



# News & Prayer

## Prayer and Praise

Thurs 4 Aug - Wed 17 Aug

- 4 T **Thailand** It is currently 'Buddhist Lent', a time where Buddhists cleanse themselves of the 'bad' in their life. Pray with the team that during this time of renewed spiritual activity, doors of dialogue between Buddhists and followers of Jesus will be opened.
- 5 F **Thailand** The team writes, "Please pray that Jesus would speak to our **Buddhist friends** through dreams and other encounters. Pray that He would be revealed as the true Light of the world."
- 6 S **Thailand** Give thanks for the growth of confidence and teaching skills that Muana and Villy are witnessing in the **local faith leaders**. Pray for more leaders to be equipped.
- 7 S **Thailand** Glenn has recently started culture and language lessons with a new local teacher. Pray for their relationship to grow.
- 8 M **Mozambique** Praise God for the recent healing of a Yawo women **Sally** is friends with. Mamma M, Sally's friend, said, "God is big. He has helped me." Pray for this encounter to open more opportunities for conversations about Jesus.
- 9 T **Mozambique** Pray with **Sally** for another Yawo friend. Sally shares, "Mama L is on a journey of discovering Jesus. As we sit together and read God's word, please pray that His truths will take root in her heart."
- 10 W **Mozambique** Lift up **Ben and Sam** as they journey with Yawo friends. Pray for deep cultural understanding as they share stories and listen to their friends.
- 11 T **South East Asia** **Mike** is celebrating one year on location in South East Asia! Give thanks for his heart to serve God in place where few have heard the good news in a way they can understand.
- 12 F **South East Asia** Pray for **Ezzie and Max** as they prepare to return to South East Asia this month. Pray for God's protection as they travel, and His presence as they settle back in and reconnect with their local friends.
- 13 S **South East Asia** Give thanks for the life-changing impact of the team's **ministry initiatives**. Pray for the team to connect with people of peace who are open to exploring who Jesus is. Pray for whole-of-life transformation as people experience God's love through word and action.
- 14 S **Silk Road Area** Pray for **Mel** as she invests in hours of culture and language learning each week so she can communicate the Gospel in relevant ways. Pray for perseverance, good retention and encouragement as she learns.
- 15 M **Silk Road Area** Lift up **Suzanne** as she prepares to join the team among the K people. Pray for her continued spiritual, emotional and physical preparation. Pray for many people and churches to partner with her and her ministry.
- 16 T **Partners** Give thanks for the faithful, prayerful and passionate people who partner with our intercultural teams. Pray for them to know God's love, peace and presence in their lives.
- 17 W **Australian Churches** Pray for Australian church communities as they navigate challenges and discern God's leading. Pray for more opportunities for local churches to step out and cross the street with the hope of Jesus in their neighbourhoods and beyond.



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## Ministry Update

### Training Leaders

#### Outback Australia



Bush Training Camps are back on!

Team Leader Vivian writes, “Praise God that for the first time in around seven years a

combined Bush Training Camp was recently held. Approximately 35 believers and church leaders gathered for the training, along with our full time.

The theme of the teaching was ‘Creation and Reconciliation’, with these themes being explored through interaction with Bible passages in Genesis, 2 Corinthians, Galatians and Colossians via oral teaching with iconography, intense discussion, a purlapa (corroboree) on the final night, and long one-on-one conversations.

It was a rich time of meals around smoking fires, camping out under the stars, intercultural learning, deep consideration in informal small group conversations, singing accompanied by guitars, and free time bush tucker gathering and hunting.

This was a worthwhile, and at times deeply moving camp (though not without challenges) that

First Nations leaders and the Baptist Mission Australia team agreed would be picked up again in 2023, possibly in two different locations at two separate times. Thank you for your partnership in enabling these camps to happen.”

Shannon and Mat share, “As a team we firmly believe that there are others who may be able to join this team in a full-time on field capacity.

We are now praying for someone to be based in Yuendumu and involved with the southern communities. Please consider getting in touch with the team or Baptist Mission Australia if you’re interested in exploring the possibility of filling this role.”

Beth and Danny write, “Praise God for the relaunch of the Bush Training Camps, growing relationships and momentum for our team alongside the Indigenous communities. Pray with us for more full-time people to join the Outback team, especially in Yuendumu.”

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## From Scott

### New Ministry Opportunities

#### Celebrating the first baptisms in Maki, Papua.

Baptist Mission Australia has a long and fruitful partnership with Baptists in North East India and Papua New Guinea and there are exciting new ministry opportunities opening up in both places.

In India, the Rabha Baptist Convention (RBC) has seen an increase of new families from another faith move into the region. Through their work as traders, farmers and labourers, they come in direct contact with the Rabha believers daily and even welcome the open conversations about life and faith.

These new neighbours have been asking and talking about similarities between the two faiths; a few have already decided to follow Jesus!

RBC leaders have expressed a strong interest to train themselves and their people on how to share the hope of Jesus with their new neighbours. Our Asia Mission Mobiliser R\* and Intercultural Mission Advisor Roger have visited the Rabhas on location to listen, consult and observe what is going on.



R says: *“The Rabha Christians recognise the unique opportunity to witness to their neighbours and that this door may not always be open to them.”*

This opportunity has dovetailed with the development of our new Asian Mission Mobilisation strategy through which Baptist Mission Australia wants to partner, equip, and mobilise the intercultural workforce from among our traditional partners and like-minded organisations in the region.

**We have now finalised a plan to run a pilot transformational, intercultural training program in the Assam region from 10-28 October 2022 in partnership with the RBC.** Participants are also expected from other Baptist groups associated with the Lower Assam Baptist Fellowship.

R comments: *“We plan to bring together mission practitioners from within our organisation to share our experiences and to learn together at the feet of Jesus. We are excited to be coming alongside our brothers and sisters and building their confidence in sharing their faith meaningfully across cultures.”*

Let me invite you to partner with our team and the Rabhas in their first intercultural work as they make the most of this rare opportunity to cross a cultural boundary and share the good news of Jesus with their new neighbours!

The project code on our website is **INwh411 - Transformational Training**. Give or find our more here: [www.baptistmissionaustralia.org/TransformationalTraining](http://www.baptistmissionaustralia.org/TransformationalTraining)

In other exciting news, Geoff Cramb has commenced this month in a new PNG partnership consultancy role. Geoff, who formally served in PNG, has a long and passionate association with PNG Baptists. Over the next six months, Geoff will meet with PNG Baptist leaders and explore new partnership opportunities, including the setting up of a PNG intercultural mission sending arm.

I am looking forward to visiting PNG early next year with Geoff. By then we hope to be in a position to sign a new partnership agreement with our Baptist friends in PNG. Watch out for more details in the coming months.

Please join me in praying for the Rabhas, R, Roger and our team as they prepare for the training gathering and for those that who will have the opportunity to hear about Jesus in ways that make sense to them. Let's also be upholding Geoff and the leaders of the PNG family of Baptist churches as we look to new collaborative ministry opportunities.

**It's exciting to see God's Spirit at work, opening up new partnership opportunities across the world. We celebrate the privilege we have together to be co-workers in the good news of Jesus Christ.**

Grace and peace  
Scott

*\*For security reasons, R's full name has not been used.*