



PULSE MAGAZINE

December 2022

CONTENTS

- 2** **From the Editor:** *Mikaela Groom*
- 3** **From the Australian Missions Director:** *Pr Mike Cronin*
- 4-5** **Bolivia and Brazil Trip Overview:** *Pr Mark Walker*
- 6-7** **From the Ends of the Earth to Israel:** *Pr Glenn and Coralie Rowbotham*
- 8-9** **Sri Lanka and Serbia Report:** *Pr Trevor Murphy*
- 10-11** **Returning to the Philippines:** *Pr Mike Albert*
- 12-13** **Missionaries in Tennant Creek:** *Pr Jeremiah Madimadi*
- 14-15** **International Leaders' Gathering:** *Pr Mike Cronin*

Pulse is the voice of CRC Missions International

CONTACT US

Pr Mike Cronin

*Australian Missions Director
CRC Churches International*

Address: PO Box 198, Endeavour Hills, Victoria 3802, Australia

Email: info@crcmissions.org

Phone: +61 418 124 213

Printed copies of Pulse are available at \$1.00 each plus postage.

FROM THE EDITOR

Mikaela Groom

Welcome to our fourth and final edition of Pulse for 2022. This year has absolutely flown by!

How great is it that we can travel freely once again? We are finally able to include reports of missions trips to various nations throughout the globe. I love reading about all of the different countries our CRC personnel are visiting and the ministries and activities they are involved in.

In this edition we have articles from Bolivia and Brazil, Israel, Sri Lanka and Serbia, the Philippines, Tennant Creek in the Northern Territory, and a report from our International Leaders' Gathering in October.

I trust you will enjoy your read through the reports various pastors have put together. I also pray that you will be encouraged by the work taking place around the globe. We have a lot going on and there is so much for all of us to be involved in, even if it is simply through prayer.

There are a number of missions trips and events taking place in 2023, which are laid out on our back cover. I believe the opportunity for people to embark on short term missions trips in the coming year will continue to increase as international travel continues to open up. I strongly encourage people to sign up for a missions trip if you are able. Nothing beats going out onto the field and experiencing everything firsthand.



FROM THE AUSTRALIAN MISSIONS DIRECTOR

Pr Mike Cronin

Recently I have been pondering the question 'how big is your world?'

To some people their world has become so small that they cannot even venture out to church, they just watch online. Others venture to their local neighbourhood. COVID-19 has reduced the world for many people.

In contrast, this issue of Pulse shares the amazing stories of people who have expanded their world from Australia to South America, Philippines, Israel, Sri Lanka, Serbia etc., by travelling to these countries and ministering the blessing of God to the people.

Even when personal visits were not feasible, many people found that they

could expand their world by using Zoom.

Jesus said to His disciples before He left them on earth, "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8).

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is to empower us to be witnesses of Christ NOT just in Jerusalem or Judea (close by and similar people), but also to Samaria (different people) and to the ends of the earth.

How big is your world? Jesus intends that you be baptised in the Holy Spirit and that your world will extend to the ends of the earth.

Your local church may be organising mission trips for 2023. On the back page of this edition of Pulse you can see listed opportunities for you to join a missions trip in 2023. If you have been baptised in the Holy Spirit you have been empowered to do this.

It is time to expand your world.



BOLIVIA AND BRAZIL TRIP OVERVIEW

Pr Mark Walker

The latest missions trip undertaken by Bob Carmody and myself was greatly enhanced by having Alice Myszka with us for the first time.

Alice has supported the work from home for years by translating materials into Spanish.

Having her available as an interpreter and counsellor during this trip added a whole new dimension.

Bolivia

It was well worth the five flights (32 hours in the air) we caught to reach Sucre.

We spent two weeks encouraging old friends, making new ones, preaching and teaching in several churches, an orphanage, and a university, and seeing God move as we prayed for many people.

In the university some 80 people received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, which seems to have become a feature of the way God moves every time we visit Bolivia.

The chairman of the pastors' association in Sucre was glad to be able to report on how they had used some money Reveal Church sent them during a critical phase of the COVID-19 crisis there.

With only two days in Cochabamba, we were able to reconnect with a key pastor and university lecturer who wants to help us identify potential church planters there.

Brazil

We enjoyed several precious hours of fellowship with Pr Wilfredo and his family in São Paulo, a city of 20 million people, where they have moved from Bolivia.

After this we travelled to the town of Quitandinha where we plan to establish a church and missionary training school on land we own.

In Quitandinha we ministered to staff and students in a large public school and to a number of individuals, and carried out some much-needed maintenance.

We also ministered at a young church in the nearby city of Fazenda Rio Grande, where the pastors and leaders are keen to explore the possibility of connecting more closely with the CRC through Reveal Church.

We returned to São Paulo expecting to just spend our last full day with Pr Wilfredo, but the Lord sovereignly opened an unexpected door for us to preach in a vibrant church of at least 500 people, most of whom had migrated from Bolivia.

The church is Spanish speaking, so again Alice was able to help us to have a powerful impact. The senior pastor is asking us to give them three days when we return, for an evangelistic event. God willing, we're keen to do that!





FROM THE ENDS OF THE EARTH TO ISRAEL

Pr Glenn and Coralie Rowbotham

In October 2017, whilst we were still the Senior Pastors at Daylesford CRC Church, we planted and established Elohim House of Prayer (Elhop).

Now five years on, Elohim House is a thriving worshipping, support and outreach community located on the very top of Mount Carmel in northern Israel. This is the mountain where God answered Elijah's prayer with fire from heaven.

This is a place rich with prophetic history, but is also the place where we see the Lord is moving again in our

day in fulfilment of His redemptive promises to Israel.

Elohim House is a modern residential House of Prayer where we welcome worshippers and prophetic intercessors from many nations to stay, pray and to provide in person support to both Jewish and Arab believers and communities

Our location is close to Haifa, Israel's third largest city and largest sea port. In our local area, there are high concentrations of Jewish immigrants from Russian speaking backgrounds, including Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus. There are also Arab Muslims, Arab Catholics, Druze and other minority groups residing in the local region. At present, due to the war, the congregation we are closely associated with are hosting many refugees from Ukraine.

The epicentre of our ministry is in the cities and villages in the valley below. This is the Jezreel Valley.

The Jezreel Valley is an ancient place synonymous with Biblical characters, such as Gideon, Deborah, Jehu and Elisha, but is now a huge agricultural valley and high tech centre with an ever growing population of over 250,000 people.

Within this valley there are only 50 believers amongst 5 house congregations. Our work involves praying for these guys, supporting and encouraging their leaders and preaching and teaching.

Our work back home involves raising awareness amongst church communities in Australia about God's heart for the Jewish people, their spiritual needs and facilitating prayer and support for these congregations.

Some of our recent initiatives include facilitating a Megiddo Call for supporters to connect with and pray for faith leaders from the Jezreel Valley. We also initiated an 'Adopt a City' program where prayer and church missions groups can connect and support more deeply and personally with pastors and church communities in the Jezreel Valley.

Our prayers and support are making a difference in this pioneering valley. One instance of this change is that a new congregation was recently planted with new young converts in the valley's largest city (Afula). Although, this has been a hard spiritual ground, we sense it is softening and the Lord is going to do a lot more in the time ahead. This is great news for cities such as Yokneam, Migdal haEmek and other places that have little or no faith witness.

Israel is a land and nation like no other, where we are witnessing the ancient chosen people of the Bible, the Jewish people, coming home from many nations in fulfilment of Bible prophecy.

"See, I will bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the ends of the earth."Jeremiah 31:8.

Israel's enemies are never far away. Their spiritual and material needs are great here and we would like to encourage you to pray for Israel and for our ministry. We would also like to invite members of the CRC to consider visiting Israel and our base on Mt Carmel.

For more information you can contact us via email (coraglen1@gmail.com) or on WhatsApp/Signal (+61408033487). You can also check out our website www.elohimhouse.org.

SRI LANKA AND SERBIA REPORT

Pr Trevor Murphy

On Wednesday 2nd November 2022, I arrived in Sri Lanka with Pr Jeff Cottom, Senior Pastor of Leeton CRC, and Tim, a Sri Lankan member of Jeff's congregation in Leeton.

Tim has an inspiring story. He fled Sri Lanka 14 years ago, via India, and eventually arrived in Australia as a genuine refugee. He found himself in Leeton, where he received amazing support from the Leeton church ultimately leading to a life transforming relationship with Jesus. Tim obtained his permanent residency, married his amazing wife Anne, and in the past year became an Australian Citizen. As a result, he was able to travel with Jeff and I to Sri Lanka to see his family for the first time in 14 years.

Tim's family were so grateful for the care and support given by Pr Jeff and the Leeton church that, although not regular church attendees themselves, set up the opportunity for Jeff to minister with a group of churches in both Jaffna and Kilinochchi, Tim's home town in the Northern area of Sri Lanka. Pr Somanathan, the leader of our CRC churches in Sri Lanka was able to guide us in this connection, resulting in significant ministry opportunity for Jeff and many lives touched, including some great healing and other testimonies.

I also had the opportunity to connect with a pastor in Colombo, through a

Sri Lankan family who were part of our CRC church in Narrandera for a season. When Pr Somanathan and I met with this dear brother, who leads a church in Colombo that is having growing impact across Sri Lanka, we couldn't help but feel it may have been a divine appointment and we remain open to where this might lead in the future.

God is an amazing strategist, and I share these stories to confirm what many of you already know and are experiencing. There is a rapidly growing presence of people from other nations and cultures attending our churches in Australia, and this is leading to amazing God opportunities in opening doors for effective ministry into the home nations of our precious brothers and sisters.

We also had the wonderful privilege of sharing in a family camp for our Dehiwala CRC church and the children and staff from our children's homes. With all the challenges being faced in Sri Lanka it was great to draw aside for a few days of worship, focused prayer, refreshing fellowship and encouraging ministry in the Word of God. Jeff and I were so honoured to be a part of this time, and the positive feedback regarding the timeliness and prophetic nature of what God had put on our hearts to share was very encouraging.

We also visited our children's homes and farm in Valaichenai, our beautiful preschool in Vavuniya, and our thriving CRC churches in Rakwana and Dehiwala Colombo. I look forward to visiting more CRC churches on the next visit.

What a blessing for Jeff and I to participate in the baptism of seven of

our older girls from the children's home. We were very excited for each one of these girls, who I have had the joy of watching grow and flourish in the homes on my visits over many years.

I want to share about one girl named Lavi. Over the last four years Lavi has received support from a Gypsy church in Serbia, who I have been visiting and have a close relationship with for 20 years. They have minimal resources but provide support for Lavi at \$100 per month. Over 100 individuals and families from this church faithfully contribute what they are able, many giving amounts equivalent to \$1 per month. Even though they receive mission support themselves, they have a heart to 'go into all the world' and this is one way they can do that.

After my two weeks in Sri Lanka, I spent two weeks in Serbia with this Gypsy church led by Pr Selim. It was exciting to share with them that the young girl Lavi is now 16 years old, doing well at school, being wonderfully cared for at the home and I had the privilege of being part of her baptism. The response was deeply moving as they gave praise to God and expressed gratitude for being able to share in Lavi's inspiring story.

I had an amazing two weeks in Serbia and arrived home on Friday 2nd December. What God is doing amongst this thriving Gypsy church, who are so grateful for their relationship with CRC, is an inspiring story for another time.

What a joy to be serving God in 'Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the uttermost parts of the world'.





RETURNING TO THE PHILIPPINES

Pr Mike Albert

In November 2022, Pr Tyrone Andrado and I had the privilege of visiting CRC churches in the Philippines. This was Pr Tyrone's first time to the Philippines but not his last as he says!

We visited Pr Marlon and Ann Sala at the Land of Promise Centre, located in Zamboanga City, where I have been involved in ministry since its inception under the leadership of Pr Marlon in 2001. They have seen God move incredibly in the young people through intentional discipleship.

We shared at the last day of their Encounter program and saw fifteen people baptised in the Holy Spirit with

the initial evidence of speaking in tongues.

One of the highlights of our trip was conducting a medical outreach in the Zamboanga, Del Norte area, where Pr Marlon and his team are planning to plant a church. We invested about \$2,000 in medicine.

On the day, we had a large team from the church involved, including doctors, nurses and a military escort. About 400 people were medically assessed, prayed for and given medication. Many people also accepted Christ for the first time.

Pr Marlon plans to launch the church in this area in 2023.

We shared at the Sunday service of a new church plant, which launched in 2020 at Ayala in Zamboanga. Many responded to the gospel for the first time and we water baptised 13 new

disciples from the church the following day.

Pr Peter Hauje and the team ran a three day national conference in Bulacan, Central Luzon. This was the first national conference in several years. It was a great time of unity, joy, spiritual input and healing with about 225 pastors and leaders at the gathering.

The worship, although led by different teams, was Spirit led and extremely moving.

We had the opportunity to pray for new pastors being ordained and the Spirit moved powerfully in their hearts, and many were equipped by God for ministry and service.

The final leg of our trip was in Bicol. We visited Pr Josephine's church in Legazpi. We had a great Sunday morning church service where we saw the gifts of the

Spirit operating in prophecy and words of knowledge.

We shared at one of the local outreaches and it was great to see several new Christians growing in their faith and hungry for His Word.

On our last day we visited Pr Zaldie and his wife Melody in Irigia (a church planted by Pr Lawrence and Annie ten years ago). It was great to fellowship with them and dedicate their newborn son to the Lord.

This was one of the best ministry trips I have experienced in the Philippines, as Pr Tyrone and I worked well together as a team.

After returning back home, it was great to hear testimonies of people who were still being healed. One man was healed from a lump on his back, which has now been confirmed by a CT scan. God is good!

MISSIONARIES IN TENNANT CREEK

Pr Jeremiah Madimadi

Greetings from Tennant Creek. We want to thank those who have made time to pray, call, message and visit us to give us words of encouragement and support. All of this means a lot to us.

We feel that we have settled in already so we are focussing on ministry and the affairs of the church. God is doing wonderful things in Tennant Creek. I truly believe if God can provide water and food for the Israelites in the wilderness and in the remote Sinai desert, He is able to pour out his spiritual water and food for the spiritually hungry and thirsty souls here in Tennant Creek.

So far, we have witnessed seven people give their lives to the Lord and a demon possessed young girl get delivered. Please join us in praying for these new converts and for more young men and women to turn to the Lord.

On Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm we have Bible study and prayer. We have 10 to 15 people attending this program. We have been studying the topic 'The Word of God' for a few Tuesdays now and people seem to be enjoying it.

On Wednesday evenings we were doing outreach at the Aboriginal camps but this program paused for a while as I was not able to drive. Thank God I was able to pass a driving test in early December and have now received my full license.

On Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm we hold a ladies meeting. Our ladies are having great fun as they sit around and share scriptures and testimonies to encourage each other.

On Friday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm we hold our youth night. About 15 to 20 teenagers and children come to our youth nights. Some of them are very small but we take them in and care for them. Our aim is to touch as many young people as we can with the gospel. Please pray that God will give us some creative ways to reach them. Pray for sister Ebony (our youth leader) who does a fantastic job organising our youth programs.

I was not able to pick anyone up for one of our youth nights in November so Delia and I decided to sit at church and see who might come. At 6:30pm 10 children made their own way to church and asked if youth was on. We decided to make them some food. While they were eating they said they wanted to change their lives and asked me to pray. I prayed and five of the older ones said the sinners prayer and gave their lives to the Lord. I gave them Bibles, some more food and sent them home. It was special seeing these kids praying to God for change.

After the closing prayer one Sunday evening, a man walked to the front and told me he wanted to give his life to God. I led him to the Lord as his wife and others stood beside and witnessed.

Let us rise together in prayer and believe for God to move in a fresh and mighty way in our church and sweep through the township of Tennant Creek. Let us cry out and ask God to heal our land and set people free from evil (2 Chronicles 7:14).





INTERNATIONAL LEADERS' GATHERING

The International Leaders' Gathering (ILG) is a gathering of the leaders of our CRC churches/nations from around the world, together with our Australian pastors who are active in global missions.

Prior to 2020 this was always held in person involving only those who were present at the Australian National Conference. However, with the travel bans due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have not been able to gather from interstate or overseas for the National Conference.

Instead of being a limitation, this accelerated us to broaden the

participants in the ILG. For the last two years the ILG was conducted on Zoom and involved many more people from overseas countries than previous years.

This year we gathered in person for the Australian National Conference, but only four overseas delegates attended. Consequently, we had a hybrid event for the ILG. Some people were at Hope Central in Elizabeth South, Adelaide (who provided excellent hospitality and help) and others were on Zoom from various countries.

Conducting a hybrid event using Zoom and in person was challenging and we will be looking at the best way to conduct this event in the future.

With an expanding global movement we cannot go back to only in person events because of the impossibility of having all our overseas delegates in Australia for the conference and ILG.

The theme for the ILG this year was 'Sharpening the Focus of the International Vision'. It was held on Friday afternoon 7th October with hybrid sessions, and was followed by the Global Regional Groups on Saturday 8th October all on Zoom.

The Friday sessions began with messages on 'Stepping Out of Lockdown and Rising for the Future' by Pr John Warren in person (an Australian now planting churches in the United Kingdom), and Pr Roxanne Caceres via Zoom (a Filipino now ministering in Papua New Guinea).

Pr Phil Cayzer (from Cranbourne, Victoria) then spoke in person on 'Taking Up God Opportunities in Africa'.

These messages were informative, inspiring and very challenging regarding the possibilities before us as a movement.

Small group sessions for 'getting to know you' and prayer for the nations were also incorporated into the day having been introduced by Pr Peter Hauje.

The Saturday Regional Groups, at a time appropriate to the region, were an excellent time of building relationships, encouraging one another and praying for each other.

The ILG events are a great time for strengthening relationships amongst our CRC pastors and leaders around the world. We are part of a Global Family.

Currently, according to the Australian CRC pastors survey in August 2022, we are now involved to some extent in 89 countries, with 110-120 countries to reach in the next 23 years in order to fulfil our vision of 'A presence in every nation by 2045'.



CRC MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

UPCOMING EVENTS

MISSIONS TRIPS IN 2023

Contact Pr Phil Cayzer (phil@turningpoint.asn.au) for information on the following:

24 April - 19 May: East Africa - IMBC Graduations

23 June - 6 July: Burundi - Ladies' Conference and Game Park

29 September - 2 October: Joint African Conference

There will be other missions trips in 2023 from local churches to various nations.

PATHWAY TO MISSIONS SEMINAR

More missionary training days are coming up in 2023. Further details will be released for:

March: South Australia

June: New South Wales

TBC: Victoria