

GLOBAL INTERACTION News & Prayer



Wed 3 March - Tues 16 March

3 W - **Cambodia** Lift up **Craig and Kim** as they seek to travel back to Cambodia. Pray that God will open the way for the family to return soon.

4 T - **Thailand** Give thanks for the opportunities **Petina** has had to connect with partnering churches during her Home Assignment. Thank God for the mutually encouraging time this has been.

5 F - **Thailand** Pray that churches and individuals will partner generously with **Petina** so she can return to Thailand to share God's love. Pray that God will provide all that she needs.

6 S - **Thailand** Thank God for the new people that **Dema and Carolyn** are building relationships with as they get involved in community activities. Praise God for the faith conversations that the Spirit is opening with these new friends.

7 S - **Thailand** Pray for a friend of **Dema and Carolyn's** who is struggling with depression and alcoholism. Pray for wisdom for Dema and Carolyn as they love and support her in Jesus' name.

8 M - **Silk Road Area** Pray for candidate **Mel** as she prepares to serve long-term with the team. She has recently begun a course in teaching English as part of her preparation.

9 T - **Silk Road Area** Give thanks for the encouragement that partnership development has been so far for Mel and pray that many churches and individuals would commit to faithfully praying and giving.

10 W - **Silk Road Area** Pray for local believer **Anna** who, despite challenging personal circumstances, is continuing to host a group of neighbours in her home each week to read the Bible and pray. It's the start of a K faith community!

11 T - **Silk Road Area** Praise God for the opportunities **Eliza** is having to share God's stories with the local teachers at the English Centre. They are very receptive and want to know more.

12 F - **Mozambique Ben, Sam** and their three children have arrived safely in Mozambique. Praise God that He provided the way for them to return and begin living and serving among the Yawo again.

13 S - **Mozambique** Pray that **Ben and Sam** will experience God's peace, presence and leading as they transition back into life in Mozambique and reconnect with local friends.

14 S - **Malawi** As candidates **Gunther and Sarah** connect with churches and build their partnership team, pray that many will be moved by their story and respond.

15 M - **Cambodia** Give thanks for the relationships that **Cathie and Andy** are building through intentional everyday interactions. Pray for growing culture and language skills so they can share more deeply.

16 T - **Cambodia** Pray that **the team** in Cambodia will be sensitive to the Spirit's leading as they consider avenues for community engagement.



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Ministry Story

Snapshots to Celebrate - David and Eliza, Silk Road Area

David and Eliza give a glimpse of life, ministry and God at work on the Silk Road.

“It was a great pleasure to stand at the arrivals gates 10 days ago, waiting for our teammates Ben, Petra, Bryce and Lachlan to pop through the door. It’s been 19 months since they left for home assignment. So we were very pleased to welcome them back. They’re settling in well and we continue to lift them up as they establish a routine and reconnect with the community. Renewing Ben’s work permit and visa before the deadline in April is at the top of their to-do list.

In mid-January our K believing friend Anna gave birth to a baby boy. She has invited us to be his godparents, which is a great honour. So a few days after his birth, our family went to their house to conduct the first ‘bath’. What a privilege to wash, dry, dress, cuddle and pronounce blessings over this precious baby boy.

Please continue to pray for Anna and her family. Her husband Daniel is at home but not working so financially life has been very difficult. Anna’s oldest daughter, who has been a great help to her mum, has moved to the city to study at college. Anna is hosting a group of neighbours every Sunday to drink tea, read the good book and chat together. Anna continues to encourage a friend who is hosting her own meeting every week, which is very exciting.

Eliza’s English classes are progressing well, alongside our two local teachers, who are passionate, motivated, loyal women. It’s a pleasure to work with them. Every couple of weeks we sit down to discuss how our classes are going and then finish with a story from the Bible. Eliza took the lazy way out and photocopied the story she’d chosen, straight out of the good book.

After Eliza told the story of Jesus in the desert, the questions started. “What comes next?” one teacher asked. “Who is this Isaiah man that’s mentioned in the next paragraph?” What a joy to see a thirst developing from these women for the stories from this book.”

From the Executive Director

Milestone Month - Scott Pilgrim

It’s hard to believe that we’re already in March! Cooler temperatures in Melbourne this week remind me of a change in seasons. I’m also mindful that the countdown is on to May Mission Month 2021.

I want to bring May Mission Month to your attention in this update because of the vital role everyone in our mission community plays as ambassadors and advocates for our shared, compelling vision.

It’s a milestone month for our organisation as we celebrate what God is doing around the world, as we raise intercultural mission awareness and most importantly as we unite afresh as partners in our support of our passionate and dedicated workers across the globe.

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Can I encourage all of you – as highly valued members of our mission family – to do all you can to spread the word about May Mission Month 2021. Let's make the most of the next few months to actively engage as ambassadors and advocates, recognising the power of 'word of mouth' across our movement.

Let's be chatting with pastors and leaders and raising their awareness of what is God is doing through our teams across the world. Let's look for opportunities to highlight our ministries and workers in our local church communities, mission teams and home groups.

Let's be praying for a very generous and response from churches and supporters as we invest in our workers and projects. Let's be getting behind our workers in any way we can as they seek to lock in visits, Zooms and video connections with churches.

I had the privilege over the past week of recording a series of sermons on our 2021 May Mission Month theme of 'Vibrant Communities'. It was great to share stories of what God is doing through people like Sally in Mozambique, Eliza and David on the Silk Road and Dave and Caz in South East Asia.

These sermons will be part of a large suite of resources that churches can use during May or at other times during the year. **Over the next month more resources will be added online, including stories from our intercultural workers, sermon guides, children's resources.** You can find out more about our May Mission Month plans and resources here: www.globalinteraction.org.au/MMM

As we unpack the 'Vibrant Communities' theme, we're also wanting to celebrate what God is doing across our Baptist movement in Australia.

Be it on the Silk Road or South Melbourne, be it in Malawi or Mackay, Cambodia or Cabramatta we recognise the opportunity and privilege of embracing God's gracious invitation to join him in local communities, sharing the hope of Jesus in ways that make sense to people in their neighbourhoods, language and culture.

As Australian Baptists, we are a mission people. May Mission Month is a great opportunity to strengthen and celebrate partnership.

Let's together, as ambassadors and advocates, seize the opportunity to invite others to partner with us as we take the hope of Jesus to people around the globe, who otherwise might never hear the Good News in ways that make sense to them. Whether you're a dedicated 'Pray Daily' supporter, a generous financial donor, a member of your church's mission team, an intercultural worker companion or one of our team serving across the world, thank you for your unique contribution to the Global Interaction story.

Thank you for your partnership.

Grace and peace
Scott



www.globalinteraction.org.au
info@globalinteraction.org.au | (03) 9819 4944