# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Still Sent



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# A NOTE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever. With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations. I declare that your steadfast love is established forever, your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. (Psalm 89)



Tēnā koutou katoa,

As I look back over 2020, I join the writer of Psalm 89 in praising God for His steadfast love and faithfulness. There have certainly been times of grief as we walked alongside global Mission Partners and the people they serve in the midst of a pandemic. There was also uncertainty for all of us, with flights grounded, lockdowns around the world, and plans constantly changing.

In the midst of all this, we look back and see God's faithful hand over us at NZCMS, a faithfulness as firm as the heavens. And, like the generations of CMS before us, we continue to proclaim God's faithfulness and steadfast love. As a community passionate about mission, we know God's calling on us as 'sent people,' sent into the world to proclaim and live out God's faithful love.

NZCMS has always been about sending people globally. Despite the challenges that 2020 brought, many of our global Mission Partners have been able to stay in country and continue to serve. In times of crisis, there is even more need for people to know God's saving love, and our Mission Partners have found creative ways to serve in changing circumstances. While some Mission Partners were forced to return to New Zealand, we

continue to receive applications from people discerning a call to long-term service in global Mission.

Even as we send globally, we seek to support the church in New Zealand in mission. Our heart is for the whole church to live as 'sent people' wherever we find ourselves. NZCMS is now partnering with two Māori dioceses to support the ministry of Māori evangelists to proclaim the Gospel amongst their people. Over the past three years, we have partnered with the Wellington Diocese in the Intercultural Communities project, helping churches engage with people from different cultures.

We continue to be passionate about discipling young people with a missional heart. In February 2020, we kicked off the second year of the Better World Gap Year, only to have to cancel it due to Covid-19. We plan to relaunch Better World in 2022, with the same vision but located within New Zealand. We took advantage of lockdowns to start 'Happy Hour,' online conversations about mission. Mission Partners joined our panels from global locations, and hundreds tuned in to join these conversations.

Thank you for your support during this challenging year. As I look back over the year that was, the hymn that comes to mind (one known to many in the NZCMS family) is 'How Great is the God we Adore'

To Jesus the first and last, whose Spirit will guide us safe home We will praise him for all that is past And trust him for all that is come.

May the Lord bless you, Rosie

## NZCMS Foundational Values

Our Foundational Values are the starting place and the 'fabric' of who we are and who God has made us to be. They are our collective DNA and strongly bind us to each other. They are woven together, operate together, and all equally important. Our Values guide how we do our work.

#### **OUR WHAKAPAPA**

We are rooted in our history as CMS which is part of our DNA. CMS began as a voluntary mission movement: communities of radical followers of Jesus sending and being sent to proclaim Christ in the world. We both affirm our Anglican identity and work within the wider body of Christ.

### **FAITHFUL TO THE WHOLE GOSPEL**

We are committed to the authority of Scripture that proclaims the Lordship of Christ over all things. Consequently our mission is to call people to follow Jesus as Lord and to see God's Kingdom coming in all of life. We are evangelically orthodox.

#### **DEEPLY RELATIONAL**

Because God is love (a 'community of oneness') we seek to ensure that everything we do is done in relationship. We seek to be equal partners, recognising the vital place of humility, mutuality, respect, and reciprocity in mission.

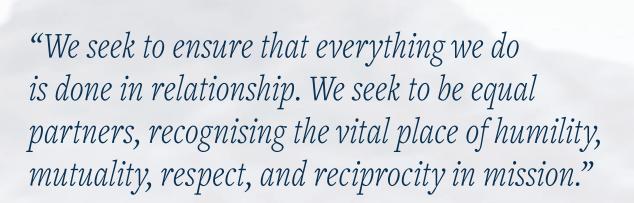
#### KINGDOM VISION

We are always listening to the Spirit; open to creativity, new opportunities and seeking to join where God is at work for transformation.

#### WHOLE-HEARTED

We joyfully surrender our lives fully to the Lordship of Christ in response to His call on us to serve Him who gave His life for us. We passionately commit ourselves fully to the work of God's kingdom on earth.





## HAPPY HOUR WITH NZCMS: GLOBAL CONVERSATIONS DURING LOCKDOWN

NZCMS is all about mobilising the next generation of New Zealanders in mission. We inspire and challenge. We empower and equip.

In 2020 our Mobilising Team had to drastically adjust how they engaged with the New Zealand Church. Kirstin Cant writes about how she and the team moved into new ways of doing things. Though our methods may change, our passion and commitment to mobilise the church stays constant.



**Kirstin Cant** *NZCMS Missions Enabler* 

Most engagement with world issues of late has had a rather morbid tone, with the collective focus on the world being about Covid-19. It's been a time of disorientation, change and uncertainty. At NZCMS, as we've dealt with the changes in roles, Mission Partner movements and the cancellation of all our mobilising events, we grieved. As we adjusted to this 'new normal', we also felt a stirring that this wasn't a time to wait it out. Instead, we felt emboldened to ask, 'what are the gifts and opportunities at this time? How does God want to grow God's people and the Kingdom in this season?'

What birthed was an exciting, online, intergenerational community that we called "Happy Hour", 50 to 100 people attending weekly! We engaged with a panel of NZCMS Mission Partners (and some guests) on Zoom in a Q & A style format to discus edgy mission topics like: "True or False? God will keep us safe" or "Should we still send Missionaries in 2020?".

## LOOKING TO OUR ROOTS AND REDISCOVERING OUR CORE CALLING

As we dreamed about connecting people in a conversation around mission, we noticed some things that helped us shape the direction of Happy Hour. We named that our Mission Partners are a gift - our teachers at this time - since living in uncertainty and risk is not new for most of them. We noticed our Mission Partners were in lockdown too, some with more time on their hands than usual. So we asked, how do we connect them with one another and with our communities here in NZ? We sensed that this was a time for a voice of Kingdom hope and challenge to call us to be the Church, expanding in Kingdom vision at a time of retreat and lockdown. We noticed our regular regional support groups couldn't meet, and there was a need for connection.



"We've noticed more clearly something that we've seen for a while; that there is a change in the way people in New Zealand engage with global Mission."

This opportunity in lockdown to do something different connected with some defining conversations we've been having as NZCMS to rediscover and refine our calling as a mission society and our calling to be a voice for global mission to the Church. NZCMS was founded as a society made up of members: this sense of community is built into our DNA. We dug into our founding story of CMS – birthed in a pub with a bunch of people gathering to discuss gritty mission issues. We made a nod to this unique heritage by calling our zoom gatherings 'Happy Hour with NZCMS'.

### **DISCOVERING CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY**

Happy Hour really was a punch in the dark, but also loads of fun to give something different ago. As we've done this, we've discovered there's an appetite for it! Over the weeks we ran these sessions, it built a strong sense of community as our Mission Partners, supporters, churches, staff and new people showed up and connected in ways we've never really seen before. Our traditional methods of connecting with supporters have largely drawn older supporters. Whereas the people who connected with Happy Hour have been a range of ages. All of us have had a sense of belonging to a Mission movement that is globally engaged and passionate about mission. One of our Mission Partners said, "what a wonderful event to be part of, and I'm super inspired and challenged to dig deeper in our community again."

Through this, we've noticed more clearly something that we've seen for a while; that there is a change in

the way people in New Zealand engage with global mission. As well as hearing from individuals out there doing the mahi, people want to wrestle with meaty topics of faith and mission that connect into their own life and ministry. People want a challenge outside of themselves. We know we live in a globally connected world, and we know that our own country is a 'mission field'.

#### WHERE TO NOW?

Happy Hour has become a new space for engaging Mission Partners and generations in the stirring conversation for global mission. We're energised by the drive for connection with diverse but like-minded mission passionate people and people engaging in stimulating and current mission conversations that inspire and challenge.

We at NZCMS don't know if Happy Hour is a longterm game and we will start it up again in some form or if it was just something that worked well short term. But we continue to ask the question, 'where is God at work and what are the opportunities in this season as the Church and as a Mission Society?'

We are also aware that God has a way of using momentous things in history for something new. When there is a crisis, God's redeeming work continues. Are we bold enough to wonder if this is a moment for God's renewal of the Church? What would it look like for this to be a time when God raises up a new wave of disciples for mission? We believe God can and will do this, and we want to do what we can to be part of that.

# PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S WORK OF HOPE IN AOTEAROA

As an organisation we feel the weight of history the Church Missionary Society has in this land. There are parts of our story that we celebrate and continue to live into, and parts that we repent of and leave behind. One often-forgotten part of the story is the way Māori evangelists took the Gospel to their own people around Aotearoa.

A relatively new initiative for NZCMS is partnering with Māori evangelists, Hauoterangi (Howard) and Keri-Ann, committed to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with their people. Keri-Ann shares some stories below of how she's seen God moving in our country.



Keri-Ann Hokianga Māori Evangelist

On February 3, 2020, I began my role as one of two Māori Evangelists for the Manukau, Auckland area in Aotearoa New Zealand. Just over six weeks later, Aotearoa moved into alert level 4, putting us all into lockdown.

You might be thinking it must be hard to be grateful to God for starting a new evangelism ministry right in the middle of a pandemic. Businesses and education facilities shut down. Tangihanga (funerals) were limited to small numbers. Churches were unable to gather. Fear was so present during the lockdown in my community that many were tempted to lose hope.

But I will show you why I have had many reasons to hope, and many reasons to be grateful for all God did in 2020.

#### **NEW INITIATIVES OF HOPE**

Forty-eight hours before Aotearoa moved into Level Four our team, led by the Venerable Archdeacon Lyndon Drake, decided to serve our church community online with an Anglican Eucharist service. We acted straight away and purchased all the equipment required to ensure our live streaming and pre-recorded services ran smoothly. I gave thanks to God for providing the funding needed to purchase this equipment.

I also felt that God had told me that a spirit of fear was present in my community. So we advertised our services online and through print, including Psalm 23:1 written in both Māori and English. Incredibly, we reached over a thousand people!

Over lockdown, my bubble was the worship team for these services. We recorded songs of hīmene (hymns of praise) and helped to lead some of the liturgies as well. Many people began reaching out for prayer while watching from their homes. They also

"Many relationships were formed with people who had fallen away from the church. Even amid this pandemic, the Gospel was being shared."

commented on the preaching, singing and liturgy being broadcast live on social media. How could we not be grateful to God for such an impact!?

The team's second initiative over lockdown was to offer pastoral care by any possible means. We used phone calls, text, e-mails, Zoom and even a couple of Facebook messages! We listened to people and prayed with them through their struggles. Many relationships were formed with people who had fallen away from the church. Even amid this pandemic, the Gospel was being shared.

## WIDESPREAD REACH

In May, we were able to gather in small groups of 10 people. My whānau and I were part of the worship and prayer group who live-streamed our Sunday Eucharist service from our church, Te Karaiti te Pou Herenga Waka, in Māngere. This service had over 1400 views and 215 comments from people watching, showing how engaged they were. We had more attendance at this online church than we've had in quite some time in our Māori Anglican church.

On May 24, NZCMS' second Māori Evangelist, Te Hauoterangi (Howard) Karaka, and I were given a weekly, 30-minute slot every Sunday morning on a Māori Radio station called Waatea News. We provided a contemporary, bilingual liturgical service and reached up to 5000 people most weeks. This was made possible through our partnership with the Christian Broadcasting Association who helped us record the program we called "Karakia Rātapu". We continue to lead this service every Sunday at 9:00am. The team at Christian Broadcasting Association has

also blessed us by making Karakia Rātapu into a podcast, which we hope to reach a younger audience with the Gospel.

Finally, I also began facilitating a new discipleship program at Te Puea marae here in Auckland, alongside Reverend Mark Barnard, the priest in charge of St James Church in Mangere Bridge. This discipleship program is called Moko-a-Rangi, which translates as "a Heavenly mark of approval". We use the medium of tāmoko (cultural tattoo) to teach on the theme of identity.

We've seen the Holy Spirit move powerfully among those who have attended the program, with about ten coming regularly. We hope that we will be able to use this program to help people take steps towards Jesus Christ and explore faith through discussion and activities in a safe, but also, 'stretching' environment. We have seen real hope become tangible this year and it has only inspired us to hope for more.

2021 has been no different, and we've continued to see the Spirit of God speak and call people to Christ. Over Easter, I spoke to a camp of rangatahi (youth) at E-Fest 2021, an Easter camp run through the Auckland Anglican Church. There were about 80 children who attended, ranging from 10 - 17 years old. On the Sunday night, I spoke about Jesus' resurrection and shared my testimony of how I encountered Him in a genuine and powerful way. Then I gave an altar call for all those who wanted to receive Christ as their Lord and Saviour. Over 70 of the rangatahi came forward for prayer to receive Jesus! It was amazing to see.

"I feel as though the Spirit of God is at work, and I've just been catching the wave and joining in on what He is already doing! Praise be to God."



# WHAT IS INTERCULTURAL ENGAGEMENT?

With our experience in engaging across cultures, NZCMS feels called to equip NZ churches in engaging interculturally, both within our churches and in our communities.

In 2018, we employed an Intercultural Communities Enabler, Ana Fletcher, who resourced and worked alongside churches in the Diocese of Wellington, seeking to engage interculturally. While Ana resigned at the end of 2020, NZCMS continues to be passionate about this calling. In the article below, Ana describes God's heart for the nations and calling for the Church to be a place where people from different cultural backgrounds are welcomed and can contribute.



**Ana Fletcher**Former NZCMS Intercultural Communities Enabler

I am partial to a good Sri Lankan curry – and I'm slowly learning how to make them. I line my curry leaves, cumin, cardamom, chilli, cinnamon and mustard seeds up on the bench. I grind and mix them with the other ingredients and then simmer them all together. Finally – and often salivating from inhaling the aroma - it's time to eat. Delicious!

#### WHAT IS INTERCULTURAL ENGAGEMENT?

Intercultural engagement is a bit like the spices in a good curry. It's incredible how a small amount of any spice can add flavour to an entire dish. But a concoction of spices simmered together can produce an incredible flavour; one with a richness and depth that no single spice can produce. It's still possible to pick out the distinct notes of each spice. If anything, the contrast with the other spices complements and enhances their flavour. Together, they have been transformed into something else.

All analogies have limitations - and this one is no different - but, I think it does help to explain what we mean by intercultural engagement.

Culture is something to be celebrated. Intercultural engagement recognises and honours the differences and commonalities between cultures, and values the contribution of each culture. Intercultural engagement takes place through respectful, authentic interactions that allow each person to be shaped by the others and in the process each is transformed

"The church is the united body of Christ where the difference inherent to each part of the body is essential to the functioning of the whole body. Each part must share a life-in-mutuality and solidarity with others, ensuring care, honour and protection of the most marginalised."

to produce a depth and richness that wouldn't be possible without the "other." It isn't a dilution of culture. In the same way that "iron sharpens iron", intercultural engagement helps to draw out the best of every culture while making us more aware of our own cultural blind spots so that everyone benefits from the gifts that each has to contribute.

## WHAT ABOUT MULTICULTURAL OR CROSS-CULTURAL?

We often find ourselves in multicultural or crosscultural situations. Multicultural situations are an important first step that can provide the basis for intercultural engagement to flourish. Multiculturalism itself doesn't require any interaction between different cultures. It simply means that there are multiple cultures present and acknowledges the diversity between them. In other words, all the spices are lined up on the bench but they haven't actually been combined together...yet.

Likewise, done well, cross-cultural engagement becomes intercultural engagement. The term cross-cultural can sometimes reinforce an 'us' as the 'givers' and 'them' as the 'receivers' attitude. It can be hard where we are in the majority, or in positions of privilege or power to receive the gifts that others have to offer and for us to allow our own way of being and doing to be indelibly changed in the process. Cross-cultural engagement doesn't have to be that way! Interculturality recognises reciprocity. No single culture is the 'norm'; every culture is both giver and recipient.

### A BIBLICAL ANALOGY

Perhaps the best and most well-known biblical analogy for intercultural engagement is the image of the Body of Christ in 1 Corinthians. The church itself is meant to be the ultimate expression of intercultural engagement! The church is the united body of Christ where the difference inherent to each part of the body is essential to the functioning of the whole body. Each part must share a life-in-mutuality and solidarity with others, ensuring care, honour and protection of the most marginalised. It is this body that is the lived expression of unity in Christ.

When our own identity is founded in Christ, we aren't defensive about our own inadequacies. Nor are we threatened by difference. Instead, we embrace 'others' as fearfully and wonderfully made. It's only once we acknowledge the essential part of each member of the Body that we can flourish, growing into the fullness of Christ. God's mission is to reconcile all things to one another and himself and the church, as Christ's body, is meant to be a witness to all of humanity of the reconciling love and grace of God. An intercultural church is good news to a world fractured along cultural divides!

## **USING OUR IMAGINATION**

What might an intercultural church look like? Intercultural engagement is dependent on relationship. Like the spices mixing together, or the parts of the body working together, it is the interdependent relationship that forms an intercultural community. Relationship is one of the

"We have to get close enough to those who are different from us for authentic, reciprocal relationships to form."

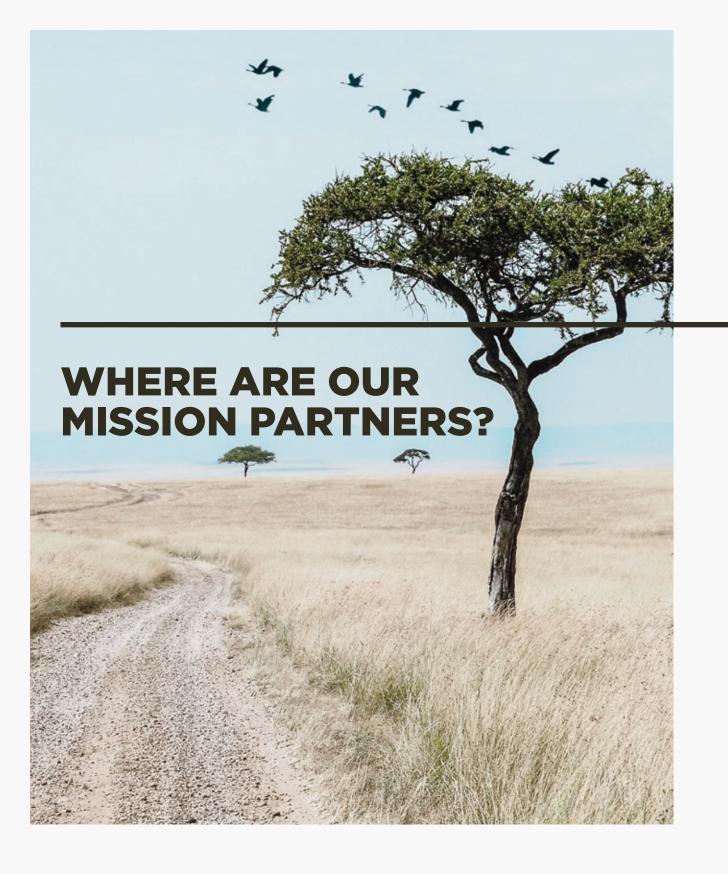
best places to discover others' strengths and gifts (and our own inadequacies and blind spots). We cannot be satisfied with being multicultural or crosscultural in our church contexts or in the way we do mission. We have to get close enough to those who are different from us for authentic, reciprocal relationships to form.

Imagine a church where everyone's gifts were known and utilised and where those with power and privilege empowered those from minority groups. Maybe there would be a roster of preachers from diverse cultural contexts. Maybe different languages would regularly be used for scripture readings and prayers. Maybe worship would be led by a variety of people using the style and music from their own cultural background. Maybe leadership would increasingly reflect the diversity within the church. Imagine this church engaging 'interculturally' in its local context. People from different cultural backgrounds would know that they are welcome and that this church, Christ's body, is a place where they have value, can belong and can contribute because of, rather than in spite of, their differences.

#### **FINAL THOUGHTS**

As the Body of Christ, we must learn how to engage interculturally within the church and in our communities. Like a good curry, it will require some simmering for the flavours to develop - we will need love, grace, patience and perseverance. But as we allow ourselves to be transformed into the fullness of Christ, the end result promises to be the best that God has for us.





For their safety and the safety of their ministry and communities we cannot publish all of our Mission Partners. You will see an anonymous representing these Mission Partners.

## **CURRENT MISSION PARTNERS**



Rick & Anne
(Matthew & Stephen)
New Zealand/Middle East



Neill & Rebekah (Jonathan, Aaron & Emily) Cambodia



**Margaret**Papua New Guinea



**Miriam** Togo



Adrienne
Cambodia (currently
in New Zealand)



Te Hauoterangi (Howard) & Gladys New Zealand



Nick & Tessa Uganda



**Katie**Spain (currently in New Zealand)



**Keri-Ann** New Zealand



Andy & Shona (Aliana, Jeshaiah & Elias) Costa Rica



Jonathan & Tess
(Avalyn, Cohen, Caeli, Judah,
Immanuel, Moses & Miryam)
Solomon Islands
(currenlty in the U.S.)



Secure Mission Partners
Six Mission Partners in
South Asia and the Middle East.

## **NEW MISSION PARTNERS**



Scott & Nikki Wheeler (Isaac, Abby & Levi) Papua New Guinea



Luke & Naomi Sinclair (Angeline & Emmett) Japan



## **RETURNED MISSION PARTNERS**



Nathan & Rosey (Ruby & Eva) South Asia



Zane & Karen (William & Amelia) Indonesia



John & Elaine
Papua New Guinea



Dean & Amanda (With two children) South Asia



Anthony & Anne Cambodia



Secure Mission Partners
Three Mission Partners who
served in South Asia who
have returned to NZ.



# IMPACT STORIES

NZCMS has always been an on the ground, sleeves rolled up, gritty, get in and get it done type of community. These "Impact Stories" from our Mission Partners are just a few examples of how the Holy Spirit continues to call our people to participate in His Kingdom breaking out onto the earth in real and authentic ways.

## NICK & TESSA UGANDA

It was nearly Christmas, but Emma was determined to launch remote Te-Olam Health Center before the new year rolled in. Te Olam was two hours away on terrible dirt roads, and after the long motorbike ride, Emma was delighted to find that the house was looking great. The floor was cemented, the rent contract signed, and the health centre was ready for launch.

But Emma's job wasn't finished. On the ride home, God had something more important in-store. Or should I say, someone. The rest is in Emma's own words.

"As I was riding, I passed a boy on the road. Something just told me to stop, so I turned the motorbike around. The boy was 16 and was looking for transport to Gulu town.

Boy: "How much can I give you to take me to town?"

Emma: "No, it's OK. I don't need any money."







The boy was keen to talk. He used to attend a prayer group at school, and two years ago gave his life to Jesus. But soon after, he got a new group of friends who didn't care about school or prayers and would instead sneak out of the boarding school to drink. Sometimes they would even stay out overnight, bribing the security guard not to tell the teachers. His parents had even been called to school three times to talk about his bad behaviour. He was going to meet those friends far from the village in Gulu town to have some drinks.

I asked him what had changed? Why did he leave prayers? Why was he not taking school seriously? He wasn't sure but had just followed what his friends were doing. We talked for the whole two-hour journey home about school, life, friends and faith. He really opened up, and it was an amazing conversation.

When we reached the centre before I dropped him off, it seemed he had realised that his life had gone off track, and there was a better way. I asked him if he would consider changing his life path and if he would return to the God that brought him so much joy and motivation just one year ago? He said he would go to church at Christmas for sure and talk with his friends from prayer group again.

He gave me his number, and I promised to call him in a month. Unfortunately, when I called the number, it didn't go through. The phone was out of service. I still believe that conversation stirred something in his soul. I pray that he returned to the God who had so recently saved him."

# **ANDY & SHONA**COSTA RICA

Our local church has three seasons of 21-days of prayer and fasting every year. We follow this by launching small groups and encourage the congregation to join and/or lead small groups using a bible study or hobby. The aim is to build a community and create a place for transformation.



During the 21 days of prayer in 2020, we decided to hold a Monday morning prayer meeting on Facebook Live from 5:00 am-5:30 am. I did not expect the result we got. Over 30 people attended the live stream and, when we posted the recording onto Facebook, more than 200 watched through that day!

Fast forward to January this year, and we again led the morning prayer meeting for 21 days on Facebook live. But this time, we challenged those present to step up and lead five other days in the week to have small groups running and praying all week. And immediately, we had the volunteers we needed!



From February to May, our group grew to 20 people, with about six to nine turning up every day. By the middle of June, we had 13 leaders running prayer meetings every evening with 17-20 people turning up and new people appearing almost every day. We named these groups "Ora Primero" (Pray First). It has been such an empowering experience because, in the midst of so much sickness, death and joblessness, we have resources from heaven. Prayer doesn't just inspire hope but we see God answer prayers in very personal ways.

One way we've seen God answer our prayers has been the massive growth in our small groups. The church had, on average, 600 people attending two services the weekend before Covid-19 hit. But only 70 people were regularly attending seven small groups. Now we have 776 people filling 56 small groups, regularly committed and inviting their friends! We are amazed by the grace of God through a season of great hardship.

# MISSION PARTNER L. PAKISTAN

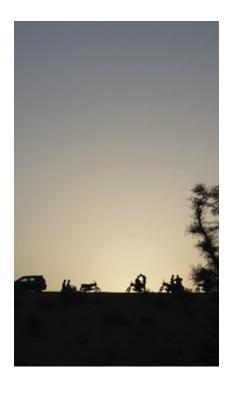
From international to local support, lives have been changed in Pakistan over the last year. The following stories give you a glimpse of how.

A student who recently wrote a reflection for his Leadership Certificate wrote the following.

"I always heard or read about the epidemics in the past but never had any experience. It was such a huge lockdown. Everyone was shocked, scared and wanted to rescue their own life. But suddenly, people came out to help those who started starving.

The same happened in my life. After staying home for a month, I thought, "why shouldn't I go to my church people and get to know how they are living." I came to know that they are living on water and rice, having nothing left at home. Suddenly I got a phone call from a wealthy man of God who asked me what I am doing for the church. I told him the whole story, and he sent me some money to distribute food items among the needy. Thus this work of welfare started, and many other people came to know that I am doing such work, and they also sent me money to distribute among those who are really in difficult situations.





Thus, I worked three months continually in the church, and thus God was glorified, and we were able to reach those to whom the government was not reaching."

God also provided for a hostel of the Hyderabad Diocese, whose situation became uncertain when promised financial support was suddenly unavailable. Thanks to God's leading and work through an NZ church, a way was opened for support to be raised despite economic constraints. Without the pandemic, banking transfers had been blocked due to changing regulations, but a small window of time was opened during the first wave of Covid-19 where they allowed transfers to happen! Because of this the hostel did not close, but was able to support its students between lockdowns as they worked towards their Matriculation and College exams and continue to grow in faith and life skills.

In response we say thank You God for giving us our daily bread. Thank you for allowing us to see glimpses of Your kingdom coming here on earth.

## TESSA SOLOMON ISLANDS

I was invited to address 200 girls in the first-ever Girls Friendly Society meeting on the Island of Malaita. I met up with a few other women early in the morning and drove our Toyota Hiace van for two hours down the gravel road to the other side of our port town.

The Scripture I shared was from Ephesians about our identity as beloved children of God. I shared about how we're given many different names as we grow - daughter, sister, friend, student, wife, mother etc - and how these names may come and go as seasons change, but that in God's eyes we are always his children. I shared about being wise in our relationships and how God wants us to lead pure and holy lives for him.





The subject of abortion came up, and one of the leaders stood up with tears in her eyes. She shared how she had encouraged her pregnant teenage daughter to get rid of a baby and how she felt guilt and fear that God would punish her. She asked, "Who will God punish for this sin? Me or my daughter?" I told her that if she repents and asks for God's forgiveness, she can rest assured that the Lord loves her and will restore her. I then quoted Romans 8:38 - 8:39 to her and the rest of the group, which talks about how nothing can separate us from the love of God through Christ Jesus our Lord. It was an incredible experience to comfort this mother with God's word and reassure her that her sins are forgiven in Christ.

"It was an incredible experience to comfort this mother with God's word and reassure her that her sins are forgiven in Christ."



# **ADRIENNE**CAMBODIA

The Handa Academy (T.H.A.) school was closed for ten months in 2020. I remained focused on staying in Cambodia as I wanted to get the Learning Center set up and ready by the time the school re-opened.



After three months or so of not seeing the students, I wanted to encourage them somehow. God gave me the idea of making 'Educational Care Packs' for the students to pick up. Management approved this, so worksheets were prepared, copied, and put together along with some craft materials, a bar of soap and a small gift for each of the 80 students. I also made a card for each student with an encouraging note inside written in Khmer for them. I put the contents in a plastic bag with their name on the outside and packaged them in a box ready to distribute at the T.H.A. gate.

I was able to do this a couple of times, and I felt like God used the packs to show our love and care for the students even though we couldn't be together at school. I was also able to make encouraging signs to hang in the Learning Centre so that the students knew that they were loved, that we believe in them and to encourage them to keep learning.



"I felt like God used the packs to show our love and care for the students even though we couldn't be together at school."

# STILL SENT: A TREASURER'S COMMENTS

2020 was certainly the year of the unexpected. Covid-19 hit our Mission Partners hard with thirteen unable to continue their planned work in overseas locations due to risks. The NZCMS Board agreed to underwrite \$110,000 unbudgeted expenses that arose as a direct consequence of Covid-19 to assist with these transitions back to New Zealand.

While international borders remain closed and sending people overseas is more challenging than ever, we are still called to be a sent people, and to send Mission Partners wherever God is working. We know we are called to send our prayers to Heaven's throne room, our gifts of time and money, and ourselves to our neighbours with the love of Christ.

Our heartfelt thanks for joining us in this calling - to our Mission Partners in their going, and to all of our supporters especially for praying and giving.

John Corban MMS, C.A. Treasurer

INCOME & EXPENSES	2020	2019
Supporters	1,140,947	1,048,920
Anglican Missions Board	532,500	560,000
Grants Received	111,200	66,000
Other Income	123,123	133,040
Total Income	1,907,770	1,807,960
Less Expenses	1,743,018	1,793,965
Net Surplus	164,752	13,995

## Out of every \$10 we spend:



