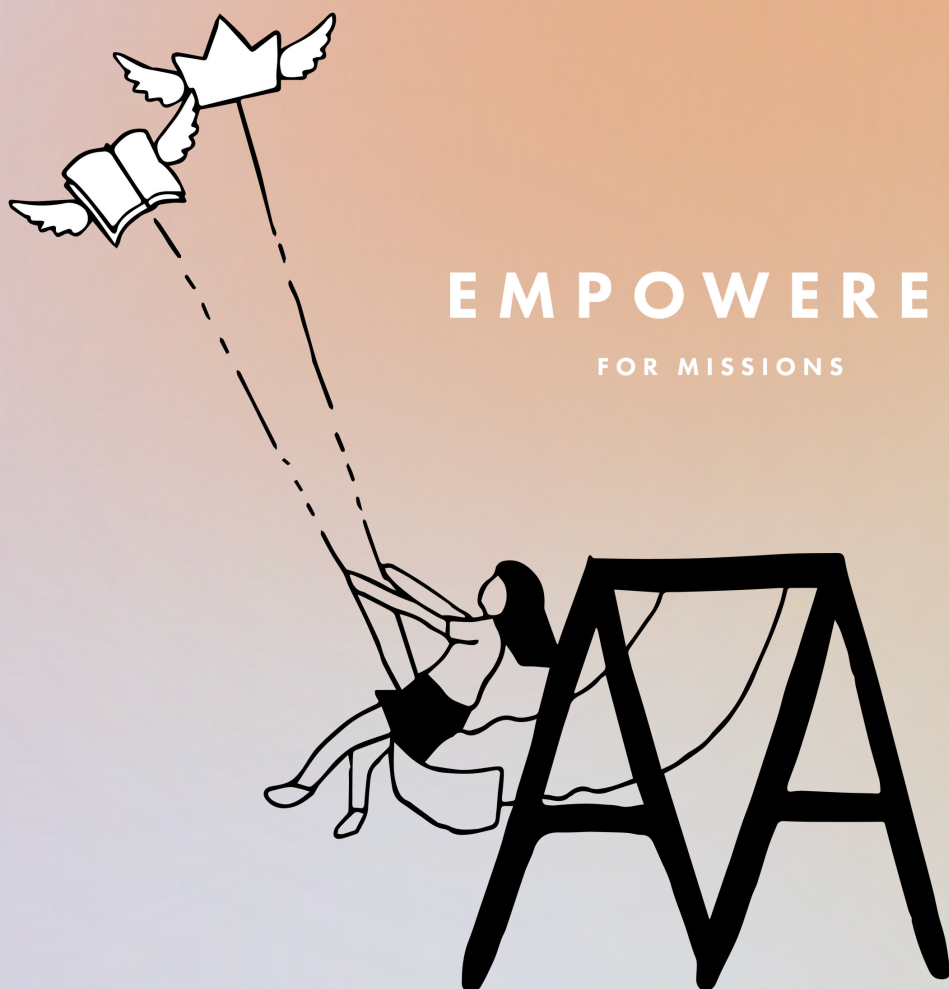




WesleyInternational
Congregation



EMPOWERED

FOR MISSIONS

MISSIONSFEST 2022



**DAVID + BETH
HEART FOR KIDS**



**THE RAHARDJAS
SOUTH EAST ASIA**



**THE MCKELLEHERS
TAIWAN**



**THE CLARKS
THAILAND**



**THE YOUNGS
THAILAND**



**THE PATERSONS
OMF INTERNATIONAL**



**DAVID + THERESE
KIDSREACH**

MISSIONSFEST 2022

In the Book of Revelation we see Jesus in great power and majesty, speaking to the seven churches in Asia. For some he has words of encouragement, others a word of rebuke, still others a combination of both. Have you ever wondered what message Jesus d give to us as part of the church in Sydney?


I hope and pray it would be similar to the message to the church in Philadelphia:

\\
I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.


Revelation 3:8

The open door Jesus speaks of is likely an open door for the gospel and for mission! This is my personal prayer, that Jesus would open such a door for us that no one could shut, a door for His good news to radiate through us as a church! Let's pray for this to become our reality!

The truth is we are all empowered for God's global mission, even though the part we might play may be different to another. What greater confirmation is there than the words of Jesus Himself:


**All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me.
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptising them in the name of the father and of the
son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all
that I have commanded you. And behold I am with you
always, to the end of the age.**

Matthew 28:18-20


**It is not for you to know this times or seasons that the
father has fixed by his own authority. But you will
receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you,
and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all
Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.**

Acts 1:8

With His authority and with His power, let's together confidently
take heed the commission Jesus has given us to live out our
unique role in God's global mission of reconciliation and
restoration! What part can you play in His marvellous plan for
the nations?

Love,

Pastor Andy Chin

(On behalf of the WIC Missions Committee)

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS



meet David and Beth!

Thank you, WIC, for your prayers, the impact of which can never be underestimated. We also appreciate your financial support and words of encouragement.

The world continues to be confusing. A year ago, did we expect to see another war break out in Europe? Two years ago, we were celebrating the easing of COVID lockdown restrictions, little knowing what was still to come. Are we now living in post COVID? With new cases averaging nearly 10,000 per day? There is still so much uncertainty around the world, but what we can be certain of is that God is with us. He is equipping and empowering us to be his hands and feet where we live here in Sydney, and wherever else we serve.

We are continually amazed by our in-country partners and staff as they serve people who are feeling like there is less and less hope for the future. Some governments are exercising more and more control over their people and organisations seeking to help those marginalised and in need. But with God's strength we lean in and serve in Him. We reach into the community through practical helps which open doors for spiritual impact.

In India a woman experienced God's physical healing where no medical treatment or prayers from her village temple had any impact. She was prayed for by our team and God healed her. She accepted Jesus as Lord but was thrown out of the village for this. Our team, and this woman, continued to seek God's protection and guidance and she is now an important part of the women's ministry in that part of the country.

What's ahead?

- We're praying and planning a reconnection trip to India in November
- Many children need sponsors, especially in India
- A group of women are waiting to join the next tailoring school in India
- A lunch will be held in the Upperroom on Sunday 11th September sharing really encouraging and uplifting stories and launching a new program for youth in China.



Your prayers are valued by our team. Please pray for:

- The activities mentioned above
- A return to short team mission teams
- Resources to provide more training, safe water and education for our H4K communities
- More people will see Jesus and be touched by the ministry of Heart for Kids and will turn to Jesus.

On a personal note, Beth and I are thankful for a great Sydney team including staff Poh and Peter as well as our board members Esther and Ken, Adele and Tom and Jay. We were also excited to hold the wedding of our daughter Annika to Mathias recently and I (David) was honoured to perform their wedding ceremony. It was the first time we had met Mathias's family who are from Brazil and it was all very exciting. God provided a lovely day for the outdoor event.

Thanks for your prayers and support.



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meet David and Therese



It is wonderful to be mission partners with WIC.

To be empowered for missions is to be empowered by the Holy Spirit. Yes, it takes a great deal of effort and hard work to be successful in anything, especially missions, but without the Holy Spirit working through us, we have nothing to offer.

I have always loved Romans 8:11:

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

It has been a testing time for Kidsreach Missions over the last 30 months, but God has shown that he is more than able to rise above any circumstance and situation. Thank you to all who continue to pray for us.

Kidsreach in Sri Lanka

After more than two years of lockdowns due to COVID, Sri Lanka is now in the grips of economic collapse, civil protests, blackouts, and lack of necessities such as food, medicines and fuel. But at the same time, our student numbers are at record levels even though we have had to be creative in presenting our lessons. We have restarted our outstation work with several outreaches just completed. We have also embarked on a significant feeding program reaching hundreds of families. We are praying these efforts will bring many to Christ.

PNG

Our work in PNG continues through those we have trained who have risen to meet the many challenges, including widespread COVID, civil unrest increasing poverty. We are so proud of the efforts our students have made to address the subject of child abuse. September will be our first trip back to PNG to bring encouragement and blessing to our graduates.

At Home

Not being able to travel due to COVID has allowed us to do a major re-write of our training material. And our curriculum on HOPE, written to address some of the problems children face, has been widely accepted and used.



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THE RAHARDJAS



meet Hendra, Steph, and boys
Jayden, Ethan, Mikey and CJ

I love this theme "Empowered for Missions", because that's one of the things that I do at the place I'm serving - to empower missionaries! My family and I have been serving as missionaries since 2007 and we know the challenges of mission work first hand. Thus I can't stress enough the importance of being empowered for missions.

One way we empower missionaries is by preparing them for the mission field. Yet 'empowering' means more than just training. It also means discipleship. In order for Christians to be empowered for missions, they need more than head knowledge in such things as church planting strategies or cross cultural intelligence. More importantly, they need to learn about true humility, deeper faithfulness and total dependance on the Lord. To be empowered for God's mission, we need to be connected to God's power because apart from Him, we can do nothing (John 15:5). WIC, may the Lord continue to use you to empower our members for missions!

As international borders reopen, my colleagues and myself will be travelling to the Philippines at the end of September. We felt the Lord is opening doors for us to establish relationships with some Filipino churches and we are exploring how we can help these churches to mobilise and send Filipino missionaries out. We also rejoice that by the end of this year, we would have helped send out 3 Singaporeans, 3 Filipinos, 3 Pakistanis, 2 Kazakhs, 2 Indians and 1 Thai to the mission field. Praise God for raising up these precious ones and sending them out to His harvest field!

While I continue to serve as a mobiliser for our mission agency, Steph will be taking up a role in overseeing the women's ministry at our church in Singapore, starting in August!

Some key prayer points:

- Praise God for using us in Singapore, to serve the local body, as well as to serve expats and missionaries from different parts of Asia.
- Praise God that as a family, we are feeling more settled in Singapore.
- Please pray for Steph as she starts her new role, for wisdom and joy and patience as she serves the sisters in our church.
- Please pray for the missionaries that the Lord is bringing to our organisation to serve - that we will continue to joyfully empower and equip them well for the challenging mission tasks ahead of them.
- Please pray that our family will continue to grow in our intimacy with Jesus, both individually and as a family.



to contact or stay updated:
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THE MCKELLEHERS



meet Will, Edna and son Joshua

The McKellehers serve with OMF among the marginalized in Taipei. Edna works with older women in the red light district and Will with prisoners and those affected by drug & alcohol addiction.

Some phenomenal news is the Taiwanese government will be implementing nation wide initiatives to support women who want to leave the sex trade! To date the police arrest or fine women caught in prostitution. The police are now expected to refer women who would like further support onto social services or employment services.

This past year we have also been walking closer with Taiwanese Christians seriously considering overseas mission work. It is encouraging to witness their passion for Christ & decision to serve Him cross culturally.

Over the years we testify that any transformation in individual lives, community or a nation is only possible through the powerful work of the Holy Spirit. We hope you will heed God's call to share the gospel in this world full of hurt and turmoil.

Please pray for:

- The government to successfully engage the Police, Employment Services & Social Services to implement holistic support that will benefit many women and their families.
- Edna to deliver a clear & impactful training session for social workers from social services around the island on 8 Aug.
- God will raise up churches and Christian NGOs to establish centres like the Pearl Family Garden (where Edna serves) around the country.
- Will regularly follows up with Eric and Chao who have addiction issues. Pray they would be willing to seek help and for the Holy Spirit to break these chains of addiction.
- We are thankful for our son Joshua who loves God. Pray for him as he begins Grade 11 in August and sits for the SAT exam (American final English & Math exam).



for updates: oneway@fastmail.fm

THE CLARKS



Ben, Melinda, Kensie (9), and Savannah (nearly 6), serving the Tibetan Buddhist World while living in Northern Thailand.

Our team's focus is training and equipping those who work with Tibetan Buddhists. The workers we equip are expats from all over the world, non-Tibetan Buddhist background Christian nationals in India and Nepal, as well as Tibetan Buddhist background Christians themselves. We equip these workers by offering conferences and training workshops (including song writing workshops), supporting translation projects, mentoring young believers, as well as developing and distributing resources. Our team also develops prayer materials to help believers around the world pray for Tibetan Buddhists.

The Tibetans are an unreached people group that live in the Himalayan region. Their religion, Tibetan Buddhism, is strongly tied to their culture and many of them have never heard the gospel. There are many different Tibetan groups and dialects spread across India, Nepal, China, Bhutan, Mongolia and Russia. They commonly enjoy eating yak meat and momos (dumplings) as well as a staple called "tsampa" made from grains. Their meals are often washed down with yak butter tea served with a good pinch of salt. Tibetans love folk dancing and singing.

Please pray that:

- we will learn Thai quickly. Although we don't minister in Thai, we want Thai language skills so that we can live here comfortably.
- our girls Kensie and Savannah will be built up in their resilience as they adjust to life in Thailand.
- our marriage will be strong and that we will lean on each other for support during these times.
- all four in our family will grow in our love and understanding of the Lord and that each of us will walk closely with him.
- our team will work together well. We are a multicultural team from a variety of Christian organisations.
- God will continue his good work among Tibetan Buddhists across Central Asia. Pray that many of them will come to faith.
- God will strengthen Tibetan Buddhist background Christians. Pray that they will grow in unity, in love for God and for each other, and in their understanding of God's Word.



for updates: benandmel.com/signup

THE PATERSONS



meet Steve, Sarah and kids Daniel and Eden

For many, the thought of missions can be scary, but we have learnt and seen that with the Holy Spirit working in and through each of us it is possible. God uses each of us in different ways, but all of us are called to mission. This is how we are involved.

As Ministry Leader for OMF International for NSW/ACT, Sarah meets with people exploring missions, liaises with churches, supports missionaries and is part of the national leadership team. Recently she set up a free website resource for people to either work with a mentor or do some self-coaching to prepare to become a missionary. www.missionsteps.com

2022 has brought significant changes to the OMF Australia team and Sarah had to shut down areas of ministry in NSW, such as the short-term program, due to a lack of personnel. We are praying that God will bring others to take on the vacant roles and that he will sustain Sarah during this challenging time.

Steve continues to care for the family and manage the home while doing evangelism in our local community. Through his nature photography business, Steve builds friendships with people who often don't attend church. He sees this as a mission field on our doorstep and God's creation as a bridge to discussions about the Creator.

Prayer points:

- Please pray for strength and wisdom for Sarah as she manages a team with limited personnel. Pray for more people to join the team.
- Praise God that the Mission Mentoring resource is up and running and that other organisations have been using it too.
- Pray for opportunities for Steve to build more relationships in the community and to continue to go deeper in conversations and share his faith.
- Praise God for the growth in maturity we see in our kids. Please pray that they will find direction for life in Jesus.



for updates: sarahstevep@gmail.com

THE YOUNGS



JT, Queenie and kids
Micah and Isabel



As Jesus began his earthly ministry, Jesus empowered by the Holy Spirit, reiterated Isaiah's words aloud in the synagogue. He opened the scroll and declared to everyone in the synagogue what God had called him to do. To "proclaim good news to the poor, freedom for the prisoners, and sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free," and "to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (Isaiah 61:1-2). These words in Isaiah have been our mission mandate in northeastern Thailand, known as the Isan region. Over the last ten years, we can be thankful for God's empowerment and leading as Sunshine Foundation was able to share the good news to the poor, giving hope and freedom to many orphans, neglected children and elderlies. We had the opportunity to help over a dozen children in fulfilling their dreams of escaping poverty, and bring joy and hope to many elderlies who have come to know God personally.

We are thankful for all of God's provision and leading, as the church, Sunshine Fellowship we established is maturing and growing. We have seen God move, as the local leadership empowered by the Holy Spirit, gather momentum and courage in stepping out in faith. One particular distinct event, was when they stepped out in faith, praying for an elderly who couldn't walk, bedridden for years from a motorbike accident. Many have never on their own seen a healing prayer answered, while some who only had the privilege while in our presence saw God move in seeing miracles happen before their eyes.

However, at this particular moment, we were nowhere present due to COVID lockdown restrictions.

With no Pastor to turn to, they, empowered by the Holy Spirit, prayed in faith for healing. The result of their faith sparked a miracle. From accepting Christ to receiving a faith-filled prayer of healing, this crippled elderly was able to regain his strength and by faith started walking again. Today if you see him, he wears a glowing smile, as he walks to church each Sunday and testifies God's goodness in his life. In June, I had the privilege of baptising him, and believe that God will use him mightily.

As thankful as I am in seeing the leadership exercise all that we have been teaching, I am furthermore thankful, that the Church has embraced the vision to church plant in the next district of Na Wang, and with much urgency wanting to establish the plant.

Continue to keep us in your prayers, as we want more of Jesus and less of us. We want to make sure when we step out to plant, that we are not running ahead of God in His plans.

As COVID continues to bring many disruptions and immobilise many of our programs, please pray as we slowly re-establish all our programs.



email: joongyoung@gmail.com
for updates: <http://eepurl.com/mjPBf>

GOD HAS EMPOWERED HOW WILL YOU

PRAY

- Commit to regularly pray for Global Missions.
- Sign up for the WIC Missions monthly E-Prayer letter. Contact pearly.sim@gmail.com.
- Sign up for missionaries' newsletters and pray for them regularly.
- Adopt a missionary and a people group.
- Join or start a specific missions prayer group. This could be a starting point: <https://omf.org/australia/nsw-prayer-groups/>

SEND

- Support a missionary with prayer and finances.
- Contribute to the WIC Missions Fund through your annual pledge or through online giving.
- Send care packages to missionaries and their families at special times of the year.
- Offer practical help to missionaries returning from the field for good or for home assignment.
- Connect with our missionaries at the next Zoom meeting.

HELP/MOBILISE

- Volunteer your time and skill to help a missionary, missions partner and/or agency.
- Help represent mission needs to the church.
- Volunteer with the Missions Committee.
- Invite a missionary or missions partner to speak with your life group or fellowship group.
- Invite another to attend a missions event.
- Partner with our mission projects.

DO YOU FOR MISSIONS, DO YOU RESPOND?

LEARN

- Attend a Missions conference (e.g. Reachout <https://reachoutmissions.com.au>).
- Sign up for a course to deepen your understanding of world missions (e.g. Perspectives (<http://www.perspectives.org.au>) or Kairos (<http://www.kairoscourse.org>)).
- Read missionary biographies.
- Receive mission newsletters and magazines.

WELCOME

- Befriend someone in your community from a different background.
- Get involved with an international student/migrant/refugee outreach organisation.
- Offer practical support to new arrivals.

GO

- Explore online ministry and outreach opportunities.
- Join online OMF gatherings to explore missions.
- Talk to one of the pastors if you believe God is speaking to you about long-term missions.
- Explore potential short-term trips.



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