



December 2025

Dear Pastor and faithful prayer partners,

Greetings in the Lord and Merry Christmas from the South Pacific! As the Summer holidays begin here in Australia, things in the ministry have an inevitable wind-down. It's been quite a busy and fruitful quarter, so the slowing of certain ministries will be a welcome break.

In mid-October I sat with a group of our Filipino congregation and challenged them on a more specific outreach within the Filipino community in our area, which is still largely unreached. We've been praying and working in the background, and this past weekend we firmed up plans for a dedicated outreach which will begin January next year. The intention is either to start a new Filipino church or assimilate the newly saved believers into our church family. We'll see how the Lord directs this over time, but for now we're making plans for the first outreach and Bible study, which I anticipate will be quite a large gathering. We're looking to the Lord for open doors and fruit, and I believe this will grow significantly. We pray toward that end.

As I've mentioned this year already, we're also looking to start evangelising in a brand-new area to the northwest of our church and are actively planning to start a deliberate gospel campaign in the new year. Just this week, I've spent several hours soulwinning in this area and believe there is a real opportunity here. At the start of 2026 I'll begin doing outreach here and taking my interns and my Associate out with me. We would value prayer as we look to break into this new area that is largely Hindu and Buddhist. I spoke with a lady out soulwinning this morning who was worshipping an idol in her front yard. A strongly Hindu Indian, I walked up to her as she was bowing and praying to a statue of Shiva. This is now commonplace here, and the visible idolatry of both the Hindu and Buddhist religions is in virtually every yard and front porch. Pray with us for a hearing, an opening to get the gospel into this community.

At the end of October I took a small group of five men from our church to Zambia on a missions trip. The Lord provided along the way, much was done, and the real work of the Holy Ghost in the lives of these men is now underway as they are back home and trying to process what they experienced. Please pray for these men, most of them in their mid-20's, who are already serving and surrendered. I have great anticipation that the Lord will call one or more of them to His work as a result of this time. I was able to lead a few Africans to a saving knowledge of Christ, and they are being followed up on by a national pastor there in Zambia. The work there goes forward, and we were reminded again of the great need for labourers in the harvest fields of this world. I continue to think of the statement that Oswald J. Smith made, "No one has the right to hear the gospel twice, while there remains someone who has not heard it once." So many places in this world are without a gospel witness, and it is a privilege to be able to frequently get to some of the more remote places in our world and take the gospel there. This will continue to be the vision in the year ahead, looking for greater opportunities to evangelise in places largely untouched in our generation. We are looking to take a team into Papua New Guinea in April of 2026 to help Missionary Chad Wells break into a new area with the gospel, and already the brethren here are preparing and praying toward that end.

I was in New Zealand in November preaching about prophecy to a newer church and had a blessed week of ministry teaching many new believers about things to come. It continues to amaze me how a new Christian responds to biblical prophecy. There is such an excitement and anticipation of the return of Jesus Christ, and they have such a joy when they learn we have been delivered from the wrath to come. It's only an aging church that loses their vision and anticipation of deliverance. May God help those of us who are long-saved to get a fresh vision of the blessed hope.

We've had some saved in recent weeks, and a few baptised in November. Just two weeks ago one of our young men, recently come back to the Lord, brought a workmate to church. His name is Shane, a rough Aussie bloke with a hard life behind him, but the Lord had already been at work in his heart. When I finished preaching, I invited anyone who wanted to be forgiven and have eternal life to respond, and without hesitation he raised a hand and looked up at me. We went together to talk about it in more depth, and after a time of showing him and explaining the gospel more fully, he bowed his head in repentance and faith and wept for nearly five minutes after he was wonderfully saved. He's only been along to church now for a couple of weeks, and we're beginning a structured discipleship this Friday. Pray for Shane in his new spiritual life. It never gets old.

This weekend we have a Carols night outreach, as well as a kids outreach for our community. We are looking forward to the time of evangelism and are praying for fruit and the salvation of souls. On Christmas morning we will also have a special service and preach the gospel. Many white Australians go to church on Christmas morning, so we have an opportunity for a direct and challenging presentation of the gospel around the message of the advent of Jesus Christ. Now that our area is so dominantly Hindu and Buddhist, the number of people coming in for Christmas and Easter is slowing down. Those from these religious cultures have no "draw" to church like an Australian would, but we still want to provide that opportunity for whomever may walk in.

As we come to the end of this year, Heidi and I wanted to express our gratitude to each of you for your kindness, for your support and love over these many years. Our ministry has broadened over time, and there is much fruit and opportunity in various places as we look to equip men of God, help churches, train pastors, missionaries and evangelists, and look to see new works started both here in Australia and abroad. We are tremendously grateful for your fellowship in the gospel. Thank you to each who sends a kind note or a birthday card, and especially for those who reach out to let us know they are praying. These things matter and they make a difference.

In March we will be back in the States for a time to raise some additional financial support, and if opportunity allows, would try to get across to see some of you if we are in your area. Although it is difficult to have the time to visit, please know that you are in our hearts, and our prayer, and we are not unaware of the sacrifices made so that we can fulfil this work of equipping and evangelising.

With much heartfelt love and gratitude, and joyful fellowship in the gospel ministry,

Tom & Heidi Gonderman