

Inter-Australia Baptist Mission

MARCH 2022 UPDATE

C/o: CMC, P.O. Box 219228, Houston, TX 77218
1-800- CMC-PRAY

Personal Mail: Emma Napier, 102 Minuteman Drive
Forest VA 24551 **home phone: 434 525 2483**

Email: jgnapier7@earthlink.net

Dr. Don Crain, USA director

Ministering to Australia

Dear IABM partners and friends,

Change has disrupted lives around the globe with the pandemic. Now the world is grappling with the unprovoked invasion of the Ukraine. Wars and rumors of wars point to the soon return of our Lord. Yet, we are to remain faithful to the mission of spreading the gospel for positive changes. It is a joy to be able to join with these churches in Australia in support and prayer. The need is great there. **Thank you for your part in helping IABM and lifting up these churches and helping to support them.** Schools have been back for almost a month now, as their school year runs from February to December. Remember December begins their summertime! **Please keep reading for the updates of our churches.**

In Western Australia, **Pastor Danny Wojcik and wife Robbie of Dalwallinu Baptist Church** have just recently experienced their state and international borders opening after being closed for two years from the rest of Australia to protect from Covid. Pastor Danny asks prayer for his extended family, the Bogachoves, in Ukraine for their protection. **He has been offered a training opportunity with Sports Chaplaincy Australia.** Their mission is to place chaplains in sporting clubs to offer support in times of grief, and as **a lot of the locals are involved in sport this would be a good way for him to connect to them with the view of sharing the gospel.** This would be another community outreach for Danny. Mainly Music has started back at the community center and Robbie leads this as a program for toddlers and young children. It has been an outreach to the parents. **They ask for prayer for a young lady named Teish** who helps to organize this program. **Please pray for the Ladies' meeting on 19 March and the Men's breakfast on 26 March** where ones are invited in and gospel messages are shared. For Easter their church will be involved in "Fun in the Park". They are encouraged with the openings that these events present in connecting in their locale. Please pray for these opportunities and for hearts to be touched. They give thanks for your prayers and help.

In the state of Victoria, at **Open Door Baptist Church in Melton near Melbourne with Pastor Robert Apps and wife Katie** have been meeting on the property of a

sister church on Sunday afternoons as they were not allowed to return to their regular meeting place because of the vaccine mandates after the long lockdowns. **This will be an option for them until about this July. Then they will need to find a rental premise or, if government vaccine mandates change, return to their former location.** They ask prayer for this situation and in the long term they want to own their own property, as the government intrusion has become more of a problem. As a praise note, **the church has been welcoming quiet a few families who are considering making ODBC their home.** Kid's Club restarted in February, and Katie is busy with the music ministry and working with the ladies. Robert continues his pastoral responsibilities and teaching in a Bible College ministry and helping other churches with various ministry related issues.

In Gawler, South Australia at Gospel City Church, Pastor Nick Nikolettos and wife Melesa rejoice over the amazing blessings from the Christmas Garden which the church ran from 17 to 24 December for the community. They shared, "It was particularly interesting to see the number of Christian or 'churched' people who came through. The general comments were that they felt a sense of loss over the biblical Christmas story, in general – meaning that many churches had forgotten the miracle of Christ born. Many of them talked about Santa Claus dancing on their church stages and the Christmas story seemingly treated as outdated, irrelevant and not exciting enough." The Garden gave hope to them! The locals encouraged them to run it every year. They have seen significant growth since then with four to five new families joining them. All the ministries have commenced now for the new school year: Youth, Core, Gospel Kitchen and prayer groups. Soon they will be discussing the terms of a new lease with the Lutheran church that owns the hall. **Pray for positive negotiations.** The Nikolettos family has recently recovered from Covid and are all thankfully back to good health. Further south, about an hour's or more drive, in **O'Halloran Hill, Happy Valley Baptist Church gives thanks that no one in their congregation has contracted the Covid.** As this is an older congregation, they give a lot of praise to the Lord for His protection from Covid, but some have had close contacts. Since South Australia has opened up more in the in the last two months, the Covid numbers have risen significantly. They ask prayer that they stay safe from Covid, and for a pastor of the Lord's choosing and for continued Bible based teaching and preaching from the pulpit. They all give thanks for the support and prayers that the IABM team gives. **Each of these churches fills a unique niche in spreading the gospel and serving their community for Him. Thank you for your help and prayers and encouragement for each of them!**

Love and prayers,
Emma Napier and the IABM team