

border crossings

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Border Crossings

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welcome

Adrenaline rush for your struggling soul

At times, it's easy to become discouraged and disheartened by circumstances that affect us. Easy to become bogged down with what can seem to be hard work in ministry and mission. Easy to become focused on the things we do, and so involved in the day-to-day tasks of ministry, that we lose sight of the One we serve – Immanuel – God with us.

The writer of Hebrews has words to correct, encourage and inspire us...

Do you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honour, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he ploughed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls! Hebrews 12:1-3 MESSAGE

I need to hear this wise reminder time and again, to be pointed in the right direction time and again.

Our call is to look to the One whom we serve, the One who is the missionary God, the One who calls us to walk and work with him in *"the unforced rhythms of grace"* (Matthew 11:29 MESSAGE).

I pray we all can do this, even when it's easy to lose our way and focus.



Glenice Hartwich

Project Officer **Board for Mission** Lutheran Church of Australia



Celebrating a wonderful gospel partner

Recently, a dear friend and wonderful gospel partner – Dr Adrienne Jericho died suddenly - and I struggle to understand why God took him home now. Adrienne was intimately involved in wonderful gospel partnering for church and school leaders in Papua New Guinea and Indonesia. He also mentored me in my first year as LCA Mission Director, showing me how to think and work in strategic gospel teamwork ways.



With Adrienne leading the way, this gospel partnering has taken shape in the LCA via Lutheran Education Australia, Australian Lutheran World Service and Board for Mission working together, to walk with, serve, and increase the capacity of education leaders and processes in Lutheran schools in PNG and Indonesia.

This sort of walking alongside true partners is not always something people get excited about, or particularly look to support. But it is what I firmly believe we are called to do, as we assist one another to bring the gospel, make disciples, and go out in mission across Australia, PNG, Indonesia - and the whole world.


One of my favourite parts of Scripture is the letter to the Philippians. In chapter 1, Paul writes: *"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel, from*

the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (v 3 – 6)

I know that my Redeemer lives and Adrienne lives because of what his Lord did for him on the cross and in his resurrection. God's work in Adrienne is complete. I know too that the wonderful gospel partnering which Adrienne

was involved with throughout his life will be carried on. I know this because God is faithful to his promises in the gospel and this spurs me on to carry on the work already begun.

I miss Adrienne. However, I am inspired by my gospel partner who always pointed me - and others - to Jesus. Our partnership with long-time sisters and brothers in Christ in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of PNG, as well as in Indonesia, will go on. I am determined to build on the wonderful foundation of Christ and the life and work of a wonderful gospel partner who suddenly had to return home.

Paul writes at the end of his letter to the Philippians: *"And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus."* 

Rev Neville Otto

Director **Board for Mission** Lutheran Church of Australia

Donations to the Adrienne Jericho Memorial Scholarship Fund for the training and professional development of Lutheran educators of the Evangelical Lutheran Church – Papua New Guinea can be mailed to 'Adrienne Jericho Memorial Scholarship Fund', 197 Archer Street, North Adelaide SA 5006, or online at <http://donations.lca.org.au>

Unity in diversity

Glenice Hartwich

Project Officer **Board for Mission** Lutheran Church of Australia

South Australian **school students** formed part of a unique team assisting Cambodian villagers with medical – and spiritual – first aid.

To share the love of Jesus Christ with the people of Kampong Chhnang province, Cambodia, a unique team of 90 people from different parts of Australia, Singapore and Hong Kong came together - for 13 days - in July this year. Among this group were ten Year Eleven students and three staff members from Unity College Murray Bridge, South Australia, as well as Western Australian District president Rev Greg Pfeiffer and wife Janet.

This team's practical work and ministry built on the past medical, dental, optical and ministry teams which had been coordinated in Kampong Chhnang during the past four and a half years by the Lutheran Church of Singapore, through Lutheran World Mission (LWM) Cambodia, under the leadership of Dr William Chang.

The capital of this province is Kampong Chhnang, situated about two hour's drive from Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital. In this province, LWM Cambodia is touching the lives of underprivileged people with the Word and acts of love and service.

The genesis of Unity College's visit came when its chaplain Rev Greg Priebennow began discussions with the LCA Board for Mission about how his school could develop a partnership in mission as well as provide students the opportunity to join ongoing Christian service teams within the LCA's overseas mission partnerships.

Following training carried out by Unity staff, the team arrived in Singapore for more training in the practical skills of how to take people's blood pressure and temperatures, test urine samples and share God's love in Jesus (through actions, storytelling and singing). Along with this, team members were challenged to consider their reasons and goals for such a visit and to reflect on God's purposes for life. These few days

spent in Singapore allowed new relationships to form as those comprising this unique and diverse team came together and spent time with team members from the Lutheran Church of Singapore.

Further orientation and training continued after the team arrived in Phnom Penh, with a visit to the Genocide Museum (offering a stark and graphic reminder of the country's recent tragic history) as well as to the offices of Lutheran World Federation/Department for World Service (LWF) Cambodia (now known as Life With Dignity – LWD). The team heard about the significant work done by LWF Cambodia, in conjunction with Australian Lutheran World Service, through its community-based strategic approach which has helped to "facilitate the empowerment of vulnerable people to claim their universal rights".

Over time, Dr Chang has been meeting with Dr Inn (LWD Cambodia's new director) to develop ways for LWM to support and work collaboratively with LWD Cambodia. As a result of this growing relationship, LWM began working with LWD Cambodia to conduct medical and ministry clinics in villages where LWD has established programs. This partnership has been built upon excellent aid and development work previously undertaken, adding to it through the support of medical teams (including dental and optical) and the sharing of the Gospel in word and action.

The July team's visit was the first example of this new way of working together in LWD villages, expanding upon the programs of the LWF (now LWD) which have helped people to see the "who" and "why" of this particular ministry. Along with the practical acts of God's love through aid and development, the groundwork done by LWF/ALWS over many years in

team members were challenged to consider their reasons and goals for such a visit and to reflect on God's purposes for life



Cambodia has paved the way for people to “hear” about the God of love.

Medical clinics operated in various locations including the Lutheran Life Centre (the new Centre for LWM) in the village of Phum Kruos, as well as the Wat Thmei and Te Ney villages. On two days, myopic clinics were conducted with the medical clinics at Te Ney village. While the medical clinics operated, children, parents and villagers also heard the Gospel in a variety of stories, songs and activities prepared and presented by the children’s ministry teams. Through this, “seeds” of the Gospel were planted in their lives!

Along with several doctors and a pharmacist from Singapore, team members carried out a wide range of tasks. More than 1000 people received medical assessment, treatment, medicines, or eye assessments. Two hundred people received new glasses, and more than 20 people were referred for eye operations and other surgery.

Before the start of each of these clinics, the local people heard the simple Gospel message which was shared by one of the team members and translated by the Cambodian pastors (who served as our translators for the visit).

In addition to these tasks, the team participated in the repair of the road into Phum Kruos, and spent time visiting in the homes of impoverished villagers.

On Sunday, July 11, the team was privileged to witness the first baptisms in Phum Kruos. Nine people - children, youth and adults - were baptised into God’s family in an inspiring worship service at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Dr William Chang and Pastor Greg officiated in this revelatory worship service.

God has opened the doors in Cambodia for people to see and hear his love in action. As the Lutheran Church of Australia, through the Board for Mission, joins with the Lutheran Church of Singapore and other partners in Lutheran World Mission Cambodia, so too the Australian Lutheran World Service and Lutheran Education Australia will join with the Board for Mission to find ways of using our unique experiences and gifts to support the physical and spiritual lives of the Cambodian people. 🌱



objective

LWF’s objective in all of its country programs is to develop the capacity of each program to, at some stage, become a national Non Government Organisation (NGO) in its own right rather than relying on the expertise, branding and reputation of the international federation. This approach is consistent with good development practice – to strengthen the organisation and the people it seeks to serve to such an extent that it can leave the federation when the program itself believes it is ready to become independent. LWF does not walk away completely, and the national NGO will remain an associate member of the federation into the future.

In the case of Cambodia, LWF began its operations in the country more than 30 years ago at a time when the program needed to be heavily managed by expatriates. Today the staff of over 300 are all proudly Cambodian and have retained the confidence of their donor agencies, such as ALWS, because of the high standard the program maintains. LWF changed to LWD, intentionally only a small change, because of the strong relationships forged between LWF and the communities in the past; one which LWD is expected to nurture for years to come.

Leanore Hedt, Sharyn Andrews and Pastor Gus Schutz, on behalf of the Mission Team at Holy Trinity, Horsham.



Long distance relationship

Australian Lutherans experience the joy and benefit of sharing Jesus's Love with North Sumatra.

At a Strategic Planning Workshop in August, 2008, there was a strong feeling that the Spirit of God was leading Horsham's Holy Trinity church into an overseas mission partnership.

Horsham has a rich history in mission involvement. Even though our region relies heavily on farming and has been through thirteen difficult years, we have much to give. God has blessed us richly in gifts and resources, but they amount to nothing until dedicated to the Lord's service, exercised for the benefit of others and to glorify God.

Soon after the 2008 Workshop, a team passionate for this mission partnership began meeting regularly to pray. The guidance of Board for Mission's Project Officer Glenice Hartwich was sought, and she left our team with four mission opportunities to choose from.

Our team felt led to the Gereja Kristen Protestan Angkola Church of North Sumatra and, with Glenice's help, we formed a relationship with GKPA.

Almost a year later, three servants of Holy Trinity (who also authored this article) visited our GKPA partners for two weeks. We went to many congregations, agricultural projects, and schools. Our approach was to listen, learn, love and laugh with the people. At the end of each

day we met to share a high (there were many) and a low of the day, be led by God's

Word and to pray together.

We admired and loved these people for their commitment to God, seeking to remain faithful to him while living in a Muslim country. This situation brings many disadvantages and hardships as they live and work. However, their joy in the Lord shines through.

Much time was spent in worship and prayer with the people, as well as enjoying Indonesian cuisine. We were truly blessed with generous hospitality and stories. The fellowship we enjoyed will always be treasured by us.

Earlier this year, during the week after Easter, a return visit took place. The Horsham congregation was gifted to host GKPA Bishop Abraham Hutasoit, his wife Rianor Situmorang, Pastor Ramli Harahap and Advendi Dongoran.

Many people hosted meals in their homes or provided hands-on experience of sheep shearing, farming and livestock enterprises. Our guests spoke on "The Challenges of Living in a Muslim Society" and we discussed the possibilities within our ongoing partnership.

Our goal is to encourage each other, such as nurturing the following projects in North Sumatra...

- Teaching English and, possibly, First Aid and sewing
- Agricultural training and workshops
- Assisting poor families with school fees

God has blessed our congregation through this relationship and he continues to teach us the wonder of being part of his worldwide and eternal family. Pray for our North Sumatran friends and us as we seek the Lord's guidance for the future. 🌍

Some thoughts for consideration and prayer



Recently a person who has spent many years living in a Muslim majority country shared the following:

Some things to consider

In general Muslim people:

- *Want to get to heaven*
- *Want to avoid hell*
- *Want to live in peace*
- *Want to please God by what they do*
- *Want to earn their right into heaven*

As Christians living and working with Muslims in Australia we're encouraged to:

- *Pray*
- *Listen to your Muslim friends*
- *Truly love them from our heart*
- *Refrain from judging them*
- *Not be frightened of them - many are afraid of you too (especially the women)*
- *Speak the truth in love, don't argue,*
- *Not to become defensive - God will defend himself*
- *Not to give up on them, it takes a long time of perseverance and patience*
- *Know you are saved, be sure of your status with God*
- *Not give in or stop because of failures on your part*
- *Watch for God to make the opportunities*

A caring
New Zealand
congregation
put their faith
into action by
assisting at
an Indonesian
disability
sanctuary

Smiles at Hephata

Pauline Simonsen



"Hello! Hello!" The smiling man with the missing teeth called cheerily to us every morning – and every time we walked past his sitting place his warm call and happy grin were guaranteed to make us smile back. But that was normal at Hephata – we were always met with smiling faces and cheerful greetings in this place of joy.

Hephata Disability Centre is located in northern Sumatra, Indonesia, in a rural community about 20 minutes drive from the nearest town, Laguboti. Hephata is a ministry of the HKBP Lutheran Church in Indonesia, and is also partner in ministry of our Manawatu Lutheran Parish (Palmerston North and Feilding) in New Zealand. This partnership is about two years old and, in July this year, we sent our first team to stay on-site at Hephata, to share skills and make relationships with our brothers and sisters in the centre.

About 70 people with disabilities (24 of whom are blind or visually impaired) live at Hephata, as well as 27 staff living on or near the campus. Two wonderful young pastors and their wives are the leaders of the Centre, and their vision is it will grow to become a self-sufficient farming/ training centre where disabled clients reach their full potential. Presently, Hephata is funded by donations, financial support from the HKBP church, and its own subsistence farming.

In the first year of our partnership, Manawatu parish sent money to install a well and pump at Hephata. Local staff managed this project magnificently, using money wisely to bring clean running water into all houses on the campus for the first time. The project

brought much joy for the Hephata folk – but we want our partnership to be more than just money-provision; we want to be in genuine relationship.

The Manawatu parish team included Steve LaGrow, our leader, a Professor in Rehabilitation Studies at Massey University, who led training workshops at Hephata in mobility and cane skills for blind clients and their trainers. Rick Satherley, a farmer; and Butch Jurgens, a stock agent, showed the small but keen Hephata farming team how to clear scrub, raise fences (including a solar-powered electric fence!), and manage beef stock.



Greenhouse manager Brian Mackenzie worked in the gardens and with the farming team, constructing fences and gates. Pauline Simonsen taught at a nearby Bible Women's school, and also led some visioning and team-building for Hephata staff and leaders.

We were a varied group! But during months of preparation and, especially, the ten-day visit, we knitted together closely, enjoying the experiences and caring for each other as we encountered new cultural

practises, interesting housing and food, and some sickness. It was great to share stories after we returned from work sites.

Steve regaled us with tales of cane races with a visually-impaired young boy, as onlookers cheered. Rick and Butch were increasingly satisfied by watching the skinny, thirsty cattle fill out with the good water and feed they'd taught the farming team to provide. Brian, our official photographer, has left his protégé with the skills to build a fine "Taranaki" gate for future fences!

Indonesia has the fourth-largest population in the world (230 million, primarily Muslim), spread across thousands of islands. In Sumatra we found minimal infrastructure, and the living conditions were very basic. There is virtually no government support for disabled people and, as a result, the Church picks up a lot of the social services.

Hephata stood out to us as a safe haven where disabled people received love, respect and good care, and were taught hygiene and communal responsibility. We were profoundly impressed with the vision and energy of Pr. Alaris and Pr. Osten, and humbled by how staff made a good home and environment from scant resources.

We left with a deep respect and affection for those we met at Hephata, and a strong commitment to see the partnership between our two communities grow and deepen – hopefully to the blessing of many, and to God's will and glory. 🙏



Reaching the gentiles

Rev Brian Shek

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witness to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the Earth." (Acts 1:8)

God's people have been committed to witnessing for Jesus. We send missionaries to distant lands where people have heard very little about Jesus yet, in recent years, God has also brought people from all nations to Australia, via migration and education export. They can be from such diverse cultures and backgrounds that we might consider some to be the modern Australian Christian's version of the Gentiles, the non-Christians who Jesus' early followers proclaimed to (as depicted in the Book of Acts and other New Testament letters).

Thank God that he shows no favouritism, as the Apostle Paul emphasises in his letter to the Romans. The Good News of Jesus Christ is to be brought to any person—from any nation.

The LCA's Chinese Ministry is a good demonstration of the commitment of our Church to be a witness to all people of this great land. God loves his creation and He requires no language and culture pre-requisite for His grace to us. Let's thank God and praise Him.

Chinese people are diversified in backgrounds, coming to Australia from all over Asia, from Hong Kong, Macau, Mainland China, Taiwan, Russia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia and Singapore.

This is a great challenge to pastors, who have to be very flexible and accommodating.

There are also Australia-born Chinese people (ABCs) who are fluent in English but, socially, still cling to Chinese culture.



The Lord is love



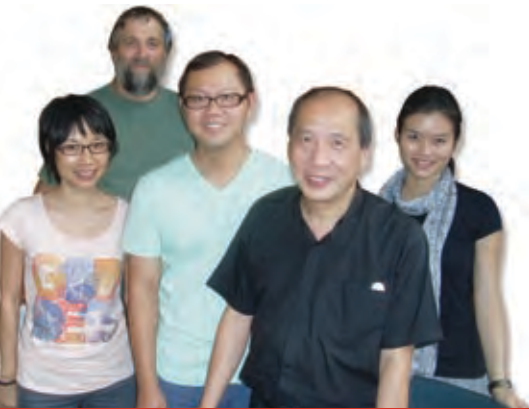
The Numbers

The figures below are approximate but invite our Christian ministry response (Acts 16:9-10) in light of our trust in One Way, One God, One Salvation.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ■ 75,000 Chinese people in Brisbane | ■ 100,000 in Auckland |
| ■ 400,000 in Sydney | ■ 15,000 on the Gold Coast |
| ■ 250,000 in Melbourne | ■ 8,000 in Townsville |
| ■ 50,000 in Adelaide | |

[4 – 5 per cent attend a church regularly].





Focus on new Fellowship

Rev Stephen Nuske

St Andrew's, Brisbane City, is reaching out to its Chinese community.

Ministry to and among Chinese people in Australia was powerfully demonstrated in St Andrew's (Brisbane City) tangible 150th thanksgiving project in 2007. In collaboration with the Department for Ministry and Mission of the LCAQLD and the LCA's Board for Mission, Pastor Brian Shek was called to a half-time ministry among Chinese-speaking people.

Also, 2007 marked the 160th anniversary of the arrival in Hong Kong of the first Basel missionaries who worked among the Hakka people. Five Basel-trained pastors served St Andrew's from 1887 until 1945, a strong link with a mission tradition which spans the world.

Furthermore, 2007 was also the 200th anniversary of the first Protestant missionary's arrival in China. When the 100th anniversary of Robert Morrison's arrival was commemorated in 1907 in Shanghai by the China Centenary Missionary Conference, 25 mission bodies with a Lutheran background (from Scandinavia, Germany and the USA) were working in China. They later agreed to work towards Lutheran unity and the Lutheran Church of China was formed in 1920.

The ministry among Chinese people at St Andrew's began much earlier than 2007. For example, in 2004 we held a "Noodles Night" and this outreach was supported by Chinese members of St Mark's Congregation, Mt Gravatt, under the leadership of Pastor Shek. The night involved a visiting group of Chinese Christians who made long noodles and gave a

Gospel presentation.

Since then, we have been blessed and stretched in many ways, culturally and logistically. We see many people return to Hong Kong or China after studies are completed. We now have more past members in Hong Kong than in Brisbane.

Most importantly, people have come to faith through the ministry at St. Andrew's and, when some return home, they become missionaries. In 2009, three of their relatives were baptised in China. This year we gained three music students from the University of Queensland and, recently, a Chinese Choral group was formed.

Mandarin, rather than Cantonese, is becoming a necessity. In 2009, the Chinese language service on a Saturday had an average attendance of 36 people. This year, with the addition of families and new students, we have about 50 people worshipping. The English-speaking Bible study group called WACO (W=Word of God, A=agape, C=care, O=openness) has two students from France and Korea, and the Chinese youth groups have 40 members.

We thank the wider Church for its support and encouragement, and we praise our gracious Lord who has blessed us with a diversity of gifts and cultures.



The Purpose of Setting up Our Saviour Chinese Ministry, Rochedale

In Queensland, about 4.6% of the Chinese population is Christian. We need a church that is keen in active evangelism and discipleship making, in accordance with the Bible. We need Christians who are well-trained for ministry.

Our Saviour Chinese ministry at Rochedale is in a very strategic place for gospel outreach because it's situated in an area to be developed by Brisbane City Council, transforming it into a major regional centre in Southern Brisbane (which is the most densely Chinese-populated area).

We will run theological training courses in Rochedale (organised by the Faith & Life Institute) in order to serve the Brisbane Chinese churches. One of our main goals is to build up more and more lay leaders in Lutheran Chinese congregations.

At Redeemer Lutheran College, 40 per cent of students is Chinese. Therefore, it is a big group for us to outreach to (as well as their parents).

It is a great blessing, and grace from God, that we have been able to set up a Chinese ministry in Rochedale.

May God be glorified and honoured!
Amen.



The 'Firsts' of the Asian Ministry in Australia

1993

- 1st Chinese service at Doncaster, Melbourne

1994

- 1st ordination of a LCA Chinese Pastor, Dr. Pilgrim Lo

1995

- 1st Chinese service at Sydney
- 1st fortnightly Chinese worship in Brisbane

1996

- 1st Sunday service at Mt Gravatt, Brisbane. Attendance: 11

1st baptism at Brisbane

1997

- 1st group of elders installed in Brisbane
- Brian Shek installed as Pastoral Assistant
- 1st student group started

1998

- Brian Shek ordained

2000

- 1st Annual Chinese Pastors Conference in Adelaide

2001

- 1st Monthly service at Everton Hills, Queensland
- 1st Mandarin service at Redeemer College, Queensland

2002

- 1st service at Perth

2003

- 1st Chinese Service at Auckland, New Zealand

2004

- 1st service at Trinity, Southport, Queensland

2005

- 1st service at St. Andrew's, Gold Coast

2006

- 1st Vietnamese service at Corinda, Brisbane

2007

- 1st service at St. Andrew's, Brisbane City
- 1st appointment of National Consultant of Asian Ministry
- 1st outreach activity to Chinese guest workers at Murray Bridge, South Australia

2008

- 1st Chinese Service at St. Stephen's, Adelaide

2009

- 1st Chinese Faith and Life course

2010

- 1st "homegrown" Chinese pastor, John Lai, installed at Melbourne

Less talk, more action

After discussing mission work for a long time, a Canberra congregation benefitted greatly from getting out into the field and connecting with an indigenous community with needs.

The lunch-time rush at the Inverell take-away shop was over and our mission team, having spent several busy hours preparing our Kids' Club ministry, sat down for a late lunch. Playing with and talking to some indigenous children, one of our team members suggested inviting them to join us for lunch.

As co-leader, I didn't see why not. We had travelled twelve hours the day before - from Immanuel Lutheran Church, Woden Valley, Canberra, to Inverell (near the Queensland border) - for a weekend of mission and ministry to these children. But, to be certain, I ran it by inspiring Maureen Hampel who, with late husband Glen, planted a church in Inverell in 2005.

"They should be in school," said Maureen briskly, before telling them to come back later for Kids' Club.

We learned an important lesson - responding to an immediate need is not always the most appropriate course of action. The illiteracy rate among this indigenous community is 60 per cent, a problem stemming from lack of education and stable home environments. This almost unbelievable statistic means the majority of Aboriginal people can't read God's Word - even if they wanted to.

Comprised of 11 people (children, young adults and middle-aged adults), the mission team was mostly drawn from our congregation. For some time, Immanuel Lutheran had discussed dedicating more of its time, energy and resources to mission. There were always plenty of ideas and talk, and individuals who worked with other organisations - but never any initiative at a corporate level. That changed significantly when we answered a request to support Inverell's indigenous ministry.

Maureen has been working extra hard since Inverell Lutheran Church took possession of the convenience store Southside Shop. She and volunteer Ron run the shop full-time, also using the building space as a centre for Christian worship, ministry and community outreach.

After we settled in Friday morning, the local children arrived in the afternoon for a hectic couple of hours of creative arts, games, music and dinner. They were very enthusiastic and had great attitudes.

On Saturday we supported the official opening of the building as a Christian community centre, by providing children's activities and a sausage sizzle. The opening was attended by indigenous elders and community

leaders. On Sunday we helped run a worship service, and spent the afternoon debriefing with Maureen.

Her vision is for a centre that will serve all ages in the indigenous community - an early learning centre for pre-schoolers; a venue for after-school and youth group ministry; a classroom for teaching retail and computer skills. By providing such services, the community also will be drawn in to hear the gospel.

But there's an enormous amount of work to be done, including erecting a fence outside, as well as a wall to partition the shop from the church space. To provide an entrance to the eventual church space, a side-door will need to be installed.

Maureen also needs a break from running the shop - to rest, and spend time raising money for work projects (by speaking at churches and applying for grants). Once these projects are complete, the building will be much more suitable for the early-learning program, enabling her to apply for government funding.

I thank God for the chance to be a part of this ministry, and pray that we will have the opportunity to continue supporting this work. 🙌

Tim Williams

We were there to serve Maureen and the needs that fit the long-term ministry at Inverell.

If you're thinking of pulling a team together to go and minister outside your church's community, be aware that local ministry contacts know far more about the culture and history of the people you're trying to reach than you do. They've probably been through multiple seasons, where one thing works and another doesn't. Going in with your own ministry programme, no matter how wildly successful it's been elsewhere, is going to be inferior to partnering with a local contact who will be there long after you leave.

People on the frontlines of ministry aren't short of ideas or information about what is happening elsewhere in the country. They're short of committed people with servant hearts, who are willing to be used by God any way He sees fit.

If you can't stay for the long-term, because you have responsibilities and ministry in your community back home, then be encouraged to consult, work with, and prayerfully support the people who do stay.

Get involved in God's mission Through Prayer

Pray for...

- Warren Schirmer as he serves in the volunteer role of Program Coordinator for the Cambodia mission program
- Stan Dudgeon and his wife Gwen serving on Karkar Island, PNG for two years to manage the reconstruction and restoration of Gaubin hospital
- Nick Schwarz, serving as a volunteer research assistant with the Melanesian Institute in Goroka, PNG for two years
- Ray and Marcia Smith serving as volunteers in mission, in Shepparton, Victoria
- The Lutheran Church of Singapore and Dr William Chang as they continue to establish a holistic mission and ministry in Kampong Chhnang, Cambodia together with the LCA and other overseas partner Churches
- Pastor Greg Schiller, our missionary in Lae, PNG
- Pastor Simon, Oiy and Nopakorn Mackenzie, our missionary family serving in the Nan Province, Thailand
- Australian mission team - comprising people from various states and led by Simon King (from St Mark's Epping congregation) as they prepare to travel to Thailand in January to serve the Lua people of the Nan province
- For Amnoui, Tawee and the 5 evangelists as they share the good news of Jesus Christ with the Lua people in the Nan Province, Thailand
- Leaders and members of our partner Churches in Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Malaysia, Sabah, Thailand and Indonesia
- Leaders and members of the emerging Churches in the Mekong region as they share the love of Jesus Christ with people in their countries - often in oppressed and hostile situations
- Pastors, leaders and people of the Chinese and Asian Lutheran churches in Australia and LCA pastor, Rev Brian Shek as he coordinates and supports the Chinese ministry of the LCA
- LCA Scholarship recipients
 - o Rev Timothy Kising, Papua New Guinea (Australian Lutheran
- College, Adelaide)
- o Rev Albert Purba, Indonesia
- o Kristiani Sipahutar, (training in education for blind students), Indonesia
- o Javentus Pasaribu, Indonesia (Abdi Sabda seminary)
- o Jufri Simorangkir, Indonesia
- o Pastors and evangelists at Lutheran Seminary of Thailand (LST)
- o Rosmah studying at the Theological Seminary of Sabah (STS)
- o Young people from Mentawai island, Indonesia receiving music scholarships
- The newly installed bishops and general secretaries of HKI, GKPI, GKPS – 3 of our partner Churches in Indonesia
- For the members of the Prison Ministry team of Abdi Sabda seminary in Medan, Indonesia as they go into the prisons each week to take the love of Jesus to inmates with words and actions
- Congregations developing mission partnerships with overseas partner churches
- Australian Lutheran World Service as they seek to be the “hands and feet of Jesus” while building the capacity of people groups and churches to respond to the needs of people in their region
- Lutheran Education Australia as it seeks to support and build the capacity of Lutheran schools in Indonesia and Papua New Guinea to deliver quality, Christ-centered education to the young people in their care
- The Lutheran Laypeople's League as they join together with the Board for Mission in various programs to support the mission and ministry of our overseas partner churches
- For God to open our eyes to see the “fields that are ripe for the harvest” (John 4:35)
- For workers for the harvest that is all around us – in our homes, in Australia and overseas (Matthew 9:38)
- For the love, justice and compassion of Jesus Christ to grow in each one of us and a willingness for us to go and join him wherever he opens our eyes to see the work that he is already doing in the lives of others
- “Lord, renew your church, begin with me”.

Ginger & Honey chicken

Serves 4



Quick and easy and very tasty!

Ingredients

- 3 tbs oil
- 2 large onions cut into wedges
- 2 tsp minced garlic
- 800g chicken thigh fillets, sliced thinly
- 5 cm fresh ginger, peeled and cut into fine, thin strips
- 1 tsp Chinese five spice powder
- 4 tbs honey
- 2 tbs fish sauce
- Ground black pepper to taste
- 1 red chilli (or capsicum), deseeded and cut into thin strips to garnish

Method

1. Heat oil in wok or heavy based frying pan until very hot.
2. Stir fry onion for a minute
3. Add chicken and stir fry for 2-3 minutes
4. Add garlic and ginger and stir fry for further 30 seconds. Reduce heat to medium
5. Stir in Chinese 5 spice powder
6. Add fish sauce and honey and stir fry until chicken is well cooked and coated with sauce
7. Remove from heat and place on serving dish
8. Sprinkle with black pepper and chilli/capsicum garnish
9. Serve hot with steamed rice and steamed or stir fried vegetables

Mission Response form

You are invited to join in God's mission in the world by supporting the LCA's Board for Mission work through our partner churches.

Please tick the people and projects you would like to support and write the amount of your gifts in the spaces provided

I would like to support the following

- | | |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homes for neglected and abused children in Malaysia | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Singapore International Seafarers' Mission | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yapentra, school for blind students in Indonesia | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Singapore Thai Good News Centre | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission work by Simon and Oiy Mackenzie in Thailand | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission work by Greg Schiller in Papua New Guinea (PNG) | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publication of tracts and other Christian literature for PNG | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships (for church partners in Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, PNG, Sabah and Thailand) | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth work programs in Sabah and PNG | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission outreach to Kubu tribal people in Indonesia | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orphanages in Indonesia | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LCA/LLL projects in Indonesia | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bible translation (LBTA) | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission outreach to indigenous people (Orang Asli) in Malaysia | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships for children of pastors in PNG | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Training of evangelists and church leaders in China (partnership program with BCCM, Sabah) | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seminaries in Sabah, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and PNG | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical mission work in PNG | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Books for the seminary libraries of our overseas partner churches | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prison ministry team of Abdi Sabda Seminary, Indonesia | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission work in Kampong Chhnang, Cambodia | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support for ministry carried out by Missionary Aviation Fellowship pilot Greg Falland | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Giraffe courses in to be held in Malaysia and Indonesia in 2011 | \$ _____ |

Payment Options

If you would like to sponsor one or more of the above mission projects, you can do it in one of the following ways:

Online or by Electronic Funds Transfer

Please contact BfM on 08 8267 7334 for more details

Credit Card or Cheque

Enclosed is my cheque for \$ _____ (cheques payable to *Board for Mission*)

Please debit my ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card no. _____

Expiry ____/____ Amount \$ _____

Your details

☐ Please send me a receipt

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Signature _____

Please send completed form to: BfM, 197 Archer St, North Adelaide SA 5006

Donations to LCA Board for Mission are not tax deductible.

Getting involved...

volunteer opportunities

The opportunities and places are many and the experience - life-changing!

Have you considered volunteering in mission with one of our overseas partner churches?

Malaysia

- Bethany Home and Rumah Luther Ria (schools / homes for people with disabilities) - teachers with 'special' education qualifications; pastors or people able to provide spiritual care and encouragement for the staff and children; adults and young adults needed for practical service
- Rumah Chrestus (home for abused children)
- Rumah Love and Care (home for aged people)
- Teaching English to the indigenous children and adults (Orang Asli)

Indonesia

- Teaching English in the schools
- Teaching English (in the seminaries)
- Practical service at Yapentra, School for blind students in Medan
- Teaching English for the pastors' and leaders' courses
- Teaching English and practical help in various orphanages

Sabah

- Practical service at Jireh Foster Home for neglected, underprivileged and abused children
- Teachers of English, music and computing at the Grace Centre (school for the "undocumented" children in Sabah)

Papua New Guinea

- Librarian to catalogue donated books in the seminary libraries

Singapore

- Supporting a scholarship recipient

Cambodia

- Partnership with Lutheran Church Singapore working in teams in Cambodia

Indonesia

- Partnership with Lutheran school
- Regional partnership
- Partnership with an orphanage
- Support for Indonesian scholarship recipients studying at Australian Lutheran College (ALC)

Sabah

- Youth group participation in youth camp ministry
- Supporting students studying for pastoral and lay ministry
- Supporting lecturers at the seminary (Sabah Theological Seminary)

Papua New Guinea

- Congregation willing to pray for, support and partner with Pastor Greg Schiller as he serves in Lae
- Support for scholarship recipient studying at ALC
- Congregation to congregation partnership
- Youth group exchange and youth music/ministry teams
- Youth team to attend the Easter camp in Madang in 2011
- Maintenance teams in various locations
- Teachers for youth ministry leaders' and pastors' courses
- Partnership with Lutheran school

If you would like to know how you can volunteer in mission overseas or if you would like to begin to understand how your congregation, school, youth group or fellowship group can partner in mission, please contact the Board for Mission:

Email bfm@lca.org.au or

Phone (08) 8267 7334

The Board for Mission will endeavor where possible to help to provide opportunities for individuals to serve as volunteers. However this is not always possible due to Australian Government (DAFT) travel warnings for certain countries and the changing needs of the institutions of the partner Churches. 🌐

Consider encouraging your congregation, school, youth group or fellowship group to become personally involved in a mission partnership

Thailand

- Congregations willing to pray for, support and partner with Pastor Simon Mackenzie and his wife Oiy as they serve in the Nan province in northern Thailand

Malaysia

- Youth partnership
- Congregation to congregation
- Supporting a scholarship recipient
- Supporting Bethany Home and Rumah Luther Ria Homes for people with disabilities