

MAR/APR/MAY

2025

INTO THE HARVEST

ONE MISSION SOCIETY NEW ZEALAND



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CONTACT US!

Postal Address:

PO Box 24038, Hillcrest, Hamilton, 3251

Phone Number:

(07) 856 8655

Email Address:

office@oms.org.nz

Our Website:

www.oms.org.nz/connect

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INTO THE HARVEST

MAR 2025 — MAY 2025



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Farewell Friends and Supporters

It has been an incredible privilege to serve as Executive Director of One Mission Society New Zealand. Over the past four years, I have been humbled and inspired by the dedication, passion, and faithfulness of everyone who has contributed to advancing the mission of OMS NZ. Together, we have made significant progress and I am deeply grateful to have been part of this journey.

After much prayer and reflection, I have decided that it is time for me to step down as Executive Director. While this decision was not made lightly, I believe it is the right time for a new season of leadership to build on what has been accomplished and to continue advancing the mission.

OMS NZ will carry on with strength and excitement for all that's to come. I am confident that the organisation's leadership, staff, and supporters will continue to follow God's calling with faith and excellence, ensuring that OMS NZ's mission continues to make a lasting difference.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have served in this role. Your unyielding prayers, encouragement, and unwavering support have been a source of strength and inspiration throughout this journey.

As OMS NZ moves into this next chapter, I'm excited to share that Karen Moar (our financial administration manager) will be stepping into a team leader role for this coming season. Together, Karen and the team will pursue the doors of opportunity that have been opened, especially after a fruitful time in Thailand (read all about it in our Thailand article). I will be praying for God's guidance for the future of OMS NZ.

Thank you for the honour of serving alongside you.

Blessings,
Stephen McCurdy

THAILAND

The OMS Asia/Pacific Summit

Thank you for your prayers!

What a truly incredible time we had at the OMS Asia/Pacific Summit in January. A whole week of sitting with missionaries and leaders to talk about how God's been working. As well as, learning more about the ministries of OMS, worshipping our amazing God, and praying together for our region.



Bishop Katharoli sharing her morning message.

We had a lot of encouragement from those who shared throughout the week, but a special shoutout to Bishop Katharoli from India who brought us a lighthearted but heartfelt message almost every morning. One of my favourite parts that she shared was from her message on Mark 4 - when Jesus calms the storm. She said "Going through a certain storm keeps us at the feet of Jesus... the same storm that petrified the disciples was like a lullaby to the Lord." Such a beautiful reminder that though we live in a world of chaos, Jesus is our peace and is the one we must cling to.



This is everyone who attended the Summit (some are blurred out for security reasons).



Praying for the countries we work in.

My HOPE61 workshop was well received, and I was able to share important information about how human trafficking happens around the Asia/Pacific region. Afterwards I opened it up for people to share about things they had seen or heard about in the areas where they work.

A number of people shared, which helped others to see the reality of the information I had talked through. I also shared the importance of prevention and why it's HOPE61's focus instead of working in rescue and aftercare. At the end of the workshop, I gave 10 minutes for people to pray in small groups for all we had learnt, and at the end of the 10 minutes, they were still fervently praying. This was a huge encouragement for me, and solidified the importance of the HOPE61 ministry.

Afterwards, some of the missionaries talked with me about opportunities where HOPE61 could be beneficial around the region. Please be praying for these opportunities as I continue communicating with those who expressed interest.

The time at the summit also gave everyone some much needed rest and refreshment as well. With the beach across the road, people could take walks, have a swim, or even have a sleep on a beach chair.

We give God the glory for all that took place at the summit. We're going into 2025 with anticipation for how He will use all this in His future plans!

By Imogen Cook.
Content Creator/HOPE61 Trainer.



Imogen leading the HOPE61 workshop.

The daily prayer times were also a favourite, as we gathered in small groups to pray for our missionaries and the countries they are serving in around the region. The power of the Holy Spirit was with us so abundantly, not only in our prayer times, but throughout every aspect of the week.

We levelled up our training skills at the workshops that were presented each afternoon. From media/communication training to coaching and discipleship, we felt well informed on the trainings OMS has to offer around the region.

NEW ZEALAND

The Send Event & Festival One



God is calling me to...

What started with a quick connection made at Festival One 2024, turned into us being a part of the final Send gathering in 2024! Now as I sit down to write about Festival One 2025, I feel I must mention that the biggest event we got to be a part of in 2024 was thanks to the mission space of Festival One a year ago!

On the 23rd November our team, along with some incredible volunteers (Shout out to Lidia, Aaliyah, and Emily!), were able to meet with hundreds of incredible individuals! The event itself had 6,500 people attend in-person and 25,000 attending online! It was a big day (15-hours all up), but we made some incredible connections with people ready to serve the Kingdom of God.

God is moving, ready to send people into the harvest, and it is such an honour to play a part in the call He is putting forth to his people.

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
"Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"
And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"
Isaiah 6:8



The name, The Send, had the theme around people showing up ready to be sent to serve on a mission field. Similarly, the theme of Festival One's mission space was named "The Call". We wanted to find a way to connect what we at OMS offer in a way that tied in with these events in a fresh and engaging way. This resulted in our "God is calling me to...Go. Stay. Pray. Give" initiative.

**"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
Acts 1:8**



We have all been called by God to serve Him. As the body of Christ, this manifests itself in different ways, in different spaces, and in different times throughout our lives. We can all relate to at least one, if not all of these callings.

At the Send, this included us asking people the question of whether God was calling them to go, stay, pray, or give. We then gave them a coordinating postcard with the word they chose that they could hang up at home to remind them of their calling, with practical next steps, and contact information on the back. Building on that at Festival One in the Call space, we had a board that people could colour in a square matching their response to give a more interactive element, which also built a visual picture of where Aotearoa is at. People chose 1-4 of the actions and then could take a postcard matching their choice.

Is God calling you to go? To go and serve Him internationally, whether it be on a short term team or serving on the field long term. Perhaps you are feeling the call to stay? To stay and serve in your church and local community, to host a HOPE61 training day, or sign up to receive a newsletter. While all of us should be making prayer a priority in our lives, some of us feel a specific call to prayer ministry. Is God calling you to pray for missions, for our missionaries and ministries, and more workers into the harvest? Last, but most certainly not least, has God called you to give? To give to the work He is doing here through our home team or perhaps giving specifically to one of OMS's ministries or missionaries.

We are all being called. Are you ready to answer?

By Sara Kenny.

PHILIPPINES

The Juan Project 2025



Partners in The Juan Project.

Every Community for Christ (ECC) Philippines is a ministry of OMS that works alongside churches, organisations, and church associations in the Philippines for the saturation of communities with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The purpose is to provide vision casting, training, coaching, prayer support, encouragement, and accountability in the areas of disciple-making, church multiplication, and leadership training.

8 years ago, ECC began 'The Juan Project' (TJP). This was created with the passion to see every "Juan" (one) be reached with the Gospel. Since then, TJP has grown, with now fourteen major networks partnering with ECC, and more than one hundred and ninety partner churches in 20 provinces around the Philippines!

On January 25th, TJP conference was held in Tarlac. Many people from all over the Philippines gathered onsite or online and celebrated what the Lord had done in many places in 2024. People also agreed that working with the different/future generations and seeing them as loved and valuable will encourage the way forward.

Our missionaries Phil and Ruth Robinson, and our partners Rely and Lalaine Samonte were in attendance at the conference. Ruth shared that on a personal note, there were plenty of people to meet and greet from other mission organisations. Together, they shared, got to know each other, and exchanged details to work together on future collaborations. They were very encouraged!

TJP 2025 was all about friendship and support! With the theme 'Empowering Every Juan,' everyone is welcomed with smiles. There were opportunities to share their powerful stories and exchange encouragement with one another. Together they grew, connected, and inspired one another to grow even more in Christ!



Ruth chatting with ladies at the conference.



Following the TJP conference, a heartwarming fellowship among partners took place. It began with introductions and sharing about ministry roles, and concluded with inspiring conversations about how to collaborate in ministry endeavours.

This time together was a true joy for everyone involved, and was a celebration of the incredible ways God is working in their lives and through their unique callings. Moments like these uplift and encourage all involved. Praise God!

EUROPE

The Johnstons are coming to visit



Are you interested in catching up with the Johnstons?

We are excited that for the first time since they left for the mission field in Hungary, Glyn and Naomi Johnston will be back in New Zealand for a few months! They will be returning to catch up with supporters, meet new ones, and prepare for their next season.

Since being on the field, Glyn has been working practically with OMS ministries, helping with work projects and leading short term teams in the Europe region. Naomi has been focused on her media and communications role, which includes documenting the exciting work of OMS in Europe and the Middle East. They have also served those who were displaced due to the recent war.

We want to inform you early on that they'll be back from July to September 2025, so if you're interested in seeing them, or have them speak at your church or small group, let us know! Contact Imogen at media@oms.org.nz to communicate your interest, and we can work together to get them booked in with you!

NEW ZEALAND

In memory

Today we give honour to an amazing lady who has recently gone to be with the Lord. Pat Keats, the mother of our missionary Glenda Kruse, was a wonderful supporter of ours for many years. She enjoyed receiving this newsletter to read about our missionaries and pray for them. We send our love to Glenda and her family during this time.



GLOBAL

Pray for our Missionaries

Glyn and Naomi Johnston



Please pray for our trip back to New Zealand this year, as we visit family and friends, but also work to raise support for our next season of ministry. Pray also for Minna as she faces transition and changes this year.

Rely and Lalaine Samonte



Please pray for God's provision over the church in Bulalacao. Pray for growth in the church, and for the congregation's physical and spiritual strength.

Phil and Ruth Robinson



Please pray for an increase in financial support for us. Our work and ministry requires a lot of travel to villages and around the city where we live. Please also pray for the provision of a new van as we continue to travel often.

Brent and Colleen Weaver



Please pray for our teaching opportunities at the Baltic Methodist Seminary. Pray for impact as we prepare and deliver classes on missions, spiritual formation, Old Testament wisdom literature, and inductive Bible study.

NOTICES FROM OMS NZ

Opportunities to Serve OMS has an exciting list of full time missionary roles. From short term teams coordinator in Colombia, to a lead community gardener in Italy, to a discipling coordinator in South Korea, there could be something that interests you! If you feel called to a specific country, or to a certain ministry, contact us to see what's available! Email office@oms.org.nz to start the conversation.

Volunteer with us Do you want to be involved with OMS in another way? We're eager to chat with anyone who's interested in volunteering their time to further God's Kingdom. Bring the unique skills God has given you and let's work out how to best utilise your giftings within the OMS organisation. Contact us through the details on our contents page to start the conversation!

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Regards, the OMS NZ Team.

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