


mission

MISSION

at gymea baptist church

where do  you fit?

2009





Message from the Missions Co-ordinator...

Dear Partner in Mission

Without a doubt as followers of Jesus we have a responsibility to 'make disciples' among the nations. While we all won't be called to go overseas to make disciples (though we are still called to make disciples in our own backyard), we can still be involved through our support of those that do cross cultures to share Christ.

Let's take a moment to acknowledge that it takes great sacrifice and courage to cross cultures and embrace a foreign people group for the cause of the gospel. This is a radical call, which I believe needs great support. The Apostle Paul crossed foreign cultures and experienced the support of the local Macedonian churches. He states, '*Out of the most severe trial, their (Macedonian churches) overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. **They urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in the service to the saints***' 2 Corinthians 8:2-4.

Can I encourage you as an individual, family or small group to adopt one of our missionaries. In this booklet you will find some information and contact details of those we support in cross-cultural mission.

Thank you for your consideration of your involvement in mission through 2009. I would be more than happy to talk further with you. Please contact me at the church office on 9521-4611.

From your Partner in the Gospel

Paul Summers
Evangelism/Missions co-ordinator

Programs where you can be involved.....

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Mission Action Group (MAG)

This group is responsible for support of overseas mission at Gynea.

The MAG chooses and promotes projects for May Mission Month, drafts mission policy, coordinates mission trips and fundraising events and interviews candidates for mission service. Members are responsible for keeping in touch with GBC missionaries and feeding prayer points and needs back to the church.

How can you join the MAG?

Vacancies arise from time to time. Contact Paul Summers.

Current members of the MAG are:

Juanita Manahan (MAG Co-ordinator)
Beth Brett (MMM Co-ordinator)
Peter Southon (Missionary Care Co-ordinator)
Richard Dwyer (Cambodian Team Leader)
Barbara Higgins (Catalyst Co-ordinator)
with Brian Manahan, Kathleen Brett, Sharon Dawson, Barbara Fox, Lawrie Green, Meddwyn Hinton, Marilyn Hunt, Ben Hurley, Tim Kirkman, Sandra Lewis, Matt Lockeridge, Dave Small, Julie Thompson, Alan Williams.

Marilyn Hunt is the Missions Volunteer in the church office. She is contactable at the church on Tuesday afternoons. Marilyn is responsible for 'Missionary of the Month' information, missionary profiles and missionary newsletters.

Adopt-a-Misho

This program is for small groups, families or individuals who wish to support a missionary sent from our church. Choose a missionary and you will receive a package of material to help you.

How can you support your missionary?

- Be interested and informed: Pick up a newsletter from the wall next to the welcome desk or better still, ensure you are on their mailing list. Learn something about the country or culture that they are serving in.
- Consider the kind of support they will need when they come home.
- Consider providing some financial support, either as a group or individually. The church does allocate some money to our missionaries but the vast majority of their needs must be provided for by individual sponsors.

Praying for your missionary

Prayer is the most valuable way you can be involved in missions. **Pray for the missionary's...**

Spiritual life... that they would get time to read and pray and for spiritual growth, that they would receive encouragement, and for their integrity.

Personal life... for healthy relationships with family, friends and supporters and with those amongst whom they serve, both nationals and their multi-cultural mission team and for their support requirements and physical needs to be met.

Cultural adjustment... progress in language study and learning and adjusting to the culture.

Work... for a spirit-led ministry, for boldness and wisdom in evangelism, for success in ministering to spiritual and human needs and that Christ's church would grow and mature in that country.

May Mission Month

Every May, Baptist churches around Australia celebrate 'Mission Month'. At Gynea, this is an exciting month of guest speakers and mission awareness-raising. Opportunities to be involved in giving to various mission projects are presented each week during May.

In 2009 our target is \$160,000

Everyone is invited to visit the project displays or the church web site to find out about the projects and to become involved in raising funds to minister to those in need around the world.

How are projects chosen?

Late in the year, the MAG places an ad in the Church Bulletin, asking for proposals for next Mission Month. The projects are decided at MAG meetings in January. Please call Juanita Manahan for the project selection criteria on 9523 1911.

Don't miss this...

This year the MAG is planning another fabulous event for the Hope Street project on the evening of **Saturday 23rd May 2009**. Those who came along to *So You Think You Can Do Mission?!!* last year know that this will be a night to remember!

Mission Trips

From time to time, the MAG arranges a mission trip. Everyone at Gynea is invited to come along – no experience necessary! These trips are an opportunity to serve others but are also great times of fellowship and a very rewarding experience for those who attend.

So far we have sent a team to renovate a church manse in Leeton, conducted maintenance at a WEC mission property in Morisset, painted Brett Davis' house, and insulated a roof at Mountain Trails - a camp for troubled teens in Yass.

The MAG is hoping to organise an overseas mission trip next year. Juanita Manahan would love to hear from you if you are interested in this kind of service. Call 9523 1911.

Missionary Service

One of the aims of the MAG is to see **more people more involved** in mission, as senders, givers and goers. GBC encourages its members to consider mission service. We believe there is a Biblical mandate to send missionaries to those people who have never had a chance to hear the gospel.

Going to the mission field is a very serious decision affecting not only your own life, but that of your wider family, friends and your church family. This decision is usually made over a period of time. Should you be considering mission service, whether short or long term, it is wise to talk to the Co-ordinator for Mission, Paul Summers, who can guide you to consider the next steps in your journey.

When you decide to join a Mission agency, you may apply to GBC for financial support. There is a questionnaire which must be completed, followed by an interview both with yourself and with an agency representative. A recommendation is then made to the Church Leadership Team. **Your history of service in the life of GBC is a primary consideration in this process.**

Serving as Senders Study

The MAG has developed a Bible Study on supporting your missionary from the book *Serving as Senders* by Neil Pirolo. The study is held over two sessions and is designed to help the group understand the support needs of missionaries, looking at real case studies. These studies will be of interest particularly to those groups intending to Adopt-a-Misho.

Areas examined are:

- A Biblical foundation
- Roles of a sender
- Moral support
- Logistical support
- Financial support
- Prayer support
- Communication support
- Re-entry support

Other Bible Studies

The MAG has provided the church with Bible study guides which look at mission and the needs of the developing world. These are available for loan from Angelo Giovas.

Perspectives

Perspectives on the World Christian Movement is a 13-week course offered at GBC for the first time in July 2007. *Perspectives* helps participants develop a clearer perspective about God's global mission and challenges them about their role in fulfilling the Great Commission, whether as a:

Goer who goes cross-culturally to communicate the Gospel

Active Sender who provides strategic support from home

Equipper who aids the task of missions by mobilising others or a

Welcomer who befriends internationals visiting this country.



Developed by the U.S. Centre for World Mission and adapted for the Australian context, the course examines the history and potential of Christianity as an international social and spiritual movement from four perspectives:

Biblical: God's unchanging purposes for the nations

Historical: The expansion of the Christian movement

Cultural: Communicating the gospel cross-culturally

Strategic: Means for completing the Great Commission

The course is taught in weekly 2.5 hour sessions by Juanita Manahan. In addition, students spend 3 to 4 hours per week in independent study and assignments. Contact Juanita for details on the next available course.

It is possible to cross-credit *Perspectives* for Bible college courses.

GBC Missionaries 2008

Brett Davis serving with *Christian Surfers* around the world.

Brett Davis is founding International Director of Christian Surfers, which operates an evangelistic ministry to surfers in 26 countries. He travels extensively, linking and supporting the national ministries.

✉ csurfers@ozemail.com.au
🌐 www.christiansurfers.net/diary.htm
MAG Contact: Brian Manahan 0408 816 993



Joan Eley serving with WEC in Venezuela.

Joan has served in Venezuela for almost 50 years. She has built up a camp ministry that hosts many groups. She also travels throughout Venezuela to preach, give seminars, counsel and practise liberation ministry.

✉ godsbrumby@yahoo.com
MAG Contact: Brian Manahan 0408 816 993



Shane and Ruth Sparks serving with *Pioneers* in Spain

Shane and Ruth have been in Spain since Feb 07. They are now working alongside a local church leadership as a resource to support them in outreach and in future church planting, as well as beginning to look at opportunities for surf ministry. They are continuing to absorb as much as they can of the Spanish way of life, culture and language.



✉ srchipas@gmail.com MAG contact: Peter Southon 9785 2795

Gary and Jan Speckman

serving with *Campus Crusade for Christ* in Sydney.

Gary is National Team Leader for Athletes in Action and is the Chaplain for the Wallabies. Jan is the Team Leader for The Significant Woman project.



☎ 9524 1291

🌐 <http://speckmanscratchings.blogspot.com/>

✉ gary.speckman@ccca.org.au ✉ jan.speckman@ccca.org.au

MAG contact: Sharon Dawson 0438 520 041

Joe Simfukwe serving in the *Theological College of Central Africa, Zambia*.

Previously GBC's Associate Pastor, Joe is now serving in Zambia and is the Principal of the *Theological College of Central Africa*. Joe has contributed to the recently published African Bible Commentary.



✉ PO Box 250100 Ndola, Zambia

✉ jmsimfukwe@zamtel.zm

MAG contact: Peter Southon 9785 2795

Juanita Manahan serving with *SIM* in Sydney

Juanita is Project Promotions Manager for SIMaid, resourcing projects in health, training, microbusiness, food security and famine relief. Her job involves fundraising, journalism, donor relations and project design.



✉ simaid@sim.org.au

☎ 9580 1422 (W) ☎ 9523 1911 (H)

MAG contact: Marilyn Hunt 9545 4874

Lorraine Green serving with *Student Life* at Queensland University, Brisbane

Student life aims to reach tomorrow's leaders by reaching those on the university campus today. Student leaders are equipped to reach their peers for Christ. Lorraine has the responsibility for organising the on-campus meetings, women's ministry and other events.

✉ laineey@studentlife.org

☎ 9808 2702

MAG Contact: Meddwyn Hinton 9526 8556

