

MISSION NEWS

Mission Activities of the Free Reformed Churches of Australia

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~ ISSUE 4
~ OCTOBER 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:

Wantun School

By: Ben van de Kamp

Guest Editorial

HEY YOU!

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Hey you! Yes, you, reading this mission News magazine... just a quick question: Why are you reading this magazine? Maybe it is simply part of your standard Sunday reading through your pigeonhole content? Maybe you like doing the crossword puzzles or word search while waiting for the consistory to enter the church? Maybe you're in middle school, and your parents told you to interrupt your computer game and read some upbuilding church stuff? But you don't really want to, although it was cool to hear pastor Ryan's mission stories when he visited your school last year... Or maybe you read this magazine because, like I did when I was in middle school, there might be some exciting pictures of MAF water planes or missionaries stuck with their 4x4 in the mud... Maybe you read it because your guilty conscience compels you to keep yourself updated because you're an office bearer or part of the mission board? Maybe you read it

because you have previously been in one of the places and met some of the people who frequently occur in the magazine. And you're curious about how they are doing and what's new? Or maybe you read it because you always had some interest in FRCA Mission work and like to see how things are going on the different mission fields? Whatever the case, the pages/pictures/words of this magazine are testing everyone's deeper mission motives. In a sense the reason for reading this mission magazine shows something about your and my view on mission work, no matter my age or where I am in life.

I think that the general aim is at least to be updated on what's happening in distant places. But it could indeed be challenging for many of our FRCA members to create a balanced view on what is happening "over there", based on a two-monthly magazine (and/or through Facebook). Besides an occasional Bali-holiday for some, what happens in Indonesia and PNG is for most of us a some-

what ‘far-from-my-bed-show’. It does not really affect my daily activities. If it would have happened on my doorstep or in my backyard, it might have been a bit easier. Way back during my younger years in South Africa, one could easily visit the mission field at least once a week. The mission posts in Mamelodi, Soshanguve or Belhar were not more than a 40 minutes drive from most church members’ homes. And one of the missionaries would preach in our own church at least once a month, then sharing some “mission news” during his sermon or prayer. Some members of the local mission church even worked full time in our homes or businesses. Or they would attend “our” church services in person. But in our FRCA context, besides the mission board reports, most of us are limited to a magazine and some Facebook posts to remain posted on what is happening on the mission field. And to shape our views on mission work.

Is this bi-monthly magazine then of little use? No, it is of immense benefit. It is



Dutch Mission magazines “Tot aan de einden der aarde” (Till the ends of the earth) issued from 1988-2004.

definitely a great tool to be updated on the different mission posts. And reading this is ultimately a heart-matter. Because it is not primarily about what those involved in PNG or Indonesia have accomplished “over there” (although these mission teams are blessed serving instruments in God’s hand). It is ultimately about the work of your personal Father and His Son and Spirit to whom you prayed this morning. The magazine is about what He is doing in

those places. And that fascinates you, or not? This motivates you to read this magazine. I even dare to say that your motive to read Mission News displays something about your relationship with Him. Updating yourself with God’s Mission news causes your heart to rejoice and your hands to fold in prayer.

This we also see in Scripture. Every mission news Paul, Peter, Silas, Luke or Barnabas reported to the sending and sister churches (Jerusalem, Antioch etc), was received

The Lord's Mission work might then not be on our doorstep, but nevertheless close to our hearts.

with thank- and praise-filled prayers and active responses. In Acts 8: 14 we read about the response by the apostles after receiving mission news; they send more "missionaries" (Peter and John) so that more people may receive the **Holy Spirit**. Or in Acts 11: 18 the church members in Judea were in awe and glorified **God** when they heard that He also granted the Gentiles faith. Also in Acts 14: 26-27 the apostles were commended to God's grace for the mission work **God** had done through/ with them. And in Acts 21: 18-20 Paul reported to the elders on what **God** had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. There is more evidence in Paul's letters and in some of the other epistles that mission news is always about what The Lord did. Sure, we know this is the basis of the mission work... Yet the core drive to read this

magazine needs to be more than simple curiosity. It needs to always be: let me read what the Lord has done (through people). Reading it with this perspective, will help the mouths and hearts of young and old to bring glory and honour to God. The Lord's Mission work might then not be on our doorstep, but nevertheless close to our hearts. Being updated on what your God did since the last issue of Mission News Magazine is just as exciting as receiving an email or WhatsApp message from your relative or friend.

Part of my current sabbatical ("long service leave") was to declutter my library. During this I discovered a box with Dutch Mission magazines "Tot aan de einden der aarde" (Till the ends of the earth) issued from 1988-2004. It was genuinely a blessing to page through several of the issues because it reminded me of **God's** ongoing mission work in many places. I trust that you may also enjoy this blessing as you continue to read this Mission News magazine. And may it continue to render honour, praise, and prayers to God until He has completed His mission work.

Rev A Hagg

Birthday Corner

OCTOBER

Mrs Cheree vanderWal
20 Oct 1986

Timothy DeJonge
20 Oct 2012

Samuel DeJonge
31 Oct 2010

NOVEMBER

Mrs Greta Kleijn
2 Nov 1983

Mr David VanderWal
19 Nov 1985

DECEMBER

Zachary DeJonge
5 Dec 2018

Benjamin Kleijn
19 Dec 2009



Armadale Mission Board

CHAIRMAN'S MUSINGS

In a year that some things seem to take a long time, some things seem very restricted, it is interesting to note that a lot has happened on the PNG front in the past 2 months.



Ryan & Ruth deJonge & Family

Firstly, Ben and Merinda van de Kamp arrived safely in PNG. They did their quarantine in a Port Moresby Hotel, and then after the 2 weeks, took to flight again to fly to Lae. They settled down in Lae for a few weeks, and then off to Wantun to stay for 3 weeks for cultural training. They just returned home in Lae as I write this. As Board we are truly thankful for Gods sustaining grace provided here that even in this time of uncertainty, He opened the doors to allow Ben and Merinda into PNG to start up their task to support the Mission work in PNG. We hope and pray that they will be a blessing to the field.

Secondly, with the many restrictions placed on travel and the fact that people leaving and entering the country are forced to go into quarantine, it has been hard (impossible) for RCBC to have a 3rd guest lecturer come in and support. A few ministers from the FRCA were meant to each do a block in 2020, however this has all been impossible to do, and as such Pastor Cor and Br Mark Mulder had to do the work on their own, thankfully with Gods grace supporting them.

...Armadale Mission Board continued...

However, to help Pastor Cor and Br Mark, Pastor Ryan and family went to RCBC for block 5. We are very thankful for the support that the RCBC gives to the Reformed Churches of PNG and for Lae, so it is a blessing that we too can give back a little.

The board was very glad when it heard the news that Sister Ruth is expecting again. What a blessing it is to receive children from Gods hands. We hope and pray that all will be well with Ruth and baby during the time of pregnancy.

It was truly thankful to read in one of the reports from the field about the visit to Hila. The early signs in this location are truly something to be thankful about, and we pray that God will work in the hearts of the people there so that in His time a church can be planted there. Pastor Ryan over the next few editions of the Mission News, will go through church planting, to hopefully try and explain the biblical ways of planting churches. All work done though is done with the knowledge that God needs to bless, so we continue to pray for His blessing.

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.

Allow me to again remind you that Reformed Mission PNG has started up a new Facebook group to replace the current Facebook Page.

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>)

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 continue to settle into their task in PNG
- 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 last teaching block for the year. Pray that God will give Pastor Cor and Br Mark Mulder the strength to continue in their task.



Frank Janssen

Chairman Armadale Mission Board



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?”



HOW TO PLANT A CHURCH—INTRODUCTION

Reading Mortimer Adler's classic *How to Read a Book* was revolutionary for me. I had been studying as an engineering student, but upon experiencing a strong call to pursue ministry, changed my major over to the humanities department, focussing on Classical (Ancient) Greek and Roman history and philosophy. Suddenly, I had left the world of math, science, and other technical textbooks, and was reading long primary and secondary sources. While I had previously thought that reading was something intuitive, something that you just did in the best way you knew how without having a plan, *How to Read a Book* showed me that there was a better way to read, a way to pick out meaning, argument, and structure, to identify the important parts of a book without getting drowned in the verbiage or overwhelmed by the rhetoric. *How to Read a Book* gave me a plan.

In a similar way, before becoming a missionary



Wantun Church Service

and dedicating myself to the work of church strengthening and planning, I had always assumed that mission work was mostly done by intuition. Yes, of course I knew the Bible was important and that the gospel is the power of God for salvation, but I assumed that the method of moving a church from a gathering of converts to an instituted church was proceeded mostly by intuition and wisdom, by the missionary's sense of what was needed at what time. But much like *How to Read a*

Book revolutionised my approach to reading, David Hesselgrave's *Planting Churches Cross-Culturally* revolutionised my approach to church planting.

I do need to say that I don't endorse or support everything that David Hesselgrave says in *Planting Churches Cross-Culturally*. As I have worked with the model that he proposes, which he calls the "Pauline Cycle," I have deliberately downplayed

some aspects, while also beefing up others, especially in the area of church governance. In this area, our Church Order has much to say that both corrects and complements Hesselgrave.

But in general, I have found that the Pauline Cycle provides an excellent roadmap for church planting. What I like most about it is that it is based on the methodology that the Apostle Paul used, which can be gleaned from Acts and some of his letters. Of course, we nowhere read an explicit statement of Paul's method. Also, we need to remember the important distinction between prescriptive and descriptive. So, the particulars of the Apostle Paul's method are not normative today. Yet, it does provide an excellent starting point for church planting methodology and also provides an important anchor. When a missionary uses a different method than Paul, he should do this with the full knowledge of how and why he is proceeding differently and why this is necessary or beneficial.

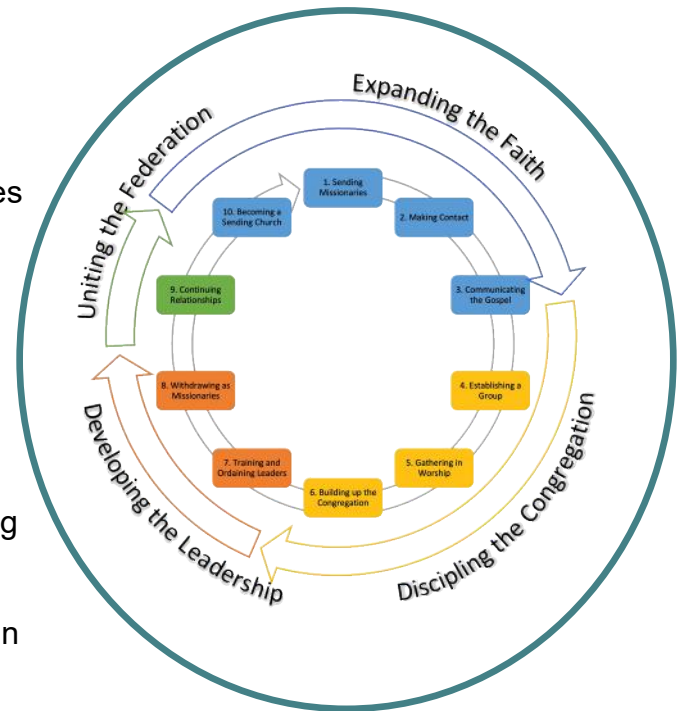
I have mentioned the steps of the Pauline Cycle in a previous Mission News article, but I will list them again here. These are slightly adapted from Hesselgrave's.

They are:

- Sending Missionaries
- Making Contact
- Communicating the Gospel
- Establishing a Group
- Gathering in Worship
- Building up the Congregation
- Training and Ordaining Leaders
- Withdrawing as Missionaries
- Continuing Relationships
- Becoming a Sending Church

In the previous article where I spoke about the Pauline Cycle ("The Aha Moment"), I mentioned how I used this model to prepare the congregation for institution and to show them that in fact, the Living Water congregation in Lae was ready to move to the point of becoming an "independent" congregation.

In the next few editions of Mission News, I hope to go



through the Pauline Cycle, describing in point in more detail, and also showing how we are implementing this method in several places where the church planting work is at various stages. In this way I hope that you will be able to understand a bit better why we do what we do, and also see how that is working out in reality, since methods and plans are certainly good (Prov 21:5), but what is important is how the Lord is working things out in reality. "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand" (Proverbs 19:21).

Pastor Ryan DeJonge



2020 College Year...

The RCBC was blessed during this last block of teaching by the presence of the deJonge family. COVID 19 might be preventing overseas lecturers from coming to Port Moresby to give us help, but it didn't stop the deJonges from being able to fly in from Lae. We thank the LORD for his goodness in allowing this to happen.

The Kleyn children were sure glad to renew acquaintances with the deJonge pikininis and it wasn't long before the sound of laughter and animated conversations filled the air. Of course, for us as adults, it was just as good. It was so good to sit down and share stories about what's happening in the churches in PNG, and seek advice and counsel from each other. The real benefit was that Pastor Ryan could relieve us of some of the teaching that we had been doing. As I indicated in the last newsletter, Pastor Cor has not been able to get out into the churches as much as he would like to due to his teaching commitment at the college. Now he could get a bit of time to do that.

Another addition to the college



Rolling the library to its new location

campus has been Tamara Alberts. Tamara was eventually given permission to leave Australia and enter PNG to start teaching the Kleyn children. (Why permission is needed to exit your own country is not quite clear to me.) This is a big relief for Greta who, as I write this, is past her due date, and has her hands full looking after her 5 children and being involved in the church and college community. Tamara will be with us till, hopefully, the end of the year. She has certainly

adjusted well and is doing a great job! Thank you Tamara, your work is easing the burden for both Greta and Cor.

Our campus manager, Richard 'tHart has been busy organising material for our new Library / Admin centre. During the last break we rolled the old library about 200m to its new position. It was very organised and coordinated event which went very smoothly. The old library is on the small side for a library, and is a bit bigger than a

Our campus manager, Richard 'tHart has been busy organising material for our new Library / Admin centre

standard cabin, so we decided to use it as a cabin for any large families. It has turned out really well, and looks good in its new location. The new library will be about twice the size and we will be building an admin centre attached to it. The new admin centre will allow us to employ locals and having them assist us in running the campus. This is part of our overall strategy of having the RCBC campus being completely looked after by PNGers. Richard's job is to do himself out of a job.

The students continue to be extremely cooperative. They get on well with one another and very much enjoy the RCBC environment. They also recognise how fortunate they've been compared to probably any other educational institution in PNG as the RCBC has not had to suspend the teaching / learning program. Indeed, God has been good to us. we hope and pray that by next year international travel will be a little easier so that we can keep our doors open for longer.

May God continue to guide and protect us.

In Christ alone

Mark Mulder

R.C.B.C.

FROM THE HART

September 2020 - By Richard 't Hart

Serving his Heavenly Father as Campus Manager at the Reformed Churches Bible College Port Moresby – Papua New Guinea.

Greetings Everyone! It has been quite a long time since you last heard from me. Looking back on the last 6 months since my newsletter and Covid-19 has continued to affect almost every part of the world and in some ways PNG. Yet, we here in PNG stand in awe of God and his graciousness to us.

During this time, the Bible College has been able to continue to operate very close to its normal schedule. Church life too has continued to advance with the local church building at 9 Mile filled to overflowing every Sunday. The church members are starting to think about ways to extend the building.

Administration & Library Project

Here at the Bible College we hope to build a new combined library and administration building. The "Old" Library has



been moved from its previous location close to the Diploma classroom. It has been set in its new location on new posts. It is level and it is planned for use as student accommodation. Moving a Library starts with moving the books, Top photo: Ephraim (left) and Janter (right) doing their bit. All the books were stored in the main (certificate) classroom on the floor and kept in the shelf and row order ready for returning to the library once the building move was



completed.

The electricity was disconnected; the small veranda was removed, ready for moving. It was a real event with everyone getting involved or watching!



The stumps were left in the previous location for the new Admin Library building to be built in this position. We hope to add another 28 stumps to these for the new building. All in all, a very satisfying result. I would like to acknowledge the students for their hard work & work and excitement in being part of this project. Also, this project would not be possible without the guidance, direction and safe keeping of our Heavenly Father. Without his will we cannot so much as move a muscle in our own bodies let alone a building.



SDG! Planning for the new building is progressing. The plan (of man) is to start ordering materials in the next few weeks, so they can arrive in time to start construction during the break between teaching blocks 5 & 6. The posts have already been built. As you can see from the photos, we used 6m steel pipes as wheels to roll the old library. These we cut into 1m lengths and welded post brackets on the top to form the stumps for the new library. In that way we could reuse the steel pipes effectively. We also have 6m, 3m, posts sections remaining which we can potentially use for a new campus kitchen when the time

comes. The Lord willing, we hope to have the new Administration & Library Building completed prior to the start of the 2021 RCBC college year.

Graduation 2020

The Lord willing, we are hoping to have 5 students graduate in Late November. Four from the certificate programme and 1 from the diploma programme. Preparations for the day have already begun. A couple of weeks ago we went up to Sogeri, where the Beretete congregation is, to collect some bamboo, which we use to build a shade structure for the big day.

The Local Church: 9 Mile

Last Sunday was a special day in 9 Mile. We had Profession of Faith of a couple (Apa & Elish) and a baptism for their daughter Priscilla. We had a great lunch afterwards and quite a few rounds of volleyball. These lunches and social times really help to build the people who are members and attend 9 Mile into a family of believers and body of Christ that is knit together. Quite often the people still identify by their place of origin i.e. Morobe, or West Papua etc as opposed to the Family of Christ in 9 Mile. A few weeks before in 9 Mile the youth held a camp. This was a lot of fun by all accounts. Pastor Aisi did a good job in leading some of the Bible studies and being camp parent - although he was very tired afterwards. Candidate Pastor



Paul was able to lead one study and I was also able to share with the youth again using the topic of Jealousy, from a few days previously. Jealousy is a big issue among the church people, I have noticed it especially in cases where I render assistance to a particular individual or group. I often help with hospital runs in the case of illness or injury. I have also noticed it when I talk to certain individuals at church others are immediately jealousy of the relationships I might have with certain PNG people. It was good to be able to open the scriptures with the youth on this topic. On the Friday we also took the youth on an outing up to 17 Mile. Both cars were loaded with as many bodies as possible. In all we have about 40 youth in 9 Mile who now have committed to attending the youth programme on Saturday mornings. Pastor Aisi is doing a great job in teaching and is passionate about seeing them develop as believers, faithful church members and leaders. He has mentioned to me on a number of occasions that these next 5 years are so important in their spiritual lives and this will in turn affect the strength of 9 Mile church. I'm very thankful that he sees this!

9 Mile church is growing, and this is something for which we praise God. Most Sundays the church is literally overflowing. Many of the members are very immature in their faith and knowledge. Also the church lacks suitable men to be leaders - things we are all praying for here. Far right is a photo of Jamina, Victor, Eileen & Melliya, some of

the children from our students preparing for their schools Independence Day celebrations. September 16th is a big day for celebration in PNG and all the wonderful colours and finery of their traditional dress is often on display.

Prayer and praise points...

- Please praise God for the growth in 9 Mile and the dedication of our PNG based pastors.
- Please bring the needs of our churches, pastors and brothers and sisters here in PNG before the throne of our Heavenly Father.
- For 3 years now we have been one missionary lecturer short and a fulltime missionary short. We have been relying on guest lecturers to ease the teaching burden, but this is only really a temporary solution.
- Please also pray for all of us here, especially for an increase in our measure of faith, wisdom and knowledge & grace and strength to continue during these C-19 times, when it is difficult to get guest lecturers here to help with the teaching load.

In His Service

Campus Manager Reformed

Richard 't Hart

Church Bible College, PNG



Transporting bamboo for a shade structure



Profession of Faith and Baptism at 9 Mile Church



Students dressed in their finery for Independence Day

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 September Update

"Do everything without complaining"

Philipians 2:14

The last thing I like to write about is the Covid-19 pandemic, I am convinced that you are done with this virus just as much as we are! Yet, reality is, whether we like it or not, it's still around! I'll admit, I have complained a fair bit about this whole situation until I was gently reminded by one of our sons who said: 'Mom, this virus is like taking anti-malaria tablets, they taste awful, yet it is the only way we will get better. God uses this pandemic as a bitter medication to treat our sickness'. Hmm, that stopped the complain campaign alright! Should I be complaining, no rather ask myself: "What is it that the Lord wants us to change, teach and restore?" Looking around there sure is enough reason for the

Lord to stop us in our tracks. Covid-19 tastes bitter indeed, yet if this is the 'medicine' the Lord gives for us to get better, we better swallow it while praying fervently that healing may take place.

In the previous update I wrote about how most schools were about to go back in session after months of 'at home learning'. Having been in session for about 6 weeks we are back in 'lock down' mode. The virus was brought into NTT through the minister of fisheries and oceans who visited our Governor. Together they traveled to many different islands in NTT leaving a trail of positive Covid-19 infections. Another cluster formed through a migrant worker returning home from Kalimantan who tested positive two weeks ago. He was immediately isolated in a hospital ward. Two days later he ran away from the hospital to his hometown and intentionally

mingled with the locals sharing 'slokkies' (shots) from a communal cup. Since then there has been a rise in cases.

Covid-19 tastes bitter indeed, yet if this is the 'medicine' the Lord gives for us to get better, we better swallow it while praying fervently that healing may take place.

As a precaution the education department has ordered all schools closed again. We hope and pray fervently that the spread will stop and people tested positive will be healed.

During a meeting with the Elpida school principals and teachers to discuss how to proceed learning in the next weeks. Elly, our kindergarten teacher shared her concern for her little students.

“We have only been back in session for two weeks, the new students were so excited to finally get to go to school! I cried when I received the announcement from the education department implementing another ‘learn from home’ period. I was not the only one crying she said, Benny a 5 year old boy has been so excited to start school, he arrives way before school starts and does not want to go home once school is over.”*

It turns out that Benny’s family situation is not very healthy, his mother is a single parent struggling to make ends meet. The loan sharks prey on people like her, leaving her with a lot of pressure and anxiety as to where the next ‘pay cheque’ is going to go, food or debt? Being exposed to so much negativity and constant worry sadly wears off on the children as well, it is not surprising then that Benny is looking to escape home. It is children such as Benny that suffer the most during this time of ‘lock down’. We are very thankful that New Hope can provide a

home to children that do not have parents or are abandoned by their parents for various reasons.

At the home not much has changed over the past few months, the children have been busy with their regular schedule of school and church activities.

Health wise there have been/are some concerns regarding Mira* who was diagnosed with active TB about a year ago. She was treated for this for the required 6 months after which she was cleared. About a month ago she suddenly became very ill, difficulty breathing and a terrible cough. X-rays showed that she has advanced pulmonary tuberculosis. TB being very contagious she has to live in isolation while undergoing treatment. The medication required to treat TB is supposedly covered by the government health care program for the poor yet this system has many ‘cracks and holes’ requiring her to purchase part of the required medication herself. It is expensive and most people cannot afford this resulting in unsuccessful treatment and a never ending cycle of TB making its rounds. Please pray for strength, relief and healing for Mira.

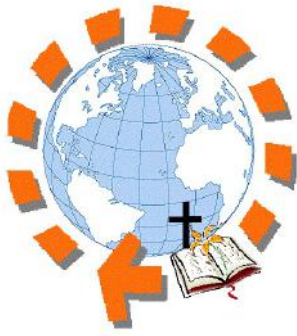
Back to the question – should we complain? There is so much brokenness, hurt and unfairness that we come across and have to deal with every day. This brokenness is not just in Timor, I am sure you deal with just as much wherever you are, be it in different shapes and forms. Should we complain though? Ecclesiastics asks the question: “Who can make straight what the Lord has made crooked?”

The suffering of our Lord Jesus on the cross was very crooked; he certainly did not deserve to be nailed on that cross. Yet, He did not complain but willingly followed the will of His Father for our good! What a comfort, God knows what is best for us, for our part we have to be humble and continue to depend and let ourselves be guided by Him without complaining.

On behalf of New Hope, I like to thank you all for the 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

Dear readers, as alluded to in the previous article, we have asked evangelists to provide a brief report of their work in the mission posts, as we are unable to travel due to Covid-19 restrictions. We had hoped to have information from 3 posts for this issue, however as is sometimes the case, you don't always get what you want (I think there's a song about that). We did receive some correspondence from other posts, but the information contained was not really suitable for general publication. There were a few photos of building progress which I have included in this article. We are however extremely thankful for the very detailed report of work done at the mission post of Laingada, from Evangelist Novianus Benjamin. This mission post is on the eastern coast of Sumba and is a post of the GGRI Church at LumbuWinu. It is also the newest post we are supporting, having started in 2019. You may remember from previous articles that a manse was recently completed for Novianus and the construction of the church building was imminent. We hope that it gives you a good snapshot of the work "our" evangelists are involved in and the challenges they face.

Activities Report of Post Mahu (Laingada and Katundul)

Greetings in our LORD, Jesus Christ as Head of the church.

Blessed be the name of the Triune God who has been pleased to call us to serve his people. Everything can be done only through the protection and guidance of God so we should give thanks to the presence of our Almighty God. I have expressed gratitude to the Mission committee of Rockingham/Baldivis who has supported me in serving in the field, both in the facilities and the support of prayer. I also expect that the mission committee of Rockingham/Baldivis will continue to support me in doing the task of the preaching of the gospel. May God bless and protect us all.



ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship is done every Sunday in Mission Posts Laingada and Katundul, morning and afternoon and praise God it is going very smooth. All this is possible through the prayers of all the brothers and sisters in the Lord and in serving. There were some weeks when I wasn't there and post was served by Rev Ety Kalambar Lu Pandjang S.Th and gospel teacher Markus Djawa Pahabang. At first, we continually teach the Heilberg Catechism to the congregation so that they could understand the true Christian doctrine and after that continued with sermons from the Bible starting with Genesis. I did this to the congregation so that they could understand the Bible from the beginning because almost all of them have never heard the Old Testament. Below is an example of the Sunday worship activities as follows:

Evangelist Novianus Benjamin - Laingada

Waktu	Alamat Gereja	Preaching	Keterangan
AM, 08 Desember 2019 PM, 08 Desember 2019	Pos PI Laigada	Katekesmus M. 50	Heidelberg
	Pos PI Katudul		Catechism
Pagi, 15 Desember 2019 Sore, 15 Desember 2019	Pos PI Laigada	Katekesmus M. 51	
	Pos PI Katudul		
Pagi, 22 Desember 2019 Sore, 22 Desember 2019	Pos PI Laigada	Katekesmus M. 52	
	Pos PI Katudul		
Pagi, 29 Desember 2019 Sore, 29 Desember 2019	Pos PI Laigada	Matius 2:13-18	Matthew
	Pos PI Katudul		
Pagi, 05 Januari 2020 Sore, 05 Januari 2020	Pos PI Laigada	Kejadian 1:1-31;2:1-7	Genesis
	Pos PI Katudul		
Pagi, 12 Januari 2020 Sore, 12 Januari 2020	Pos PI Laigada	Kejadian 2:8-25	
	Pos PI Katudul		
Pagi, 19 Januari 2020 Sore, 19 Januari 2020	Pos PI Laigada	Kejadian 3:1-24	
	Pos PI Katudul		
Pagi, 26 Januari 2020 Sore, 26 Januari 2020	Pos PI Laigada	Kejadian 4:1-16	
	Pos PI Katudul		
Pagi, 02 Februari 2020 Sore, 02 Februari 2020	Pos PI Laigada	Kejadian 4:17-26	
	Pos PI Katudul		
Pagi, 09 Februari 2020 Sore, 09 Februari 2020	Pos PI Laigada	Kejadian 5:1-32	
	Pos PI Katudul		

CONGREGATION VISITS

There are congregational visits done to encourage the members of God church and to teach them of an understanding of the life of a true Christian. This is done for the church of God, for those who do not come to church, and to teach God's word to those who do not understand. I also often make visits after Sunday worship to those who did not come to worship. I also keep record of the reasons they give for not attending.

PREACHING THE GOSPEL

This is done to bring God's calling to those who have not yet know Him, Jesus Christ, and those who have known the truth but do not follow the worship. It is done not only to draw them to the GGRI environment but to draw them from the darkness to the light. This activity is being done by visiting, but not at a full potential due to the

environmental conditions and natural weather. (wet season in Sumba making travel to remote villages almost impossible- Edh)



Village of Laigada—Eastern Sumba

Here is a list of several of the villages that I have visited:

No	Place	Description
1	Village Palindi	One family who had been to the GBI church but had not been attending the service for several years.
2	Village Kaju	One family that does not know the truth (still fragile)
3	Village Laigada	There are some members from GBI and Catholic churches that rarely go to church due to them being far away and they don't have a good depth of knowledge
4	Uma Ronda	Some people who joined GBI but already for many years haven't attended in worship.
5	La Kopi	There are four people from the Free church who almost never attend worship because no one is preaching.
6	Village Kupur	There are some families who do not know the truth. (still fragile)
7	Village Wai Gai	Some families have joined the GBI but the understanding of biblical truth is greatly lacking.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Thanksgiving worship is done with the people in their homes when requested by the congregation who are experiencing God's blessings in their lives. (Much like a home visit with Scriptural encouragement and prayer) Here are some members visited and the reasons for visit.

No	Waktu	Place	Nama	Description
1	06 Juli 2019	Lainggada	Agus Malung Nuku Miata	Grateful for the birth of their son named Silgin Maling Nuku Miata
2	09 Semtember 2019	Lainggada	Paulus Lukur Pera Dawa	Grateful for their home being built
3	16 Semtember 2019	Lainggada	Paulus Lukur Pera Dawa	Grateful that the burial ceremony went well
4	24 November 2019	Lainggada	Agus Malung Nuku Miata	Grateful that they could purchase a motorbike
5	20 november 2019	Lai Kauki	Uru Endu dan Markus Lunji Kaborang	Grateful that they could make peace with their son

THE CHURCH ECONOMY

In general, the congregation members are farmers of vegetables, they only get the garden produce when it rains and in the dry season they cannot farm anymore. In the dry season they are only looking to obtain money through selling hazelnuts and guava fruits, and they also raise livestock. So, when

speaking of the economy of the congregation, it is very low so that the offerings each week are only about Rp.20,000 to Rp.25,000. (Around \$2.50)

EXTRA ACTIVITIES

Extra activities are activities done in a routine like:

- Meeting of the central and branch assemblies
- Follow Christmas events together
- Family visits
- Youth forum formation meeting
- Attending government meetings
- Helping the consistory of GGRI Lumbu Winu to build a manse.
- Meeting of the local assembly



The completed manse at Laingada

So, this is the report I make, hopefully it is useful information on the developments for the brothers of the Australian Mission Committee.

May mercy and the faithful love of God our Father always be with the brothers and sisters in Australia.

Sincerely yours

{Novianus
Benyamin, S.Th}

LIST OF CONGREGATION MEMBERS MISSION POST MAHU (LAINGADA AND KATUDUL)

No	Nama	No	Nama
1	Dominggus Nuku Panda Awang	1	Hai Ngiru
2	Nguama Ata Ratu	2	Martinus Manggena
3	Yohanes Dawa Mbani Hamba	3	Erto Mbidang Djangar
4	Marselina Djati Biala	4	Amos Tamu Ama
5	Paulus Lukur Pira Dawa	5	Matius Rawa Tamba
6	Frida Ridja Gaji	6	Ana Puddu Luyang
7	Dewiyanti Ndika Meha	7	Jemson Umbu Tamu
8	Ones Habita Meha	8	Jesli Tamu Appu
9	Novisia Pindi Leu	9	Kambaru Windi
10	Enos Jawa Mbala Rai	10	Tundu Njangga
11	Jelita Dai Pa Opang	11	Lukki Panyonga Djawa
12	Niwa Ana Awa	12	Uru Endu
13	Kahora Hunggu Adung	13	Yakobus Kalikit Dimma
14	Tundu Njangga	14	Yustina Tamu Ina
15	Pura Kadu Amah	15	Yonatan Kalikit Pandjukang
16	Agus Malung Kadodah	16	Fina Tamu Appu
17	Yustina Tamu Ina	17	Marlince Rambu Day
18	Silgin Malung Nuku Miata	18	Markus Lunji Kaborang
		19	Lidia Mara Hongu
		20	Arfan Tamu Umbu
		21	Resti Tamu Ina
		22	Dominggus Kalikit Pajanji

Rockingham/Baldivis Mission

Mission Post LaAu

We recently received a progress report from the mission post of Lau which is in the central part of Sumba deep in the mountainous region. The minister serving there is Rev Arison Pekambani.

Photo: Rev Arison- in blue shirt (the darker guy)

Due to its isolation and very intermittent phone and internet contact we receive only sporadic information at best. What information we did receive however was positive and as attested by the photos, the church building is well under way. This building project is being supported through mission aid and a church building of this size costs around \$13,000 to build. A completed building ready for worship services would not necessarily be completed to our standards, and may still be missing items such as: Wall plastering, Ceilings. Glazing to window frames and tiling to floors. These are not considered essential and are normally provided by the church members themselves once a church congregation is more firmly established.

Photo: Church building in progress at LaAu

Next time D.V. we hope to bring you further information from the mission posts of WatuBata in the south and also some news on how the mission post in Bali is faring. Their economy is feeling the affects of the pandemic more than most, as many church members are employed in the tourism and hospitality sectors. Please continue to pray for the

work of mission, for the evangelists and their sending churches, that they may continue to be a shining light in a dark world of unbelief.

Till next time on behalf of Mission Indonesia

Eric de Han



Submitted by Mission Indonesia
ROCKINGHAM/BALDIVIS MISSION

COVID IN CAGAYAN

An update from br. Jeff Uriarte, Cagayan de Oro, Philippines.

A productive week of office bearers' training here in Cagayan de Oro City ended with a dinner to remember for a long time. On behalf of the Baldivis Church's mission committee, Rev. Hendrick Alkema and brother Dirk Veltkamp had come to assist us and on their last evening they came to our house along with another family from our church, and together we enjoyed some Filipino food that you eat with your hands, along with fun and encouraging conversations. Then, after saying goodbye to the brothers, who were to travel to Butuan City Reformed Church the next day, we drove them back to their hotel. On our way there we listened to the Philippine president on radio about the Covid 19 situation, but we only caught the last part of the address. Around midnight, I saw in the news that the capital city of Manila would be locked down. I immediately called Rev. Alkema, and with the advice of Rev. Stephen 't Hart, they decided to cancel the next day's trip and fly to Manila as soon as possible. If it was not for a quick decision making, Rev. Alkema would have been our minister for the next few months. That would have been good for us but perhaps not for him and his family!



Church service during COVID restrictions

And just like that, our plans for the rest of 2020 were gone. Like many churches all over the world, Grace Reformed Church in Cagayan de Oro City was closed for the next four months as strict community quarantine was implemented. The days ahead, especially the Lord's Days, were difficult with all the restrictions. The hardest part is not being able to see each other in the flesh and for office bearers not able to visit the members. Praise the Lord that now at this time, some restrictions have been eased and we are able to go back to physical gathering at half capacity, with masks and face shields on. Elderly people and kids are not yet allowed to be in mass gatherings. Our Bible studies and other regular group activities are done via internet to minimize using the public transport.

But the Word of God is not 'quarantined,' if you will. The ministry thrived in the face of many challenges. In our church, we had an elderly couple who made profession of faith, and the members are diligent in 'attending' our online services. And with our experience with virtual meetings, we discovered that we can take advantage of the internet also for the training of pastors and leaders. We have been doing this informally for the last several years, but during the lockdowns, many reputable seminaries and schools have modified their approach to instruction, at the very least, offering online courses. Distance learning has become a viable method of learning and with this observations, we decided to put up a more structured distance training program for our church. In partnership with Miami



Celebrating Professions of Faith

International Seminary (mints.edu), we can offer a trustworthy and reliable Reformed seminary-level education to local pastors and church leaders here in Mindanao. This October, we will begin classes for the Master of Arts in Theological Studies at TableTalk Study Center with more than 10 students, including two brothers from our congregation, and some pastors from non-Reformed churches who have been influenced by our presence in the city and by online resources. Some women are also interested to study in a master's program for Christian education and biblical counselling.

Please include us in your prayers that this endeavor will be used by the Lord to equip "faithful men who will be able to teach others also" and who will be workers "who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

With enough trained men who can carry out the task of preaching the gospel faithfully, I can finally stop wishing in hindsight - what if I slept early that night, did not check my newsfeed, and Reverend Alkema was not able to book a flight out of the Philippines?

Elder Jeff Uriarte

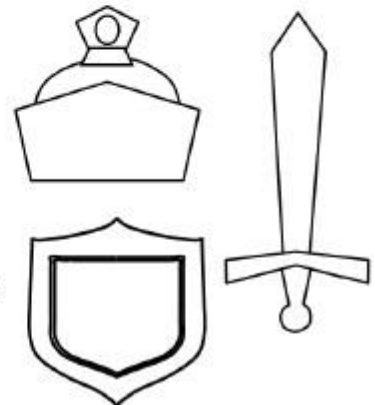
~*~*~ CHILDREN'S PAGES ~*~*~

Armor of God Word Search

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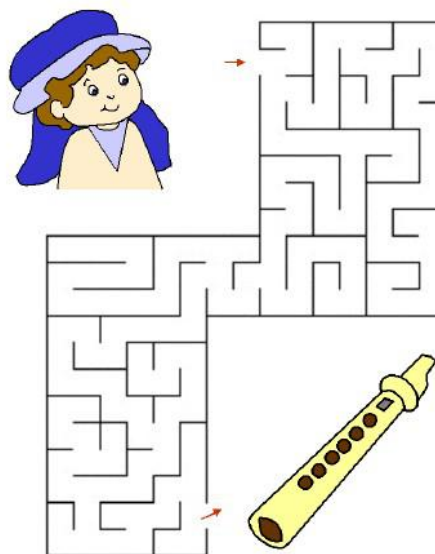
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 SHOES
 STAND
 SWORD
 TEMPTATIONS
 TRUTH
 WEAR



Child of God Maze

Help David find his instrument so he can sing and praise God.





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Supporting Churches:

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

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