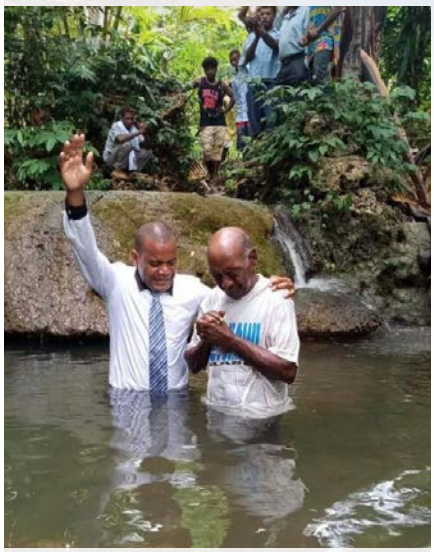
2022 PACIFIC REGION New Year Letter



The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice;
let the multitude of isles
be glad thereof.
Ezekiel 27:15

O GIVE thanks unto the LORD;
for he is good:
for his mercy endureth forever.
Psalm 136

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

To Our PACIFIC REGION Family,

My morning devotional reading today took me to Psalm 126. I felt to share its impact, not only at the close of a very long and hard year — but especially as we anticipate a New Year in His service together.

The repetition of Psalm 126 not only drew my thoughts in, but captivated my spirit as I read the phrase, ***"for his mercy endureth forever,"*** not just once, but repeatedly, twenty-six times! When life's extreme difficulties expose our weakness and personal limitations, we can take life off our shoulders and place it on His Faithfulness!

Reading again and again His affirming words of promised mercy, reconciliation, redemption, forgiveness, and of deliverance, how magnificent to experience this steadfast and perfect love — and **to know that our entire HOPE assuredly rests upon it! Forever!** *What a promise! What a Word!*

"It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

While all of 2021 found our Pacific national borders closed to international travelers, we certainly have not been idle!

It has been a distinct privilege to have been given the honor to attend the 2021 multiple **virtual Board Meetings** of the Philippines, New Zealand and Malaysia.

While my wife and I accepted invitations to speak and minister virtually to various Boards, Men's Meetings and Ladies Meetings across the Region, the Pacific Region was blessed to have had our **Global Missions Director, Rev. Brother Howell**, minister to our Missionaries and National Leaders during an encouraging virtual meeting.

An impactful **Region Wide Virtual Prayer Meeting** with Pacific Missionaries and Nationals was coordinated and held this past October. We also held planning sessions throughout the year with **The PAC Steering Committee** and **Area Coordinators** to keep us on target.

We must be strategic and intentional to create mission sending structures so that the Gospel might be sent to all UNreached islands and peoples!

My wife and I are deeply humbled to work alongside such great men and women of integrity and commitment. We have been witness to your sacrifice and your depth of love for God and His work, even during lengthy periods of extreme stress and loss.

My wife and I are deeply humbled to serve alongside our Missionary Team, our Superintendents, National Leaders and Ministers across the entire Region.

The Pacific is blessed with tremendous men and women of God!

2022 PACIFIC CALENDAR (Proposed)

January 2-6
Australia Conference

January 4-6
Planning For Progress / STL

January 7-9
Global Edu Mtg / STL

February 16-18
Philippine Conference

March 7
PAC Regl Day of Prayer

April 25-May 6
School of Missions / (Global Missions Board Mtgs / May 2-6)

May 29-June 6
AYC / Palau

June 22-26
Micronesia Conference

June 30 - July 3
Tonga Conference

July 7-10
Samoa Conference

July 19-21
Planning For Progress

July 28 - 31
American Samoa Conf

August 1-3
LDI / Philippines

August 25-27
Malaysia Conference

VICTORY REPORTS!

Even with the extensive lockdowns across the Region in 2021, we give God PRAISE for *all* He has done!

5,652 new baptisms!
4,696 were filled with the Holy Ghost!
102 new churches were started and **152** new ministers were licensed!
Even though these numbers may be much lower than during normal circumstances, ***this exciting report is evidence of YOUR every concentrated effort to see His Kingdom continue to go Forward!***

This brings our overall Pacific Region Constituency total to **1,441,150 ~** A total of **4,054** established churches ~ and **5,623** Licensed Ministers!

CONGRATULATIONS to the nations of
AUSTRALIA, FIJI, MALAYSIA and NEW ZEALAND!

These 4 nations are now providing On-Line BIBLE SCHOOL Classes for their enrolled students!

Bible School Training Programs remain a Top Priority!

Honor to Whom Honor

Three of our nations have newly elected / appointed Superintendents:

1. **FIJI** / Rev. Sainivalati Naqele
2. **INDONESIA** / Rev. Larry Khubani
3. **MALAYSIA** / Rev. Sinnasamy Ponusamy

Our prayers are with each of these men as they fulfill their responsibilities and serve their nations in godly leadership.

Great honor and appreciation is given to their predecessors: To ***Rev. Timoci Nadavo*** (Fiji) and to ***Rev. Thiam Aik Leow*** (Malaysia) for their many years of faithful leadership, and to ***Rev. Dr. Jemmy Sonambela*** (Indonesia).

AUSTRALIA will be holding an election the first week of January 2022 during their annual Conference as Superintendent, ***Rev. John Downs,*** will be retiring from office after 20 years of outstanding leadership. Please be in prayer for God's will in this matter.

2022 PACIFIC CALENDAR (Proposed)

August 25-28
Vanuatu Conference

Sept 30-Sept 7
Global Missions Brd Mtgs / UPCI General Conference

October 13-15
Indonesia Conf

October 21-23
New Zealand Conference

November 13 (a.m.)
Area Coord Mtg / StL

November 13 (p.m.)
PAC Steering Committee Mtg / StL

November 14
PAC Steering Committee Mtg / StL

November 15-17
Global Council / StL

December 1-4
Fiji 50th Anniversary

2023 Dates:

July 23
Area Coord Mtg / Bali

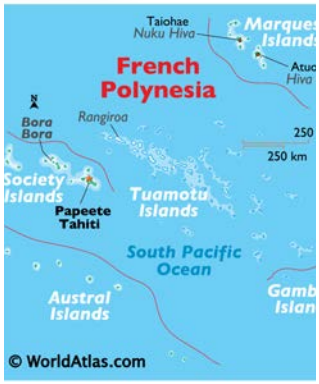
July 25
PAC Steering Committee Mtg / Bali

July 26-28
PAC Regl Strategic Planning Mtg / Bali

August 4-5
Philippine Summit

2022 PRAYER FOCUS:

FRENCH POLYNESIA



Let's pray together as a Region for **open doors** in these beautiful French speaking islands.

Praying for a **qualified French speaking missionary couple / family** to go and **pioneer** a work in these islands stretching over more than 2,000 K of ocean.

The scale of the task before us is matched only by the greatness of God who promises to accompany and empower us.

UNreached People Groups of the PACIFIC!

I would begin by asking each National Board to prepare a list of the unreached within your borders.

Sama-Bajau
Ethnic group

The Sama-Bajau refers to several Austronesian ethnic groups of Maritime Southeast Asia. The name collectively refers to related people who usually call themselves the Sama or Samah; or are known by the exonym Bajau. Wikipedia

Philippines: ~470,000
Malaysia: ~436,672
Indonesia: ~345,000
Population: about one million people bbc.com
Brunei: ~12,000

Pray for the Nations
Brunei Malay in Brunei

Population: 184,000
World Popl: 555,700
Total Countries: 4
People Cluster: Malay
Main Language: Brunei
Main Religion: Islam
Status: Unreached
Evangelicals: 0.05%
Chr Adherents: 0.06%
Scripture: Translation Needed
www.joshuaproject.net

Source: Southeast Asia Link - SEALINK

"Declare his glory among the nations." Psalm 96:3

Pray for the Nations
Malay in Malaysia

Population: 13,027,000
World Popl: 17,309,300
Total Countries: 24
People Cluster: Malay
Main Language: Malay
Main Religion: Islam
Status: Unreached
Evangelicals: 0.52%
Chr Adherents: 0.60%
Scripture: Complete Bible
www.joshuaproject.net

Source: Create International

"Declare his glory among the nations." Psalm 96:3

Pray for the Nations
Tamil (Hindu traditions) in Singapore

Population: 109,000
World Popl: 2,729,300
Total Countries: 20
People Cluster: South Asia Hindu - other
Main Language: Tamil
Main Religion: Hinduism
Status: Unreached
Evangelicals: 0.80%
Chr Adherents: 5.00%
Scripture: Complete Bible
www.joshuaproject.net

Source: Anonymous

"Declare his glory among the nations." Psalm 96:3

*ACEHNESE (Indonesia) / 4,007,000 *The CHAMARRO (Micronesia) 71,000
*The MAGUINDANAU (Philippines) / 1,342,179

2021 New Missionary Appointment

The LONNIE VESTAL Family (Malaysia)
(presently deputizing)

One Year AIM Appointment

On location in 2021

The Jesse Thomas Family / Palau

The Matthew Nash Family / Fiji

Charles and Chelsea Robision / Papua New Guinea

CHAMPIONS of the FAITH
"See you on that Great Day!"

2021 found us saying our **earthly "Farewells"** to several of our outstanding **"Comrades and Heroes of the Faith."** These men have given of themselves entirely and served in either national or regional positions.

We are sorry that we cannot list all of our Pacific ministers who have passed this year, though we do grieve their loss.

We rejoice in your Victory! We honor each one!

Rev. Mawha Bedggood *(New Zealand)*
Rev. Lale Faumuana (*Samoa)*
Rev. Romulo Ramos *(Philippines)*

Rev. Richard Denny and
Rev. Carl Varnell *(former Pacific Regional Directors)* These two significant leaders passed away within 24 hours of each other.

PACIFIC VISION:

"To reach every inhabited island with the apostolic Message through laboring together in apostolic ministry."

The PHILIPPINES needs our HELP!

There has been much devastation and great loss due the recent Category 5 Typhoon the last of December. Many church buildings have been destroyed and/or severely damaged.

Large, populated areas remain without power and basic needs.

Please PRAY … Any donations would be greatly appreciated!

Contact: Missionary Jim Robertson: jrobertson@iag.email

MARCH 7, 2022
PAC REGIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

HELD ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF MARCH EACH YEAR