



Tennant Creek
Christian Family
Church

CONNECT

APRIL 2024

SRI LANKA REPORT

Pr Mike Groom and his daughter Mikaela travelled to Sri Lanka at the end of February and into March to visit our ministries there.

Report on pages 4-7

PNG TRIP

Pr Greg Crome went to Papua New Guinea in March to speak at a graduation for our missions and preschool students.

Overview on pages 8-9

VANUATU UPDATE

Benjamin and Asinate Wari are doing a fantastic job in Vanuatu! In March they began their church and preschool.

Update on pages 10-11

WELCOME

Welcome to this month's edition of Connect News and greetings to all of our church family in Tennant Creek. I'm looking forward to visiting you all sometime this year.

We have a few more articles than usual so we have extended this edition to include a few more pages. I trust you enjoy reading through the reports and feel inspired by our work overseas!

My daughter, Mikaela Geno, has written an overview of our recent trip to Sri Lanka. Pr Greg Crome has written a report of his time in Papua New Guinea (PNG) last month. We also have an update from Vanuatu detailing what Benjamin and Asinate have been up to lately.

This month Kelly and I will be travelling to PNG to launch Bethel Christian Preschool Tokarara, as well as visit the new students who are commencing their studies at Bethel International Training College (BITC) this month. We have more than 40 students studying under BITC in 2024! This is great news and I'm sure it will be a busy, yet fruitful, year for our friends and family in PNG.

I will also be visiting Faith Center Church in Walhalla, South Carolina at the end of this month. We are preparing to launch Equip Training College (ETC) in Walhalla in August 2025. Walhalla's version of ETC will be a 12-month, live-in course. There is a lot of planning to do and a fair bit of maintenance to complete on the existing facilities but it is all very exciting!

Blessings,
Pr Mike Groom

MISSIONS

Benjamin and Asinate Wari TCCFC commits \$100 per month

Benjamin and Asinate Wari are serving as missionaries in Vanuatu. Benjamin is from Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Asinate is from Fiji.

They are doing a great job ministering to the community they are located in. In March 2024 they began a preschool on the property they are living on - Bethel Christian Preschool Banban. In the same month they also began a church - Banban Christian Centre.

Please continue to keep them in your prayers as they lead these two new ministries in Vanuatu. It is a privilege to support them as a church.

Bethel Children's Home TCCFC commits \$200 per month

Bethel Children's Home has been in operation since 1998. All of the children come from the Tamil minority ethnic group that has been discriminated against for many years. The children in our homes have been displaced for a number of reasons. Our homes provide children with a safe environment where they are given access to many opportunities that assist them in their development. TCCFC sponsors two children, David and Manju.

Door of Hope Preschool TCCFC commits \$100 per month

Door of Hope Preschool is located in Vavuniya in the north of Sri Lanka. It is predominantly made up of Tamil speaking children.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Cleaning and Children's Ministry

We are in need of volunteers to help clean the church and assist in our children's ministry. If you have any questions or if you would like to volunteer, please speak to Pr Jeremiah or Delia.

PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY Tuesday Nights

Everyone is welcome to join us at church for prayer and Bible study on Tuesday nights. The nights begin at 6:30pm. If you need a ride to and from church please contact Pr Jeremiah or Miriam and they will organise a ride for you.

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY Thursday Nights

All ladies are invited to join us for Bible studies at church on Thursday nights. Our Bible studies begin at 6:30pm. If you would like any further information, or if you need a ride, please contact Pr Jeremiah or Miriam.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH Friday Nights and Sunday Mornings

Our youth are welcome to join us at church on Friday nights at 6:30pm. Our children are welcome to join us on Sunday during the church service. If you would like to help out please speak to Ebony (youth) or Delia (children).

SRI LANKA VISIT

On Wednesday 28th February I met dad in Singapore before travelling on to Sri Lanka. We arrived in Colombo just after 9:00pm and were picked up from the airport by Pr Somanathan, our national CRC leader in Sri Lanka. Instead of staying in Colombo overnight and making the journey to the children's homes the following day, we drove through the night and reached Valaichenai in the early hours of Thursday morning.

Sadly Chrioni wasn't able to make this trip with us as we are still waiting on all of his documents to come together so we can apply for a passport. Please keep this in your prayers as we are both planning to come to Adelaide for a visit in May.

It was so good to be back in Sri Lanka. We spent just under a week in Valaichanai visiting the staff and children in the homes. It was an encouraging time and we were able to plan a lot of things that we hope to achieve in the coming months and years. Our children's homes are a fantastic ministry and it is an honour to visit and assist in any way possible.

One of the major tasks we hope to achieve is the ongoing development of our farm property. A number of years ago, Adelaide Christian Centre raised money for the establishment of a coconut plantation on the farm. This is something we hope to begin in the coming months. While we were on the farm, dad and Pr Somanathan measured the land and estimated how many coconut trees will fit.





We also hope to construct a house behind the existing small shop structure that is located at the front of the property. This will eventually be used to house two of the young people who are too old to remain in the homes. One of them has already left and is living on the farm property. His sister will leave next year or the following year and will move into the house when it is completed. We have made a commitment to taking care of these siblings, and their younger sister, beyond their time in the homes.

In addition to providing housing, we are looking at beginning a small bakery and part of this new facility will be used for that. This will provide employment for these two siblings and will assist in raising money and food for the homes. Produce from the farm will be sold in the small shop along with the baked goods.



On Tuesday 5th March, we travelled to Vavuniya where our preschool is located. We arrived in the night, stayed overnight in a hotel and visited the preschool the following day. The preschool has been running for 10 years and our staff have remained very faithful. I was inspired by their commitment to the work.

We travelled to Colombo after visiting the preschool and spent our final couple of days there. We had a nice time with Pr Somanathan and his wife Patricia before it was time to travel home. We flew out of Colombo on Friday 8th March and parted ways at Singapore airport. Dad flew back to Adelaide and I made my way back to Papua New Guinea. We may or may not have both cried a bit after saying goodbye to one another.

Mikaela Geno

PAPUA NEW GUINEA TRIP

It was a great privilege to visit Bethel Christian Centre in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea (PNG) from Thursday 7th March until Monday 11th March. I was invited to be the guest speaker for the combined World Missions Faith Training School and Bethel Preschool Teacher Training College graduation that took place on Sunday 10th March.

Some of the highlights from my trip:

- Spending time with Pr John and Unuba Weimani. They are our longest serving missionaries in Vanuatu. They returned home to PNG last year.
- Teaching in various sessions over the weekend.
- Meeting people (staff and leaders) I had only connected with online.
- Fellowship with pastors, staff, students and families.
- The graduation was a joyous occasion and I was moved by the testimonies of how students' lives have been impacted by their training.
- Seeing the new training building which is now in full use for Bethel International Training College and will soon be used for the new preschool.

It was a joy to connect with the team at Bethel. It is a wonderful place. The worship, fellowship and ministry blessed me, as did the kindness and hospitality shown to me. I think I put on 2 kilos.

Keep praying for and investing into Bethel and all its wonderful ministries.

Pr Greg Crome



VANUATU UPDATE

Benjamin and Asinate Wari are doing a fantastic job in Vanuatu. Last year they began a playschool for some weeks where children from the area came to the property with their parents for various activities. Asinate ran teaching classes for the children and they also involved the families in a sports day, as well as a picnic by the beach.

This playschool paved the way for a preschool to begin on the property they are living on. Bethel Christian Preschool Banban began on Monday 6th March. Asinate has reported that she has seven faithful children attending the preschool.

Pr Mike and Kelly Groom were able to bring many supplies for the preschool with them when they visited Vanuatu in February. They also helped prepare the room for Asinate so it was ready to go for the launch of the preschool.

In addition to opening the preschool, the Waris have also started a church on their property. Their first service was held on Sunday 5th March. They have 13 people faithfully attending the church.

They are doing a fantastic job. It is so encouraging to see a young couple serving as missionaries in another nation. Their dedication to the Lord and their commitment to following His plan in their lives is very admirable and a great inspiration for other young people.

Continue to keep them in your prayers as they journey on in their new ministries.



ONLINE PRESENCE

Web: www.tccf.com.au

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/tennantcreekchristianfamilychurch

CONTACT DETAILS

Address: 190 Paterson Street, Tennant Creek, NT 0860

Email: info@tccf.com.au

Phone: 0452 070 536

Service Times: 10:00am and 6:30pm

GIVING DETAILS

Option One: Bank Transfer

Account Name: Tennant Creek Christian Family Church

BSB: 065 005

Account Number: 1076 8547

Reference: Missions or Tithes

Clearly add in the description if your offering is for tithes or missions.

Option Two: Sunday Offering

Missions: Please place your missions giving into an envelope. Write missions on the front and place into the offering.

Tithes: Please place your tithes in the general offering.

OTHER CHURCH LOCATIONS

Adelaide Christian Centre

Address: 27-33 Sturt Street, Adelaide SA 5000

Web: www.adelaidechristiancentre.com.au

Service Times: 10:00am and 5:30pm

New Life Christian Centre

Address: 105 Dyson Road, Christies Beach, SA 5165

Web: www.newlifeonline.org.au

Service Times: 10:00am and 5:30pm

Faith Center Church

Address: 115 Worley Lane, Walhalla SC 29691, United States

Facebook: www.facebook.com/faithcenterchurchwalhalla

Service Time: 10:00am