



PULSE MAGAZINE

December 2020

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Pulse is the voice of CRC Missions International

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FROM THE EDITOR

Mikaela Groom

Welcome to our December edition of Pulse Magazine for 2020.

What a year it has been! With international travel on hold, our CRC missions program has looked very different compared to previous years. Although people have not been able to travel throughout the nations to enjoy ministry and fellowship with one another, this in no way means we are entirely disconnected. The COVID-19 pandemic has encouraged a new wave of communication through online means, such as Zoom. Online media has been a life saver during this time and I'm sure the benefits it holds will continue to be utilised far beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of the most encouraging aspects of this year has been the continual support of churches for missions. Monetary support, in addition to prayers and ongoing communication, has not decreased during this tough time. In fact, some churches have even increased their missions giving!

Throughout this edition of Pulse you will read about multiple churches who have been major supporters of CRC missions work throughout the nations. These are only a select few of the many churches who faithfully support missions.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I look forward to what is in store for CRC Missions in 2021.



FROM THE AUSTRALIAN MISSIONS DIRECTOR

Pr Mike Cronin

In CRC Churches International we have a vision of a presence in every nation by 2045. A presence is an effective ongoing ministry of doing what Jesus commissioned us to do - 'making disciples of Christ'.

The fulfilment of this great vision is dependent upon the apostolic, pioneering thrust of our existing churches and nations.

It means focused and committed

involvement in new nations. It means seeing and following through on all the opportunities God gives us.

It requires walking by faith, not by sight. It will stretch our resources, and draw in many more resources, like Jesus feeding the 5,000.

In this issue of Pulse we highlight the work of a number of our CRC churches from both Australia and Papua New Guinea who are actively involved in giving apostolic leadership into other nations making disciples by training, equipping, and planting churches.

You and your church are part of this exciting vision that will be celebrated on our 100th anniversary in 2045.

A very happy Christmas and a New Year of great steps forward in God.



KINGSTON CITY CHURCH

Pr Dan Parker

The mission focus at Kingston City Church is three pronged. We have a long standing relationship with our churches in Fiji and we intend for that to continue into the future. In recent years other opportunities have opened up that align with the CRC international vision.

In the mid-nineties, we were seeking God for a nation to support in missions. Through Pr Barry Silverback sharing the nations he was working in, we sensed the Holy Spirit very clearly direct us to Fiji. We started sending teams and got involved in some early building projects. It took a few years to build relationships

with the leaders and as we got to know them, confidence built on both sides and we became friends and co-laboured together in the national vision.

As the years unfolded, we were involved in leadership support, conferences and major build programs. We have seen the work develop and mature and now second generation leaders are rising to take the CRC forward in the nation. It was in those early years that our church learned to adapt and be sensitive to different cultural nuances and expectations. It was also important for churches and leaders in Fiji to understand Western culture and be able to work through their own motivations for relationship.

The Fijian experience has taught our people important lessons that we are now able to apply in other nations.

We will continue our support and relationships with our Fijian friends as we also build into new nations.

The second main area of our support is among South Sudanese in Melbourne and in Africa. Through Pr Bryan Grasby, we have established relationships into the nation of South Sudan. Bryan has visited over thirty times in the last fifteen years. I have visited and run pastors conferences too. In recent years the nation has been closed because of civil war.

We hope in the next few years we will be able to return to work with local leaders and to build a CRC presence in Juba, the capital. There are other CRC works in various parts of the country and in the years ahead there will hopefully be a broad work in the nation. We are supporting a pastor who has established three congregations in Juba. He is a good man and we believe

we will be able to build with him and bless the nation.

Since 2015, I have been visiting Turkey and building relationships with refugee churches. Pr Ghassan Thomas is an Iraqi pastor who joined the CRC and took me with him to visit two congregations he was helping support. He is no longer able to return because of security reasons. I am still able to travel there and have now built my own relationships with local leaders.

God has opened a door to the Middle East through these refugee churches. Syrian, Iraqi and Iranian churches are now relating to us. We believe that through the CRC international vision, doors will open into Arab nations.

What is most important is building trust with people and being prepared to step out in faith to pursue the Word that God gives - 'to go!'



ADELAIDE CHRISTIAN CENTRE

Pr Mike Groom

Global Missions have been an integral part of the vision of ACC since the early 1960s. As a church we have seen many missionaries and workers being deployed to PNG and other parts of the world. This vision continues today through prayer, financial and practical support in the endeavour to pioneer new frontiers for the Kingdom of God.

Since 2014 we became more strategic with our Global Missions Ministry by adopting four main areas of focus: Helping the Needy, Missionary Service, Ministry Training and Christian Education. Also, we have seen many

people from our church visiting various CRC fields, in particular the youth teams who have visited the Solomon Islands.

Helping the Needy

Bethel Children's Home Sri Lanka: Has been in operation since 1998 when the first home opened with 11 girls. The home has government permissions to care for up to 40 children. The home ensures all children are sent to primary and secondary schools within the community, assures all medical and healthcare needs are met, provides all subsistence needs (i.e. food, clothing, shelter, water, sanitation, recreation), and commits to continually support their overall physical, emotional, mental and intellectual development.

Children's Feeding Programs

Philippines: Thousands of children have been ministered to in the Philippines by the feeding programs we contribute to.

Missionary Service

Rachelle Hardy: Rachelle was initially sent out from Traralgon, Victoria and is primarily based in Port Moresby, PNG and oversees World Missions Faith Training School (WMFTS), among other tasks. She also travels regularly to India to provide leadership to WMFTS India. ACC sponsors her in addition to other CRC churches and individuals.

Pr Barry and Rosalie Silverback:

Pr Barry is the CRC's International Missions Director and was a missionary in PNG for many years with his family. He continues to travel to many nations teaching, preaching and mentoring.

Warwick and Omega Hughes:

Pr Warwick is from New Zealand and was supported as a missionary in PNG for many years where he was involved in WMFTS. He met his wife Omega in PNG, and they have two sons. In August 2018 the Hughes family relocated to Walhalla, South Carolina, USA. Pr Warwick is now our senior pastor at Faith Center Church.

Ministry Training

Bethel International Training College

PNG: ACC has been supporting the training programs in PNG for over 40 years. Hundreds of men and women have been trained over this time.

International Student Sponsorship Programme (ISSP):

ACC sponsors young men and women predominately from CRC works in India and Fiji to study at Bethel International Training College over a two year period.

World Missions Faith Training School India:

WMFTS exposes young men and

women to the missionary mandate, informing, training, preparing and inspiring them to become missionaries around the world.

Evangelos Training Institute India: ACC supports the principal of Evangelos Training Institute (ETI). She is a graduate of WMFTS India and ACC sponsored her under ISSP. She has served in PNG and Fiji and is now back in India.

Christian Education

Bethel Crusade Preschools Fiji:

Bethel Crusade Preschools began in Suva in 1994 with nine children. Since then approximately 3,500 children have graduated from the preschools. Bethel Crusade Preschools have expanded to reach a total of eight preschools located throughout Fiji in Sigatoka, Suva, Lakena, Savusavu, Nacavanadi, Labasa, Daku and on Koro Island.

Sunrise Bethel Christian School PNG:

Based in Port Moresby, the school is non-denominational and co-educational. It is part of ACS, a ministry of ACC. The school is located on the grounds of Bethel Tabernacle of Praise Church. In 2020 a second campus began in Edai Town outside of Port Moresby.

Faith Christian School USA:

Located in Walhalla, South Carolina, USA, this school is also part of ACS. It is on the property of, and is a ministry of, Faith Center Church.

Door of Hope Preschool Sri Lanka:

Door of Hope Preschool has been running for a few years now and is located in Vavuniya in the north of Sri Lanka. It is predominantly made up of Tamil speaking children.



BETHEL TABERNACLE OF PRAISE

We thank God for this year of 2020! What a wonderful year it has been even with all the challenges that came along with it.

All of our plans for 2020 in regards to raising funds for missions, have been disrupted because of COVID-19 and the lockdowns we have had.

However, God has seen us through and we were still able to raise funds for the work of missions.

We were also able to keep up with our missions presentations and awareness in our Sunday services.

Amidst this very challenging time, as a mission minded church, we have taken the challenge to do something during the lockdown so that we would have money coming in to continue to support the work of the Lord as well as our missionaries.

During the first lockdown the missions council decided to begin something here on the property. We started what we now refer to as Special Missions Sale (SMS) and we still have it operating to this day.

Under SMS, we bake scones, cakes, doughnuts and sell them to the community living here on the property, along with canned soft drinks.

We have been doing well with this new endeavour and we thank God for it.

The highlight of our 2020 missions fundraising endeavours was on Thursday 23rd July when we prepared 104 mumu packs (food cooked in the ground).

The food is creamed with coconut cream, wrapped with foil and banana leaves, covered in the ground and heaps of fire wood is burnt on the top where the food is placed.

All of the 104 mumu packs that we prepared sold out.

During this time we are also dedicated to supporting all of the international students who are currently living on the Bethel Centre property.

These students have come from a range of different countries to study here.

They are supported through the International Students Sponsorship Program (ISSP).

In addition to the missions activities already listed, we also have a coffee shop where we sell food, canned drinks and ice cream to our congregation members every Sunday after our church services.

However, because of the lockdown caused by COVID-19, we stopped selling items out of the cafe for that period of time.

It was only in November when we had our missions awareness on India that we were allowed to begin selling food again in the church.

All the glory, honour and praise belongs to our amazing Father.



TURNINGPOINT CHURCH CRANBOURNE

Pr Phil Cayzer

In August 2020 we had planned our inaugural trip, for CRC pastors, of the Great Lakes region in Africa. We were planning to conduct graduations for the Bible Schools in seven different nations: Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Burundi, Rwanda and the Congo.

However, we were unable to make the trip due to the COVID-19 pandemic, yet the ministry of the Gospel has continued on. Since we were unable to attend we have taken the opportunity to increase the ministry within the Bible Schools.

Currently we have 11 Bible Schools running in these nations and we have just registered the CRC in Malawi and

Zambia. It is exciting to see so many people that have committed themselves to the CRC Bible Colleges in these nations and as a result, we are seeing many trained leaders now launching out to plant new churches over many of the South East nations of Africa.

As we have been unable to travel to the missions fields, we have established many alternative communication methods to connect with the churches and to be able to speak into their Bible Schools. We have even had many of the leaders from the African nations speak into our team and other small group gatherings here in Australia. This has enabled us to be able to continue to develop relationships with the key leaders who are dedicated to fulfil the call to see a CRC presence established in every nation by 2045.

This particular missions call is something that has resonated with so many people in Africa and as a result, they are planning that we would outreach into one to two neighbouring countries each year as we continue to roll out the Bible College structure and to impact many people's lives.

The CRC International Bible Colleges have seen around a thousand students either graduated or currently enrolled in our certificate and diploma course!

The solid training provided through the Bible College, partnered with the passion to share the Gospel and serve the Kingdom, that which is often found in and all around Africa, has proven incredibly effective in enlarging the kingdom of God.

One of the things that we find very exciting is that through this ministry many of the refugee camps have opened up to the Gospel, we have now been able to partner with seven refugee camps through various means of ministry or church plants and have seen some churches grow to up even 1,000 within the camps. The refugees themselves also look forward to being relocated into other countries and express that, being granted permission into another nation, they will go as trained CRC pastors and leaders with a mission to plant a CRC Church in their new country. Despite living in a refugee camp, the churches have been able to establish buildings and networks of training that have made a huge difference in each of these areas.

In 2021 we hope to once again travel to the Great Lakes region of Africa and the invite is open to all CRC pastors! Join us in visiting at least one of the 11 nations in Africa that we are partnered with to conduct graduations and minister in various churches. We welcome you to be a part of establishing of the CRC in the second largest continent of the world! Feel free to email me via churches@crcchurches.org

Philippians 1:12 says: *"Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the Gospel."*

As you know, over the time of COVID-19 many churches had to continue online, as a result our connect group leaders Allan and Cynthia Quiambao realised there was a lack in Tagalog services for the Filipino community. So, they formed a team and created an online Filipino

service during the stage four lockdown, which you can see via their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/turningpointFilipinoOutreach

Since then they have had a wide following not only here in Australia, but also in the Philippines and even in America. This service has given opportunities for many within the church to rise up to new levels in areas such as preaching, teaching, worship leading, recording and editing and more, many of whom had never done anything like this before.

Furthermore, throughout the year we produce reading plans for our church to read the Bible and devote ourselves daily, together. Connect Group leaders Sunia and Janette Mapuilesua, chose to run with the reading plans and started a devotion time online to reach into the Samoan community.

Like the Filipino team, they have also gained a following with many from the islands and even in New Zealand, tuning in to hear the Word of God. With the heart to serve the Kingdom, they organised people weekly to share and even purchased their own equipment, such as lighting and a green screen, required for the recording and editing of the Samoan services.

It has been a real blessing to see our church members dedicate themselves to sowing into the Kingdom of God despite the adversity that we faced this year. We are so encouraged by and can now even more so relate to the words of Paul in Philippians; *"what has happened to me has actually served to advance the Gospel."*



REVEAL CHURCH

Pr Mike Albert

Reveal Church (formerly South Eastern Christian Centre), is thoroughly committed to the CRC Churches International's vision of seeing a presence in every nation by 2045. We have a strong heritage for missions work (one of our core values is Mission Matters), through our founding ministers Pr Mike and Lois Cronin. We believe that God has entrusted certain nations to us, such as Philippines, Cambodia, South America (Bolivia and Brazil).

We are also partnering with Tuning Point Church to support work in East African countries, providing financial support toward translating Bible College notes into Swahili and French.

These notes have been instrumental in developing pastors and leaders in countries such as Kenya, Tanzania and more recently Mauritius (we have a growing number of Mauritians in our congregation wanting to see their families reached with the Gospel back in their homeland).

During this tumultuous year, although our travel plans have been thwarted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have remained in contact with key pastors and leaders in the Philippines, Cambodia and South America.

In the Philippines for example, we have been equipping leaders and pastors in the Mindanao, Zamboanga area through Zoom. Pr Marlon and Ann Sala's church have also been able to watch our live stream service each Sunday. Reveal Church has been able to contribute towards upgrading their

broadband services to help facilitate this.

It was also a great blessing to reallocate some of our 2020 missions travel budget to support Filipino churches during their COVID-19 lockdowns and provide support in the Bicol area during the recent typhoons.

In Cambodia, Reveal Church has supported flood victims in Moung Russey and Kampong Chhnang. We sent them over \$10,000 for rice, non-perishable food, clothing and blankets as many people were displaced. Key pastors and leaders were able to minister to people in those affected areas. We received a certificate of honour from the Governor of the City of Battambang for providing support during this crucial time.

Our full-time missionary to Cambodia, Pr Rebecca Hartskeerl, has been

supporting Pr Sina Ourn teaching English and doing Bible studies with Christians. We recently supplied Pr Sina with a motorbike to help support the ministry to the many village churches that he oversees.

In South America, the Lord has given us favour with many Bolivian churches and the opportunity to plant a CRC work in Sucre. Political unrest and COVID-19 have made life and ministry more difficult for the pastors this year, but we've been able to provide encouragement and financial support.

A community outreach project is being set up to allow Pr Wilfredo to train some people to make masks and other PPE and we're translating Bible study materials into Spanish for use in Bolivia and Paraguay. Progress on our planned missionary training school in southern Brazil has been slow, but Pr Enio is faithfully working toward it



UPDATE FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Papua New Guinea

Here is a report on our ministry to St Charles' Luwanga Catholic Secondary School in Port Moresby, PNG.

It started with my eldest daughter Margaret; she had a burden for the school so she approached her deputy principal to ask if her mum and dad could come and do some ministry.

I asked Pr Paul to organise for the Bethel Centre students to be part of the ministry and the preparation.

I also asked Noel and Roxanne, missionaries from the Philippines to PNG, to help some topics using the *No Apologies* teaching manual. I asked

them to teach what was relevant as some information is outdated.

The three of us took some sessions with the students at the beginning of December to prepare them before future times of ministry.

Roxanne taught on the topic of 'how the media has an influence on teenagers'. She also shared on Psalms 139:14 and told the students to filter what the media is showing them.

Noel took on the topic of 'premarital sex has consequences'. He also shared on the scripture Jeremiah 29:11 encouraging students to think about how the decisions you make today will determine your future.

I spoke on the topic 'we all want healthy relationships, characters and standards.

Pr Paul used the illustration of a funnel to encourage students to live in a small

circle, obeying their parents, teachers so that later they will enjoy life. However, if they choose to live in a bigger circle now enjoying their pleasures with disobedience, their life might not have a happy ending.

Ruben, a missionary from the Solomon Islands to PNG, taught the students a drama called *The Heart*. They performed the drama as we drew to a close. I presented a challenge straight after the drama was finished and shared my testimony of how Jesus saved me when there was no hope. The Lord touched the students as we saw tears and a deep conviction.

I made a call for salvation and 86 students surrendered their lives to Christ. I led them to pray the sinners prayer and asked them to fill out the decision cards afterwards. They also pledged to remain abstinent. We gave them little cards as reminders of the promise they made.

The deputy principal was with us the whole time. Also, the Catholic Nuns who are teachers there came and told us that they like the message.

I told the deputy principal that we would like to follow up the students via phone contacts and next year, I would like to take them on some discipleship classes within their school lunch hours. She is very happy and is supportive of that.

The deputy principal gave Paul a love offering money to the amount of K200. I told Paul that we should put that into missions funds and give the receipt back to the school which he agreed to do.

The Bethel Centre students were very blessed and they also observed and learnt how they can minister to the teenagers. They did a great presentation of the drama.

Norah Stanley

PATHWAY TO MISSIONS

CONNECTING, TRAINING AND RESOURCING
YOUR MISSIONARY JOURNEY

CREATING A PATHWAY INTO MISSIONS – 4 STEPS...

1

MISSIONS CONNECT & ONLINE TRAINING

Training with Pr Barry Silverback and Pr Jeremy Steel. These will be in-person events conducted in each state. Register your interest to be kept informed when an event will be one run near you. This training will be made available online in early 2021.

Register your interest now.

MISSIONARY TRAINING INTENSIVE

Missionary training intensive will be a 2 week live-in program. Inspirational, practical, Bible-based and highly interactive. Learn from the experiences of past and present missionaries.

2

3

MISSIONARY EXPOSURE (1-3 MONTHS)

More than a mission's trip! In this step you will get real missionary exposure for 1 to 3 months. You will be placed with current missionaries on the field or in apostolic mission sending churches. (You will need to raise your own finance).

FURTHER TRAINING OR MISSIONARY SERVICE

Those who would benefit from further missionary training and development will be encouraged to attend the 1-year World Missions Faith Training School (WMFTS) at Bethel Centre, Port Moresby. Those who are equipped and ready to go will be encouraged to consult with their local pastor about gaining endorsement and support from the local church for full time missionary service.

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