuiza

I am from the Philippines and I am currently serving as a missionary in Papua New Guinea (PNG).

I came to PNG on September 7, 2019. At first it was not easy for me, especially speaking English every day. But by the grace of God, I was able to communicate. I have learned how to embrace the culture and the people of this nation. Above all I have learnt to trust the Lord in all seasons of my life.

Here I am involved in training under World Missions Faith Training School (WMFTS), as a dean of the students. I am monitoring the daily activities, counselling, lecturing and doing practical work.

During the COVID-19 pandemic I joined a team that visits the homes of the church members to teach them Christian foundations. We normally had meetins where we updated ourselves, prayed for one another and it was very important for each of us. We had fun.

Through this team I was able to build my confidence in teaching as I was given the opportunity to teach. I was also able to build more personal connections with the church members, to the young people in the church, and children through children's ministry. I also had opportunities to minister to the West Papuan community.

I also had an opportunity to go to the radio station with the team as our leaders (our late Pr Elijah Umeume and mother Beverly) were invited to be interviewed. We also went to the public school close by to teach students the Word of God.

Last year WMFTS reopened after the long period of pandemic. Students were willing to come and be trained. In their practical time I went with them to Makerupu. We recently graduated nine students and three of them have decided to commit themselves to work with us at Bethel Centre.

In January of this year we had a visitor that came and did some projects in the property here at Bethel Centre - Scott Elliot. We enjoyed our time with him as we worked together.

We also had a team from Australia, led by Pr Mike Groom, come and do some work on the new building, which we all participated in.

I am now heading into my fourth year here in PNG. I am still part of WMFTS, which I am passionate about. As of now we have already started with the new set of five students.

These verses below have become real to me while I have been here and I hope that you will be encouraged as well. That truly it was God and will always be God.

- Luke 10:37
- Romans 8:28
- 1 Corinthians 15:58

Thank you very much for praying for me. God bless.





RETURNING TO THE PHILIPPINES

Lawrence Terah

I have returned one more time for one more term of three years to the Philippines, to work with CRC Philippines.

I arrived in the Philippines on October 10, 2022 and I am currently serving at CRC Missions Global Outreach (CMGO) Pasig in Metro Manila with Pr Peter Hauje.

I am staying at CMGO in Pasig while waiting for the processing of my missionary visa. When my visa is granted, I will be leaving to go to the place of my assignment in Agusan del Sur. This will be my home for the next three years.

My involvement will be in a new Bible school - Pioneers School of Discipleship and Ministry Training.

This Bible school is located in the Municipality of Talacogon in the Province of Agusan del Sur, Mindanao.

Pr Peter, our national chairman, along with the national team here in the Philippines, have endorsed this training.

This Bible school will be a joint missions venture between Bethel World Missions and CMGO Pasig, assisted by Pr Barry Silverback and Pr Peter.

The Bible school is located in a very needy area as there are no training schools like this in the area.

Even before the Bible school has opened, there are already several local churches that have indicated their support for the school.

The school is scheduled to begin on March 28, 2023.

We are looking forward to having five or more students beginning their training as our first intake.

The church here in Manila, CMGO Pasig, will be relocating to a new building in the nearby city of Cainta - approximately 10 minutes drive from the old location.

We are busy completing renovation work on the new building before we are ready to move in.

The major renovations are patch work on the broken tiles, repainting the walls, building a new stage, making room for sound engineering, electrical, and signage.

We also have the big task of dismantling all of the things from the current

building that are owned by the church before transporting them to the new building.

The renovation work of the new building is halfway to completion. We have been very busy trying to complete the work.

These renovations have caused us to begin our days as early as 6:00am and complete the work at around 7:00pm or 8:00pm.

We thank God for His provision of strength as we complete the work.

We are scheduled to begin the first church service in the new building in early April 2023.

Once my passport is stamped with my visa, I will be flying across to Agusan Del-Sur in March for the opening of the Bible school.



MINISTERING IN CAMBODIA

Rebecca Hartskeerl

I am a missionary to Cambodia, sent from Reveal Church, Endeavour Hills. I have been serving there for nine years now, working independently with local pastors in the countryside who are partnering with CRC Churches International, and who Reveal Church is very much involved with.

I work with two pastors and their churches in particular. One is Pr Sophal in the province of Battambang. The other is Pr Sina in Kompong Chhnang Province.

Pr Sophal has an English school and reaches many young people through their ministry. I visit there every month

to encourage and share with them, sometimes helping with teaching the Bible.

I live with Pr Sina, along with his family and other Khmer people. Pr Sina has planted many house churches through doing outreaches and praying for the sick and hopeless. He is also involved in disaster relief and assisting the poor and needy wherever possible.

I help Pr Sina with teaching and training his leaders and pastors, as well as visiting the village/house churches, and discipling some of the female leaders. It is exciting work and we see many people come to Jesus, healed and changed. We would baptise on average about 10 new believers each month. I thank God to be a part of this wonderful ministry.

There is one village I am much more involved with, teaching English to the

children and running a youth program. I have a heart to see the young people grounded and established in who they are in Jesus Christ and in the outworking of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in ministry and evangelism.

I am hoping to one day move to this village to be close to the children and youth and have greater input in their daily lives.

Being a missionary in a different country, culture and language is challenging yet such a blessing and a life changing experience. I have learnt and grown in my own faith and life, just as much as I have taught and helped others grow and learn – maybe even more.

One thing I have learned is how true and trustworthy God's Word is. It is a simple yet so deep truth. One that I have known and learnt at a young age,

yet not really understood. It is not until I have stepped out in ministry and the unknown, where I have put myself into God's hands, that I see it, I feel it, and I have to trust and rely on it.

As a single missionary I have no husband or other foreign missionaries/workers in my area to turn to, I only have God my Father, Jesus my Husband, the Holy Spirit and His Word to fall back on or turn to, and He is ALL I need!

I have realised that if you want to really see God's truth and power at work you have to step out, just as Peter did when Jesus came walking on the water – but don't look down!

The Bible says in James 4:7-8a: 'Therefore, submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil, and he will run away from you. Come close to God, and he will come close to you.'



HARDSHIPS, HOPE AND HARVEST

Jocasta Keeley

We have been called to gather up those the world has thrown away because they matter to God.

I sit in the midst of distress and yet I do not feel the intense heartache of those around me; I am surrounded by grief and loss but I can't tell you what pain these emotions stir inside.

It is not because I do not want to feel, but how can you feel all the emotions

when your life is comfortable, even as you live in the middle of the pain of a broken nation?

This has been life here in Haiti; this has been the hardest of years.

But God is still here, 100% here.

Here at CONOGET (New Gen Nourish Haiti), we have fought the battle of daily living becoming almost an impossibility in Haiti.

We have shed tears with families as they struggle to put a meal on the table each day, just one meal; we have held these kiddos in our arms as hunger pains overwhelm and we have prayed and believed for God to do so much more than we could ever imagine.

And in our doubts, where we wonder how we can keep going in the midst of political and economic unrest and turmoil because it's tough; God shows up and reminds us that He is still here; 100% here.

We continue to provide nutritious meals.

We continue to provide a safe haven for these children to come and stop a while and be children.

We continue to meet needs of those in the community who are finding the battle harder than most.

We continue to send more children to school - a gift they wouldn't otherwise receive.

We continue to point these young impressionable hearts and minds to God; and to take every moment to pour an abundance of love on these little (and not so little) ones in front of us.

And we see hope in the midst of hardships and we believe the harvest is coming as we take a step of faith and increase the New Gen family by five more children and then some.

We sing hallelujah.

The drops in the ocean come...God is the God of this moment. When we do not know how to go on, we sing hallelujah and He overcomes.

And He continues to stir hearts and to turn up for these children in front of us.



CRC MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

UPCOMING EVENTS

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING

Thursday 27 July, 2023

NATIONAL MISSIONS SUNDAY

Sunday 30 July, 2023

The focus of this year's missions offering is the CRC Training Centre in Mwanza, Tanzania.