

MISSION NEWS

Mission Activities of the Free Reformed Churches of Australia

~ VOLUME 15
~ ISSUE 3
~ AUGUST 2020



"For I am NOT ASHAMED of the Gospel for it is the POWER of GOD for SALVATION to everyone who BELIEVES."

Romans 1: 16

COVER PHOTO:

Traveling to Wantan

By: Pastor Ryan deJonge

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rev R & Mrs R de Jonge
PO Box 3009
Lae, Morobe Province
Papua New Guinea
ryandejonge@gmail.com
ruthdejonge@gmail.com

<http://mission.frcarmadale.com/>

Rev C & Mrs G Kleijn
PO Box 590
Waigani NCD
Papua New Guinea

Mr D & Mrs C VanderWal
Postal Address:
C/O Lae City Mission
PO Box 2599
LAE, MOROBE PROVINCE
Papua New Guinea

duhfid.dvdw@gmail.com
chereevdw@gmail.com

Guest Editorial

THE LABOURERS ARE FEW!



Rev C Kleijn and villagers trying to get the troopee unbogged. Richard Hart's vehicle is in the background. He got bogged first.

The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.

Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore,

to send out workers into his harvest field.

Luke 10:2

How does one recruit missionaries?

Bouncing along a deep rutted track after a good tropical downpour is a challenge for driver and vehicle! One ducks one's head back inside as we scrape along thorny bushes. Seeing the track with deep ruts is hopeless, impossible, we

take the higher option through bush. It's not much better. The ruts are just as deep and bushes 'polish' the troopee. The twelve passengers ride the wild 'bronco' and just hope we make it. Finally, we arrive at the church. But some carry on further into the mountains to the next preaching post.

That was one way. After two services the vehicle returns and we all prepare for more jostling. How these vehicles survive is nothing short of a wonder. The next day on Monday, back at home, it takes a worker quite some time and effort to clean the filthy 4-wheeler.

My mind returns back home where young men love 4-wheel driving. Going through bogs, down steep and rutted hills or across a flowing stream of uncertain depth provides a thrilling adventure. Many go bush to enjoy the challenge. Well, look below and see whether you could have made it through this bog of miry clay! Think so? Two mission workers, experienced in 4-wheel driving, both got bogged, one got bogged helping the other. Both slept in their vehicles overnight and waited for the nearby villagers to come and help them.

Like the adventure? Sign up for mission work in PNG! You will get many opportunities for adventure.

Many will say that the training needed would find them 'bogged to the axle'. But think of the unlettered, uneducated fishermen who brought the gospel to the inhabited world of those days. Jesus was able to train and equip them. Why can he not do the same today?

Reading the quotation above makes one pray for more workers. We need more missionaries. In Lae, in POM area and at the Bible College! Every now and then the Bible College in POM asks us to come and help with the teaching Tuesday through Friday. On Sundays they need preachers at the various preaching posts (Beretete, East Boroko, Nine Mile and Vafei'a). There are not enough preachers to go around. Some of the mission churches can understand English, if the English is simple and practical. So in POM they

need more workers. At the Bible College they need more workers. Lae needs them as well.

Let us all pray for more workers. It is clear that Jesus insists we ask. Not our zealous endeavours or relentless recruiting assures one of many workers. Dependence on the Lord of the harvests alone brings results.

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened (Mt 7:7-8).

But this does mean we can just fold our hands, pray and then leave it up to the LORD above miraculously to bring the workers needed. Jesus recruited workers as he travelled about Galilee, for instance. In Luke 10:1 we read about 72 workers sent out by Jesus! How and whom Jesus recruited is not stated, but Jesus knew whom to call. What must the church and mission boards do to recruit the needed and qualified workers?

Obviously, the church and mission boards can advertise, missionaries can engender enthusiasm for missions by their presentations, and the seminaries can ensure missions receive proper attention. And let's not forget that church members at home pray for more workers. The church in its services fervently ask the Lord of the harvest for more workers.

But what if the results are... zilch!?

The lament

The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few!

Jesus complains about the lack of workers, even though 72 men answered his call. What we would do to have 72 workers in the field!

Throughout church history one hears this complaint. During the Great Reformation they needed more preachers. Persons like John Calvin needed to leave their beloved studies and books to enter the harvest fields. God used fiery William Farel to do the recruiting. Calvin in turn saw the need for a seminary to train more and more workers. The Academy in Geneva did just that. During the Separation of 1834, the faithful reformed churches in The Netherlands again suffered a dearth of preachers. They had to take emergency measures, in order to fill the many vacancies. And so it continues.

In deciding what to write for this editorial the suggestion was made to address this very matter. The Board of Mission urgently wants to call a qualified man as missionary. Last year candidate Mark ten Haaf visited the mission field in Lae, while considering the call sent to him. But Edmonton, Alberta managed to secure his services. So there is a vacancy. The Board actively contacts ministers to see if any will entertain a call. The end result disappointed: not one minister answered their questionnaire

positively. They all had constraints with regard to overseas mission. It surely must drive us to keep asking our Lord for more workers.

For one cannot fault the Hamilton Theological Seminary. It keeps training young men. Every year the church declares men eligible for call. The seminary also employs a previous missionary and has a strong accent on missions. Just recently it hosted a mission conference.

What must one do? We hope to look at that next time.

W Huizinga

Romans 16-so many workers!

Are we too oriented to the pastoral ministry and not zealous enough for ministry on mission fields, whether home-missions or overseas missions?

Another way to put the question is to ask whether we are engaged enough in bringing the gospel to our own environment?

“Like the adventure?”

“Sign up for mission work in PNG!”

“You will get many opportunities for adventure.”

Rev W. Huizinga

Armada Mission Board

CHAIRMAN’S MUSINGS



Children at LCM, they cant wait for Ben and Merinda's children join them up the tree

On the 21st of July at 9:20pm, my phone dinged, a new what’s app message had popped up! The whats app message stated “Hi all, the PNG approval has come in too! Thank God for this development”. Wow our prayers had been answered, Ben and Merinda were letting us know that they had the all clear to leave Australia and head off to PNG. Yes, Thank God! Even before creation, God knew that Ben and Merinda would get this approval on the 21st of July 2020, so we thank God for His providence and care, and humbly submit ourselves to Him.

So, what is next? Well, since they had the approvals, they

now need to let the container company to come and pack the container and get it on a ship. Also, they needed to arrange flights (not so easy at the moment) and also make sure that the quarantine hotel in PNG is booked. At the time of writing, all this has happened.

Then a few days later, news came through that Port Moresby was going into tough restrictions. The WHO had taken over the testing in PNG, and more cases have been discovered. So, thoughts turned to will Ben and Merinda still be able to go? What about the other workers in Lae and POM, are they okay? Well the answer is yes to both these questions, and for that we continue to praise God.

Ben and Merinda plan on flying out on the 10th of August DV, they will arrive in PNG on the 11th, and will have to stay in a hotel in Port Moresby for 2 weeks before being allowed to fly to Lae. May God bless this time and allow the possibility to fly to Lae. You can read more about their preparations in their article in this magazine.

As for Pastor Ryan and his wife Ruth, they eagerly await Ben and Merinda to work along side them in the calling in PNG. They are doing very well. We praise God for that.

There are some developments with a couple of new locations indicated for future church plants. Both areas have some connections with members already part of the Reformed Churches of PNG. We pray to God that these early developments show fruit and that strong church plants might arise.

Allow me to again remind you that Reformed Mission PNG has started up a new Facebook group to replace the current Facebook Page. We aim to use this group to promote overseas Mission, specifically focusing on the work done in PNG. We invite you to request admission to this group (admin will need to approve your request) and then also invite your friends to join.

The group is called 'Reformed Mission PNG' (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/271603523844307>)

The board enjoyed a good Board meeting in Albany in the past week (1st August). Once a year the whole board travels to Albany to meet in person (yes even in the ZOOM era). Its always a blessing to discuss things about the mission work face to face. We are truly thankful for the support from the Co-Operating and Supporting Churches.



Prayer points:

- Pray for the men to hear the call for foreign mission. Pray for the raising of missionaries in our families. Pray that Mission work will never cease until the Trumpet call.
- Pray for Ben and Merinda and family as they leave Australia and travel to PNG on the 10th of August.
- Pray that God will continue to give Pastor Ryan and Ruth the strength to do their task.
- Pray that God will bless the newly identified church plant areas, so that strong church plants might arise.
- Pray for the work of RCBC, where due to COVID 19 they are one lecturer short for the next couple of teaching blocks. Pray that God will give Pastor Cor and Br Mark Mulder the strength to continue in their task.

Frank Janssen

Chairman Armadale Mission Board

REFLECTIONS ON PREPARING FOR THE FIELD

25th July 2020

How do you know you are ready for moving to start a new job in a foreign country?

- Visas
- Entry Permits
- Resigning from previous employment
- Shipping container booked
- Exemptions to travel during Covid crisis – PNG & AUS
- Flights booked
- Quarantine hotel reserved

So theoretically we are all set to go! We are thankful that these last few items on the list have come through in short succession and so now after 5 months of uncertainty, we have a clear plan to arrive in Port Moresby on August 11 DV. The last five months have given us a new appreciation for those two initials DV 'Deo volente'. Through all the border closures, changing government requirements, flight cancellations and the uncertainty of the future we have had the beautiful experience of making the confession of God's sovereignty real in our life.

Actually preparing for life as a mission worker in PNG involves much more than those steps listed above. Where to start?

Learning Tok Pisin is fun! Especially for our kids, who love to practice "Husat nem bilong yu?" (What is your name?) or "Plis Mama" (Please Mum) or "Hamas Krismas yu gat?" (How old are you?).

At the dinner table we practice talking about our day and other topics of interest. An interesting fact we learnt is that Tok Pisin has only 2000 words (in comparison the average English speaker uses approx. 37,000 words). This means that speaking Tok Pisin is a bit

like playing Taboo, every word or concept is a description! For example, diary translates "liklik buk we yu raitim samting long wanwan de" (literally, "little book where you write something for each day"). It also means that a word in Tok Pisin can mean different things depending on the context it is used in. We are no where near fluent at this stage, but hope that the basic vocabulary we have been able to build up will give us a good start when we arrive.



Farewell to Misty



House is packed

Entering a new culture is a challenge to prepare for. We have enjoyed meeting with Pastor Ryan & Ruth weekly over Zoom to discuss how to think about living in a foreign culture and working effectively. Priorities and values in PNG are quite different to what we are used to in Australia. We are told it can be confronting and frustrating and how changing our mindset is important to coping and working well with the

people. One example is how culturally we approach crises differently. Richard 't Hart from the Port Moresby side of Reformed Ministries in PNG gave us the very simple example of how the students at the RCBC care for the chickens. As culturally PNG'ers don't plan ahead for crises or anticipate them, they allow the chicken food bin to be completely emptied and wait till the chickens are hungry before they let Richard know that more chicken feed is needed. This is not because they are lazy or because they don't want to look after the chickens, but because culturally they don't anticipate problems in the future. While the chickens are happy there is no reason for action as there are more important things to spend time on. There are many examples of cultural challenges, some of them heartbreaking and we hope that the preparation work we have done will help us adapt well.

Another part of our preparation was reflecting on the reason for mission. Maybe you remember when Pastor Ryan was here last year he shared the quote from John Piper: "Missions exist because worship doesn't". Piper continues, "Missions is not the ultimate goal of the Church. Worship is. Worship is ultimate because God is ultimate, not man. When this age is over, and

the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever". (John Piper, Let the Nations Be Glad!: The Supremacy of God in Missions). We hope we will be able to keep this focus when we are faced with the day-to-day challenges of life there.

The five month period of uncertainty and ever changing plans was not always easy for us. However we have been told many times that PNG is the 'Land of the Unexpected' and certainly we have been prepared for what that might feel like. During this time we also enjoyed getting to meet our new congregation (in Armadale) and getting to know the members of the Mission Board. We also enjoyed meeting Julian & Shannel and learning from the wisdom they shared with us. We thank all of you for the support and encouragement we have received.

Before us now is the period of goodbyes and 'lasts'. Corrie ten Boom once said

"Hold loosely to the things of this life, so that if God requires them of you, it will be easy to let them go".

Right now He is requiring us to let go of our life here in Australia. There are many sad parts to this, but we are comforted knowing that our Father remains the same, no matter where we are.

As David says "If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me" (Ps 139:9ff).

Ben & Merinda van de Kamp



2020 College Year...

As staff at the RCBC (Reformed Churches Bible College) we have a prayer meeting every second Thursday morning. It's a wonderful time of sharing each other's burdens and speaking about our challenges and then bringing that to the LORD. What becomes very evident is that despite all the work that is being done, our church groups are so vulnerable. It sometimes feels like we're building a house out of a deck of cards and that just a slight breeze will cause everything to collapse. Allow me to share some examples. (I realise these things happen in churches in the west but when member numbers are low the impact is more profound and more widespread.)

No sooner have we finished training a man, had him examined by classis such that he can receive a call, then his former wife returns to the very village which has extended a call to him. Just when we thought this church would experience some peace and even growth, Satan comes along and tries to wreck it. Fortunately God is mightier

than Satan and He will work out all things such that His church will benefit.

Our national pastors are doing a wonderful job, but they need support as the majority of them don't have a consistory. There are still church groups without a pastor and they desperately need one. New areas are opening up but we can't go there because we just don't have the manpower.

Our church members are by and large very poor and really struggle to make ends meet. Some of our ladies have been fundraising every Saturday for a major event. The money collected had been given to one lady who ended up using it to support her family. Now there's a 'hevi' (argument) amongst the ladies which is threatening to tear people apart. Again; small group of believers means everyone is impacted by this.



Our 4 national pastors and 1 candidate pastor



Some of the certificate students hard at work

One of our strong members, with excellent leadership ability, has been sick for quite some time. We've taken him to the doctor; he's had X-rays, blood tests, and still no diagnosis.

We've been told to get him checked out by a neurologist; easier said than done here in PNG. Not many doctors here, let alone neurologists.

Our students at the college come from different parts of PNG and so bring with them the culture of that place. By and large, they get on with each other really well, but sometimes things just blow up over what we think is the smallest thing. It takes a lot of time and effort to get full reconciliation, especially with those quite new to the faith. These happenings shake the foundation of those new to the faith.

Being at least one missionary short on the Port Moresby side means we depend on fly-in guest lecturers so that Rev Cor Kleyn can get help in teaching the Diploma students and spend some time in the churches. COVID-19 has put a stop to all of that and unfortunately the churches are not getting the support they need, through no fault of Rev Kleyn.

We feel a bit overwhelmed, in truth; maybe God wants us to feel this way and experience the vulnerability so that we are forced to trust in him completely. That's a good thing, though very testing. And so, our prayer meeting was good; we could unload to one another and best of all, we could unload to our Father in heaven knowing that he has a deep love for his church and he will give us what we need. We left the meeting with burdens eased and a spring in the step.

My appeal to you is to pray for the work that is being done in PNG. Please pray that another missionary can be found for the Port Moresby side. Please pray that many men want to take up studies in the ministry with as aim to be placed on a mission field. We say "pray and work", so speak to your boys and encourage them to consider studying to become a missionary. Rev Kleyn can't be here forever and one day will need to be replaced. Rev De Jonge can't be in Lae forever and also needs, eventually, to be replaced. Liz and I can't be here forever and one day will need to be replaced. We want this work to go on, don't we? Oh, how we need trained missionaries. If it's in your heart to want to work on the mission field, I pray that God will cause that thought to mushroom and dominate your thinking so that you can't walk away from it.

Yes, we are vulnerable but it is ok because it highlights that this work is the LORD's and not ours. We have nothing to boast about. We move forward in him, with confidence and in prayer.

Trusting in him

Mark Mulder

Birthday Corner

AUGUST

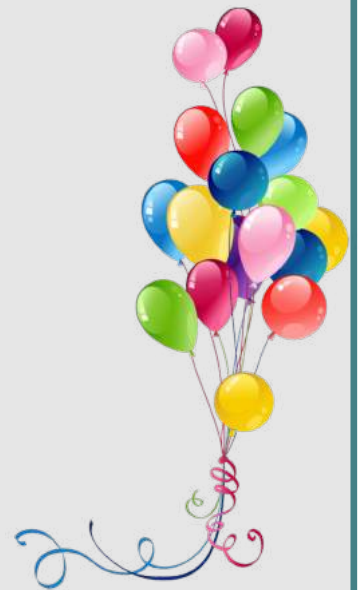
Abigail DeJonge
12 Aug 2014
Nikolas VanderWal
13 Aug 2009
Madison VanderWal
15 Aug 2015
Jonathan Kleijn
19 Aug 2008

SEPTEMBER

Andrew Kleijn
5 Sep 2011

OCTOBER

Mrs Cheree vanderWal
20 Oct 1986
Timothy DeJonge
20 Oct 2012
Samuel DeJonge
31 Oct 2010



NEW HOPE (HARAPAN BARU)

"Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles".
Isaiah 40:31



New Hope Home July Update

"For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob."

Malachi 3:6

It is hard to believe that we've passed the half year mark of 2020, in a way Covid 19 has slowed down much of the usual activities yet it has no effect on time, does it ever go fast!

Unfortunately, the Corona virus is still with us, although we are very thankful that it has not spread as initially feared in NTT, so far we've had 137 positive cases of which one person died and 103 have already recovered.

Not so in the bigger cities such as Jakarta and Medan where the virus proves more fatal, hospitals are full and are sending patients back home without treatment. Doctors protest the lack of equipment and

protective gear which has resulted in the death of many medical staff and doctors, in response some doctors are threatening to stay home, not willing to risk their lives.

With the condition to practice "New Normal" most activities have resumed in NTT. Government offices are operating again with restrictions. We are also overjoyed to be able to worship our Lord together again as before with health protocol in place.

At the beginning of this month, High Schools in the 'Green zones' (no positive Corona cases) have opened up again very cautiously with reduced hours of attendance and a limited amount of students per classroom. The Elementary schools and Kindergartens have not yet opened up because it is much harder to practice social distancing among the small children. The

education department has announced that the elementary schools and kindergartens are able to open up doors in the green zones next month. We fervently hope and pray that the children will be able to attend school again, for studying at home/online is just not effective at all in the NTT province where the majority do not have the means to access the internet. Children are bored at home; parents are not equipped to home-school with the result that the children take to the streets to hang out.

Economically the virus has been having a huge impact, we are on the verge of a recession predicted to be worse than the one in 1998. Hotels and restaurants are still closed. It seems that we will be dealing with the effects of the virus for a long time yet, at times it is very difficult to grasp the reality of what is all going on, so many conflicting messages and

information, yet what a wonderful knowledge and comfort it is to know that God never changes, He remains who He is and will see us through.

New Hope Home

With all this extra time on hand, the children at New Hope have been extra busy in the gardens. The hard work is already paying off as they are able to enjoy the variety of vegetables that is making it to the table! How about some kangkung (water spinach) with tomato salsa? Or cucumber/mango chutney? Sweet endive with spicy tomato sambal is definitely my personal favourite!

The fish ponds too have undergone some clean up, they look beautiful with all the weeds removed which also makes it easier to fish! They mainly grow catfish which are very low maintenance, nutritious and grow enormously fast! They are not the prettiest fish around but do they ever taste good fried to a crisp!

Spring cleaning was also in order to prepare for this year's new arrivals. The old boys dormitory building was taken down and dissected, keeping the good wood to be used again and the

rest on a huge pile for fire wood to cook the meals.

So far ten new children from different parts of Timor and Rote have arrived. Four boy's and six girl's excited to start a new chapter in their lives living at New Hope and studying at the Elpida Junior High school.

Although they come from different ethnic backgrounds, they all come from very poor and mostly broken families. Some have lost a parent, others were abandoned from a young age and were raised by grandparents instead. Divorce rips families apart especially when there is remarriage of one or both parents, one of the boys wrote:

“My father left us when I was two and my little brother only 8 months old



Happily gardening!



Getting water for the vegetable garden





to marry someone else. Our mother has raised us on her own, providing for us from the produce of the small garden we have.

I have no memory of my father or my father's family who do not want anything to do with us, the only one that loves me from my father's family is my younger brother"

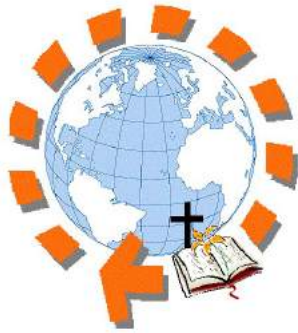
It typically does not take long for the 'newbies' to settle in and establish new friendships in general the Indonesians are a very social people. From the outside they may seem a happy bunch, but experience has told us that inside many carry hidden hurts and burdens from the past carefully covered

up. Only God's word can bring true liberty and restoration from such burdens, please pray for the house parents, counsellors, ministers and teachers who will be directly involved in the lives of the New Hope children entrusted in our care that they may receive wisdom and patience to continue to show their love in reaching out with God's word.

On behalf of the New Hope Board I like to thank you all for your continues support and prayers.

Blessings,

Femmy Dethan-Bouwman



Rockingham/Baldivis Mission

INDONESIAN MISSION COMMITTEE

Serving the consistories and congregations of the Free Reformed Church
of Rockingham and Baldivis
PO Box 531 Rockingham, Western Australia 6168

It is now the 2nd Mission news where we need to be inventive, and give you readers something other than recollections of our wanderings within Indonesia. We managed this last issue (rather effectively I thought) by leaving a large blank space! However this does nothing to enlighten, encourage or even edify you the readers, regarding God's continuing work of salvation among the heathen in Indonesia. Although the work of mission was, and continues to be somewhat impeded by this pandemic, we can also see that God continues to use his servants by whatever means are available, to bring the Gospel truth to those who have not yet received it. The impact of Covid-19, and its associated ramifications, are not only felt here in modern western society, but also deeply impacts the poorer, less privileged, and more remote areas of this planet. This has become evident through the periodical phone and email contact we have had with evangelists/ministers living and working in Sumba and Java.

As travel is impossible for the foreseeable future, we have asked evangelists to provide us with written reports of their work particularly during this time of difficulty. These reports have not been "doctored", other than for some grammatical improvements. We hope that in this way you can "hear" the evangelists speak personally of the work done in their mission posts.

We pray that you may be encouraged by these reports, and consider their requests for prayerful support of their work. Next issue D.V. we will include reports from the GGRI churches of Lumbu Winnu and Padiratana for their mission posts.

On Behalf of Mission Indonesia

E de Haan

GGRI Kataka Mission Posts: Java

Mission Report of Post Malang and Dampit Feb-Apr 2020

Mission Post Malang

Types of services carried out:

Sunday School starts 16:15-16:45 and the Sunday service starts at 17:00.

Since there has been Covid 19, from the 22nd of March, the worship services have been canceled. This is in accordance with the instruction of the Government of Malang to not hold meetings or social/physical activities.

Because of this, Sunday services and events are held on live streaming on YouTube. But the full worship service is not live streamed. Based on the management agreement of Post Malang. The congregation was requested to pray and praise God in their homes, and the preaching was done through live streaming.

Offerings are collected in their homes and deposited through the Post Malang's account or can be brought to the worship service once they are able to be held again.

Holy Supper of the first quarter cannot be held because of no worship service.

It is not yet known when the social/physical distancing will end in Malang.



Rev Yanto Muriwali Matalu & Family - Malang

Developments of Post Malang.

There are two additional adults in the congregation, two ladies. Also there is two additional children in Sunday school which are from one of the new ladies.

Later on, when they diligently attend the worship, there will be catechism teaching for both ladies.

It's just that while there is this current constraint that there is no worship service, so it is possible that both ladies and the two children may withdraw.

Please support this prayer point so that the two ladies and the two children can remain to worship at Post Malang of the GGRI.

There is also contact with Mone's brother congregation member of GGRI Wandarongu who is studying in Malang) to become a member of GGRI Malang. Mr Slamet one of our congregation members has died, this past April. He was 87 Years old



Remembering Pak Slamet 1933-2020

Attendance and member of Post Malang

The average number of people in Pos Malang still remains about 8 people each week. In certain weeks, if there are certain occasions, the attendance can reach to 12-20 people. While the number of children in Sunday school is 5 children. The number of permanent members and visitors is currently 12, plus the 5 children in Sunday School.



Practicing for church singing on a Saturday night in Solo (Surakarta)

While the number of live streaming viewers for the devotional on YouTube is about 50-100 people every Sunday. Most of them come from other churches. Then the number of live streaming viewers for other events can be as much as 150-500 viewers. This is the amount for live broadcast, excluding those viewing offline. We plan to continue to live stream the Sunday sermons (not all the liturgy, only the sermon) even if a worship service is allowed, to introduce GGRI Malang to the wider community.

DAMPIT

The Sunday worship service has been cancelled since the end of March due to Covid 19 in the Malang area. Then because of the difficulty of the WIFI signal problem, the family of Mr Sukram also cannot join the live streaming. The solution we have taken is to bring the Word of God through the phone and will start Sunday, 24 Mei 2020. Furthermore, regarding Mr Sukram's business, it has improved since managing the mini petrol station, even already buying a simple car to support his business. This has been witnessed by the delegates of the Kataka consistory and also delegates for Australia when they visited Dampit. They remain waiting for the LORD's servant for Dampit.

(A new evangelist has been appointed for this mission post, but has not yet moved there. EdH)

Pdt Murawali Yanto Matalu

GGRI Kataka Mission posts Maubukol and Laindeha – Sumba

**Dear chairman and other
mission committee members
in Australia,**

January 2020 until March 2020

I have continued to preach regularly at the post of Maubukol from January 2020 until the end of March 2020.

We have continued to receive a stable group of congregation members attending every week of between 25 to 30 people.

Besides this I have been doing bible study in the homes every week on a Wednesday or a Friday. I request that you in Australia as our brothers and sisters remember this work in your prayers, and that God will bless this work whenever and wherever it is done, be it in Maubukol or other places, so that those who hear the gospel will respond in joy and gladness as they believe in Jesus Christ our Lord

**Since beginning of April 2020
until now the beginning of
June 2020.**

Since the beginning of April 2020, the preaching of the gospel every Sunday was no longer possible in the church building due to the Covid-19 or Corona Virus.

In order to try and stop the coronavirus the Indonesian government have prevented us from holding church services,

and we are not allowed to meet in large numbers. The reason for this is to try and prevent the spreading of this Virus.

In short, due to the serious nature of this virus, and that it has already spread a lot through the larger gatherings of worship services, we may not worship together. The Corona Virus has already claimed more than 1,686 lives.

**The impact this Virus has had
on the church or its members
in Sumba and in particular
Maubukol.**

- The churches economic income at this time does not exist.
- The collections normally received at the bible study meetings in the homes is not happening as the members are confined to their homes.
- We are not allowed to come together in church for Sunday worship.

Since the beginning of April until the middle of May 2020 I have only been allowed to reach the congregation via text message, so I have been sending each congregation member a text with the theme and points of the sermon as well as a summary so they can use it for home study.



Afternoon tea at Maubukol



**Pdt Balla Rihi Meha
Maubukol & Laindeha**

Each head of the house or husband of the family can use this to lead the family in home worship and for prayer.

Since ½ May until end of May I again travelled to Maubukol on my own to lead the worship services in the homes of the congregation as the government allowed home services but church services were not yet permitted.

I used this time to choose a text and give comfort and encouragement in relation to the Covid 19 Virus that the congregation was experiencing.

I could give this encouragement in the midst of the trials and struggles the congregation members are experiencing.

Regarding the physical situation with the church building in Maubukol.

- We have already completed the building of the church in Maubukol, and all praise to God that we could already use the building for worship services since 25th December 2019 until now.
- I have already posted a number of photo's via WhatsApp to Brian Bosveld and to Grant Bosveld, I have also posted this on facebook and a number of members of the church have seen it who become my friends on facebook.

Pos PI Laindeha

- The preaching of the gospel has continued at the Post of Laindeha, however for the present this is still being held at the home of one of the church members, whose name is Umbu Lodu, this house is in the village of transmigration. Bradley and Michelle together with Brian have visited this home in 2019.
- During the time of this Virus pandemic I have continued to make visits to the congregation members of Laindeha
- It is a real pity and grieves me that many of the people

living in this village which I regularly visit will not join the worship services held in the homes but want to wait until a church building is erected.

- These people are originally unbelievers but want to wait till there is a church building which they hope will happen soon before they make a commitment to join the GGRI church. If the construction of a church is delayed too long, they may return to their paganism or join another church.
- Laindeha already has a piece of land, a place where they hope to build a church. They are hopeful under the blessing of the Lord that they will receive a favourable answer to the proposal the consistory of Kataka made concerning the building of a church building some time ago.
- I need to bring this request before you, as this becomes a struggle for me as I serve the mission post of Laindeha. I therefore request the mission committee to again give consideration to support the building of a church at Laindeha.

So far my report as evangelist or minister serving the mission posts of Maubukol and Laindeha.



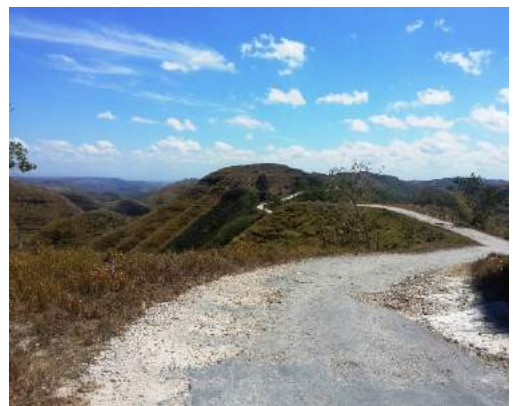
Local "Supermarket" Laindeha

May our Heavenly Father continue to bless His churches, especially the church of Rockingham and Baldivis who continue to be our main source of support for the mission work carried out.

Our hope and prayer is that together as the body of Christ we continue to Love one another and remember each other in our prayers in the struggles we face as Church of God.

Pdt Balla Rihi Meha

The road to Lai Hobu



GGRI Kataka Mission Post activity report Lai Hobu - Sumba

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ our LORD, for our brothers who work in the Australian mission committee. On this occasion I have made a service activities report for the mission post of Lai hobu from February until May 2020.

- Sunday services since February until early April are running as usual. Only the 12th and the 19th of April we weren't able to have Sunday worship because of a ban from the government due to the COVID19 pandemic and on the 26th of April we just went back to worship until now.
- Bible study from February until March has continued on. At the beginning of April until now we been able to continue with it, and we have only continued with Sunday worship while Covid19 is still active until now.
- Our home visit continue once a Sunday, in the afternoon at the same time the congregation is invited to pray together for us.

Evangelist Yan Laki Ngella



Bible study at members household



Men at Sunday Service Lai Hobu



Ladies at Worship service 26 April
Lai Hobu



Finished Sunday worship

Submitted by Mission Indonesia
ROCKINGHAM/BALDIVIS MISSION

HEY KIDS..

What's going on at New Hope?

What things did you get up to while you had to stay at home during the Corona Virus lockdown? In this Mission News magazine you will find out what's been happening at New Hope while they have had to stay home also in Timor. And below is a word search to give you a few clues as to what the New Hope kids have been doing!

O	H	M	E	H	K	A	N	G	K	U	N	G	A	R
F	K	S	B	M	D	Y	N	C	Z	M	F	S	U	V
B	V	V	I	X	O	I	J	U	I	F	H	L	N	N
T	A	N	S	F	N	F	C	C	R	U	S	Z	E	B
S	O	R	A	E	T	L	S	U	D	N	U	B	S	J
U	Q	M	D	M	E	A	G	M	S	G	D	L	L	H
T	G	R	A	A	I	N	C	B	A	N	X	J	Q	Z
T	A	N	N	T	I	M	F	E	M	I	O	F	X	B
G	G	I	E	K	O	A	D	R	B	D	G	M	K	I
O	N	C	O	N	L	E	J	Y	A	E	A	I	K	Y
G	W	O	V	Y	D	H	S	G	L	E	S	Q	M	C
D	C	T	I	H	P	I	O	M	E	W	Z	G	C	Q
C	H	U	T	N	E	Y	V	Y	T	V	A	J	D	Z
R	G	E	B	N	X	W	H	E	A	B	T	U	E	P
Z	Q	E	J	Y	J	Q	G	N	I	H	S	I	F	F

CATFISH CHUTNEY KANGKUNG MANGO
CLEANING SAMBAL TOMATOES ENDIVE
COOKING FISHING CUCUMBER WEEDING
GARDENING



Psalm 121:8:

“The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in; from this time forth, and even forevermore. “



Romans 10:13-14:

“For, “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”
How, then, shall they call on Him whom they have not believed?
And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?
And how shall they hear without a preacher?”

Psalm 93:1-3:

“Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord, praise His name; proclaim His salvation day after day.

Declare His glory among the nations, His marvellous deeds among all peoples.”



MISSION COMMITTEES

Mission NE Papua New Guinea

Sending Church: Armadale

Cooperating Churches:

Byford, Darling Downs, Southern River, West Albany

Supporting Churches:

Albany, Bunbury, Busselton, Launceston, Legana, Melville

Chairman: F Janssen (FRC Southern River)
General Deputy: R Dekker (FRC Darling Downs)
Meeting Secretary: R Plug (FRC Byford)
Report Secretary: D Hordyk (FRC Byford)
Treasurer: E Eikelboom (FRC Byford)

Members:

K Bruning (A) B Dykstra (A) J Bolhuis (A)
J Swarts (DD) V vanDyke (DD) E Vandenbos (SR)
D teWierik (SR) N Dekker (WA) L t'Hart (WA)

Missionaries: Rev R & Mrs R DeJonge
Mission Workers: Mr B & Mrs M van de Kamp

Web: <http://mission.frcarmadale.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/271603523844307>

Kelmscott/Mount Nasura

Chairman: L vanBurgel
Clerk: F Brits
Member: F vanderLinde

Mission Philippines—FRC Baldivis

Chairman (contact): W. VanderVen
wvdv11@gmail.com

Members

H deJonge (B) D Veltkamp (B) J Bolhuis (K)
Rev. S 't Hart (Mel) Rev. C Vermeulen (DD)

Supporting and building reformed churches on Mindanao island in and around Cagayan de Oro.

Mundijong Mission (LITINDO)

Chairman: KA Wieske
Secretary: C Bruning
Treasurer: H deJonge

Mission Indonesia

Sending Church: Rockingham

Supporting Church: Baldivis

Chairman (contact): Br E DeHaan (FRC Rockingham)
eric@zenecon.net.au
Vice-Chairman: Br B Bosveld (FRC Baldivis)
Treasurer: Br G Jongeling (FRC Rockingham)
Minutes Secretary: Br B Pleiter (FRC Baldivis)
Correspondence English: Br Q Slobe (FRC Baldivis)
Correspondence Indonesian: Br B Bosveld (FRC Baldivis)
Consistory Liaison: Br D Geurts (FRC Rockingham)
Member: Br G Bosveld (FRC Rockingham)

Evangelists:

Rev Muriwali Yanto - Malang
Rev Markus Ndhijawa - Tanabanas
Rev Yan Pariamalinga - Bali
Rev Balla Rihi - Maubukul
Br Jhems Umbu Ngabi - Lae Wunga
Br Arison Pekambani - LaAu
Br Yan Laki Ngella - Lai Hobu
Br Melkianus Kalambar Tara Amah - Watu Bara
Rev Melkianus Umbu Kudu - Dampit (java)

Web: <http://mission.fcrockingham.org>

Mission Sabu—FRC Launceston

Committee: Chris Lee
Sarah Heys
John van Asperen

Pastor: Reverend Mada Bihah
Reverend Windi Kurung
Reverend Djara Wadu

Evangelist: Brother Amos Ndawa Mada
Brother Thomas Dida
Brother Yohanis Here Pa
Brother Lay Djama Riwu



Mission News Magazine for the Mission and Mission Aid activities of the

Free Reformed Churches in Australia.

Mission News is published bi-monthly.

Mission News Committee: Dini Plug, Bradley Dykstra & Frank Janssen

Article submission address: 20 Pamplona Drive, SEVILLE GROVE WA 6112

frank@traccivil.com.au