



PEOPLE MISSION CONNECTED

e-CONNECT

17<sup>th</sup> December 2025

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## THE REASON FOR OUR JOY

As we approach Christmas, we want to pause and thank you for your faithfulness in prayer throughout this year. Your commitment has been a blessing to many and a testimony of God's goodness at work among us. Christmas reminds us of the greatest gift ever given - Jesus Christ, our Saviour. In the midst of all the activity and celebration, let's remember that this season is not just about lights and gifts, but about the Light of the World who came to give us the greatest Gift.

**"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given..."** (Isaiah 9:6)

This promise fulfilled in Christ is the reason we rejoice. May His presence fill your heart with peace and joy as you continue to seek Him in prayer. Together, we celebrate the One who is the answer to every prayer.

Blessings,

The eConnect Team

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### Rowland & Elaine (Day 20)

Please pray for Rowland's online mentoring ministry to many BSL Leaders in Asia and Africa. Pray too for wisdom and insights as he writes leadership resources for them next year.

### Margie (Day 24)

At The Family Centre, celebrating the true reason for the Christmas season is always a special time. This week, our staff, along with two Board members and their children, will gather at the Centre to hear the Christmas story and sing carols together. May the light of Jesus shine brightly among us all.

On behalf of the entire TFC team, thank you for your love, faithfulness, and prayerful support throughout this year. It means more than we can say.

### Nigel & Nicola (Day 25)

Praise the Lord for the opportunity to run the first free Welcome to Wellington tour and BBQ for Israeli travellers this summer. Please keep the Jewish community in your prayers as they have just suffered the horrific tragedy of a terrorist attack in Sydney, on the first night of Hanukkah, turning what should be a celebration, into a time of mourning and loss.

### Trinity & Liv (Day 10)

Praise God for a successful first semester at seminary, and for some family time leading up to Christmas. Praise God for the completion of our first translated book. Pray for health of family. Our two youngest are currently sick with pneumonia, and our three oldest have become sick with bronchitis. Our youngest also just had a fever convulsion. Pray for perseverance in this trial, for quick recovery, and that the rest of the family won't get pneumonia. Pray that a faithful Norwegian with a theological education would help assist us with second read-throughs and editing our translation projects.

### Pascal & Renee (Day 3)

MAF continues to fly through the Christmas period with three days of no-flying during this time. Please thank God for the MAF staff that work through this period and that MAF can continue to serve people in Papua New Guinea at this time.

### **Richard & Yuko (Day 6)**

Can we pray daily until Christmas for conversions in Japan's 8000 churches? Already one or two good reports have come to us. Ten per church would garner 80,000 new Japanese believers! Yesterday at Gerald's Family's church Bro Nagai was finally baptised after about 40 years seeking. Praise God together.

### **Russell & Sue (Day 22)**

Another school year has finished and the students from the Gospel School for the Deaf in Suva are home again with families. Please pray for their safety over the holidays and that they will not forget the Christian teaching they have received over another year. Please also pray that families who have shown an interest in their Deaf child coming to the school and hostels will be willing to leave them in our care in 2026, although it is so hard to take that step. Thank you for your prayer support over another year.

### **Stephen & Karen (Day 15)**

We had over 200 visitors each of the two nights at our Christmas Festival held at our church recently. Please pray for ongoing fruit from contacts made. Please pray for all the Christmas outreaches across our region, that the Lord will draw seekers to himself as our people invite guests to come.

### **Sandra (Day 22)**

Mary my co-worker returned to DR Congo in July. She celebrated 60 years since she had arrived in Zaire. She seems so much happier since returning as it is like home. We had three of our student nurses graduate in September (4 years training). They have found jobs. One of them is planning to get married next year. Christmas services are held in all the villages around Katoka, choirs go out singing.

### **Nelson & Rachel (Day 16)**

Merry Christmas Kiwi whanau. We would love prayer for next year as Nelson has been transitioning into leading two merged teams of marketing and media. It means a bigger team but overall, it means more work with less people. Also, prayer for our base and departments as our staffing numbers are low across the areas. Also, we would love prayer for our housing situation. We have a flat and are comfortable but are wondering if it's wise, right, or at all possible to buy. So, wisdom and clarity around this as we pray and how we would go about fundraising for it. Have an incredible summer of celebrating Jesus everyone.

### **Tobi (Day 30)**

I would appreciate your prayers as I finish up and continue to prepare before heading out early next year. I finish up at my work this Friday, and as a youth leader this week and then packing up at the flat to move home before heading out. Pray that I would finish well and that as I prepare the last things before leaving that I would meet with all the right people, be able to say goodbye to family and friends and prepare mentally and physically for what is ahead. Pray that my heart would be open to whatever God has ahead for me.

### **Phil & Jill (Day 24)**

I (Phil) arrived back from PNG early Sunday morning. The College has had issues with the local people, but we have arranged for four policemen to stay at the College over the Christmas period while most of the students are gone and many of the staff are away on leave. The College has a large poultry operation that helps fund the training of pastors, but the locals are either stealing chickens or wanting some financial benefit from it. Pray for God's protection over the College.

### **Barnabas & Hannah (Day 27)**

Please pray:

1. That during the summer break, staff will have sufficient rest, renewal, and refreshment.
2. That Judam, who will attend a TCK (Missionary Kids) Camp from January 13<sup>th</sup> –17<sup>th</sup> at Eastwest, will encounter God deeply and build strong friendships with other kids in the camp.
3. New students for February 2026 will experience God's guidance and help during their preparation, and their visas for international students will go smoothly.
4. Grahame, a staff member who does college maintenance, had shoulder surgery. Please pray for complete healing and recovery for him.
5. That God will protect the health of Barnabas' father, who suffers from dementia, strengthen his caregiving mother, and strengthen Hannah's mother, allowing them all to remain healthy and safe through winter. Barnabas is planning to visit his parents in South Korea alone as his father continues to lose his memory and is physically going down. He will leave 14<sup>th</sup> January and return 5<sup>th</sup> February

## Simon & Ann (Day 4)

Please pray for our students to be able to catch up and keep up with their homework requirements.

The church we attend, Gereja Gospel Grace, has not had an easy year, but has weathered the storm and seems to be chugging along well now. The Bible study (Fundamentals of the Faith) that we hold in our apartment every second Friday has been going well and getting good numbers.

The church is considering moving. At present we hire a room in a building in the city centre, but there isn't really a neighbourhood surrounding it. So, we are considering moving further West to a housing estate. We are also considering moving there too, so we can be involved in some grass roots ministry with our church. We really need wisdom for this and to trust God for safety.

## MOVEMENTS

### Matthew & Alison (Day 23)

Arrive 14<sup>th</sup> January

### Craig & Nay (Day 5)

Depart 26<sup>th</sup> January

### Phil (Day 24)

Returned 14<sup>th</sup> December

### Matthew & Hannah (Day 25)

Depart 16<sup>th</sup> January

Return 28<sup>th</sup> June

### Barnabas (Day 27)

Departs 14<sup>th</sup> January

Returns 5<sup>th</sup> February

## IN SYMPATHY

Please remember the family of Max Vivian in your prayers. Max went to be with his Lord on Sunday. Together Max, Ngaire and family left NZ in 1968 to serve the Lord in South Australia working among the Aborigines at Port Augusta. They returned to NZ in 1976 to settle in Paeroa. Max continued serving the Lord as an itinerant preacher, being a blessing to many around the country.

## OFFICE MATTERS

**e-Connect:** This will be the last e-Connect for 2025. e-Connect will recommence on the 28<sup>th</sup> January.

**Office hours over the holiday period:** The office will be closed from the 19<sup>th</sup> December and will reopen 19<sup>th</sup> January. As 19<sup>th</sup> January is Wellington Anniversary Day, Heather returns on the Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Have a wonderful Christmas remembering the reason for the season*

